

Refining 1661

Chapter 1661 – Unable to Accept the Greeting

An entire day passed and Qin Yu had yet to wake up. The mountain pass for Many Pagoda Mountain had a time limit.

The old servant, Jin Shen, reminded Yang Fanshan about this. Yang Fanshan looked grateful as he rushed to look for a Red Cloud Sect disciple to exchange some copper coins again.

Because he was not sure how long Qin Yu would sleep for, Yang Fanshan left some copper coins. At most, he would refund them. He then stood up and returned.

Another two days passed. Qin Yu slowly opened his eyes. He looked at Rourou and said, "Is it done?"

Rourou nodded, "Yes."

Sensing that the danger was clear, Yang Fanshan waited for a while before bringing Jin Shen to greet them, "Congratulations Your Honor."

A powerful cultivator would not just fall asleep for no reason, especially not for three whole days.

There was admiration in Yang Fanshan's eyes and he did not say more. He did not even say Qin Yu's name and was extremely cautious.

Jin Shen looked at Yang Fanshan in front of him and came to a sudden realization – from the start, he had known this.

Whether it was a coincidence or not, he chose to bet his life in order to have a chance of revival.

Using his life to bet for another life!

So he had been underestimating this Young Master Yang. There was a complicated look on the old servant's face.

After Qin Yu found out that he had slept for three days, he attempted to feel his body and did not feel anything different...hoo, maybe only the connection with the World's Net got a bit clearer.

He looked at Rourou. She had been sitting by the side without interrupting and this means that nothing is wrong.

"Come with me." Rourou stood up and left.

Yang Fanshan and Jin Shen could sense what was going on and they stayed rooted to the spot. Qin Yu smiled and the two of them moved upstream.

"His Honor got something this time right? I am so jealous." Yang Fanshan spoke softly, his face filled with emotion.

Jin Shen nodded, "That's right. There are fortunes on Many Pagoda Mountain, but no one has had the luck for many years."

He hesitated before greeting, "Young Master Yang, previously I was looking out for myself first and did not warn you. Please do not blame me."

Yang Fanshan shook his head, "This is normal and you do not have to hang up over it. Moreover, you have given me many reminders and I will always remember it."

The old man may have been having bad times but he was good at judging people. He could not see through them but at least, he was able to tell when someone was genuine.

So relief shone on Jin Shen's face as he put his hands together. He acknowledged Yang Fanshan even more now.

Since he survived this obstacle, he would definitely have a place in the Yang Family in the future. He might even be able to turn things around and inherit Grandlord's will and become the head of the Yang Family.

As they moved upstream, Rourou led the way and Qin Yu followed silently behind. However, the mood was not heavy.

Heavy silences only occur when people were not close.

As they walked, they passed some stone pagodas but Rourou did not stop until they reached the source of the stream.

A short and lonely stone pagoda sat amidst broken rocks. Beneath the broken rocks, there was a crack in the ground where the water was flowing from. It flowed all the way down and formed the stream.

Rourou stopped and pointed, "Qin Yu, greet this pagoda. Just put your hands together respectfully, it will not accept too big of a gesture."

Qin Yu looked thoughtful as he took a step forward, put his hands together in greeting and bowed.

He behaved respectfully.

Rourou frowned but did not say anything. Truthfully, even this was too much in her opinion. She turned and walked down the mountain without explaining anything to Qin Yu. It seemed like their entire journey was just for him to greet this pagoda.

Qin Yu stood up and looked seriously at the short and unknown pagoda amidst the pile of broken stones. He then turned and followed Rourou down the mountain.

After a moment of silence, Rourou suddenly said, "Qin Yu, do you really trust me now? You are really not asking what I told you not to."

Qin Yu smiled, "We have a relationship that has gone beyond trusting each other with our lives. If I don't even trust you, living would be too tiring."

Rourou's mouth twisted, "You have too little experience and don't know the true evils of people. It will be too easy to trick you."

Qin Yu shook his head, "That may not be." He lifted his hand and pointed to his eyes, "I think that I am very good and judging people."

He was subtly flattering himself.

The corners of Rourou's mouth pulled up before her expression turned neutral. After a few moments of silence, she said slowly, "I helped Yang Fanshan because of this. This is one of the items in the agreement between Xu Zhiruo and I."

"In the Jade Gate, the sword cultivator Wei Han was useful. Though the sword that I gave him on that night limits his future, it suits his aptitude very well. In the future, when he gains control of it, it will be useful.

"I asked White Iris to go to Infinite Monastery because of the sword abilities of that old man; it is almost as if they were made for her. If she successfully learns them, not only will they solve her problem, she will be able to improve. As for her future, it will then depend on her."

There was warmth in Qin Yu's eyes as he looked at her back, "You don't have to explain this to me."

After a moment of silence, Rourou said, "Really?"

Qin Yu coughed lightly as he rubbed his nose, "Of course. I mean, if you are willing, you can continue telling me and maybe I will even be able to help. Like the name Qin Yû, I think it is a good name."

Rourou turned and looked at Qin Yu, "Of course that name is good. It closed off at least three roads that he could back off to. Me telling you all this has nothing to do with making you happy or for you to find out any gaps. I really have a lot of experience and am very skilled in doing these things. I am better than one hundred of you added together."

She was clearly boasting but somehow, when she said it, everything seemed so believable. Moreover, is she despising me? Alas, treating Rourou warmly was not suitable.

Qin Yu massaged his face and nodded.

However, he would not take back what he said. Although he could train to suppress his curiosity, it was very uncomfortable.

After taking a few more steps, Rourou continued, "I am telling you all these things to remind you that I am helping you accumulate chess pieces. What you are going to face in the future is a lot harder and tougher than what you can imagine. The chance of you dying is very high.

"I am not a hundred percent sure that what I am doing now can help you survive, but I will try my best to increase your chance of survival. So if you are willing to trust me, then keep on trusting me because there is still a long way to go."

As soon as they returned to the side of the stream, the four of them did not delay as they made their way down the mountain.

Refunding the remaining copper coins, he handed the four registered passes to Qin Yu. Qin Yu smiled gratefully at Yang Fanshan, causing him to smile even brighter. If Qin Yu did not stop him, he would have went to find a Red Cloud Sect disciple to buy a whole lot more.

A moment later, the Chief Elder of the Red Cloud Sect, Li Yuanji, who was intentionally not trying to find the King realm cultivator, appeared outside the mountain gate.

The disciples guarding the mountain immediately bowed, "Greetings Chief Elder!"

Li Yuanji waved them off and stole a few looks at the four people that were leaving. He breathed a sigh of relief.

Although he had been regretful on that day, when he found out that Qin Yu and the other three had remained on the mountain, he started to become worried. Moreover, the Sect Leader was in seclusion and there was no one to share his worries with. He had felt extremely tortured.

A cultivator at the King realm and the lady beside him. Though he did not know what realm the lady was at, when Li Yuanji stole a few looks the past two days, he had almost gone blind. Thankfully, no troubles came. If not, he would have to die to pay for his sins and apologize to his ancestors in the afterlife.

If these two were to bicker, any tiny argument could flatten the entire Many Pagoda Mountain.

How could he not be scared?

It was good that they were gone. He could not gain anything from them so at least he no longer had to be afraid.

At this moment, he suddenly turned to look at the mountain peak. He was an elder that had been staying on Many Pagoda Mountain for many years and knew the mountain like the back of his hand. He did not notice anything different but could sense something had changed.

Where Li Yuanji could not see, the short stone pagoda, located amongst a pile of broken rocks and at the source of the stream, started to glow.

A figure rose from the pagoda. The face of the figure was blurry but there was a clear aura from it. He had a grateful look as he bowed in the direction that the four people left in. It was as if he was returning Qin Yu's greeting...Rourou was right, he could not accept it.

At the base of the mountain, Qin Yu had reached the pier when he suddenly felt something. He turned and saw the figure of a scholar. He was described as a scholar because Qin Yu could see the thick aura of knowledge around him.

The person smiled warmly and bowed to him from afar before disappearing.

Qin Yu blinked and turned to look at Rourou. She remained expressionless as she said, "At least he knows manners and does not dare to accept your bow. If not, today's fortune will be his disaster."

Qin Yu did not understand but he was able to know that he had not imagined it. He smiled and did not say anything.

Many Pagoda Mountain was a famous place and many ferries came to this place. Jin Shen found a ferry that was set to sail the following day.

It took a direct route and would coincidentally stop at a border town close to the Jade Gate and Langya Area for a day.

It was not that the other ferries did not want to bring customers to see the beautiful scenery at Jade Gate. It was that the Great Qin Empire had set a strict order to guard the borders and not allow ferries

to enter easily. They were trying to prevent people with ill intentions from getting on board a ferry and finding an opportunity to attack the border.

The Qin Family had ruled the Central Desolate Divine Area for thousands of years, but this did not mean that they did not have enemies. For example...the indignant Demon Clan as well as a minority of people from the ancient times.

Yang Fanshan went to buy the tickets and returned with an apologetic face. There were simply too many people at Many Pagoda Mountain and they were also in a rush, hence this ferry was their only choice. The better accommodations in the ferry had already been booked and even offering more money was not working.

Qin Yu smiled and said it was fine. It was just a few days and they would just wait.

Rourou did not care for this matter at all. Moreover, Yang Fanshan was very smart and went to buy numerous immortal fruits on the way. A glance at it and it was obvious that these were all the fruits that she liked. Rourou could not help but want to keep Yang Fanshan by her side so that her future days would be more comfortable.

Qin Yu was starting to understand Rourou better and he was able to tell what she was thinking just by looking at her face. He then looked at Yang Fanshan, who had breathed a sigh of relief and was smiling brightly. This brat. It would be better for you not to be so 'good at understanding others'. If not, you can only blame yourself in the future.

If Yang Fanshan were to know that his small actions had almost caused him to become a servant boy, he would definitely shiver and start slapping himself!

Thankfully, Rourou did not forget their official business. Yang Fanshan had already been set to go. Unless she wanted to be troubled by it, she could only regretfully toss away that thought.

The next day, the four of them boarded a ferry and set off.

Chapter 1662 – Sheep Horn Ore

Every wall in this world had a gap.

What happened on Bull-fighting Mountain was eventually still exposed.

The Jade Gate relied on the huge and powerful earth vein to support it. Though this earth vein was not completely supporting the entire Jade Gate, it was an important factor.

If there was anything missing, there would not be many consequences in a short period of time but over time, it would be like an entire ground collapsing because of an ant nest.

It would end up in an irreparable situation.

As the one guarding Jade Gate, Great General Zhao Yuan was responsible for this. So today, he appeared at the peak of Bull-fighting Mountain.

Looking down at the mountain, Zhao Yuan could not help but frown. He could not understand how anyone would be able to hide from the world and steal the demon spirit within the earth vein in Jade Gate.

Not only must the person be very powerful, the Earth Bull Demon Spirit must also be willing...could it be the powers of the Demon Clan? But this clan was in a dire state and was barely struggling to stay alive. Would they dare? Aren't they afraid of getting punished by the Qin Empire?

Woosh –

Another figure appeared in midair beside him. He said calmly, "Great General, although it is never too late to make amends, the earlier the better. If we delay, the foundation of the Jade Gate will suffer."

An old man with white hair and moustache could be seen. He was hunched over and looked washed out, like an old man from the countryside bathing in the sun.

Zhao Yuan snorted, extremely unhappy with how the man was pushing him. But he did not do anything else. As a national advisor of the Great Qin Empire, no matter how ill he looked, he could not offend him.

His old man back at home had warned him sternly. Although it was only once, it was more than enough for Zhao Yuan.

Stepping on the ground, light rays shot out of the ground and an armored beast appeared, lying respectfully on the ground towards Zhao Yuan.

Looking at this beast that had been through countless battles with him over the past hundred years, Zhao Yuan was expressionless as his hand fell.

Pfft –

With a groan, the giant beast's head burst open and its giant body fell to the ground. The demon spirit flew out from within, looking extremely pained and indignant.

Zhao Yuan did not even look as he reached out and grabbed the demon spirit and smashed it onto the ground, forcefully pushing it into the earth vein beneath Bull-fighting Mountain. The giant beast corpse disappeared as it was rapidly absorbed by the ground. All that was left behind was the armor, covered in battle scars.

Waving his sleeve, Zhao Yuan kept the armor and said blandly, "National Advisor, is this to your satisfaction?"

The ill-looking man looked at him and smiled as he nodded, "Great General, you kill decisively; I will report this to His Majesty."

"Then I will take my leave." Zhao Yuan flew up into the sky and rode the clouds back to Jade Gate.

His eyes were filled with a murderous glint.

Killing his beast and retrieving its spirit to stabilize the earth vein was His Majesty's punishment to him. Otherwise it would have been easy for him to find another alternative and he would not have needed to do this.

And this was why Zhao Yuan's mood was horrible now.

He vowed to find out who stole the demon spirit from under Bull-fighting Mountain.

The national advisor stayed on the mountain peak and watched the great general leave. He shook his head, "The prime of his youth."

He sighed and clasped his hands behind his back. He looked at Bull-fighting Mountain. Beneath the dazzling mountain, there seemed to lay a world that no one knew about.

In the end, the national advisor did not get anything. The person who stole from the mountain was of a high cultivation level and had intricate tactics. It was admirable.

For the demon spirit to submit, the person's cultivation level must be high and this was not easy. So the national advisor did not suspect the Demon Clan. It has been more than ten thousand years since they were suppressed and they would not dare.

Moreover, the national advisor felt that even if the Green Goddess guarding the Demon Pool personally came to do the deed, she might not be able to escape his watch. To say that he looked down on the current dilapidated Demon Clan might be a little direct...but this was the truth.

"The ancient people?" The national advisor muttered to himself, looking thoughtful.

If it were really them, they would have to be careful. These people had been hiding for a while and would not make a move easily.

If they showed themselves, they must have a plan. He had to be careful.

If the king got angry, he would suffer as well. After all...hehe, accompanying the king was like accompanying a tiger. This was true!

At this moment, about ten thousand miles away from Bull-fighting Mountain, there was a ship flying through the clouds.

Now that Rourou had a hobby of eating fruits, her favorite thing to do every day was to bring a chair to the corridor in front of the room.

She watched the scenery as she ate.

At night, she would look at the stars. This was such a common thing that everyone was unimpressed by, but she watched them with high interest.

A beautiful lady...cough cough, this was true. After the mysterious being entered Rourou, her delicate and shy facial features now had a cold and distant expression. With these two characteristics, it made her extremely alluring.

There were many people that tried to chat with her. However, after a day, no one dared to spout any more nonsense. Everyone avoided her as if they had seen a ghost.

A sect's descendant, who might even have been a son of the sect leader, was among those frightened. An elder in his sect, out of either responsibility or his attempt to butter up the sect's descendant, was resolute as he wanted to fight for justice with Rourou.

In the end, the sect descendent struggled to hold him back. His face was pale as he growled into his ear. They were a distance away and Qin Yu barely paid attention to them. Qin Yu was not too concerned as he overheard the sect descendant warning the elder not to drag them down with him.

Qin Yu deeply approved. As expected of a son of a sect leader. Though his cultivation level might be low, he had good judgement. That night, the whole group then left after making arrangements with the ship.

After this, Rourou's 'infamous name' spread far and wide and no one dared to approach her. After the people from the ship realized that some of the customers staying in the regular rooms were special, the manager came and offered to switch them to a better room for free.

After the young sect leader ran away in the night, a premium room was vacant. Though they were upgrading them for free, they were trying to form a relationship.

Yang Fanshan did not dare to interrupt Qin Yu from cultivating. As he looked at Rourou, who was expressionlessly watching the sea of clouds, he thought about it before deciding against it.

The ship's manager did not say anything as he smiled and left. It was just something that he offered and it was reasonable that they did not accept.

But when Rourou later bought immortal fruits from the ship, she received a huge discount. The ship was not making a loss but merely profiting less. However, this helped Yang Fanshan save quite a bit of money.

Jin Shen carefully reminded him that the ship was doing this to express their apologies as the Lady had been disturbed on the ship. If he rejected them, it will make the ship manager uncomfortable and it was better to pretend not to know anything.

Yang Fanshan understood and thanked Jin Shen.

The journey was smooth in the following days and the ship reached a place called Sheep Horn City at the border of the Jade Gate. The reason why they stopped here was because somewhere deep underground, there was a natural ore that resembled a sheep's horn. It was a good cultivation resource.

The most interesting thing was that all the Sheep Horn Ore was in a thick layer of stone, which naturally prevented divine sense from assessing it. Only after opening the stone would they know the quality of it was. It was a way the immortal family used to attract more cultivators to get off their ships here. They would all buy one or two pieces as a way of testing their luck.

There was someone who actually bought a normal-looking Sheep Horn Ore for one copper coin, and after opening it found that it was a huge treasure.

Of course, this was rare.

Qin Yu and the three others got off the ship here not to bet on the stones but to sit before beginning their long journey.

The ship manager smiled and appeared. He greeted them respectfully, "Four distinguished guests, I apologize for the inconvenience earlier and hope that you don't blame us." He waved his hand and two cultivators came from the ship, each carrying a tray with various small and large grey stones on it.

"This is the Sheep Horn Ore and they are all priced at around one or two copper coins. All of you please choose one as a gift from the ship and as an apology from my Jinge Sect."

Yang Fanshan was stunned as he realized that in order to deal with people, it may be necessary to reach this point of meticulousness.

The Central Desolate Divine Area was filled with brilliant people and there was much to learn.

As soon as the Jinge Sect and the people guarding the pagodas back at Many Pagoda Mountain saw this lady, they were decisive as they offered everything and sent them off.

Rourou looked at the trays in the hands of the cultivators from the Jinge Sect. She randomly pointed at one, "This one then."

Qin Yu did not say anything as he reached out to help her take it. He also took another piece from himself and thanked them.

Seeing them take the Sheep Horn Ore, Yang Fanshan and the old servant naturally did not have other opinions. Moreover, it was a great feeling to be served meticulously by these sects from the Central Desolate Divine Area!

At this moment, several other cultivators that chose to get off the ship here were also paying attention to the four of them.

Qin Yu handed the Sheep Horn Ore over to Rourou and she rolled it between her fingers. She then looked at the ship before turning to leave.

After the ship manager sent them off, he returned to the ship. He headed to a premium room that hardly opened during the entire journey. He knocked on the door. After receiving permission, he respectfully entered, "Elder, I have sent them off according to your instructions."

"Got it." The elder of the Jinge Sect slowly said as he frowned slightly.

The manager hesitated, "Elder, the four of them..."

He could not understand. With the Jinge Sect's status, even the governor of Langya Area had to show them some respect. Why did they have to be so careful around these four from unknown backgrounds?

The things they did on the ship were still reasonable. But to give them Sheep Horn Ores as they left...though the Sheep Horn Ore was not that valuable, this attitude harmed the prestige of the Jinge Sect.

Li Yuangui shook his head, "I did it because of that lady. I also don't understand...for someone like her to head to the Jade Gate. Recently, Great General Zhao Yuan has been a bit crazy and has been stirring things up. It is better to be careful."

The manager thought about it and nodded, "You are wise, Elder."

He then took his leave after saying some other things.

After the door shut, Li Yuangui turned and continued to look out the window. The image of the lady leaving appeared in his mind.

Like the vast ocean, she was unfathomable!

Chapter 1663 – Ancient People

The four of them held Sheep Horn Ores in their hands and did not stay in Sheep Horn City any longer. After passing through several simple checks, they were authorized to enter the Jade Gate Realm. The reason why they were so relaxed with the checks was probably because the guards from the Great Qin Empire did not think that anyone would dare to create trouble in the Jade Gate Realm.

After all, Great General Zhao Yuan's name was extremely famous in the nation.

Before they entered Jade Gate, Yang Fanshan spent three copper coins and purchased a luxurious carriage from a carriage shop. There was a distance from where they were to Jade Gate and they did not have the ship. He could not let their two precious guests stay and eat outside.

Yang Fangshan and Jin Shen drove the carriage from Star Picking Mountain, which was the mountain that was nearest to the east.

Qin Yu started to cultivate. They had spent a huge amount of money to purchase an immortal carriage and other than speed, it was also a lot more comfortable and there were almost no bumps on the road. This was what made him the most satisfied.

When Qin Yu opened his eyes once more, the carriage had completed more than half the journey. He looked out the window and could the distinct silhouette of Star Picking Mountain reaching high up into the clouds.

It seemed closer than it really was. They still had a long way to go to reach the foot of the mountain. Turning around, Qin Yu looked at Rourou. In her hand, there was a completely red stone that was covered in sheep horn veins, about the size of her thumb.

His eyes flashed as he asked, "Is this the Sheep Horn Ore?" He took out his own piece and exerted some force on it. 'Pak', the ore shattered.

The stone layering on the surface broke off, revealing the true appearance of the Sheep Horn Ore, which was slightly red in color. Even if he did not know how to differentiate the ores, just looking at it, it was obvious that there was a huge difference between his stone and Rourou's.

Rourou's mouth curled up, "Mine can be exchanged for over ten thousand of yours."

Qin Yu sighed, "The Jinge Sect gave out something really valuable."

Rourou sneered, "If they knew about this, their stomachs would hurt so much it would devour them whole."

Qin Yu rubbed his forehead. She has another outstanding ability – being able to pick things up was also a unique skill.

Looking at the Sheep Horn Ore in Rourou's hands, the more he looked at it the more beautiful it seemed, it shimmered a faint red glow.

"Stop looking at it. I have a use for it. I can't give it to you."

Qin Yu raised his brows. He could tell that Rourou was satisfied with this Sheep Horn Ore. He discerned this from the faint difference in her expression and how she was playing with the ore between her fingers. But she was going to give it away.

As if detecting his surprise, Rourou snorted, put the Sheep Horn Ore away, and looked at Qin Yu unhappily.

He suddenly understood...this Sheep Horn Ore was related to what Rourou mentioned before on accumulating chess pieces.

That meant that she was also giving away this Sheep Horn Ore for him. This could explain Rourou's unhappy snort and cold expression.

Qin Yu coughed lightly, "Time never stops, time never stops! Cultivate, cultivate. Call me when we arrive."

He closed his eyes.

Across him, Rourou gritted her teeth and raised her hand. She then placed it down. She would remember this and deal with him in the future.

She had a feeling back then and after she got this premium Sheep Horn Ore, she was sure.

Since the other party intentionally left a trace, she would not miss it...it was just that, Qin Yu was wrong about one thing. This chess piece was not for them to collect.

At most, it would be considered a collaboration.

Rourou narrowed her eyes. For them to be qualified to collaborate with her, it meant that they must be powerful.

Licking her lips, there was a reminiscent look in her eyes.

That taste...was really good.

They reached Star Picking Mountain.

They had travelled non-stop to reach this point. Though the horses they got were very talented and strong, they were also at their limit and needed to rest.

Yang Fanshan's face was covered in dust as he respectfully knocked on the carriage door and explained the situation.

Worried that the two of them would be unhappy, he quickly said, "There is a city by the foot of Star Picking Mountain. After we change the horses there, we can continue on our journey."

Qin Yu looked at Rourou and smiled, "Just a day wouldn't matter. Let's rest here for the night."

Yang Fanshan naturally did not have any objections to this. The carriage slowed down as it entered the city. They found an inn to stay at. As they entered the inn, Qin Yu realized that the business was slow. Even the streets did not have many people.

He had a feeling and asked the inn's assistant that was helping them. He instantly released his grievances – Great General Zhao Yuan had been angry but no one knows the reason. He had ordered for all the cultivators within the Jade Gate area to be checked.

There were quite a few things that happened and the soldiers had actually found several wanted criminals that had been hiding. But in the midst of all these, many innocent people had also suffered and everyone was anxious.

The cultivators that came to the Jade Gate could not offend the great general and could only escape to avoid getting into trouble.

After he finished speaking, the inn's assistant had a sudden realization and laughed dryly as he looked at the four of them, "Dear guests, I may have spoken too much. This is all nonsense; please don't take it to heart like I do."

Qin Yu smiled and nodded, "It's okay. We won't want to speak to anyone else, we cannot afford to offend Great General Zhao Yuan either."

The inn's assistant seemed to relax, "Our great general is the most powerful in Jade Gate Realm."

Seeing the inn's assistant shoot him a thumbs up, Qin Yu glanced at Rourou. He did not have evidence but instinct told him that this had something to do with Rourou.

For example, the demon spirit that she took from the earth vein on Bull-fighting Mountain.

Rourou was expressionless as she looked up at him. Her expression was clear – what are you looking at me for?

Qin Yu looked away but he now knew. He could not help but feel pressured.

Zhao Yuan had found out about the Bull-fighting Mountain issue so quickly and made such a big fuss. It was obvious that this was a huge issue. With the power of the Great Qin Empire, if they knew it was them, would they be walking right into the trap if they turn back from the Jade Gate Realm?

Rourou was powerful and had many tactics. Qin Yu did not doubt that she had a few hundred more tricks up her sleeve. But no matter how powerful she was, she was just one person and there was a limit to her power.

A person against a nation. Not to mention the Great Qin Empire that united the Central Desolate Divine Area, even opposing the West Desolate would be impossible.

Otherwise Qin Yu would not need to act so cautiously and remain in hiding.

But seeing how Rourou was expressionless, thoughts ran through Qin Yu's head and he finally relaxed.

Since she had no indication, it means that she was sure that she could hide it and Great General Zhao Yuan would not find out.

But though this was what he thought, after they were allocated their rooms, Qin Yu paused his cultivation and headed to Rourou's room. He opened her door and lowered his voice as he voiced his concerns.

Seeing Rourou's expression, he got his answer and turned to leave after saying, "Sorry to disturb you."

It was better to be despised than feel uncertain. If not, he would not be able to calm down as he cultivated at night and waste his time.

The night passed peacefully. From the innkeeper's expression, he seemed shocked that the army did not search the area as well and he looked happy.

It seemed like Great General Zhao Yuan was finally stopping for a while.

The delighted innkeeper almost gave the four of them a discount in his happiness but eventually did not.

The future days were going to be tough and he had to earn whatever he could.

The carriage crossed Star Picking Mountain when Rourou tapped on the carriage. Yang Fanshan pulled on the reins and the carriage stopped.

The carriage door opened, Rourou walked out and looked back, "What are you staring for? Hurry and come out."

As Qin Yu looked at Yang Fanshan and Jin Shen, who were looking down without moving, he rubbed his nose and did not say anything. He had been cultivating peacefully when he had been awoken abruptly. He almost got upset.

More importantly, she did not give any explanation and he did not know what was going on.

Rourou had gone ahead and walked towards Star Picking Mountain behind them.

Qin Yu smiled softly, "Please wait for a while. We will go up the mountain...err, to view the scenery. We will be back soon."

The two of them hurried to express that they were fine with it. They were both smart and knew that was not the truth.

However, they did not show it.

Star Picking Mountain was very high and steep, the road up was intimidating.

But after they were out of sight, Rourou grabbed onto Qin Yu and they both took a step and appeared on the peak of the mountain.

With clouds rolling beneath his feet and nine suns shining above his head, an old man in a straw coat sat at the edge of the cliff. He held a wooden fishing rod in his hand and the fishing line disappeared amidst the clouds. What he was fishing for was unknown.

"Dear gentleman and lady, what I am fishing for is very sensitive. Please do not make any noise. If not, you will waste my entire month of effort."

The old man in the straw coat said without turning back but his gentle voice could be heard.

Rourou let go of Qin Yu and stepped forwards to stand beside the old man, "Are there still Cloud Sea Flying Fishes around?"

The man in the straw coat smiled, "Very few, and only this mountain is tall enough. Moreover, they are hiding very well, and that is how they are able to survive until now."

"Your bait looks good so you should be able to get something. However, I don't have time to waste." Rourou lifted her hand and the Sheep Horn Ore appeared.

The old man in the straw coat hesitated before placing his fishing rod down. He stood up and put his hands together, "Then let's talk about official things first. Let's take a few steps back to prevent scaring the fishes."

Rourou turned and walked. Qin Yu was expressionless, he was struggling to keep any strange looks off his face. This old man in the straw cape...was simply too strange.

He had a third eye on his forehead. Even though the third eye was closed, it gave Qin Yu a very scary feeling.

It was as if the whole world would end if the eye opened!

The old man in the straw coat looked at Qin Yu and smiled, giving him a nod.

Rourou was expressionless, "He is mine."

The old man in the straw coat thought about it before putting his hands together.

Rourou's expression softened.

Qin Yu bowed to return the greeting. There was a weird look on his face. What Rourou just said...sounded a bit inappropriate!

Rourou then talked to the old man in the straw coat. Qin Yu was present beside them and could see their mouths move as well as all their expressions. However, he could not hear anything and did not know what they were talking about.

It was likely that this thing was not suitable for him to know yet.

In the end, the old man frowned and seemed to think for a long time before slowly nodding. It looked like he had agreed to Rourou's request.

The invisible shield disappeared and Rourou's voice could be heard, "Then that is tentatively settled." She seemed to hesitate and glanced at Qin Yu, "I will say again, he is mine."

The expression of the old man in the straw coat did not change. He merely looked at Qin Yu with a more intense expression, as if imprinting Qin Yu into his mind.

Rourou grabbed onto Qin Yu and took a step out. They disappeared.

The old man in the straw coat looked at the spot that they had disappeared from and he lowered his head to look at the Sheep Horn Ore in his hands. After a long while, he let out a soft sigh.

Making an agreement with this one was equivalent to scheming with a tiger. One day, he could very well end up completely devoured.

After all, this kind of thing had happened multiple times in the past.

But the situation was stronger than people.

The number of ancient people was getting fewer and fewer. If they did not do anything, their bloodline would cease to exist very soon.

All of a sudden, the old man's figure shifted and he appeared by the cliff. He grabbed onto the fishing rod and pulled. The sea of clouds before him momentarily stirred like waves in the ocean!

The fishing line grew taut and there was a soft 'boom boom' sound. The old man frowned and sighed, "You better think properly. If the situation grows big and people find out, the entire shoal will be in trouble."

After a moment of silence, an anguished growl could be heard from the sea of clouds.

The fishing line suddenly retracted and a fish, about as big as a palm appeared from the sea of clouds. It was completely snow white in color and had wings on its back, resembling a cicada.

It was hard to imagine that this tiny fish would have enough energy to stir the entire sea of clouds.

The old man in the straw coat reached out and held the fish in his hands, "In order to protect your tribe, you are willing to sacrifice your life. How can I not feel the same...in this aspect, we have the same fate."

He opened his mouth and was about to eat this Cloud Sea Flying Fish. Didn't he sit here for an entire month in order to have a good meal? Although he was sympathetic, these feelings could not feel him.

One could not be affected.

At this moment, the old man's body suddenly clenched and a pained look appeared across his features. He looked extremely regretfully at the Cloud Sea Flying Fish that was next to his mouth.

He hesitated before letting out a long sigh and throwing the Cloud Sea Flying Fish back out into the clouds.

At the foot of the mountain, Rourou was walking back to the carriage with Qin Yu. She suddenly looked up, "Not bad, you are smart."

A fish with wings suddenly appeared in front of them. Qin Yu thought that this was probably the Cloud Sea Flying Fish that Rourou mentioned. It looked special.

Rourou reached out and the Flying Fish landed in her hands. Its body rapidly disintegrated and turned into a teardrop pattern on her white skin.

Looking at Qin Yu, she said, "Aren't you curious about what we talked about?" Qin Yu nodded.

Rourou thought about it before saying slowly, "The old man in the straw coat on the mountain is one of the ancient people."

Chapter 1664 – Hiding Merit and Fame

The Jade Gate Realm consisted of three mountains and six water bodies. One of the rivers was called the Azure River and this river split the entire area into two parts. It was located between Bull-fighting Mountain and Star Picking Mountain. When Rourou brought Qin Yu to pass through space, she crossed this area.

Now, the carriage was moving along the riverbank of the Azure River. There was a booming sound. Rourou looked out and could see the river surging. She suddenly frowned.

Woosh –

There was the sound of something cutting through the air and a figure appeared in front of the carriage, blocking their way.

“Stop!”

Yang Fanshan yanked on the reins. He thought this person looked familiar. He suddenly recalled seeing her on Many Pagoda Mountain. He hesitated before putting his hands together, “May I know why you have stopped us?”

The female in the bamboo hat coughed lightly and pointed to the huge river, “Recently, Great General Zhao Yuan has been catching criminals. The great demons in this river have been taking the opportunity to create trouble. They have secretly captured several cultivators to enhance their own cultivation. I am stopping you all to prevent you from getting into trouble. Change your route now and go around this area.”

Yang Fanshan’s expression changed. But before he could speak, Rourou’s voice could be heard from the carriage, “Ignore her, let’s continue.”

Giving an apologetic look, he knew that the woman had stopped them out of good intentions but he would not disobey Rourou because of this.

“Thank you for your warning. We will be on our way. Goodbye.” He tugged on the reins and the carriage continued to move forwards.

The woman in the bamboo hat frowned in annoyance as she watched the carriage leave. She recognized the two people driving the carriage. They had met previously on Many Pagoda Mountain. Back then, she had also kindly warned them. Now, not only did they not acknowledge her, they were not taking her warnings into consideration.

Never mind, if they wanted to die, so be it.

The woman in the bamboo hat turned to leave. However, she stopped again after a few steps, looking conflicted. After a while, she sighed heavily and smacked her own forehead, “Bull Bean, Bull Bean, didn’t you just swear not to be a busybody for the next month? Why are you trying to break your promise now? You are useless!”

She walked a few steps before stopping again. She sighed heavily and turned to chase after the carriage.

If she did not meet them, then so be it. But she could not just watch them walk into their graves...Bull Bean felt that if she did, she won’t be able to sleep properly for the next half a year.

Last time. It would be the last time. Then she would not care about anything for the next two months! Figuring it out, she felt better as she stayed a distance away from the carriage.

Though she had not seen the great demons from the bottom of the river, she heard that they were very powerful. If she fought them upfront, she might not be their match...but to scare a few off from afar, it might be doable.

In the carriage, Rourou snorted and looked unhappy. A kind lady was just like a dainty flower under a storm. Who knows when they would break with a 'pa'.

Moreover, could you bring your excessive kindness somewhere else? Why are you always following us? Or did she have some other motives? Glancing at Qin Yu, Rourou looked serious.

She lifted her hand and looked at Qin Yu, then she hesitated before lowering it and snorted loudly. Across from her, Qin Yu had closed his eyes and was cultivating. He suddenly felt that something was not right and opened his eyes.

"What?"

Rourou snorted, "Attracting the unwanted!"

Looking into her icy gaze, Qin Yu felt himself freeze. Where are we now, attracting unwanted?

Lifting his hand to massage his eyebrows, Qin Yu chuckled bitterly, "Explain."

Rourou rolled her eyes, "Look for yourself."

Qin Yu held his breath as he extended his senses outwards...hmmm, it's her again? Moreover, if he was not wrong, this woman in the bamboo hat was currently following them.

Looking at Rourou, whose face was contorted in anger, Qin Yu understood what she meant.

But he was innocent!

"What is she doing?"

Rourou chuckled, "Being a good person. Then, she will accidentally put herself in danger and wait for you, Young Master Qin, to rescue her.

"Saving someone's life once is already extremely valuable. If you save her a second and third time, it will become a huge grace that cannot be repaid and she will have no other choice but to give you her body as repayment."

Qin Yu chuckled bitterly. But as he looked up at the huge river outside the carriage, he had his guesses.

Wasn't this woman too nice? Qin Yu could not understand. With her personality, how did she live until today?

"Cough! She is doing it out of kindness and we can't blame her. I will scare that fish demon in the river and then let's cross it peacefully."

Rourou snorted in agreement. She really did not want to see the girl appear in front of her.

So what if she wore a bamboo hat? I can see very well, and vixens like you, who bring a lot of trouble, should wear a black cloth over your head...no, you should dress entirely in black and you should wear three layers of clothes.

White Iris just left and now a lady in a bamboo hat appeared. What was wrong with Qin Yu? Should she try to change him? Rourou rubbed her chin.

Qin Yu's heart was beating fast as Rourou stared at him. He coughed lightly and turned, flicking out his finger.

Boom boom boom –

A huge wave appeared in the river but it was not obvious amidst the roar of the turbulent river. But in the moment that this wave appeared, a huge black figure at the bottom of the river suddenly froze. Amidst the murderous look it had, it suddenly hesitated.

In the end, it chose to suppress its thirst for blood and did not make a move. It hid at the bottom of the river and watched as the carriage rode off into the distance.

The woman in the bamboo hat followed behind the carriage. Her body was stiff as her face looked serious.

The entire time, she felt as if someone was watching her.

It was as if a pair of cold and evil eyes were locked on her and could attack at any time.

But thankfully, they passed safely and nothing happened at the river where the great demon had claimed territory.

Whew –

The woman in the bamboo hat let out a long breath and smiled. This must be a blessing from her ancestors to frighten the great demon and prevent it from hurting anyone.

She saved another four lives!

As she thought of this, the woman in the bamboo hat smiled even wider. As she looked at the carriage move further away from her, she felt happy.

Being a good person felt good.

The woman turned and left. There was no need to announce the good things she did...gratitude was not something she cared for.

“You all can just leave without knowing what happened. Who asked me to be such a beautiful woman who likes to do good things without needing repayment?”

The woman in the bamboo hat blushed slightly. She looked around and breathed a sigh of relief. She had felt slightly embarrassed as she said this. She did not know how her ancestors were able to say it confidently.

Alas, when it came to refining her character, she still had a long way to go.

In the carriage, Qin Yu's mouth twitched. Though the woman in the bamboo hat spoke softly, but to him and Rourou, even if they were not paying attention, it sounded as if someone was speaking beside them. She was an interesting and kind lady.

Looking at the stoic-faced Rourou, Qin Yu smiled, "Since there is nothing, I will continue to cultivate."

Very soon, Qin Yu realized that things were not so simple. As the carriage continued, they met a group of cultivators. They were all filled with anger, and sinister aura surrounded them.

Seeing Yang Fanshan and Jin Shen driving the carriage, a man from their side quickly flew out. He landed on the ground and greeted with his hands together, "Fellow cultivators, please stop."

Yang Fanshan put his hand together and greeted back, "May I know why you have stopped us?"

The man was in a green robe and he looked calm, "We are here today because we were gathered by Infinite Monastery's Little Wuji. We are going to find the vicious fish demon to seek revenge for our fellow innocent brothers!"

His eyes were burning as he spoke sincerely, "When you all came, you didn't get disturbed by the fish demon right? It is because a family of four cultivators was captured by the fish demon recently. It must be full now and had no desire to hunt so you all were able to pass without a problem. Since we met, why don't the four of you follow us to the Azure River. With Little Wuji from Infinite Monastery with us, we will be able to ambush the fish demon. If this were to spread, we will be famous."

Yang Fanshan waited for a while but there was no sound from the carriage. He looked apologetic, "Sorry, we have something to do and can't stay."

The cultivator in the green robe frowned, "Now that Great General Zhao Yuan is targeting and capturing criminals, us cultivators from the outside, have to work together. You all are behaving coldly now and if you get into trouble in the future, no one will help you."

Across from them, the entire group looked at them with dissatisfaction.

Yang Fanshan flushed but he shook his head resolutely, "Sorry."

"Fine, since we are on different routes, then so be it. But I see that the other two in the carriage are also not from the Jade Gate Realm. Then you all better be careful. If you fall into Great General Zhao Yuan's hands, don't blame anyone if no one responds to your call for help."

Amongst the group, a middle-aged man holding a horsetail whisk spoke slowly. From his demeanor, he behaved like someone that had achieved a high level.

The cultivator in the green robe snorted before turning away.

The two groups passed each other and continued on their way.

Qin Yu thought about it and said, "Are they really cultivators from Infinite Monastery?" If they had this kind of attitude, he felt that White Iris was better off not going.

Rourou shook her head.

Qin Yu understood. They were fake goods. They were really brave to use Infinite Monastery's name as well as Little Wuji.

They were taking such a big risk just to gather people and be respected? As well as enjoy the feeling of being surrounded.

It was obvious that there was something else going on. But this was not important to him.

The carriage continued on its way. A moment later, Rourou suddenly said, "Young Master Qin, are you really not going to be the good person?"

Qin Yu did not open his eyes, "Back on Many Pagoda Mountain, I already saved her once."

Rourou snorted twice as she assessed him. It was as if she was trying to read his true feelings from the nuances in his expression.

Not noticing anything, Rourou took a deep breath, "Go and save that girl. This time, don't hide it."

Qin Yu's eyes shot open in surprise.

Rourou reached out and gestured. She pretended to pick up a chess piece and put it away.

Qin Yu reacted. Although it felt strange to do something with a purpose like this...he should save her. If good people really did not live long, then who would be nosy in the future?

This world would be too boring.

"Okay."

He raised his hand and knocked on the carriage.

The carriage stopped.

Qin Yu pushed the door open and stepped out. He looked at Yang Fanshan and Jin Shen and said, "I have something to do; you can continue on the journey."

He turned and left. In a few moments, he disappeared from sight.

Chapter 1665 – Questioning

Bull Bean had a secret that she had never told anyone. It was that she was timid. So when she saw such a huge group of people approach angrily, Bull Bean's first reaction was to hurry and hide.

She was even more uninterested in what they said about collaborating to get rid of the demon. What Little Wuji from Infinite Monastery? She had never even heard of him, and that showed that he was not very powerful.

But the great demon hiding in the river was really powerful and she did not want to go and give herself away.

But soon, Bull Bean felt filled with indignance at the injustice and forgot about how scared she was. Her eyes widened as she gritted her teeth. How could there be such a despicable demon in this world!

It captured an entire family of four and ate the parents in front of the children. It even intentionally let the children live for a while so that their hearts would be filled with despair. This was all so that they would be more tasty when it ate them.

Bull Bean was determined to save these pitiful children. She could not let them die so helplessly.

As for what she said about not being nosy for the next two months, it was long forgotten.

I, Bull Bean, will condemn evil and uphold virtue. I want to be a beautiful female warrior in a world filled with warmth and battle against evil.

My cultivation is not very good so my ancestor said that the best way is to use treasures and objects to knock the opponent out.

But this time, in order to protect her treasures, Bull Bean purposely hid everything her ancestor gave her. Currently she was only carrying a few average items...but they should still be useful. Just now, she had frightened the fish demon!

Amongst the group, the real Little Wuji glanced at the jade hairpin that Bull Bean was holding in her hands. His eyes heated up.

Of course, it was just a second and Bull Bean did not realize anything wrong. As she turned, he smiled and nodded at her, "With you joining us, we have a greater chance of success. If everyone was as kind and virtuous as you, there would not be injustice in this world."

The cultivator in the green robe immediately praised and nodded, "That's right!" He then frowned in annoyance, "Like the people in the carriage that just passed. They only want to take care of themselves. If everyone were like them, what would the world become? Disgusting!"

Bull Bean asked and bit her lip. So they were this kind of people. If she had known, she would not have helped them.

The cultivator in the green robe noticed her expression, "Do you know them?"

Bull Bean was conflicted and was embarrassed to tell them of the courageous deed she did, "We've met a few times but we are not close."

The cultivator in green reminded her seriously, "Since you know their true colors, it is best if you stay away from them."

Bull Bean nodded unenthusiastically.

In the distance, with his back against a huge tree, Qin Yu's mouth twitched. He could not help but doubt this woman's taste. How did she manage to survive until today? She looked like a character that would not survive more than three episodes in a drama.

Just now, that Little Wuji's eyes almost bulged out of his head, how did she not realize? This was so tiring.

Qin Yu rubbed his eyebrows as he got up to follow them.

He could take action now and bring her away. Little Wuji would not be able to do anything about it. But he was worried that the woman in the bamboo hat would not be willing and would be disappointed with him. Then, she might suddenly go crazy and be determined to die.

Forget it, since he had already followed them, he did not mind using a bit more time to let her see those people's true colors clearly. He would then save her.

Saving her when she was in danger was so much better than preventing danger from happening. He would also take this chance to teach this woman a lesson. She could be a kind person, but she should watch out.

After all, it was not like she would be lucky every time.

The fish demon in the bottom of the Azure River seemed to have detected the group of people coming. The turbulent water started to rage. 'Roar roar'.

Little Wuji took up his role and stepped forward. He said sternly, "Fellow cultivators, do not worry. I have a high quality Demon Trapping Rope. It will make this great demon helpless!"

The river water exploded with a 'boom' and a dark figure flew out. It was over three meters long and it looked like a sinister demon fish.

Little Wuji was somewhat impressive. Seeing the demon fish fly towards him with its mouth open, he was not at all afraid as he shouted and waved his sleeve. A gold rope immediately appeared and flew out, binding the demon fish.

Roar –

The demon fish growled angrily as its body was trapped by the Demon Rope. The threatening aura that it gave off immediately decreased by half as its heavy body fell into the water.

"Yes!"

"What a powerful move!"

"With this Demon Trapping Rope, we will kill the demon today!"

"Everyone, while it is weakened, let's all make a move and kill this demon fish that attacked innocents!"

Little Wuji spoke with bravado. His sleeves were flapping in the wind and he looked impressive.

Bull Bean was slightly stunned.

She did not think that the Demon Trapping Rope was of very high quality. Though it was shining, its aura was mediocre.

Could it be another treasure that she could not truly feel? Then, according to her ancestors, it must be a top treasure.

It would be a piece of cake to kill a demon fish.

After all, with a supreme Demon Trapping Rope, it just needed to bind the target and the demon would turn into a puddle of blood. It would not be able to fight back.

Bull Bean could not understand.

But at this moment, everyone was making a move. She thought about it and as she lifted her jade hairpin, a flash of light exploded in the hairpin. The demon fish that had been bound suddenly stiffened as it roared even louder. Waves surged in all directions.

At the same time, a green water aura surrounded it. It gritted its teeth and complained, how could they have such a powerful lightning object?

More importantly, they covered it so well and the demon almost died because of it.

Hiding in the distance, Qin Yu had a realization. No wonder Rourou changed her mind and allowed him to make this trip. She probably detected the aura from this hairpin.

When she referred to chesspiece, she was most likely talking about the person backing this woman in the bamboo hat.

The best proof was this jade hairpin that had lightning powers. It seemed like he had no need to save her.

The aura that the jade hairpin was releasing now was only about thirty percent of its potential. Qin Yu could sense that the lightning power in the hairpin was very powerful.

If she used it, it would be enough to turn the demon fish into ashes and she would not even have to aim.

The demon fish was of the water element and lightning was its greatest weakness!

But what happened next made Qin Yu's mouth twitched. As he watched her, he subconsciously wondered – how did you manage to survive till today?

Little Wuji bellowed, "Oh no, the demon fish has a secret attack. Fellow cultivators, if any of you have a lightning object, lend it to me, if not, it will be too late!"

Bull Bean, "..."

She looked up and everyone was looking at her.

After all, the jade hairpin was now flashing in her hands and everyone knew that it was special.

Some looked surprised, some looked appreciative, but more looked persuasive.

They seemed to be saying – what are you waiting for? Hurry and pass the lightning object to Wuji.

Bull Bean felt that something was not right. But having so many eyes on her made her panic.

As she panicked, her timid nature showed. She did not know what was happening and handed over her jade hairpin in confusion.

Qin Yu rubbed his face and sighed.

Holding onto the jade hairpin, Little Wuji's eyes shone with delight. He laughed out loud, "Thank you, Lady. After I kill the demon, I will return it to you."

Jumping, he headed straight into the river, "Die demon!"

By the riverside, everyone's eyes widened as they saw how he jumped aggressively into the river.

"Let's go. We have to follow Wuji to kill the demon!"

Someone shouted and everyone flew into the air. They fell like dumplings into the river.

This included Bull Bean, who was still in a state of confusion.

It was only when her Water Resistant Talisman activated and formed a shield around her that she finally regained her consciousness.

Her eyes widened. Bull Bean seemed to realize something and was prepared to jump out, but it was already too late.

Boom –

The river water became dense and, like a water mountain, it was pushing down onto all of them. It trapped them deep underwater, rendering them helpless.

A roar erupted from the water, "Disgusting foreign cultivators, how dare you attack my general's mansion. You all deserve to die!"

The water demon was now wearing completely black armor. It swam towards them aggressively and was glaring at them.

The rope that had bounded its body earlier was gone. Little Wuji, who had jumped in first, was nowhere to be found.

The cultivators, who had been excited to jump into the water to kill the great demon, were now all pale.

They were not stupid, and even those that were slightly slower knew that something was wrong. Little Wuji had disappeared and the demon fish had reappeared wearing armor from the Great Qin Empire. It also mentioned the general's mansion...fear surged in all of their hearts as they were extremely pale.

The sinister eyes of the demon fish were now filled with arrogance. This bunch of fools had offered themselves.

Even if it killed all of them now, there would not be any trouble. Because they were the ones that attacked the underwater mansion first. As one of the demon generals that had submitted to the Jade Gate, within Great General Zhao Yuan's rules, no one would be able to find fault.

As it thought of this, the demon fish's eyes grew violent and it looked bloodthirsty.

Truthfully speaking, ever since it sided with Jade Gate and became the owner of this river, the demon fish had been living a good life.

If not for its cultivation reaching a bottleneck, requiring it to quickly consume cultivators in order to break through, it would not have taken the risk.

If anyone knew about a demon general swallowing cultivators, it would be sure to die. It had merely took the opportunity when Great General Zhao Yuan was causing changes to secretly make a move.

But in these last few days, it caused too big of a commotion. Hence, the demon fish had devised a plot and left the siblings behind and sent someone to stir up trouble, leading to today.

As a demon fish, that was normally not known for its wisdom, to be able to devise such a good plot was simply perfect.

As for the so called Little Wuji...there has never been a shortage of people who were afraid to die and was willing to sacrifice others to save themselves. Once, it was done making use of him, he was useless.

Truly priceless advice!

The demon fish licked its lips and started drooling. Its drool was washed away by the river. As it looked at the cultivators, it felt its stomach burn from hunger.

Who should I eat first? Its eyes darted around and landed on...Bull Bean.

It was simple logic. Amongst all these cultivators, only this girl felt like a threat.

If it was going to eat, it would eat her first!

Moreover, a lady cultivator that was so fair and soft must be very delicious.

Sss –

Its drool was appearing!

The demon fish swiped its tail and swam towards Bull Bean, locking onto its target.

The cultivators all looked horrified as they rushed away.

Realizing that she was the only one left standing on the spot, Bull Bean's face paled under her hat. They said they were coming to kill the demon together. Where did they all run to? But this was not the time to think about this; she was going to die.

What should I do? I can't beat the demon fish and its teeth are too long and sharp. Will I bleed? Definitely! I may even be bitten into two and get swallowed.

Hooohooohoo –

Old Ancestor, I am so scared!

Chapter 1666 – Old Ancestor Bull

The fish demon had its mouth open and was just about to devour a big meal. Its fierce eyes suddenly grew motionless. Its huge eyes were now staring at the figure in mid air behind Bull Bean and there was a huge sense of unease in its heart.

This area of water had been covered up with its divine senses and it was like its territory. The group of people in front of it could not escape. However, this man actually barged in directly. More importantly, as the owner of the territory, the fish demon had not sensed him at all.

The demon was frightened!

“Ah! Don’t come over. The Old Ancestor in my family is very powerful and you may die in a flash. If you dare to touch me, my Old Ancestor will never let you off...ah ah ah. Old Ancestor, save me!”

Bull Bean screamed hysterically. Her screams were so ear-piercing it shocked Qin Yu and the fish demon opposite her shivered. It almost tucked its tail and ran.

Then, she realized that she was still full of energy and she was not injured at all. Was the fish demon really scared away? But I didn’t even say who the Old Ancestor is? It really is cowardly.

She opened one eye hesitantly, and then the other. Having noticed the oddities, she turned around and saw Qin Yu.

“It is you!” Her eyes widened. Her first response was gratitude. She was good with people and the person she saved was not like what they said. He followed her secretly and saved her at this critical moment.

Then, she started to get nervous. She said frantically, “Hurry up and run away. This is a trap. That demon is really strong and you are sacrificing yourself by being here!”

Qin Yu did not run away. Instead, the powerful fish demon suddenly coughed. There was a flash of demon light and it turned into its human form. It was actually a tall and sturdy man wearing armor. He smiled and cupped his hands, “My fellow daoist, this is a misunderstanding. Since this lady is your friend, I will undo the restrictions and let you off.”

This...

Bull Bean’s mouth was open in shock and her face was filled with disbelief.

Qin Yu cupped his hands, “Then thank you so much.” He extended an arm and pulled Bull Bean along, “Let’s go!”

“Hold on!”

“My fellow daoist, please help us leave too. We will not forget your kindness.”

The group that had scattered away rushed over and they pleaded and bowed to Qin Yu with a look of desperation. They were not foolish and they naturally knew that this man was their last hope of survival.

The burly man who had transformed from the fish demon instantly had a pained look in his eyes and they darkened.

Qin Yu was expressionless, “I am sorry but my abilities are limited. I can’t save everyone.”

An annoyed look instantly crossed Bull Bean’s face, but before she could speak, she was interrupted.

“If you are willing to stay behind and accompany them, I will leave now.”

Bull Bean bit her lip and her eyes darkened.

“Stop them!”

“Don’t let them leave!”

“Once these two leave, we will all die.”

The cultivators that had fallen for the underwater trap wore hostile expressions.

One of them gritted their teeth and threatened, “Fellow Daoist, if you are not willing to save us, don’t blame us for forcing you to stay behind!”

Qin Yu did not speak but his voice traveled to Bull Bean’s ears, “Look carefully. These are the people that you wanted to save.”

He shook his head and said lightly, “I can’t do that!”

That man turned and cupped his hands, “Lord Demon, we are willing to help you to suppress this foreigner who barged into your underwater residence. Please promise that you will let us go after this!”

“That’s right, we are willing to help Lord Demon!”

“No matter how strong he is, he is alone. We are not afraid of him!”

There was a mysterious look in the fish demon man’s eyes and he hesitated.

His eyes swept past Qin Yu and he could not sense any fear nor unease from Qin Yu. This was especially the case for his eyes. They were as calm as the deep ocean. Even if there was a typhoon outside, his eyes did not waver.

The fish demon’s heart clenched and he scoffed, “You scumbags are vicious. I will not be led astray by you!” He bowed, “If Your Honor wants to leave, I can escort you out. Please leave things here to me.”

The group of people were in despair.

Qin Yu nodded, “Thank you.”

The fish demon’s heart relaxed and he quickly thanked Qin Yu back. With a wave of his sleeve, he sent the two people out.

In the next moment, Qin Yu and Bull Bean appeared at the Azure River. The sound of crashing river waves continued endlessly behind them.

The people in the river were not in a good state.

Bull Bean wanted to say something, but she hesitated.

Qin Yu calmly said, “If you still want to save them, you should go back yourself. Just pretend that I did not appear here today.”

Bull Bean’s face turned red and she waved her hand dismissively, “No, I...I just wanted you to save that sibling pair...”

Qin Yu frowned and he thought about her request. He turned around and said, “Wait here.”

He stepped forward and his body flashed and disappeared.

Qin Yu left and returned to the waters. The fish demon’s heart jumped and after he heard Qin Yu’s request, he immediately nodded his head in agreement.

Very quickly, his demon underlings brought the unconscious young man and woman over.

Qin Yu glanced at them to confirm that they were unharmed. He cupped his hands to thank the demon and then turned to leave. Those other people who were still trapped here found their last glimmer of hope extinguish and they fell into the deep abyss. They could not help but cry pitifully.

Some of them even started to curse out loud. In their opinion, Qin Yu could very easily suppress the demon in the water and save them. Why did he not give them a chance to live?

They did not understand, with what rights could he decide their lives?

Qin Yu pretended like he did not hear their cries and he led the siblings out of the river. They landed beside Bull Bean.

“Thank you.” Bull Bean spoke in a soft voice.

Qin Yu replied, “You should thank me. In addition to the previous time, you owe me two and a half lives.”

Bull Bean’s eyes bulged open and she suddenly thought about Many Pagoda Mountain. Her face turned beet red and she felt embarrassed. All along, she thought she was the beautiful fighter who would ward off all evil. But in the end, it turned out that she was the one who needed rescuing.

She felt so ashamed!

However, she was a stubborn lady and she pressed through the awkwardness and said, “Why is it a half?”

Qin Yu looked at her, “Did you really think that you scared off that fish demon such that we were able to come ashore?”

Bull Bean really wanted to dig a hole and bury herself in it.

Qin Yu turned and left.

She was stunned and she looked at the unconscious siblings and asked, “Hey, where are you going?”

“Young lady, I have a lot of things to do and I can’t accompany you. If you choose to do a good deed in the future, please recall what happened today.

“You were the one who wanted to save them, so you should make arrangements for them. Goodbye.”

His body flashed and he disappeared.

Bull Bean was at a loss and she lowered her head and looked at her fingers, “I... I still don’t know your name...”

Thankfully, after experiencing so much today, this lady quickly came to a realization. It was not safe for her to remain by the riverside.

That man was now gone, and if the demon changes his mind, they would be doomed. As soon as she thought of this possibility, she quickly took out a paper ship. She blew on it and let the wind cause it to expand. In the blink of an eye, it turned into a magnificent ship that glowed with brilliant light.

Yang Fanshan stared at Qin Yu who was standing by the side of the road. He quickly stopped the horse carriage. He was not curious about why Qin Yu would appear before them and he did not question him. Once the door opened, he invited Qin Yu in respectfully. After waiting for a while, Qin Yu did not give him any instructions and he continued on his journey.

In the horse carriage, Rourou's lips curled and there was a playful look in her eyes, "Great Lord Qin, you truly loosened the reigns only to grab them tighter later with this move. You are quite smooth at this. So how many times? When I was still ignorant in the past, how many times did you use this move on me? Hehe, you can't judge a book by its cover!"

Qin Yu rubbed his forehead and ignored her nonsensical words, "Who exactly is that girl? You actually went against your will to get me to help her."

Rourou explained, "She is someone with a good background. In the future, she may lend us a hand. Furthermore, you saved her two and a half times."

When she said this, her lips curled up strangely.

Qin Yu raised his eyebrows, "Am I wrong?"

Rourou's smile became more strange, "No, Great Lord Qin, your words were absolutely correct."

Qin Yu saw how Rourou was not going to say anything useful. He drank his tea and closed his eyes as he prepared to cultivate.

Seated opposite him, Rourou turned to look at the scenery outside the window. Qin Yu really had good luck. For instance, this scenario was truly the perfect outcome...cough cough, Rourou would not admit that she originally wanted him to suffer a bit on this so that he would be more respectful towards her.

However, she could consider an action without thinking and the outcome turned out better. She did not need to step in. When things settled down, she would find the right opportunity to strike.

.....

Bull Bean sat down cross-legged on the fast ship. She stared at the skies and could not help sighing occasionally as she wore a gloomy expression.

All of a sudden, she heard a light laughter behind her. "Who made our little princess angry? Don't worry and tell me. I will help you!"

Bull Bean turned around swiftly and upon seeing the figure behind her, she jumped for joy. "Old Ancestor!" She bounced forward and hugged the old man, crying as she collapsed into his arms.

The old man who was being hugged was smiling originally. Now, he felt heartache for her and he quickly wiped her tears away, "Don't cry, don't cry. My Young Ancestor. I will go back and capture that little brat. I will cut him into half a dozen pieces and boil and burn him in oil. You can take your anger out on him!"

The crying immediately stopped.

A bad feeling washed over the Old Ancestor's chest and he started to get nervous. Did he go overboard with his words?

Bull Bean lifted her head. Her eyes were red from crying and she choked back her sobs. Finally, she gritted her teeth and dragged her words, "Old Ancestor..."

"Cough! Young child, you aren't able to discern good from evil. Didn't you want to gain more experiences by leaving the house this time? I did this for your own good. Otherwise, if I am always with you, how can you travel the world?" Old Ancestor Bull chided sternly.

Bull Bean was not going to fall for his tricks. He had used the same tricks on her since she was young. She scoffed and then let go of his hand, then turned and sat down on the ship again.

Old Ancestor Bull still wanted to carry on with this strategy but he broke out of the act in the next moment. He groaned and called after the Young Ancestor, running after her as he apologized continuously, "I am wrong. I even admitted my fault. Don't cry anymore. My heart is about to break into pieces. I promise you, if there is a problem in the future, I will come immediately to protect our Young Ancestor. Our Young Ancestor cannot be wronged in any way. Is that alright?"

Bull Bean lifted a hand and wiped her face, "Sorry, Old Ancestor, I know that I am stubborn and I can't blame you for this. But he said that he saved my two and a half times. In this short time, I could have died multiple times easily."

Her head tilted, "In the past, did dangerous situations turn into fortunate ones because you interfered secretly? Tell me the truth."

Old Ancestor Bull coughed slightly, "This...you are still young and I definitely will help you so that you are not bullied by others."

Bull Bean's tears dropped down continuously and it felt like knives piercing the chest of Old Ancestor Bull. He could not help but direct this anger at Qin Yu. Previously, he had a good impression of that brat and he even considered making him the 148th candidate of the fiance of the Young Ancestor.

However, the brat no longer had a chance. Let me tell you, he does not have a single chance! If I meet him again, I will definitely give him a hard time. If there was nothing wrong, why tell the truth?

Bull Bean cried for a while longer and then she wiped her tears, "Old Ancestor, I understand now. Although there is nothing wrong with being a good person, I have to keep my eyes wide open to see if the other party is good or evil. I have to be smart and I have to be stronger.

"After thinking about it, I still want to be a good person. So, Old Ancestor, please teach me how to be smart. And then strong."

At this moment, the anger in Old Ancestor's heart that was directed to Qin Yu dissipated like the clouds. The baby of the Old Bull Family had finally gained enlightenment. She actually volunteered to study and cultivate herself to become stronger.

The 18th!

That's right, that lad with the surname Qin, you are now ranked 18th in the list of possible suitors for Bull Bean. You have to work hard and take advantage of this. If you become ten or twenty times better,

you may have the fortune to marry the Young Ancestor of the Bull Family. That will be a fortune accumulated with eight hundred of your past lives!

The Old Ancestor Bull almost wept tears of joy but he quickly suppressed his thoughts and nodded, "Not an issue. Leave this to me. As long as you are willing to cultivate, you can do all your good deeds and be a good person within a hundred years. You can just slap those you do not like. I assure you, they will become minced meat on the spot!"

Bull Bean frowned, "Old Ancestor!"

Old Ancestor Bull did not hesitate to slap himself, "It is my fault, it is my fault. Our Bull Bean is a kind lady, how can she kill anyone?"

He coughed lightly, "Do you think we should return home now? Your parents miss you a lot too. If I didn't hold them back, they would have rushed here to see you now."

Bull Bean nodded and she pointed back to the ship, "There is a pair of siblings there and they are a pitiful bunch without any relatives or friends. I would like to bring them home."

Old Ancestor Bull waved his sleeves, "Not a problem, we can bring them both back. In the future, they can be your servants. This is their absolute luck and fortune."

Bull Bean sobbed a little, "Old Ancestor, I would like some time alone."

"Alright."

Old Ancestor Bull turned and walked to the storage area of the ship. He spread out his divine sense and every flying creature in the area seemed to have been startled. They desperately flew in other directions and did not dare to get close to it.

My Young Ancestor wants some quiet time. All of you should scam. This is the logic the Old Bull Family abides by.

As for that great general at the Jade Gate, would he be unhappy because of this? That was his own problem. If he was not happy, he could come and argue with the Old Ancestor!

Chapter 1667 – An Acquaintance of Rourou

After crossing three mountains and six bodies of water, the horse carriage finally made it to the Jade Gate. This wasn't a very accurate description of what happened, but the essence was that they finally reached their destination.

Jin Shen and Yang Fanshan, who were driving the horse carriage, heaved a sigh of relief together. There was a slight smile on their faces. If the two in the carriage had other objectives, they would not wait till now to take action. In other words, they were probably safe since they reached the Jade Gate.

Yang Fanshan turned around and asked a question to the people in the carriage. When he received their reply, his smile grew even more relaxed.

They had not stopped and they rushed to the Jade Gate. Compared to when they entered the Central Desolate Divine Area, they did not need to prepare anything to use the pass to enter the West Desolate Area. They could leave anytime they wanted.

It was time for them to part.

Yang Fanshan had been thorough in his planning. He claimed that the two of them needed to prepare some tools and continue on their way.

Qin Yu smiled and accepted his reason.

Yang Fanshan stared at the shut doors of the horse carriage and said, "Is My Lady tired from the journey? I will say my goodbyes here."

"Yang Fanshan, come up." Rourou's voice came from the horse carriage.

Jin Shen's heart instantly clenched.

Beside him, Yang Fanshan's expression turned solemn and he stared at Qin Yu.

"Don't worry, it is alright." Although Qin Yu did not know why Rourou called him up, it was not to kill him.

There was no need for that and she was not going to add trouble.

Yang Fanshan sighed, "Yes, My Lady." He originally wanted to reject her, but the moment the thought circled in his head, he immediately casted it aside.

Yang Fanshan pushed open the doors of the carriage and entered. He did not dare to sit down and respectfully waited by the side.

Rourou stared at him, "We cooperated with you previously because you were originally our target. That is why we met by the small pavilion by the side of the road."

There were beads of sweat on Yang Fanshan's forehead. He did not dare to nod nor shake his head.

Although he did not interact much with the lady, he could sum her up as a deep and mysterious being.

Acting dumb in front of her was truly foolish.

"I asked you to come up because there is one thing that I need you to do."

A few moments later, Yang Fanshan respectfully stepped back down from the horse carriage. There was joy written on his face that he could not hide. He thought about the lady's request and he felt like he was dreaming. Handing over the jade was not such a pity anymore.

Furthermore, he had an unexpected find this time.

Qin Yu looked at him with some surprise but he did not say anything. He cupped his hands together, "Congratulations, Lord Yang."

Yang Fanshan immediately dismissed him in a humble manner and thanked Qin Yu repeatedly. Then, he left.

The two left for the gate and Qin Yu pondered for a while. Then, he jumped up into the horse carriage and asked, "Where do we go now?"

Rourou's voice was calm, "Ask Immortal Building."

Qin Yu's eyebrows raised. They had already been there and they left in disappointment. Why did they have to go again? However, Rourou's tone had been very calm but he could sense a complicated feeling in it.

He was smart and he pushed aside his curiosity. Without question, he pulled on the reins and turned the carriage back.

An hour later, the horse carriage stopped at Ask Immortal Building.

Before Qin Yu could speak, the doors of the carriage were pushed open and Rourou walked out. She lifted her head and looked at Ask Immortal Building. She was frowning slightly.

She did not head in but instead turned and walked towards the side of Ask Immortal Building. There was a wine stand by the streets. At this moment, there weren't a lot of guests. Aside from her, only two tables were filled. The boss of the store urged one of the servers and he came forward to serve Rourou.

"Please have a seat. What would you like to drink? We sell local wine of the Jade Gate here. The taste of the wine is sweet and cold and the price is fair. It will definitely not disappoint you."

The enthusiastic server was good with his words.

Qin Yu secured the reins and walked into the wine store. When he saw Rourou's expression, he immediately said, "Give us two jars of your best wine and serve us some small bites."

"Three jars."

The server looked at Qin Yu.

Qin Yu nodded, "As she says."

"Alright. Please wait a moment, it will be served quickly." The servant yelled and turned around. The boss scooped up some fresh water and started to cut some small bites after washing his hands.

Very quickly, three jars of wine and some small bites were served to their table. The server politely asked them to enjoy their food and then he returned to his position. A few moments later, he started to nap.

The boss frowned, but since there were no other guests, he did not scold the server.

Rourou opened the jar of wine and poured herself some. She slowly took two sips.

Qin Yu felt that the wine was very ordinary. It could not compare to the wine fruits, and even the Immortal Brew from Ask Immortal Building was much better.

However, he could sense the solemn attitude from Rourou. There was a heavy atmosphere around her and this was the first time that he had seen Rourou be bothered by something without knowing what it was.

Right at this moment, Rourou suddenly said, "Here."

Qin Yu's heart clenched and he slowly turned around. He suddenly realized that there was a young scholar who had appeared by the two seater table beside him.

He was a real scholar.

It was not because of his appearance and he did not wear the robe of a scholar. However, he was holding a yellow but well-maintained book in his hands.

The other hand carried a rolled up painting.

Before Rourou spoke, Qin Yu had not noticed him. However, now, he realized that he could not sense that person if he closed his eyes. There was a heavy look on his face.

The scholar smiled and cupped his hands together, "I've finally met you again." With this sentence, tears streaked down his face.

He bowed and stood up, placing the book and the painting on the table. The scholar looked at Qin Yu and smiled, "My current state is rather strange now so you can't sense my presence. It is not that I used any abilities to hide my aura from you."

Qin Yu nodded, "Thank you for letting me know."

The scholar smiled and then used a hand to wipe his tears, "You don't like these and this is my fault. I will punish myself by drinking a cup." As he said this, he turned around, tipped the jar up, and poured himself a full glass. He toasted the wine to Rourou and gulped it down.

Rourou thought for a while, then she picked the entire wine jar up and drank from it.

It was just this one sip, but the scholar could not help but wipe his tears again. He laughed bitterly, "My apologies that you had to witness this embarrassing sight. I just feel overwhelmed from being able to sit with you to drink wine at the same table."

Rourou said, "Save your flattery. I can't do anything about your current state now."

The scholar waved his hand, "How would I dare to request for your help? I am already satisfied from seeing you."

He poured himself a full cup of wine and drank it all in one gulp.

He carefully wiped his hands clean and then gave Rourou the brown book, "Your gift back then. I shall return it to its original owner now. I am slow on the uptake and I was not able to fully grasp the last step. I have let you down and I am ashamed of myself."

Rourou fell silent and slowly said, "The book itself is not complete in the first place. You have already exceeded my expectations by comprehending till this step."

She looked at the book and then said, "Qin Yu."

There was a look of hesitation on Qin Yu's face.

At this point, Jiang Huan had already presented the book to him. He smiled, "I am very envious of you for being able to be by her side."

Qin Yu thought about it; it truly was a thing to invoke jealousy. He smiled and nodded, taking the book without checking it.

As though he unloaded his mind, Jiang Huan's smile grew more relaxed. He recalled the painting and then said, "This is an image I drew based on my memory of when you left. Don't worry, I have never allowed anyone else to look at it. Now that I am about to leave, I dare to admit this to you. This painting is for you; please handle it as you please."

With these words, Jiang Huan poured himself the third cup of wine. He placed the cup down once he finished the wine. Then, he stood up, bowed respectfully at Rourou, and said, "If I have another life, I hope that I will be able to meet you again."

He turned and walked out. One step, two steps, three steps...then, Jiang Huan dissipated like a shadow.

Like how he came, there was no aura nor disturbances. Through the entire time, the scholar's arrival and departure was very silent. The guests in the wine store did not sense him at all.

Rourou held a wine cup up and then she drank it all.

She turned and walked outside.

Once Qin Yu settled the bill, he hesitated for a while before he picked up the painting and left the wine store.

Rourou had not gotten into the carriage yet and she was walking along the streets. Qin Yu instructed the boss of the store to look after the carriage on his behalf.

After a moment of silence, Rourou suddenly said, "Jiang Huan is an old acquaintance that I met when I unintentionally went to the Central Desolate many years ago."

Qin Yu nodded in a serious manner.

He knew that with Rourou's personality, the man was very extraordinary to be called an 'acquaintance' by her.

"Back then, he also opened a wine store and he sold very good wine. I stayed at his store for about a month. In the end, I left him a book as payment for the wine. We only met again today."

She spoke in a simplistic manner but things were not that simple.

Qin Yu could not help but think, did the two of them...cough cough, he didn't think so!

Rourou whipped around with a calm look in her eyes, "Qin Yu, do you want to die?"

Qin Yu shook his head; he did not want to pour dirty water on himself.

"Hmph!" Rourou scoffed coldly, "Based on cultivation realm, you are a far cry from Jiang Huan. In my opinion, he was someone with the greatest talent for cultivation."

There was a pause before she continued, "Keep that book well. Although it does not look good, it records incredible things. Jiang Huan was able to comprehend the majority of it. If you try, the difficulty will be much lesser.

Qin Yu's attitude was proper, "I understand."

Rourou stopped and then sighed, "You handle the upcoming situations yourself. I am tired; I will wait in the horse carriage for you."

She turned and disappeared.

A few moments later, Shopkeeper Liu of Ask Immortal Building appeared in front of Qin Yu. There was a sadness in his eyes that he could not hide and his voice sounded choked, "Before the Floor Master left, he had already made arrangements. Ask Immortal Building is a business that he helped that lady to run. We will listen to the lady's arrangements in the future."

Qin Yu had already guessed the identity of Jiang Huan and he was not surprised to hear this. After thinking about it, he said, "I understand, but I am unable to confirm whether she is willing to take it or not. I will help you to pass the message."

There was a look of appreciation on Shopkeeper Liu's face and he said, "Thank you, Lord."

He took out a token of unknown quality and handed it to Qin Yu, "This token represents the status of Floor Master. Please pass this to her."

Qin Yu hesitated and then took the token, "I will."

Shopkeeper Liu bowed and turned to leave. His back view seemed lonely.

The Floor Master he respected was gone tonight. As he thought about this, he could not help but be filled with regret. He wondered if he should have told the Floor Master about the real Immortal Brew? Otherwise, things would not have progressed to this.

With this thought, his heart grew heavier.

Qin Yu fiddled with the token in his hands and the scholar's figure appeared in his head.

Although he only met the scholar once, in that short period of time, the scholar shed a lot of tears...he felt like this man was different. This was probably also because Rourou spoke highly of him.

However, this person vanished with the wind in a wine store by the roadside today. This dealt Qin Yu a blow.

He sighed to himself and turned to leave. However, right as he was about to turn around, he suddenly froze.

Along the streets was a lady carrying a lantern. The glow of the lantern shone on her face, and her long eyebrows were cute.

Qin Yu hesitated and then cupped his hands together and smiled. Then, he turned around.

Chapter 1668 – Opening Heavens Sword Sect

The horse carriage left the city.

Rourou's voice echoed through the horse carriage, "Since you met, it means you guys have fate. Aren't you going to say anything to her?"

Qin Yu calmly replied, "There is a lot of fate in the world. Some is deep, some is shallow, some is near, and some is far. Since I don't want to be involved, it means that the fate is shallow. It is better to cut it off sooner."

There was some silence. Then, Rourou scoffed, "What nonsensical logic!"

Qin Yu smiled. He could sense that Rourou was actually very satisfied with his performance.

At this point, Rourou glanced backward. Her eyes were flashing.

The arrangements were more or less done. As long as the great general, Zhao Yuan of the Qin Empire, was not a fraud, he would have sensed it.

The next few days of their journey went by smoothly and the horse carriage got to the foot of Bull Fighting Mountain.

Qin Yu pulled on the reins and he saw a middle-aged man in black clothes standing in the middle of the road with a sword. His eyes narrowed slightly and he instantly went on guard.

Very strong!

The man stood in front and his invisible aura immediately interrupted the World's Net. It caused chaos in a small area of the net and it was hard for Qin Yu to further sense him.

Before Qin Yu spoke, the middle-aged man calmly said, "Did the two of you take the demon spirit in Bull Fighting Mountain? I am very curious how you managed to do this."

A sinister aura arrived as he spoke and it covered the entire world. It felt like there were a million invisible blades circling the air. They could fall down at any time and slaughter everything in their radius.

This was the great general guarding Jade Gate, Zhao Yuan!

As soon as he sensed the violent sword aura, Qin Yu confirmed the other party's identity. His heart clenched.

The thing he was most worried about eventually happened. However, Rourou assured him that nothing would go wrong.

Was Rourou's judgment wrong or was there some other reason?

"If you are not going to speak, then I can only personally test you out." Zhao Yuan stepped forward. There was a 'boom' and violent forces instantly crushed the area. The sky seemed to have fallen by three inches.

The carriage broke and Rourou flew out from it. She extended a hand above her and the crushing forces immediately disappeared. She landed beside Qin Yu, "Great General Zhao Yuan, we are just passing through the Jade Gate and we have no reason to be your enemy. Please do not be overbearing."

There was shock written all over Qin Yu's face. He had not expected that Rourou would speak like this.

This was really unlike her.

Shouldn't it be – get lost or die!

This was more like her style.

What was going on?

Qin Yu was very disturbed. Shouldn't she have told him about it? Why did he feel like his mind was filled with hazy water?

“Don't speak. Listen properly, this is not the time for you to act.”

Rourou's voice echoed by his ears. Qin Yu obediently backed down and he lowered his head and did not speak.

Whatever you say!

Zhao Yuan narrowed his eyes and his lips curled into a slight smile, “You have a strong cultivation. I am curious about your identities.” However, right at that moment, he suddenly frowned. He did not continue attacking and his eyes stared at Rourou intently with a serious expression.

A very strong sword aura!

It was vast and thick and it vaguely made him feel suppressed. Furthermore, it felt slightly familiar. Where had he met this sword aura before?

Zhao Yuan felt threatened.

Rourou spoke in a deep voice, “Great General Zhao Yuan, we are indeed the ones who took the demon spirit here. We...are willing to make up for that.”

She spoke directly and named her price...Zhao Yuan felt the familiar feeling become stronger. He looked at Rourou and then at Qin Yu, who she was protecting behind her. Zhao Yuan had noticed the surprise in his eyes just now.

Buzz –

There was a soft hum of a sword and a billion sword shadows instantly appeared. They were crashing like a wave and there was a shrill sound before they rushed forward. Rourou's eyebrows knitted together and she raised an arm and brought it down. The billion sword shadows were split through the middle and Zhao Yuan retreated backwards. He lowered his head and noticed a tear on his black clothes. His eyes glistened brightly.

“Opening Heavens Sword Sect!”

Zhao Yuan suddenly lifted his arms and crossed them. His fingers spread and he made a weird sign with his hands.

Rourou's expression faltered and there was a cold killing intent in her eyes.

Zhao Yuan smirked, "Killing and silencing people is the best method, but this is the Jade Gate. Do you think you can really kill me? Even if you use a hidden card as a guardian, I am confident of escaping. By then, death would be the only way out for you two."

Rourou sighed, "Great General, what do you want?"

Zhao Yuan calmly said, "The Opening Heavens was destroyed ten thousand years ago, I didn't expect there would still be a guardian to pass on its legacy. So how about this – we can discuss after I capture you." He clapped his hands and there were sharp shooting sounds in the air. A few elites of the military flew over.

"According to Central Desolate rules, once returned sects are exposed, you have to accept an Interrogation Battle. I have a disciple under me. If you defeat him, I promise that I will not reveal anything about today."

Rourou turned towards Qin Yu and said, "Alright, we agree!"

Zhao Yuan smiled, "I like straightforward people. Zhao Heng, you come out." One of the young armored military men stepped forward. He saluted the general in a serious manner.

He turned and glared at Qin Yu. There was a cold aura circling in his eyes.

"Don't ask so much for now. When you fight later, use your most powerful method to take care of this small fry from the military directly."

Qin Yu really wanted to massage his forehead. How did this sudden fight to the death arrive? However, Rourou must have her reasons for it.

He took a decisive step forward.

"Zhao Heng."

The man said in a deep voice.

"Opening Heavens Sword Sect, Qin Yu."

He would learn on the spot and use it. As for whatever the Opening Heavens Sword Sect was, only ghosts would know.

Boom –

The long sword was instantly unsheathed. It was like a galaxy of stars was split open above their heads. It was not overly bright and showy and it only harbored a deathly, sinister sword aura that was filled with an air of destruction.

Qin Yu activated his mental senses and the rules of the heavens started to shift. They formed a small world that trapped his enemy and him within.

Rourou had given him a reminder to use his strongest technique to kill the man. Qin Yu's strongest technique now was to create a small world where he was the god.

Zhao Yuan's eyes lit up as he observed this scene and there were suspicions that boggled his mind.

“Stop it, we admit defeat!”

Since it was an heir of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect who cultivated a small world technique, there was no reason to continue the battle.

Zhao Heng was still in the small world and he did not stop his attacks. He roared and his eyes turned bright red. Flesh and blood on his physical body cracked open into tiny pieces and blood instantly stained his entire body.

At the same time, the sword strike he unleashed was dyed red. The violence and deathly atmosphere around it became ten times stronger.

Zhao Yuan frowned and jumped ahead. However, before he could land, he was forcibly pushed back.

Rourou glared at him with cold eyes.

In the next moment, there was a ‘boom’ sound. Zhao Heng’s headless corpse dropped to the ground and his blood spurted out.

The chaotic and violent sword aura that permeated the world a second ago dissipated like the wind. Sword strikes sliced through the earth and left many scars on it.

Each one of the sword strikes was like wind and sun rays; they carried a majestic aura.

Great General Zhao Yuan was expressionless and he stared at the corpse. He slowly said, “He is my disciple and also my son. Furthermore, I already admitted defeat.”

Qin Yu naturally would not explain this. Since Rourou told him to kill the man and she did not stop him, he killed him directly.

Whether or not Zhao Heng deserved to die...that question should be asked to his teacher, Zhao Yuan. Qin Yu was not involved in this.

After all, in that battle scene just now, someone with a lower cultivation rank than Qin Yu would have been turned to dust by Zhao Heng’s sword.

There was no such rule that dictated that one could only be killed and not kill right? Furthermore, Qin Yu left half of Zhao Heng’s body behind. That was merciful.

Rourou’s expression was solemn and there was coldness in her eyes, “Great General, you should know the rules of the Interrogation Battle. Since you chose to attack, both sides bet their lives and there is no way to back off halfway. Otherwise, Great General, you would be giving the Opening Heavens Sword Sect the biggest humiliation...even if the sword sect only has a few people left, we don’t mind destroying you.”

“Destroying me?” There was a dangerous look on Zhao Yuan’s face. “With you two? Do you really think that I don’t have a way to kill you two on the spot directly?”

Kaboom –

The ground shook violently and numerous shadows appeared in the distance. They were from the military and they carried a sinister killing intent. As long as the great general gave his orders, they would rush for the kill.

Zhao Yuan scoffed, "My armored guards once surrounded and killed a Half-King demon after spending thirty percent of our forces! Do you think that I won't dare to order them to kill the last heirs of the Opening Heavens Sect?"

Rourou stepped forward. Sword aura burst out above her head and it solidified to form a ten thousand foot long sword shadow. Her target was Zhao Yuan and her eyes were icy cold. There was no fear in them and she dared, "Great General, you can give it a try."

It was a direct threat.

You can kill off the inheritance of the sword sect. But before I die, I will drag you to the grave with me!

In front of violence and destruction, there was no such thing as logic. She did not even fear the heavens.

This was truly the Opening Heavens Sword Sect!

Back then, the Opening Heavens Sword Sect was the best sword sect in the Central Desolate Divine Area and it offended a lot of people. When it was attacked, no one wanted to help it. The sect was defeated and many were killed.

Zhao Yuan laughed in a hysterical manner. He could not stand being threatened by others.

People may not dare to bet their lives, but he was not afraid of laying his down.

Furthermore, he had done it many times before and he was still alive.

However, those who dared him had all become ashes in their homes!

Shoosh –

A daoist suddenly appeared in midair, blocking the two of them from each other. He smiled, "As the saying goes, if you don't fight, you don't know each other. Why do you have to get angry?"

Zhao Yuan frowned, "National Advisor has not left?"

The national advisor of Great Qin was someone who was well trusted by the king. As soon as he heard the rude words from Zhao Yuan, he frowned, "He left at first. However, he heard some disturbances midway and he rushed back to observe the Interrogation Battle."

He glanced at Zhao Yuan, "We should abide by old rules set in the past. You suggested the Interrogation Battle and you can only blame yourself for his death. Great General Zhao Yuan, am I right?"

Zhao Yuan scoffed.

The national advisor smiled. Young people were bold and daring; he could not treat them like ordinary people. Also, that old guy in the Zhao Family was quite troublesome. If he learned that his beloved grandson was dead, he would be enraged.

Troublesome!

He turned to look at Rourou and his eyes brightened, "Senior...hmm, how should I address you? I should be right. After all, although you look young, you are definitely not."

Qin Yu could not help looking up and staring at the national advisor.

The national advisor turned towards Qin Yu with a warm smile, "See, this young man seems to agree with my words."

Qin Yu was at a loss for words.

Excuse me, if you want to die, please don't drag me in alright?

"Young man, it is not right to curse at people. Even if you can't hold it in and you have to curse, please try to hide it. Otherwise, don't you think it is awkward if I see through you?"

Qin Yu thought for a while and then cupped his hands together, "Thank you for the reminder, National Advisor."

Chapter 1669 – Verifying Identity

"You are well-mannered and you are receptive to learning. Not bad." The national advisor's smile was kind and he looked at Zhao Yuan. The great general's face was still dark and he ignored the national advisor's subtle hint.

Rourou was expressionless and she said, "Greetings to National Advisor...you are also not young."

The national advisor smiled and nodded, "That's right and that's why I made the difference in our seniority all the more obvious." He paused and then sighed, "The Opening Heavens Sword Sect disappeared over ten thousand years ago. I didn't expect there would be a day that it would emerge from the dust again. Your roots are deep and your fortune is good. You actually found an inheritor whose body is so well suited for the skills. The future is bright!"

Rourou said, "Your words are kind, National Advisor. The Interrogation Battle is over. If there is nothing else, we will leave first."

The national advisor smiled and nodded, "Of course, I am just an observer and I do not intend to interfere. I believe Great General Zhao Yan will also abide by his words right?"

Zhao Yuan's face was black, "I will give the orders to keep everything that happened today a secret. No one else will know what happened."

Rourou pulled Qin Yu's hand, "Let's go." She raised her hand and slashed it down. The air split open and the two stepped into the cracked space and disappeared.

The national advisor sighed, "The Opening Heavens Sword Sect was known as the strongest sword sect in the world back then. Its reputation was well deserved. The aura from this sword strike is very sharp."

Great General Zhao Yuan's face was still dark but it was no longer as cold and sinister as before. Initially this was just a show, but he did not expect that the national advisor would come in to change the script and let the two from the Opening Heavens Sword Sect off.

He was very unhappy!

He turned and cupped his hands together, "National Advisor, I hope that you can give me an explanation for this."

Although the ruins of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect on Swallow Mountain had been visited many times, there were many other places that were not revealed.

If they grabbed the two sect members and went to Swallow Mountain, they would have a lot of finds.

Furthermore, the situation did not stop there. Back then, the Opening Heavens Sword Sect encountered a calamity and fell from the top as an elite of sword sects because of that clan.

Now, the Opening Heavens Sword Sect had been revived. Since a guardian and an inheritor had returned to the Central Desolate, it would cause a disturbance. Capturing the two sect members and controlling them would surely be beneficial.

At least, the king would be very happy with this.

Zhao Yuan originally wanted to redeem himself through this matter with the king. However, he was left empty-handed now.

The national advisor's face was calm and he suddenly laughed. He lifted two fingers up, "There are two reasons. Firstly, the guardian of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect is very strong. I am not able to confirm the extent of her powers. However, she is much stronger than what you can sense. If we forced them to remain here, they might break through the net and kill themselves. I do not want such an outcome.

"Secondly, the inheritor of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect is very talented. I am tempted to take him as my disciple. You saw for yourself that move he used to kill Zhao Heng. His small world already entered the initial stage. A person like this is worthy of being a chess piece. Of course, this means that he should be presented on the chess board. It would be a pity to keep him hidden."

He stared at Zhao Yuan and smiled, "Great General, rest assured. I will explain this to His Majesty and add in a few words for you. After all, it was your work that discovered the remnants of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect."

Zhao Yuan's expression slowly relaxed. He cupped his hands together, "Thank you for your efforts, National Advisor. I will take my leave first." He stared at the headless corpse of Zhao Heng. With a wave of his sleeve, a sword flash flew forward and instantly turned it into ashes that scattered across the ground.

Shoosh –

Zhao Yuan leaped into the sky and the rest of his army followed behind him.

The national advisor stared at the remains of Zhao Heng's corpse and silently muttered, 'What a pity.' It would have been beneficial if he had obtained the corpse and refined it.

He turned and looked in the direction Qin Yu and Rourou left in. After a while, the national advisor mumbled, "Opening Heavens Sword Sect...although I saw it for myself, I have to investigate it myself. There is no harm in being overly careful..."

As he said this, he took a step back and his body disappeared.

.....

The scene before his eyes flashed and when Qin Yu finally regained his sight, he realized that he was at a pavilion by the roadside. This place was very familiar. This was where they waited for Yang Fanshan to take the bait. If they walked forward, they would exit the territory of the Jade Gate.

Rourou softened her grip and sat down. She took out a fruit from nowhere and bit into it. 'Crack', the shell of the fruit broke and juice flowed into her mouth.

Qin Yu was wearing a straight face.

Rourou glanced sideways at him, "Oh, our dear Lord Qin, you seem to be angry?"

Qin Yu nodded, "I will add a word. I am very angry."

Rourou's eyes narrowed, "Then tell me what I can do to appease your anger."

Qin Yu coughed lightly, "Do what you want."

Rourou continued to munch on her fruit, finishing yet another one. When Qin Yu was about to break down, she suddenly laughed.

"Qin Yu, I think that you are someone who really can't differentiate good from bad."

"Then Miss Rourou, please teach me the ways. Let me know what I am seeing wrongly."

"It is useless to push me." Rourou mocked, "You don't have to play tricks; I was already prepared to tell you about this."

Qin Yu quickly turned around and placed his hand by his ear in an exaggerated manner.

Rourou calmly said, "Once we enter the Central Desolate, you need an identity that can be recognized. Otherwise, if a person that appears out of nowhere grows famous, it would not lead to a good outcome. As for the reason...you can think about it. The rest of the Desolate Areas outside the Central Desolate carefully rely on others to live. Don't you think they will try something? Then, do you understand?"

Qin Yu slowly nodded. This was not hard to understand.

Rourou snapped her fingers, "Therefore, from today onwards, you are the inheritor of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect." She thought about it, "Zhao Yuan is not an issue, but that person who came after is a crafty person. I believe he will investigate this further. Thankfully, I made preparations beforehand to ensure that no matter how deep he investigates, he will not be suspicious."

Qin Yu lifted an arm and rubbed his forehead, "That's it? Shouldn't you explain in greater detail? For instance, the idea that I am supposed to be the inheritor of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect? I will definitely be seen through if I don't understand a thing about my sect.

"Also, you chose to use the Opening Heavens Sword Sect as a cover. There must be a reason right? You didn't just choose any random shell."

"Firstly, you probably don't know, but according to the rules of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect, you will only gain the privilege to know about the inner sect methods once you reopen the Founder Hall. But

don't worry, since I chose to create this fake identity, I will cover the full thing." As she said this, she took out a token. It was what Yang Fanshan gave to them, "Keep this item well. The identity of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect is final."

She glanced at Qin Yu, "As for your second question, you are right. The destruction of the Opening Heavens Sword Sect was because of the mysterious clan. With this identity, your future movements will be easier. No one will think much about it. Furthermore, you may obtain external help. There are many who are not fond of that clan in the Central Desolate. This includes the king that the national advisor represents."

Qin Yu shook his head, "I believe that there are other reasons."

Rourou scoffed, "Don't think too much or your brain will rot." She stood up, "I am done answering your questions; we should go."

Qin Yu laughed bitterly. It seemed like he would not be able to get his answers today, but at least he had learned some context. However, after thinking about it, he realized that Rourou purposely set the scene today and lured Great General Zhao Yuan and the national advisor here to 'uncover' their identity as Opening Heavens Sword Sect members. Yet, before this, Qin Yu had no idea what was going to happen. He could not help but rub his nose.

Who knew what else she was hiding?

The two quickly reached Song City.

This time, they were trying to find a large ferry that would take them through multiple territories. Song City was too small and it did not have such a large ship. However, they could use it as a port and they would head to a place where a large ship was stationed. At the same time, they would get information about the shipping routes.

After two days at Song City, a fleet of ships arrived at the harbor. Qin Yu instructed the servant at the guest house to continue seeking out information about ships and he quickly got an answer. This fleet of ships would leave the next day and they would reach the main city in Langya Area.

The main city was bustling and many large ships would pass by it. They would need to ask around again to get a suitable ship for themselves.

The two of them had nothing to hesitate about. After buying tickets, they boarded the ship. Without the rich man, Yang Fanshan, they chose a regular room in the ship. Thankfully, their room location and view was good.

Right as Qin Yu and Rourou boarded the ship, Wei Han, who had been detained at the military camp of the Jade Gate for many days, was finally released.

Before this, he was subjected to an interrogation by a daoist. The interrogator had a warm attitude and he asked a few questions with a smile.

What made Wei Han's heart clench was that he could not resist answering the other party's questions. It seemed like as long as he opened his mouth, he would deliver his answer.

Even if Wei Han had been given permission beforehand, he still felt nervous and he could vaguely make out the identity of the daoist. He did not dare to delay any longer and he hid his tracks and headed away from the Jade Gate.

At Ask Immortal Building, the national advisor drank a cup of wine and he felt much more relaxed.

Through interrogating Wei Han, he reinforced his belief that the two people were from the Opening Heavens Sword Sect. After all, it was widely known that the Opening Heavens Sword Sect would break their swords.

After another cup of wine, the national advisor got up and waved his hand to ask for the servant of the wine store. He smiled, "Can you please call Shopkeeper Liu over. Tell him that I have some questions for him."

The servant observed the slight smile on the daoist's face and he felt fear. His face paled and he quickly nodded. Very soon, Shopkeeper Lu rushed over. When he saw the daoist, his expression immediately changed.

Before Shopkeeper Liu bowed, the daoist locked his eyes on him, "I have something to confirm with you. Please do not lie to me."

Shopkeeper Liu walked to a side and spoke in a respectful manner, "I will tell you whatever I know."

"Alright, then I shall ask."

A few moments later, the national advisor walked out of Ask Immortal Building. After some thinking, he stopped outside the wine store by the road. A moment later, he turned and left.

One step, two steps, three steps...the national advisor's body disappeared.

Shortly after, the national advisor stepped forward. When his foot met solid ground again, he was on Many Pagoda Mountain. The grand array that the Red Cloud Sect had set up to protect the mountain was nothing in front of the national advisor.

He stared at it for a while. Then, his body flashed and he teleported to a dense forest. This place was not out of the ordinary, but the national advisor's nose twitched and he smelled a fresh scent of blood.

This was where Qin Yu had killed that old sloppy man. There was another aura from the blood scent that confirmed that the man was killed through a measure by the Opening Heavens Sword Sect.

The national advisor took a step back and he appeared beside a stone pagoda.

People nearby were oblivious to what was happening and they did not see the national advisor. They surrounded the stone pagoda and looked at it with huge anticipation. They had heard the rumors that someone obtained good luck here not too long ago.

This was no longer a secret on Many Pagoda Mountain.

The guard of the pagoda had his eyes closed and he looked like a dead log. Even if people poked him, he would not give any reaction. As such, no one bothered him and they directed their attention to the

stone pagoda. After all, the guard was not someone who could control the fortunes on Many Pagoda Mountain.

Whatever they heard before may just be falsehoods or a coincidence.

Right at this moment, the guard's expression changed. Before he could react, he heard a voice that instructed him not to move.

The national advisor faced the stone pagoda but his voice was beside the ear of the guard. After a few questions, he got the answers he wanted and he was no longer suspicious.

The Yang Family...

Events that happened many years ago may have been buried with time. Ordinary people may not have known it, it but the national advisor knew it.

For instance, he knew that the Yang Family had attached itself to the Opening Heavens Sword Sect. Furthermore, the power of the dragon running in the veins of the Yang Family members was closely related to the Opening Heavens Sword Sect.

This could explain why the two of them would head to Many Pagoda Mountain and then return to the Jade Gate.

It seemed that there was no question about their identity.

Since that was the case, he could use these two and draw up a plan. Who knew, this might just be a heaven-sent opportunity to help the king achieve his wishes.

The national advisor did not believe that the king would go against him. After all, they were the ones who broke the agreement first. The king had waited for so long, and in the national advisor's opinion, he was exceptionally patient.

This had not been a wasted trip and he could answer to the king. However, who was that ancient person hiding in the Jade Gate? It was quite impressive how he could hide like a rat.

Nonetheless, the national advisor was not in a rush. Since he already found traces of him, it was only a matter of time before he got his hands on his target.

.....

In the ship, Rourou's eyes opened and she wore a satisfied smile. Trying to be overly cautious? You are still inexperienced!

However, when she recalled how the national advisor called her 'senior', Rourou's face darkened!

Some people were too vicious. A single sentence was enough to make her want to rip him apart.

Can you speak rudely just because you have good foresight? Just wait, I will bring you down and trample on you.

Once with the left foot and once with the right!

.....

On the mountain peak, the elder man in a coat suddenly withdrew his fishing line.

He turned around and stared in the distance. That national advisor had finally left. Then, he no longer needed to hide here.

It was a pity that this was a wasted trip and he was still hungry. However, this was a small issue. Which ancient person had not experienced hunger before?

But that being...Opening Heavens Sword Sect. Hehe, this identity could scare people. However, since that person did not hide, it showed sincerity. He was happy to ignore the sufferings of the national advisor and the Qin Empire.

He put his fishing line away, turned, and disappeared into the mountains.

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