

## Refining 351

### Chapter 351 – Acting Skill

Qin Yu began the sacrifice. The process continued the same as the first time. If there was a difference, it was that the Good Fortune Tablet, or rather the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor, returned an even richer magic power to him! Soon the Five Element Nascent Souls erupted with a divine light. They had reached their limits and could no longer absorb any magic power.

But with the dark golden light as a medium, pure magic power continued to pour into his body. Qin Yu's eyes flashed with surprise but he didn't feel any sense of fear, because he was absolutely certain that whether it was the Good Fortune Tablet or Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor, neither would harm him at this time.

And indeed, as magic power continued to pour into his body, an invisible power of imprisonment started to join in through the dark golden light. The power of imprisonment fell atop Qin Yu's Nascent Soul like layers of shackles, twining around him and giving him a strong bearing capacity.

So, as magic power continued to pour into his Nascent Souls, in a situation where his Nascent Souls were already fully saturated but were prevented from exploding due to the imprisoning power, what happened was that the magic power started to concentrate. This was a good thing. As the magic power began to concentrate, its quality started to substantially increase. Moreover, the Nascent Souls were able to 'free up space'.

But to Qin Yu himself, this was an 'enjoyable' yet sour feeling. It was like eating until you were no longer able to eat any more, but then a giant hand opened your mouth and shoveled food down your throat anyways. And not only could you not stop it, but you even found that for some strange reason, you were able to eat even more.

Almost a full hour passed before the dark golden light scattered. When Qin Yu was gently sent 30 feet away, he staggered and almost fell down. The ground started to crack beneath his feet. He turned and vomited, only stopping after a long, long time.

Chief Steward Qin revealed a look of sudden awareness. He had already guessed the Old Ancestor's thoughts. As his eyes fell on Qin Yu's back, they immediately became warm and intimate.

"Little friend, it must have hurt to eat so much, but as a man above men, your harvests today are enough to make countless young elites envious of you!"

Qin Yu cupped his hands together and wearily nodded. He naturally knew that was said was a fact.

Because, he was still at the ninth level of Nascent Soul.

But this ninth level Nascent Soul, compared to how it was before the sacrifice, was as different as the heavens and earth.

In terms of pure magic power quantity, there was at least twice as much as before!

This was because the Good Fortune Tablet had rammed his foundation together, completely consolidating it. If Qin Yu later told someone that he took the path of eating pills, there was no one that would believe him.

What nonsense. With such a vigorous foundation that was as hard as stone, how could that be formed by piling up hills of pills? That wouldn't even work to trick a ghost!

But ignoring everything else, just with solidity of this foundation alone, Qin Yu could stand on par with the top young elite cultivators of the Land of Divinity and Demons. And the deeper his foundation was, the greater his background became, then once he broke through to the Divine Soul realm, he would experience an even greater increase in combat strength.

This was simply a lucky chance that countless cultivators yearned for in their dreams. Unfortunately, those that had the qualifications to enjoy such treatment were only the most prized juniors of the greatest super influences. This was because it required at least a peak Blue Sea realm super powerhouse to personally take action to accomplish this. And, such actions would have certain effects on their own cultivation too.

The Southshine Nation Old Ancestor's repayment was rich...unfortunately, he didn't do this with any good intentions in mind.

After he completed the sacrifice, his cultivation increased and the pain in his body vanished. But, his soul still felt exhausted. Qin Yu couldn't help but endure the discomfort and say, "Lord Chief Steward, this junior is tired so I will leave first."

A look of hesitation appeared in his eyes.

Qin Wushang silently furrowed his eyebrows. "Ning Qin, is there a problem?"

Qin Yu forced a smile. "Of course not."

After watching him leave, Chief Steward Qin's thoughts raced. He always felt there was something wrong with Ning Qin's performance.

White Fengfeng was waiting outside the entire time. When Qin Yu emerged, his eyes flashed and he said, "Since you were waiting here, just follow me."

Without a single word exchanged, the two returned to Qin Yu's residence. When he closed the door and took out Ninth Province, Qin Yu sprawled back against a sofa and smiled. "Sit."

White Fengfeng's eyes were red. "Big Brother Baoyu, your hair...wuwu...how could it be like this..."

Qin Yu was moved by her words. Although it was still inexplicably strange that White Fengfeng was so close to him, he could still judge whether someone was sincere or not. He laughed and said, "It's fine. I may have lost some lifespan momentarily, but I will heal over time." He hesitated and said, "Miss White, what I'm about to tell you now, whether you believe it or not, I hope you will keep it a secret."

Seeing her vigorously nod, Qin Yu slowly said, "If you haven't yet refined the Revival Good Fortune Pill, then it's best that you not finish. This is my advice."

White Fengfeng nodded. "Okay, then I won't refine it!"

Qin Yu had a surprised look.

White Fengfeng sincerely said, "I believe that Big Brother Baoyu definitely won't harm me no matter what."

Qin Yu revealed a gratified expression. Although this girl's gaze towards him gave him a headache, it was nice to be trusted by someone. To talk with such a beautiful girl who fully trusted him, even if he had no other thoughts towards her, it still made him feel a bit happy. But what a pity, Qin Yu really needed to rest in his current state. He forced a smile and said, "That's about everything. I need to rest for now."

White Fengfeng reluctantly parted ways. And before she left, she vowed that she would find a treasure that could restore his lifespan and make it so that his hair turned black again.

What a pure and naive fellow.

As he thought about how he was still speaking to her using a fake name, he awkwardly rubbed his nose. However, now was not the time to be feeling awkward. What he needed to do was rest well.

He leaned back and fell into the soft sofa. Choosing a comfortable position, Qin Yu let out a light breath and closed his eyes, dozing off to sleep. This rest continued for one day and one night. When he woke up, it was in the middle of the night. His pupils glinted in the dark.

He looked at the clock hanging on the wall. The time wasn't wrong; in other words, he had six days at most before the world killing tribulation arrived. Although he already knew this, he still couldn't help but feel an intense sense of worry rise in his heart. He took a deep breath and started to further contemplate his plan.

Four hours later, Qin Yu stood up and walked to the bathroom. After washing and putting on a new set of robes, he stood in front of the grand windows and pulled open the shades. A dim light entered. The eastern skies were white and a new day was about to begin.

Soon after, there was a knock on his door. Qin Yu opened it, and without accident, it was precisely Qin Wushang.

The Lord Chief Steward had a warm smile. "I heard the maid say little friend opened the window blinds, so you must have awakened. I hope I didn't disturb you?"

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "Chief steward speaks too seriously. Please, enter."

He stepped to the side and allowed him in. When the door closed behind him, a sharp light flashed in Qin Yu's eyes. Now was the time for his acting skills to make an appearance. Although he was still lacking when comparing the thickness of his facial skin to these old things, he had still experienced enough plots and schemes and snobbery that when it came to acting alone, he was quite confident in himself. Moreover, the play and the stage had already been prepared for him. In a situation where Qin Wushang was unaware, he already had the advantage.

After asking Chief Steward Qin to sit down, Qin Yu was silent for a moment. Then he said, "If Chief Steward Qin came here today to convince this junior to continue refining another Revival Good Fortune Pill, then there is no need to speak any further."

Qin Wushang's complexion was calm as if he had already expected this. He nodded, "200 years of life. For a Nascent Soul cultivator, that is almost a fourth of their lifespan. That is indeed not a negligible

amount. But, once you break into Divine Soul and sense the rules of the Great Dao, the passing of your life will slow down according to how deeply and how greatly you perceive the Great Dao. Divine Souls live for 1600 years, but there are many who can live for 3000 years or longer.”

When 200 years was placed in front of 3000 years, it naturally seemed tiny.

Qin Yu had a bitter expression. He slowly shook his head. “In truth, it isn’t because of my lifespan...”

Qin Wushang’s eyebrows knitted together. Qin Yu’s reply was actually unexpected. Although he came here today ready to offer conditions that this junior couldn’t refuse, he still couldn’t help but feel a sense of restlessness.

“Then why?”

Qin Yu shook his head, his complexion turning white. “Chief steward, please don’t ask. No matter what, this junior will not refine another Revival Good Fortune Pill.”

Qin Wushang took a deep breath. “What if I tell you that the Old Ancestor has prepared a Deva Soul for you?”

Qin Yu’s pupils shrank. He never thought that the Southshine Nation Old Ancestor would actually be willing to pay such a steep price.

Deva Soul...it was said that if a Nascent Soul refined it, they could directly ascend to Divine Soul.

This temptation was unimaginably great to any cultivator below the Divine Soul realm!

Qin Yu’s breathing quickened. After gnashing his teeth for a long time he shook his head and said, “Chief Steward Qin, I cannot agree no matter what.”

Qin Wushang had no expression. “Ning Qin, do you feel that my Southshine Nation isn’t sincere enough? What do you want? Feel free to state your conditions.”

Qin Yu forced a smile. “On that day, this junior already obtained so many astonishing treasures, so how can I dare express any dissatisfaction? It’s just that this Revival Good Fortune Pill absolutely cannot be refined again!”

Seeing that he didn’t seem to be faking it, Qin Wushang frowned. He stood up and said, “Good, then I will give you some more time to consider it.”

He turned and left.

Chief Steward Qin thought back to when Qin Yu finished refining the pill yesterday. Something seemed different, and he didn’t appear too happy.

Could something really have happened?

He didn’t dare to delay. He took his private car straight to the royal palace and went to see the Old Ancestor atop the altar in that underground temple. He reported Qin Yu’s response.

The Old Ancestor’s eyebrows wrinkled together. The air in that dim underground chamber seemed to suddenly thicken like a swamp. “Ning Qin rejected the Deva Soul?”

Qin Wushang knelt on the ground, saying, "Yes, this old servant has carefully observed him. He seems sincere."

"You are saying that Ning Qin really doesn't want to refine another pill?"

"That should be it." Qin Wushang hesitated for a moment and then said, "Old Ancestor, Ning Qin kept wavering and hesitating. It seems like he feels apprehension."

The more he thought about it, the more he determined this was true. "Thinking about Ning Qin's current actions and behavior, it seems he is vaguely afraid of something."

A bolt of light seemed to flash in the Old Ancestor's eyes. Without any movement from him, a phantom walked out from one of the oil lamps around him. In the blink of an eye, this phantom condensed into reality. It was one of the avatars that Qin Yu had seen before, one that looked the same as the Old Ancestor himself.

"I really am curious about just what he is thinking."

Qin Wushang returned, this time bringing back a person that Qin Yu couldn't help but reveal awe and panic towards. The Old Ancestor had a light expression, "Ning Qin, I didn't come here to force you to refine a pill. Rather, I want you to give me a reasonable explanation."

Qin Yu's white face paled even further and he swept his eyes around again and again. "It isn't that this junior wishes to refuse you, but I really dare not continue refining another Revival Good Fortune Pill."

The Old Ancestor narrowed his eyes. "Is someone threatening you?"

Qin Yu quickly waved his hand. "No, no, it is just a truly horrifying feeling." The crucial moment in this play had finally arrived. Qin Yu diligently recalled the aura of the world killing tribulation and what he felt. Slowly, fear dawned on his face. "When this junior refined the second Revival Good Fortune Pill, it seemed as if there were a pair of eyes staring closely at me. This junior has never felt anything like that before. It was like those eyes could see through me, peering past all my secrets. This junior has no idea why, but I suddenly understood that it was a warning. If I dared to refine another Revival Good Fortune Pill, I would certainly die! Yes, there is no way to escape, I will definitely die!"

## **Chapter 352 – Arrival**

Beads of sweat dripped down his forehead. Qin Yu's lips shivered. Together with his pale face, this indicated just how nervous he was. If a normal cultivator were to see his current expression, they might think he was insane or perhaps some mental patient with advanced paranoia.

But the one in front of him was an old monster who had lived for 100,000 years and still wasn't willing to die. He was a freak of nature that was not tolerated by the heavens and earth. And, there was also the old monster's servant who knew a little bit of the truth. Thus, Qin Yu's words and the associations they formed left them shaken.

The Old Ancestor maintained his composure and asked, "Those eyes that you mentioned, what feeling did they give you?"

Qin Yu blurted out, "That there is nowhere to run!"

The Old Ancestor closed his eyes and sighed inwardly. He already knew where Qin Yu's fear stemmed from.

The world's will...this was because he had already experienced the horrifying nature of those invisible eyes. That feeling of having nowhere to run, only someone who had personally experienced it could speak it without hesitation.

Although this might seem like an absurd and incredible assumption, one couldn't forget that the Old Ancestor had already experienced a world killing tribulation aimed at Ning Qin. Initially the world's will wanted to kill Ning Qin, but Ning Qin had been rescued by him.

Now, was the world's will becoming impatient because it could feel his life being extended once more, so it wanted to strike out?

After a long time, the Old Ancestor opened his eyes. Two ghostly flames seemed to burn deep in his pupils. His voice became colder, like a chill shooting through your soul. "You want to destroy this old man's hope? Then let's fight. Let's see whether you can kill me, or whether I can continue living."

He looked at Qin Yu. "I guarantee you that no matter what happens, you will not receive any injuries. So, I hope you can refine another Revival Good Fortune Pill for me."

As if sensing Qin Yu's thoughts, the Old Ancestor raised a finger and added, "This is the last one. I will only ask you to refine one final pill. Besides the Deva Soul, I will also lend you one more treasure."

His finger traced his wrist and he took out a bracelet. This bracelet was pitch black with a thick coating on its surface that shined with a glimmer of light. It emanated the aura of passing years.

"This item is a precious treasure inherited within my royal family. If you wear it, you can block any attack from someone below the Calamity Immortal realm. Ning Qin, will you agree?"

Qin Yu's face paled and his eyes fixed onto the bracelet. There seemed to be a deep emotional struggle in his eyes. Even he never expected that his acting could appear so genuine and true. After trembling for a long time, he nodded, "This...junior...agrees..."

The Old Ancestor laughed. "Good! Rest first and when you refine the pill, I will personally protect you. I want to see just who can harm you!"

An invisible momentum shot up into the skies, like a great hand stabbing into the heavens above the capital city. With a loud rumble, thunder roared and endless black clouds wove together.

This was a truly unparalleled level of momentum!

Qin Yu seemed to be frightened. He lowered his head and expressed awe and reverence, but deep in his eyes, his heart relaxed.

It worked...

When he looked at the Southshine Nation Old Ancestor who gazed down upon the world with disdain, the alarm and fear he subconsciously felt already faded a great deal.

After all, no matter incredibly high your cultivation is, in the end you suffered a loss in front of this young master!

After all of this, he had finally completed his preparations for dealing with the world killing tribulation before it arrived. Now...everything else would depend on his luck!

During his time here, while things had been risky, there wasn't any true danger to him yet. He could even say that he had harvests and his luck was also good. Qin Yu hoped that he could continue to be lucky and that his joy wouldn't lead to disaster.

After leaving behind the Deva Soul, the Southshine Nation Old Ancestor left. But for the next three days, although the capital city didn't seem any different on the surface, there were actually countless waves roiling below.

All of the top level elite circles seemed to come to a unanimous agreement. All of them restrained their forces so that no one provoked any trouble.

Although they had no idea what was happening, through various clues and traces they discovered just how tense the current situation was.

For instance, the 81 city-protecting array formations that guarded the capital city all started to quietly revolve and fill with energy.

For instance, the alertness level of the royal palace began to rise again and again, with various personnel movements made all over.

For instance, the shadowy low-key operatives of the Dark Night Division now dared to blatantly wander the streets of the capital city, threatening everyone with vicious expressions.

There must be something happening...and it was something important!

After Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang entered the capital, they were respectfully requested to stay at another imperial courtyard. There was no need to mention the thoughtfulness used to care for them. Of course, even though the two of them were seemingly confined, they still had numerous channels through which they could receive news. They paid particular attention to the matter of the Revival Good Fortune Pill. Incidentally, the changes occurring within the capital city also caught their eyes.

Realizing that the situation was changing, the two Blue Seas both furrowed their eyebrows, each one of them thinking: could this be related to restarting the refining of the Revival Good Fortune Pill? Then they also thought of Qin Yu. A picture of his long silver-gray hair had been secretly transmitted to them along with an analysis of other information. With this, it wasn't difficult to discover that Qin Yu was the key behind this event.

Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang were both left suspicious. Just as they prepared to take action, Yun Yilan pushed open the courtyard doors, bid the servants to prepare a banquet, and then pulled the two Blue Seas down into seats.

Singing and dancing filled the air. There were countless delicacies and wines, and the atmosphere was comfortable and casual.

Yuan Tiangang finished drinking a cup of wine, his eyes flashing as he said, "Revered Yun, I haven't come to the capital city in many years and there are several old friends I know here. I was just planning on taking a walk out and greeting them."

This probing question wasn't too clever, but he could always make out some clues from Yun Yilan's response.

Ming Siyuan lifted his wine cup and looked on.

Yun Yilan clapped his hands, sending away the dancers and musicians. "Revered Yuan, Revered Ming, I don't like beating around the bush, so I will go straight to the point. I came here today in hopes that you two will stay in this courtyard for the next several days."

Yuan Tiangang's smile didn't fade. "And what does Revered Yun mean by this?"

Yun Yilan smiled, "I meant exactly what I said."

Ming Siyuan slammed his wine cup onto the table. "Exalted Yun, do you plan on placing us under house arrest?" Although his tone was light, it was icy cold. In an instant the casual atmosphere was torn apart, leaving nothing behind but a freezing temperature.

Yun Yilan's smile finally vanished. He was silent for several seconds before finally saying, "This is the Old Ancestor's order, so why make things hard for me?"

Indeed, this was related to the Old Ancestor!

Yuan Tiangang had a solemn expression. "Very well, then I agree."

Yun Yilan cupped his hands together. "I thank Revered Yuan for being so allowing." He wasn't surprised by this at all.

When the Old Ancestor spoke, even revered Blue Seas wouldn't dare to argue back.

Otherwise, how could he be called the Old Ancestor!

Ming Siyuan frostily said, "The Southshine Nation must guarantee the safety of my family's young master. If there is even the smallest accident, the Great Desolate Lake will never give up!"

Yun Yilan said, "Of course." He smiled and raised a cup. "For these next days I will stay here with you. We can continue our talk from earlier."

This was to monitor them.

Five days after Qin Yu refined the second Revival Good Fortune Pill, there were only two days left until the world killing tribulation would arrive. He could already clearly feel that all-annihilating perception hovering over his soul and mind.

He opened his eyes from cultivation. He had determined he could just barely control the drastically increased magic power in his body. A sharp light flashed in his eyes.

He decided he would begin refining the pill.



If he continued to wait, the most he could do was delay another day. If so, he might as well take the initiative to force the world killing tribulation to arrive. If so, he might be able to disrupt its rhythm.

He stood up and walked to the window. Pulling back the curtains, he saw the sun setting over the mountains.

He took a deep breath and adjusted his condition. When the last trace of light vanished and the dark night arrived, he turned and left.

He chose nighttime because only in the dark of night would the little blue lamp have the mysterious power of defying the heavens. Even if this was only a guess, Qin Yu wanted to grasp every possible chance to increase his chances of surviving.

Qin Wushang had long since prepared the materials to refine the third Revival Good Fortune Pill. A moment later, Qin Yu reached the alchemy room and saw the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor standing outside. He was no longer alone as he normally was. Rather, four armored cultivators stood behind him, their faces completely covered up.

A cold aura emanated from these four people, and what was strange was that this aura didn't spread outwards but instead directly fused with space, making it seem as if these four people were directly merged into the space around them.

"Greetings, Old Ancestor!" Qin Yu revealed a trace of relief, but his pale white face still exuded a sense of nervous terror.

The Old Ancestor nodded. "Refine the pill in peace. I am here in case anything happens."

"Yes." Qin Yu walked into the alchemy room.

The Old Ancestor raised his hand and the four armored cultivators quietly spread out to the four corners of the alchemy room.

Qin Wushang started to speak but hesitated.

The Old Ancestor lightly said, "I have no other choice. I must obtain the third Revival Good Fortune Pill no matter what."

If he could obtain it he could live for an extra hundred years and his future plans would be much calmer. Otherwise if he was too much in a hurry, the chances of success would be too low.

If not for this, why would he be willing to forcefully endure the world killing tribulation?

He looked up, his eyes passing through all impediments to fall onto the vast skies above. He seemed as if he could feel the faint constrained feeling percolating there, and his complexion became even fainter.

In the alchemy room, Qin Yu sat down. With a flick of his sleeve Ninth Province appeared. He traced the bracelet on his wrist, and then after a moment of thinking, took out the branch that the inn's Aunty Hong gave to him.

Without further delay, he lit the furnace's fire. As the flames ignited and heat started rushing out, Qin Yu released a third fluctuation of consciousness from his soul. Then, he began to refine the pill.

His speed was fast. An hour later, as he tossed in the last material, Qin Yu allowed this fluctuation of consciousness to control his actions and complete the convergence of medicinal efficacy.

Bang –

Ninth Province popped open and the embryonic form of the Revival Good Fortune Pill appeared. It screamed, opening its ‘mouth’, and then biting down on Qin Yu’s fingertip.

Now!

Mighty waves rose in his dark and shrouded eyes. Qin Yu lifted his other hand and grasped up into the air with five fingers. The phantom of a great sun appeared.

Rumble rumble –

The Southshine Nation’s capital city was a place that had experienced peace and tranquility for over 10,000 years. The night had just begun and this was the liveliest time for people to be out. Suddenly, there was a loud explosion in the highest heavens as an earthshaking peal of thunder rang out. Countless cultivators froze in place, fear and dread gushing out from their hearts without end. They reared back their heads and looked up to discover with amazement that at this time, a bolt of thunder had pierced through the skies of the capital city. This bolt of thunder was dazzling red...to be more accurate, it seemed as if it had been turned this color after being soaked in blood.

In the dark of night it was incomparably eye-catching.

Then, the curtain of night was torn open without warning. Rays of light appeared and in a breath of time, the darkness was shredded to pieces.

Yin and yang reversed; the dark night had become the bright morning!

There was no sun in the sky, yet brilliant sunlight actually illuminated the entire capital city.

But outside the capital city, the darkness became even deeper, as thick and viscous as a sea of ink.

### **Chapter 353 – Blood Dragon**

The walls of the Southshine Nation’s capital city were a thousand feet high and dozens of feet thick. They protectively wended about the city like a giant dragon. Every so often, there was a look-out tower constructed on the wall. At this moment the towers began to emit light. There were 81 in total, looking like 81 stars erupting with endless brilliance.

This light didn’t soar into the heavens. Rather, it beamed towards the middle of the capital city where it gathered together, as if a giant sun were forming. The terrifying fluctuations of energy began to twist space. Large swathes of space cracked apart and just from glancing at this, it made one feel fear deep in their heart.

Countless cultivators in the capital city looked up with amazement. It was no secret that there was a giant super defensive array formation constructed around the capital city, but no one ever imagined that they would be able to witness it being activated. After all, with the current situation of the world and the strength of the Southshine Nation, unless it was that empire up north which was one of the

strongest within the Land of Divinity and Demons, there was no one that could force the capital city to open the great array formation.

So just what was happening?

This thought appeared in the hearts of countless cultivators, but soon all of them no longer had the mood to care about this. Their attention turned towards the skies and the eye that had appeared. It was like their souls were being drawn in by it and they all froze in place.

This eye was not something that a living creature could possess. It was a few miles wide and even though it was far away, one could still clearly see it. That eye merely existed, without any fluctuation in mood. There was an infinite faintness within it, as if the eye could pierce through all of reality and see everything.

Then, the countless panic-stricken people watched as a trace of blood red color appeared in the depths of the eye. In the next moment, it spread through every inch of it.

It slightly moved, a movement so small that it was almost imperceptible. It seemed as if it had found its target. Then, like a dam that had broken apart, endless red light flowed out, condensing into a beam of light that descended from the nine heavens, smashing into the capital city's great protective array.

No one could describe this impact. The entire world seemed to come to a standstill. For a moment, all of space and time seemed to lose its concept.

It was like the air in one's body was completely sucked out. This empty feeling was so discomfoting that one wished to roar out loud, but it was impossible for them to open their mouth or even make a sound. At the same time, a massive mountain seemed to press down on everyone's chests, the pressure so horrifying that it felt as if their hearts would crack apart.

The emptiness in their hearts and the heavy pressure upon their bodies – these two entirely different feelings were like being drowned in a world of ice and fire, causing tremendous damage.

In the capital city, as long as a cultivator was exposed outside, everyone below the Nascent Soul realm began to drip blood from every orifice of their head before directly fainting. As for Nascent Souls, they slumped to the ground, their faces twisted with pain as their bodies twitched without end. Divine Soul cultivators all widened their eyes, shock filling their hearts.

Divine Soul cultivators could feel the rules of the world, thus they could sense the terrifying prestige and energy contained within that collision. This led to their deep sense of fear.

But there were people who could sense things ever clearer.

In an imperial courtyard, three Blue Sea masters of Yun Yilan, Ming Siyuan, and Yuan Tiangang were all stubbornly staring at the skies where the terrifying collision occurred.

Their pupils violently shrank!

These three could all be considered established Blue Sea realm super powerhouses with a combat strength over 300 dragons. As long as they didn't seek death on their own initiative, they were strong enough to freely wander the Land of Divinity and Demons.

But at this time, all three of them seemed to feel the threat of death at the same time. The capital city's gray array formation was terrifyingly potent, but that power was used defensively. What truly left their hearts racing was that giant eye and the blood red beam of light that descended. Even with their cultivations, just sensing it caused their scalps to tingle.

As Blue Sea realm super powerhouses, they could already control the rules to a certain degree. Thus, they felt an even greater fear towards this eye.

The world's will...the was an incarnation of the world's will!

Just what had the Old Ancestor done? That he could actually galvanize such a terrifying world killing tribulation that would try to kill him no matter the cost.

Yun Yilan gripped his fists. As Ming Siyuan and Yuan Tiangang were shocked, the battle between the blood red beam of light and the capital city's great array formation had already been decided. Countless cracks began to appear in the walls that winded around the capital city like a giant dragon and the runes of the great array hidden within started to collapse in succession.

Bang –

The 81 array formation nodes collapsed together and the entire capital city walls disintegrated!

The blood red beam of light paused for a moment before it continued racing towards its goal, a four-sided building. Blood red light suddenly illuminated an army of 100,000 armored soldiers standing guard outside that building. These soldiers were completely hidden beneath their armor, only their eyes exposed with a cold light surging through them.

“Attack!”

Loud roars resounded in the air and 100,000 soldiers drew their swords together, the sounds gathering together into a loud rumble that echoed into the skies.

100,000 swords slashed out together. Space instantly cracked as the combined energy of their strike cut towards the blood red beam of light.

Roar –

With a vicious roar, the blood red light that was chopped at suddenly twisted and transformed into a world destroying blood dragon. It rapidly swiveled about, attempting to avoid the brunt of the attack. Invisible sword intent clashed with its scales, and with endless loud bursting sounds, a rain of sparks fell down.

“Attack again!” The roar of the soldiers was as cold as before, without the slightest shake in their voices. The 100,000 armored soldiers slashed out with their swords once more.

One sword falls, 10,000 swords ring!

This sword strike was no longer a pure slash, but contained a potent supernatural sword intent. One sword transforming to 10,000 swords couldn't be considered too profound of a supernatural sword skill; it could even be called basic. But any supernatural power, after being superimposed on itself 100,000 times over, could rise to a level where it could destroy the world.

Hum –

Hum –

The void trembled for a moment before collapsing like a mirror that was smashed into the ground. The cracks in the air split into countless pieces that covered the blood dragon.

There was nowhere to evade!

The blood dragon flung its tail and replied with its motion. It simply had no intention of dodging, and like this, brutally intruded into that shattered space.

In the next moment, countless thunderous explosions roared out and hundreds of thousands of sword lights shined and tumbled, the dreadful sword intent soaring into the highest heavens.

Every spatial crack erupted with sword light that chopped at the blood dragon's scales. Even if it possessed unimaginable defensive strength, large sections of its scales still cracked apart and wounds raced across its body.

But what caused people to shudder was that the blood dragon's movements didn't slow down at all. It was like this sword light simply didn't cause any true damage to it. It tore through the sword net with unprecedented momentum and arrived above the four-sided building. Its ice cold dragon eyes seemed to possess all the killing intent of the world.

“Attack again!”

The 100,000 armored soldiers flipped their swords around. Without hesitation, they stabbed their swords through their chests and out their backs.

There was not a single cough and their bodies didn't even shake. It was like they weren't even people but wooden puppets instead.

In the next moment crimson sword phantoms rose up from the heads of the 100,000 armored soldiers. In the blink of an eye it condensed into a blood red sword overflowing with killing intent that slashed at the blood dragon.

Puff –

The blood dragon's back was torn apart. Massive amounts of scales fell down and for the first time, it revealed pain in its eyes. Its undefeatable aura began to tremble.

But in the next moment, the blood dragon opened its mouth and sucked in a deep breath!

The 100,000 armored soldiers stiffened in place. With loud ringing sounds, their armor clattered to the ground as the bodies of all 100,000 cultivators turned into powder.

With a single inhaling breath, the army of 100,000 soldiers had been extinguished!

Outside the alchemy room, the eyes of the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor suddenly opened, lighting sparkling within them. The four armored cultivators that stood around the alchemy room also vanished into ashes. There was not the slightest change in mood on his face. Even the death of 100,000 subordinates couldn't shake his mind.

His eyes grew increasingly bright. The Old Ancestor seemed to be waiting for some opportunity. Then, he lifted a hand and pointed a finger into the void.

In the skies above the four-sided building, the blood dragon that had just exterminated an army of 100,000 suddenly emitted a roar of pain. Its giant body violently shook as it was slashed by 100,000 sword energies.

From outside and inside, the blood dragon's massive body had turned into a sieve. If its body were truly flesh and blood, then no matter how terrifyingly strong it was, this attack would have destroyed its mortal body.

But the blood dragon was not a truly physical being. It was a substantiated incarnation formed from the world's killing intent. The holes piercing through its body wriggled and rapidly faded away, but it was clearly weaker than before.

This was the first time it had been wounded!

The blood dragon roared and raced towards the earth. Though it had yet to arrive, its terrifying aura caused the entire four-sided construction to disintegrate into dust.

Dust soared into the skies. The entire ground was cleared out in a moment. All that was left was Qin Yu's alchemy room and the distant Good Fortune Tablet.

The Old Ancestor looked up. He took a step out and the wrinkles on his face vanished. With the rise and fall of one step, he had regained the appearance of a 30 year old man.

He lifted a hand and punched out.

This strike was like the sun and moon, the river of stars flowing backwards. It instantly pierced through space, landing between the blood dragon's eyes.

During the collision, a phantom appeared behind the Old Ancestor, one with rivers and mountains divided all around. This was a map of the territory that the Southshine Nation controlled.

As the Old Ancestor and the true leader of the entire nation, he possessed the ability to mobilize and transfer the destiny of the nation and use it to support himself. This fist strike not only contained the power of a peak Blue Sea master but also the strength of a nation's destiny. This was why he could punch out with such a terrifying attack.

The blood dragon was sent shaken backwards. With the scales between its eyes as the center, there were loud cracking sounds as the destruction rapidly began to spread outwards. But at this time, the blood dragon's eyes locked onto the Old Ancestor. Within its ice cold gaze, the phantom of a net seemed to form.

The Old Ancestor's complexion changed. He seemed to feel a terrifying crisis at hand. He retreated again and again, disappearing with every step as he emerged in the far off distance.

But no matter how he stepped through the void, he couldn't avoid this invisible net that covered the heavens and earth. This was because the power of its rules existed in every corner of the world.

He retreated not to evade, but to delay for more time. The Old Ancestor deeply sighed, a bit of helplessness in his eyes. Eventually, all of that turned to a sharp cold decisiveness.

He bit down on his fingertip and touched the point between his eyebrows. A black seed appeared in the blood. It beat like a heart, like a living creature. Then, as this black seed vigorously beat, an inexplicable aura emanated from within the Old Ancestor's body.

Xu Shao was a commander of the royal palace bodyguards. In the past, after refining the Revival Good Fortune Pill, he had been recognized by the royal family and entrusted with heavy responsibilities. Just over two hours ago he had been ordered to go deep into the royal palace's dungeon and guard the death-sentenced prisoners here. Although puzzled, he didn't ask any questions.

At this time, Xu Shao sat cross-legged in the dungeon. There was a dignified expression on his face as he sensed the horrifying aura from outside faintly seeping in here. A sense of dread suddenly rose in his heart and his eyes popped open. At this time, a black seed appeared between his eyebrows and an incomparably terrifying plundering strength erupted.

Xu Shao was a peak Divine Soul and even had hopes of stepping into the Blue Sea realm. But even with his cultivation he couldn't make the tiniest sound as he fell to the ground and trembled. After several breaths of time, all that was left over were his clothes; he had completely vanished.

At the same time, from deep within the Old Ancestor's body, a phantom stepped out. Although its appearance was blurry, just from looking at its face, one could tell it was Xu Shao who had just died in the dungeon!

### **Chapter 354 – Unwilling**

The phantom continued forth without stopping. It invaded the invisible net that covered the world and then emitted a sad and shrill scream. Gray flames erupted from the phantom before it was burnt to ashes. The Old Ancestor's eyes dimmed a bit but his face remained cold and calm. Another phantom emerged from his body, burying itself into those gray flames once more.

Phantom after phantom emerged, withering away and burning away the power of the rules. Finally, when the invisible net eventually disappeared, 16 phantoms had stepped out from the Old Ancestor's body. His complexion was incomparably dark and his face was pale. This was because their auras were connected and the deaths of the phantoms also injured him to a certain extent.

The blood dragon stood tall and firm. Its shattered scales quickly recovered and it looked at the Old Ancestor with an icy cold gaze. Then, it emitted a deep roar.

Bang –

The blood dragon exploded into countless blood red drops of rain. It fell down like an overwhelming shower, a tiny blood dragon phantom within every droplet.

The Old Ancestor's complexion changed.

Every drop of blood rain contained the aura of the world killing tribulation. Although it had weakened a great deal, it was more than enough to kill any cultivator at the Divine Soul realm or below.

He could resist it but he would need to use up all the seeds he had saved. The arrangements he had painstakingly laid down over the countless years would all be destroyed in a moment.

Even if he managed to block today's world killing tribulation, would there be any meaning to it?

The Old Ancestor sighed as he avoided the blood rain. His gaze fell atop the alchemy room, a bit of helplessness in his eyes. He truly did want to save Ning Qin. For this reason, he didn't hesitate to ruin the capital city's great defensive array formation and even send his legion of 100,000 elite soldiers to their deaths. But when it involved his own life, he had no choice but to withdraw.

Because if he ruined his own foundation just to save Ning Qin, that would be putting the cart in front of the horse.

Thus, the Old Ancestor neatly withdrew. Even if he was unwilling in his heart, he didn't hesitate for a moment.

Even if Ning Qin died, he still had hope. At the worst he would struggle one last time.

But it really was a pity...

As for the promise, the Old Ancestor felt no guilt because he had already contributed his fair share.

The blood rain encountered no hindrance. Soon it would fall atop the alchemy room, and the corrosive power contained within – that destructive strength – would be more than enough to disintegrate the room and Qin Yu inside.

In the far distance, the silent Good Fortune Tablet suddenly erupted with dark golden light. The rich blazing flames raced forth and covered the alchemy room.

As the drops of blood rain fell down, they were wrapped up by the dark golden light. Although the dark golden light contained a terrifying energy, it still wasn't enough to destroy those raindrops. Inside, the miniaturized blood dragons locked their eyes onto the Good Fortune Tablet. As more and more blood rain fell, it seemed to merge into one whole with the dark golden light.

Roar –

The blood dragon appeared once more. It tumbled about, its teeth biting and its claws slashing around as it tried to break through the dark golden light. In the distance, the Good Fortune Tablet violently trembled.

The Old Ancestor's face was stunned before his complexion paled. He never thought that the Good Fortune Tablet would actually protect Ning Qin on its own initiative.

But this choice also placed him into a hopeless situation without any path to retreat. If the Good Fortune Tablet were injured, he would die just the same.

However, if the Good Fortune Tablet chose to protect Ning Qin so decisively, the Old Ancestor couldn't help but look at Ning Qin once more. Perhaps Ning Qin was incredibly important, even more important than he first thought.

If this was the case, then he might as well give it a try!



Within the underground chamber's altar, the Old Ancestor opened his eyes. Then, from two oil lamps, a figure stepped out from each.

They rapidly condensed into reality and then bowed towards the Old Ancestor. They stepped out and vanished from sight.

In the next moment, these two figures appeared outside the alchemy room, forming a triangle formation with the Old Ancestor's avatar.

Of course, this description wasn't too clear, because these three people were all avatars of the Old Ancestor.

The Old Ancestor had lived for a long, long time of 100,000 years. This time was so long that it even surpassed the Calamity Immortal realm. Although he still hadn't been able to break through to the Calamity Immortal realm because of certain limits, if one were to live for such a long time, even a pig could cultivate to a profound realm, much less the Old Ancestor who ruled over the entire Southshine Nation.

Yes, he was only at the Blue Sea realm, but he was one of the strongest Blue Seas in the world, because every one of the Old Ancestor's avatars was each at the peak of the Blue Sea realm!

Three peak Blue Sea avatars combined into a super combat strength of 3000 dragons. Now, all of this strength erupted without hesitation, punching out at the blood dragon.

The dark golden light began to tumble about like a raging sea. On the blood dragon's massive form, three deep fist prints instantly appeared.

Each one spread out with invisible waves of energy. Wherever they went, scales disintegrated.

The blood dragon's eyes revealed pain. It opened its jaw wide and hurled out a blast of dragon breath that sent one of the avatars flying away.

But the dragon breath's true terror wasn't in the force of its attack. Rather, the avatar that was sent tumbling away immediately turned deep red.

Through the connection between the avatars, the crimson color also started to spread to the other two avatars.

On the altar, the Southshine Nation Old Ancestor's thin face revealed a shocked anger. The flames of the oil lamp in front of him started to turn crimson, and even the two nearby ones started to turn the same color.

With a pained expression, the Old Ancestor lifted his hand and extinguished the crimson oil lamp. Then, he lifted his hands and placed a drop of blood into the two other oil lamps, temporarily scattering the red color.

Though this was just two drops of blood, it seemed to completely suck the Old Ancestor's body dry. His figure withered even further and the wrinkles that stacked up on his face filled up with the aura of decay.

But the greatest loss was the extinguished oil lamp. The avatar had fallen into a deep slumber and he had no idea how much time and effort he would need before he could awaken it once more. Moreover, the Old Ancestor had no idea what the red color would do to the two other avatars that had been stained. This unknown worry caused his complexion to become even uglier.

But with things having come this far, he could only clench his teeth and continue to the end. His thoughts stirred and two more avatars stepped out from the oil lamps.

The Old Ancestor's breathing became heavy. To support the arrival of four avatars clearly placed an enormous pressure on him.

But at this moment, the Old Ancestor clenched his teeth and two more avatars appeared.

In the underground temple, four peak Blue Sea avatars stood around the altar, their eyes all rippling.

The Old Ancestor stuffily coughed and blood flowed out from his nose and mouth. He lifted a hand and touched the point between his eyebrows. A black seed emitted a shrill scream.

The ripples in the eyes of the four Blue Sea avatars were directly erased. They bowed obediently and teleported away.

Outside the dark golden light, six peak Blue Sea avatars mercilessly attacked together.

The blood dragon roared miserably. Even if it were the incarnation of the world's killing tribulation and possessed a world-destroying prestige, while it was restrained by the Good Fortune Tablet it still couldn't withstand the full barrage of six peak Blue Sea masters.

Its massive form collapsed inwards. The pupils of the six avatars all shrank together and they immediately turned and fled as blood red shockwaves swept out through the world.

The Good Fortune Tablet violently shook and the dark golden light was torn apart. The six avatars were sent tumbling away, flung into the far off distance, each of their faces pale white.

On the altar, the Old Ancestor's body fiercely shivered and sweat streamed down his body. Yet, a smile lifted his face.

He had made it through...

But just as this thought appeared, his pupils popped wide open.

A change appeared when the blood dragon imploded. As the blood red shockwaves erupted outwards, a blood dragon the thickness of an arm immediately rushed towards the alchemy room.

"No!" The six avatars all simultaneously shouted in rage.

But he knew that no matter what he did, he would be too late.

Although this blood dragon was only the thickness of an arm, it contained the last pure strength of the world killing tribulation. It was more than enough to slaughter Ning Qin.

Even with the bracelet he gave Ning Qin, it wasn't enough to save him.

The Good Fortune Pill was still swallowing blood and lifespan. There was no change in emotion in Qin Yu's pitch black eyes.

He suddenly looked up above his head. The blood red dragon appeared and as their gazes met, Qin Yu could clearly feel a thought come from it.

Found you.

Without any hesitation, the blood dragon pounced forwards. At the same time, a cold chill rushed out from deep within Qin Yu's soul, causing his blood to freeze and his heart to stop.

Qin Yu could not resist. He could only watch helplessly on as the blood dragon arrived. It would sink into the point between his eyes and then eliminate his soul and life.

As life and death hung on a single thread, the black bracelet on his wrist suddenly erupted with a blinding light, blocking the blood dragon outside.

But this impediment only lasted for a short period. Not even a breath of time passed before it was mercilessly broken apart. The black bracelet disintegrated into dust.

But in this blink of an eye, Qin Yu was able to react. He grabbed a green branch and activated its protective powers.

The blood dragon crashed into the barrier. It was clearly exhausted and had lost a great deal of its strength. Even though the green branch was far, far weaker than the black bracelet, it was actually able to stop it for a breath of time.

Qin Yu still had the protective soul treasure and ancient divine sword he obtained from the treasury. Unfortunately, the blood dragon was far too fast and gave him no time to react.

It was like someone smashed a rod on his head, nearly causing his brain to tear apart. A terrifying pain swept through his body, but in the next moment, all of this froze as the blood dragon entered him.

Within his soul space, the blood dragon circled around Qin Yu. It swept its eyes over his soul that could not move, and a trace of disappointment seemed to flash in its eyes.

All of this happened quickly, so fast that it seemed like an illusion. The blood dragon opened its jaws and a blood red light started to condense in its mouth.

Qin Yu was well aware that if he were struck by this blood light, his soul would dissipate into nothingness.

Even though he had made so many preparations, he still couldn't escape the fate of death. Bitterness swelled up in his heart along with a raging unwillingness.

Qin Yu wasn't willing to die. He hadn't yet truly experienced the vast and boundless Land of Divinity and Demons, nor had he stepped into the distant Immortal Sect and found that girl.

He had vowed that the two of them would meet again. He couldn't die here, he absolutely could not die here!

Perhaps it was an intense will to live, but Qin Yu's frozen soul actually managed to move a little.

Looking at the base and lowly soul that lifted a hand in front of it, the blood dragon's expression remained faint without any changes.

Because all of this was meaningless.

Then, let's end it!

Blood red light shot out. But at this time, another figure appeared. And then countless motes of starlight sprinkled down throughout Qin Yu's entire soul space.

They were incomparably weak, but there was so much that they could not be quantified. In the blink of an eye, a thick layer fell over the blood dragon's body.

Spirity's face tightened and her body shivered as if she were withstanding a massive pressure. She was Qin Yu's Partner Soul, but because of certain reasons she had remained silent, so silent that she was nearly forgotten. But when the blood dragon invaded this soul space and tried to extinguish Qin Yu's soul, she broke her silence and erupted with all her strength.

Kacha –

Kacha –

The motes of starlight condensed, turning into something similar to a layer of ice. The blood dragon froze, but it clearly didn't receive any damage. Because at this moment, the frozen blood dragon looked at Spirity and its ice cold eyes were still filled with indifference.

Bang –

The layer of ice burst apart and the blood red light continued forwards. The blood dragon didn't attack Spirity, because as a Partner Soul, she would naturally vanish into nothingness once her master died.

The blood red light hurtled towards Qin Yu's soul, and at this time he finally managed to lift his finger with difficulty and welcome it.

### **Chapter 355 – Dao Arts**

A cultivator drew on the spiritual strength of the heavens and earth to temper their own magic power. To stimulate magic power and erupt it as techniques of mass destruction, that was called magic arts.

Once a cultivator stepped into the Divine Soul realm and opened their soul space, allowing their intangible soul to become clear and increasing their soul force, and then released the power of their soul as techniques, this was called supernatural arts.

To a low level cultivator, there wasn't much of a strong division between magic arts and supernatural arts. But, a difference was still a difference. It always existed, and only depended on whether or not someone had the qualifications to know about it.

This was not nonsense because magic arts and supernatural arts were completely different. But in certain extremely special situations, they actually fused together.

To explain things more clearly: if it was activated by magic power, it was magic arts. If it erupted from the soul, it was supernatural arts.

In the Land of Divinity and Demons, those abilities that were both considered magic arts and supernatural arts obtained a brand new name – dao arts. The dao was the rules, and dao arts contained the power of the rules. They could be exerted by different forces because the rules were omnipresent and omnipotent, existing everywhere and within everything.

Even in the Land of Divinity and Demons where powerhouses were like clouds and where countless magic arts and supernatural arts existed, dao arts were still a rare existence. Only those massive large-scale influences with truly deep inheritances were able to grasp them.

Qin Yu had nothing to do with this. But, his luck was indeed sometimes good. As his life and death hung by a single thread, as the gaze of the blood dragon locked onto him, he discovered that he still had the strength to resist.

The first of the Blue Fingers – Boundless Blue Finger.

As his finger fell, the eyes of Qin Yu's soul darkened. A terrifying strength was drawn out from him, nearly shredding his soul to pieces.

But he clenched his teeth and persisted. He forcefully maintained consciousness, because if he were to fall unconscious at this moment, he would certainly die.

Even though this only continued for a breath of time, to Qin Yu it seemed like a moment that stretched into infinity. Then, the terrifying suction of strength finally stopped and a transparent crystalline finger appeared, colliding with the blood light.

Without any waves, the transparent finger and blood light started to collapse together, as if both sides were perishing as one. But on the surface of Qin Yu's soul, countless tiny cracks formed.

Each one was incomparably small. They were like the cracks formed in a failed porcelain dish. It seemed as if the slightest touch would cause everything to break apart.

This was because the might of the blood light had surpassed the withstanding limit of the Boundless Blue Finger. Luckily it wasn't by too much, otherwise even if he managed to destroy the blood light, his soul would still have disintegrated.

The blood dragon stared at the crack-filled soul and a trace of surprise flashed in its eyes. This was the first time there was a change in its mood, but it still managed to compose itself.

So what if Qin Yu held off the blood red light? It still had the strength to easily annihilate a soul.

The blood dragon wasn't willing to delay any further. It swung its tail and rushed towards the soul, ready to tear it with its jaws.

But without warning, the blood dragon froze in place. An endless cold light erupted from its eyes.

Then, countless cracks appeared on the surface of the blood dragon. Its situation was extremely similar to that of Qin Yu's soul.

A cruel and vicious aura erupted from these cracks, mixed with a fierce and startled anger.

As if all of this was beyond the blood dragon's expectations!

But this annihilating aura wasn't able to explode outwards, because the phantom of a great sun rose up and its light sprinkled down. The sunlight was like invisible hands that tightly grabbed hold of the blood dragon, suppressing all the strength in its body.

The blood dragon violently trembled and the phantom of rules emerged in its eyes. But the power of these rules couldn't erupt at all before it was severed by the aura of nihility.

The great sun phantom and the blood dragon both vanished together into nothingness.

Puff –

Qin Yu spat out a mouthful of blood and fell face down. His chest heaved and he gasped for breath but he wasn't able to ease the agonizing pain that wracked his mind. It was like a blunt rusted knife was cutting into him. And this wasn't just one knife, but countless knives tearing through his body, causing pain in every inch of his flesh and blood. He unconsciously twitched.

This pain surpassed his imagination. But at this time Qin Yu was filled with joy, because only the living could feel pain; the dead didn't feel anything at all.

If it weren't for the little blue lamp, Qin Yu still wouldn't have survived the fate of death. But, he also instinctually felt that if he couldn't resist the blood dragon's last strike, the little blue lamp wouldn't have appeared.

This wasn't a test, but a brutally realistic choice. Only when the blood dragon was weakened to a certain extent would the little blue lamp have a chance to hunt it down.

Otherwise, it would have rather allowed Qin Yu to die than place itself upon the precipice of destruction.

Qin Yu bitterly smiled but he had no intent of complaining. If he really did die, he hoped that the little blue lamp could survive. At some unknown point in the future, perhaps some other unlucky fellow would stumble upon it and step onto a heaven-defying road. And maybe that person could even take revenge for him.

Alright, he really was overthinking things right now. Then, the sound of a door being forced open interrupted Qin Yu's train of thought.

The first thing the Old Ancestor saw was Qin Yu's stunned appearance. His shocked eyes brightened as if he had gone from hell to heaven.

He was alive, he was still alive!

Moreover, as he looked at the Revival Good Fortune Pill, just its aura alone told the Old Ancestor that the refinement had been completed.

Within the underground temple's altar, the Old Ancestor's body was even more withered than before, like a corpse that had been dried out for many years. A thick death energy continuously tumbled around out. Out of the nine surrounding oil lamps, besides one that had been extinguished, six had trembling flames with flickering faces appearing above them as if they wanted to break free.

The other two started to gently fluctuate as if they were probing.

The Old Ancestor revealed a diabolical grin. "When I refined you in the past, I never planned on giving you an opportunity to escape!" He lifted a hand and slowly tapped with his finger. A drop of blood would appear each time. Eight drops of blood fused into eight different oil lamps and the flames suddenly brightened. Faintly, one could hear pained howls emitting from them.

The outlines of the faces in the flames vanished from sight and the oil lamps returned to normal. But, the Old Ancestor knew that this was only a temporary suppression method. If he couldn't restore his own vitality, he would suffer a backlash soon.

The Old Ancestor's exposed body parts were already completely dried up, like dead branches. The countless lines crossing his face were like cracks, and these small cracks ran straight through to the depths of his flesh and blood, even to his soul!

Outside the alchemy room, five of the avatars stood guard with no expression. Their dark ghostly pupils shined with a cold air as they stared at the entrance.

The Old Ancestor helped Qin Yu out, a Revival Good Fortune Pill in his hand. Although the aura it emitted was weak, to the senses of the avatar it was as dazzling as a great sun.

The five avatars each revealed a struggling expression. They took a step forwards, but this was the limit of what they could do.

Blood red shackles appeared within their flesh and blood, locking them in place and forbidding any further movement.

The Old Ancestor revealed a cold sneer, but his voice was incomparably gentle. "Ning Qin, let us begin the sacrifice."

Although his tone was even and steady, there was no room for him to refuse.

Qin Yu looked around. He forcefully suppressed the pain in his soul and slowly nodded. Just this simple movement caused sweat to stream down his face and his complexion to pale further.

The Old Ancestor stopped 30 feet away from the Good Fortune Tablet and gave the Revival Good Fortune Pill back to Qin Yu. Then, he loosened his hand, and a dark golden light wrapped around Qin Yu's worn out body, pulling him closer.

Qin Yu sucked in a deep breath and did his best to lift his hand. The Revival Good Fortune Pill was whirled away by the dark golden light and vanished into the Good Fortune Tablet. After completing all of this, he could no longer resist the pain in his soul. His consciousness faded, but before it did, his last thought was: from this day on, this stone tablet finally has the surname Qin.

The Old Ancestor closed his eyes, feeling a vitality that he hadn't experienced in a long time flowing through his body. He shivered, his expression one of complete immersion.

Yes, this was it. This bright vitality, this strength that allowed him to continue living on. Even though he had already lived for 100,000 years, he still had attachments to this world.

Now, he had another hundred years of life.

Compared to 100,000 years, 100 years was nothing but a snap of the fingers. But to the Old Ancestor whose life had already reached its terminus, this was an incomparably precious amount.

With this hundred years of life, he could slowly and carefully polish up all of his plans and prepare to break past his shackles.

Calamity Immortal...the Old Ancestor had never felt so close before.

He opened his eyes and looked at the unconscious Qin Yu. A look of gratification filled his face; it seemed he hadn't misjudged.

Recusing him had been the correct decision.

After all, no matter how it was said, this junior had done him an enormous favor today. If so, then he could give this junior some good fortune.

In any case, anything he delivered now would be repaid twice over in the future.

The Old Ancestor smiled in joy. With a thought, the Good Fortune Tablet started to tremble. Outside the alchemy room, the five originally silent avatars all revealed pained expressions.

Phantoms appeared on their faces. They twisted and howled as a pure soul force was continuously drawn out from them.

Then, with the dark golden light as the medium, this soul force fused into Qin Yu's body where it was absorbed into the cracks of his soul.

This soul force was left behind by the remnant souls who had died unwillingly. When the Old Ancestor was a lamp without oil, he had no means to erase them and could only forcefully suppress them.

Today, since these specters had dared to act up, then he might as well take advantage of this opportunity to thoroughly cut them down and be done with it once and for all.

The remnant souls' screams of pain and suffering became a grand feast for Qin Yu's soul. His soul greedily absorbed them and the cracks on it rapidly shrank. Soon, Qin Yu's soul was restored to how it was in the beginning.

Spirity's face flushed red. She could no longer suppress her urges and she spread her arms out wide, allowing the soul force to wildly surge into her.

These remnant souls had all been incomparably formidable before their deaths. The only reason these soul fragments hadn't dispersed yet was because of the power of their thoughts and obsessions, thus they were incredibly pure. The soul force they produced was far greater than imagined. Even with Qin Yu's soul and Spirity whole-heartedly dealing with it, they still couldn't absorb it all.

And this soul force could not be saved up. Once they could no longer absorb any, it would vanish into the air, dissipating into the heavens and earth. Spirity's face was flushed red but she had done everything in her power and could no longer absorb any more soul force. She bit her lip, only able to watch helplessly on as all this soul force escaped.



If she were to cultivate this much pure soul force by herself, it would take dozens of years or even longer!

At this moment, no one discovered that a line on the Good Fortune Tablet suddenly shined. Then, within Qin Yu's soul space, a marvelous change occurred.

The soul force rushing into his body seemed to be drawn together. The phantom of a bead rapidly condensed into reality. Even though it was only the size of a fist, it was like a bottomless abyss. No matter how much soul force flooded into it, there was no response.

Spirity's eyes popped open. "Soul bead..." She trembled. As Qin Yu's Partner Soul, she could sense everything occurring to him. A trace of understanding flashed in her eyes and she couldn't help but sigh. Her master's luck was truly too good!

Spirity closed her eyes and dozed off.

At this time, not only had Qin Yu's soul injuries recovered but she had also obtained an enormous advantage. Somewhere deep in her soul, the sealed memories started to slowly awaken.

### **Chapter 356 – Leaving the Capital City**

After being unconscious for 15 days, Qin Yu finally opened his eyes. He was in a daze for a moment. As he looked at the soft light pouring in through the window, he felt as if this were a completely different world.

In an absent minded gaze, Qin Yu didn't sit up but instead closed his eyes and felt his body's condition.

There was an unprecedented feeling of joy coming from his soul, and not only were his terrifying injuries completely healed but he was even more powerful than before. The most direct change of this transformation was that his sensory abilities had been greatly enhanced.

Spirity's eyes were closed in a deep slumber and her breathing was steady and flat. Although there wasn't any apparent change, it felt as if there was something very different with her.

A fist-sized bead emitted a faint yellow light. Faint traces of pure soul strength continuously sprinkled down. After approaching his soul and Spirity, it was directly absorbed.

Soul bead...Qin Yu didn't know why he would know this name and even its abilities, but none of this was important. What was important was that from this day forth, before the soul bead dissipated, the speed at which his soul grew stronger would reach an astonishing level.

The Southshine Nation Old Ancestor was actually quite generous...as he remembered the distorted appearances of the avatars' faces, he guessed part of what happened.

Within his dantian sea, the Five Element Nascent Souls each emitted a dazzling light. Their auras were incomparably dense, filling the air with an invisible pressure. Each one of them had reached the peak of Nascent Soul, and after the pure magic power was concentrated within them, his true combat strength must have surpassed 1000 horses.

Although he was still a Nascent Soul, when Qin Yu considered everything, he believed he should be able to roll over the majority of Divine Soul realm cultivators. Moreover, he was now extremely close to

breaking into Divine Soul. Once he did his combat strength would likely rise dramatically to a whole new level. While it was too soon to say he could freely wander through the Land of Divinity and Demons, it shouldn't be a problem for him to maintain his life. Once he crossed into Divine Soul, he would be able to venture towards the distant Immortal Sect.

Qin Yu opened his eyes and pushed himself up. His body swayed about and his bones emitted crackling sounds all over. He stood by the window next to his bed and looked off into the horizon. After experiencing the world killing tribulation and barely surviving, a sudden urgent need formed in his heart and he wished that he could immediately go to the Immortal Sect. This was because he wasn't sure whether or not he would be so lucky next time.

A long time later, he let out a deep breath and suppressed his roiling mood.

Soon!

Once he broke into Divine Soul he would immediately leave.

An hour later, Qin Yu packed up his things. After washing and dressing himself, he sat on the sofa and looked at the information broadcasting on the spirit screen. Everything seemed to be calm, as if the terrifying events that occurred in the capital city half a month ago had never happened.

It looked like the Southshine Nation officials had expended a massive effort on controlling things recently, otherwise it was impossible for it to have subsided too easily.

There was a knock on the door. Qin Yu's eyes flashed. "Please enter."

Qin Wushang pushed it open and entered. A bright smile lit his face. "Ning Qin, how do you feel? If you are uncomfortable anywhere, feel free to tell me."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together and said, "Thank you chief steward, I am very well." He paused for a moment and then continued to say, "I've never felt so good before."

Qin Wushang's smile brightened even more. "You have improved the condition of the Good Fortune Tablet and performed a great deed for my Southshine Nation. It's natural for the Old Ancestor to be generous with your rewards. Oh, yes, the Old Ancestor asked me to pass on a message to you. You shouldn't use the Deva Soul right now. When you step into the Divine Soul realm, you will naturally come to understand how wondrous it is."

Qin Yu said, "I thank the Old Ancestor for the advice."

Qin Wushang then dove into the main topic. He earnestly said, "Ning Qin, the Old Ancestor greatly appreciates you. If you want, you can stay in the capital and cultivate. The treatment you receive will surely satisfy you."

This was an invitation.

With Qin Wushang's status, if he spoke in such a straightforward manner, then it was clear how sincere he was.

If it were any other cultivator, they would surely be pleasantly surprised. If one was appreciated by the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor, it would be difficult for one not to have great future achievements.

Qin Yu coldly sneered inside but he revealed a hesitant look before shaking his head. "Please thank the Old Ancestor on my behalf for his good intentions, but, I have a private matter I must deal with and I cannot stay in the capital city for too long."

Qin Wushang nodded in understanding. Surprisingly, he didn't try to change his mind, as if everything he just said had been casually brought up.

Qin Yu was slightly surprised but he immediately understood. The Old Ancestor must have correctly assumed his decision early and decided not to detain him.

Did that old thing think that no matter where he went, he wouldn't be able to escape his palm?

Qin Yu's head hung down as he covered the trace of disdain that crossed his face. Who wouldn't be able to escape at this time, no one could tell.

Qin Wushang didn't stay for too long. He gave Qin Yu a token and a storage ring and then left after bidding his farewells.

The token represented the status of an official. If he encountered trouble in the Southshine Nation, he could use this token to seek help from officials.

Inside the storage ring, besides spirit rings, most of the things were pills that could help nourish the soul and enhance one's senses. It was to help him reach Divine Soul as soon as possible.

After inspecting it and finding no problems, he stashed the storage ring away.

Looking at Qin Wushang's intent, if he wanted to leave, could he leave now? What about Ninth Province? This extraordinary pill furnace seemed to be completely forgotten. Not a single person had mentioned it.

He shook his head and suppressed these thoughts. Since the Southshine Nation didn't broach the subject he would just pretend he didn't know anything and take it away. No one disliked having too many treasures.

Then, it was time to leave.

He stood up and pushed open the door. A maid was waiting outside. When Qin Yu informed her that he was leaving, she respectfully bowed and guided him out. It was clear she had been told beforehand.

The courtyard was quiet and luxurious. This wasn't the royal palace but it wasn't some common dwelling either.

Qin Yu followed behind the maid. He suddenly sensed something and turned to look into the distance.

Beneath the cover of the forest, one could see a small wooden building hidden within. The feeling of being watched disappeared.

Qin Yu frowned. He turned his head back and continued walking forwards. Soon, he vanished from sight.

Zhao Jiutian had a pale complexion. "Revered Yuan, do we simply watch on helplessly as he walks away?"

Yuan Tiangang had no expression. "This is the capital city."

Zhao Jiutian had an overjoyed expression. It seemed that Revered Yuan had already made a decision to take action. Beneath the might of a Blue Sea, Ning Qin would surely die!

However, he didn't discover that within Yuan Tiangang's deep eyes, there was a deep lurid color.

From the fourth level of Nascent Soul he had experienced a dramatic rise to the peak of Nascent Soul. His soul had condensed into an incomparably solid state, just a step away from entering Divine Soul. The Good Fortune Tablet had actually returned such a potent strength to him, and in addition to the Old Ancestor's actions and the world killing tribulation that descended half a month ago...Yuan Tiangang couldn't suppress his interest in Qin Yu. The only reason he didn't attack now was because of the warning the Old Ancestor had given him.

But once Qin Yu left the capital, that would be his opening.

In the underground temple altar, Qin Wushang knelt respectfully on the ground. "Old Ancestor, Ning Qin has left the imperial courtyard."

Between eight flickering lights, the Old Ancestor chuckled. "This was within my anticipation. This junior must have realized something."

Qin Wushang had a worried expression. "Old Ancestor has invested a great deal in him. If anything were to happen..."

The Old Ancestor smiled. "Don't worry. No problems will happen for this seed of mine."

Qin Wushang knew that the Old Ancestor had already made preparations. He respectfully bowed and withdrew several steps before leaving.

The Old Ancestor was silent for a long time. A strange expression appeared on his full and lively face. "Ning Qin, this old man is filled with expectations for you. I hope you don't disappoint me."

Qin Yu stepped out of the main entrance. It was only then that he learned this was an imperial courtyard; no wonder it was built with such opulence.

The maid bowed and excused herself. Before she left, she glanced back at him with some curiosity. She didn't know who this young fellow was as she had only followed orders and waited for him, but why was he in such a hurry to leave? It had to be known that living in the imperial courtyard was in itself a great symbol of one's status. Every year there were countless people wracking their minds on how to get in.

"Hold up!" The maid quickly moved to the side to make way for a young girl jogging past her and a look of awe lit up in her eyes. She watched the young girl run up to that strange young man, and then a close and happy expression light up her face. The maid couldn't help but feel her heart shake.

This was the Great Desolate Lake's young master. Only after recognizing her did the maid realize that this common-looking young man was a truly great person. The maid hurriedly turned and left in fear that she might hear something she wasn't supposed to know.

"Ning Qin, are you alright?" White Fengfeng asked with worry.

Qin Yu smiled. "Mm. I'm fine."

White Fengfeng tugged on her sleeves. When she heard Qin Yu was leaving she had hurried out, but now that she found him, she didn't know what to say. She began to blush. Luckily, there was the sound of footsteps behind her. She turned and huffed out, "Uncle Ming, how can you be so slow!"

Ming Siyuan bitterly smiled. For better or worse he was a Blue Sea cultivator; did she expect him to run alongside her?

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "Greetings, Revered Ming!"

Ming Siyuan smiled. "Ning Qin, there is no need to be so polite. During the time you were asleep, my family's miss was extremely worried and requested special vitality-supplementing pills from the family. Please accept this." He took out a jade box as he spoke.

Qin Yu waved his hand. "It's too precious for me."

Ming Siyuan calmly replied, "Compared to my family's young miss, this isn't anything at all."

Qin Yu glanced at White Fengfeng whose eyes were wide with anticipation and smiled. "Very well then. Thank you, Revered Ming."

Without looking inside, he received the jade box.

This attitude suited Ming Siyuan very much. "Ning Qin, where do you plan on going?"

White Fengfeng's ears pricked up

Qin Yu said, "I have already spoken to Chief Steward Qin and requested to leave. Today I will be departing the capital city."

"Ah! You're leaving?" White Fengfeng asked, her face anxious.

Qin Yu nodded. "Mm. I need to go into seclusion for some time."

Ming Siyuan's eyes flashed. He pulled over White Fengfeng who seemed as if she wanted to say something else and said, "Then I hope you will soon reach Divine Soul."

With his eyesight, he could naturally see Qin Yu had reached the edge of a breakthrough.

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "Then I will bid my farewells here."

Ming Siyuan suddenly said, "Ning Qin, the road ahead is long and lonely. You must be extra careful."

"I thank Revered Ming for the reminder. This junior will remember." Qin Yu turned and left, soon vanishing from sight.

White Fengfeng shouted out, "Uncle Ming, how could you let him leave like that! Didn't you say that you would ask him to join the Great Desolate Lake?"

Ming Siyuan shook his head. "Young master, if Ning Qin chose to leave, that means he has rejected the Southshine Nation. Do you believe the Great Desolate Lake has anything better we can offer him?"

White Fengfeng was stunned. She was only confused about some things. She immediately recalled that her Big Brother Baoyu was an 'incarnated Deva' and there were likely many secrets he didn't want others to know. Still, she was unwilling. "Uncle Ming, you said he would be in danger if he left the capital city."

Ming Siyuan's eyes flashed. "I have already cautioned him. With his calm reaction, it seems that he already has a way to deal with it. Don't worry, nothing will happen to little friend Ning Qin. In fact, if someone really intends to do anything to him, I fear they are in for a round of bad luck."

After Qin Yu left the imperial courtyard, he soon stepped into a transmission array. Then he continued to pass through a series of transmission arrays. After the last one, he came out wearing a black robe that covered his body.

Without stopping, Qin Yu rushed towards the city gates. Beneath the faint gaze of the city guards, he left the capital city from the southeast side.

After a moment, he left the no-flying zone.

Hu –

There was a flash of brilliance. Qin Yu shot up into the skies and rapidly soared away.

A hundred miles soon passed. When he flew over a canyon that was off the main road, the void suddenly fluctuated. It was like rocks falling into a quiet lake, like a spider web slowly opening as its prey arrived.

### **Chapter 357 – Killing With Another's Hand**

Qin Yu roared out loud. Endless magic power erupted, but when this strength crashed into the void, it was cleanly counterbalanced. A suppressive strength emerged, spreading in all directions and locking Qin Yu down so he couldn't move at all.

Another black-robed figure stepped out from the void, his body tall and strong. "Do not resist. Save yourself the pain. You cannot escape from my grasp."

Qin Yu asked, "And who are you?"

The black-robed figure's eyebrow arched up. "Junior, it seems as if you aren't worried."

Qin Yu was silent for a moment. Then he said, "What a pity..."

The black-robed figure froze and restlessness surged in his heart. He decided that he couldn't stay here any longer. Ripples appeared in space, forming a tide that spread through the air.

But before this tide could fall upon Qin Yu, it was grabbed by an old hand. Then, with a slight twist, this rippling space fully collapsed.

The black-robed figure shouted out loud, "Southshine Nation Old Ancestor!" His body instantly exploded and a black fog flooded out into the world. At the same time, 20 figures split away, each one running in different directions.

The Old Ancestor remained expressionless. "It's been many years since someone dared to stir up trouble near the capital city." He lifted a hand and the world itself seemed to shrink, all of it held in his control.

The area within a hundred miles suddenly trembled. Within this range, all of the ancient trees, hills, brooks, rivers...everything was turned to dust, completely erased from this part of the world.

20 figures immediately cried out in pity and collapsed. A black-robed figure staggered to the ground. "Old Ancestor spare me, I am..."

Puff –

His head burst apart. Brains and goo splattered across the floor and even his soul was erased.

The Old Ancestor said, "I don't care who you are." With a flick of his sleeve, the endless black fog in the air disappeared as if it had never been there to begin with.

He turned and looked around. "Ning Qin, it seems you were confident that I would come and save you."

Qin Yu pulled back his head and bowed. "Greetings, Old Ancestor."

He didn't answer, but his serene expression was in itself the best answer.

The Old Ancestor faintly smiled. "It looks as if you truly do know."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together. "This junior knows nothing. I simply wish to live a peaceful life."

The Old Ancestor narrowed his eyes. "Aren't you afraid I could make you stay behind?"

Qin Yu replied, "If Old Ancestor wished for this junior to stay behind, there was no need to wait until this moment."

The Old Ancestor laughed. "Ning Qin, I am becoming increasingly interested in you. It's a pity that you chose not to stay." He suddenly changed the topic and glanced at the headless corpse. "Are you satisfied with borrowing my hand to kill others for you?"

"The effect has been achieved, but it wasn't the person this junior was waiting for."

"And who were you waiting for?"

"Cleansing Temple, Revered Yuan."

The Old Ancestor's smile widened. He lifted a finger, "Yuan Tiangang, Ning Qin was actually waiting for you."

Space rippled and Yuan Tiangang's figure appeared. His pallid face squeezed out a smile. "Old Ancestor must be humoring me. I would never have any intention of harming Ning Qin."

The Old Ancestor's smile didn't dim. "Is that right?"

Yuan Tiangang hurriedly said, "Of course."

The Old Ancestor's smile vanished and he lightly said. "But I don't trust you. Wherever Ning Qin is in the future, stay 1000 miles away."

Just how tyrannical were these words. With words alone, he directly chased away a revered Blue Sea super powerhouse. But with the Old Ancestor's status and strength, he did have the qualifications to do this.

Yuan Tiangang cupped his hands together. "Yes."

He drew several steps back, turned, and teleported away.

"I didn't kill him. Does that leave you disappointed?"

"This junior doesn't dare."

The Old Ancestor was silent for a moment, an iciness flashing in his eyes. "Ning Qin, you might know some things, but don't try to use that to take advantage of me. Otherwise, you will not like what happens."

Without waiting for a reply, the Old Ancestor turned and vanished from sight.

Several breaths of time later, Qin Yu straightened himself. A cold sneer lit up his face.

Old Ancestor, you relied on the Good Fortune Tablet to live up until today. Through 100,000 years of living, you have already become one with it.

The Good Fortune Tablet is now surnamed Qin. Then, what will you do from now on? I really look forwards to your expression the next time we meet.

With three Revival Good Fortune Pills, the blood held within them had finally completed the initial process of recognizing a master. But, the Good Fortune Tablet was a bit unusual. The process was much slower than usual and it would take at least several years before he could fully control it.

Qin Yu chose to leave partly because he didn't want the Old Ancestor to discover this matter. After all, his cultivation was simply far too low. Once he was discovered, no one knew what would happen.

But as he thought about the future and how he might be able to control the Old Ancestor who controlled the vast territory that was the Southshine Nation, and then looked at this part of the world that seemed to have been erased from existence, he couldn't help but reveal a happy expression.

"Aunty Hong, since you're already here, come out."

With loud crashing and stumbling sounds, Aunty Hong and several cultivators all walked out from afar. They all had pale faces with horrified expressions.

"Mister Qin, did you deliberately leave the capital city to lure that person into making a move?" Aunty Hong looked down at the headless corpse. As she thought about how he had been an incomparably powerful Blue Sea super master just moments ago, her complexion became strange.

Qin Yu didn't deny it. "If I borrow the Old Ancestor's hand to establish my position, it will lead to fewer troubles in the future."

Aunty Hong had a miserable expression. A Blue Sea master had perished just like this, and it was obvious to all that the Southshine Nation Old Ancestor was protecting you, so who would even dare touch a



single hair on your head? But soon, she couldn't help but bitterly smile. "Mister might not know, but we were standing there just now."

Looking at where she pointed, Qin Yu finally understood why this group of masters from the inn was so panicked.

Aunty Hong wryly smiled. "It missed us by just several dozen feet. We could only watch helplessly as the world around us was instantly erased. I'm not lying to Mister Qin when I say my legs are still weak from fear right now."

Qin Yu couldn't help but smile. "Why did you run over there? I thought you would be right behind me."

Aunty Hong couldn't find it in her to say that she was worried something would happen to Qin Yu so she deliberately rushed in front of him. She was at a loss for words for a moment, but luckily Qin Yu didn't ask further. He said, "Since we're all fine, let's get going."

The inn had already made preparations. Aunty Hong and everyone else stepped into a small farm just outside the capital city. Many of the capital city's spirit plants were planted and cared for here. Looking at one of the signs, Qin Yu actually had some impression of it; it was a popular high-end brand within the capital city.

The group walked in. The farm's spirit plant cultivators didn't seem to care much about their arrival at all. They bowed and then continued doing what they were originally doing. Within the farm, there was a simple transmission array. The group of 16 people stepped in, and then with a flash of light, vanished from sight.

When they reappeared, it was at a large-scale guard garrison town at the edge of the capital city. Without delay, they stepped into another transmission array.

Three transmissions later, they arrived at an inn branch division in a city within the Southshine Nation.

The Old Ancestor personally helping Qin Yu had indeed frightened many people. Their journey continued smoothly.

Aunty Hong visibly relaxed. The 14 inn masters also had looks of happiness. They glanced at Qin Yu, gratitude in their eyes. They never imagined that the one who tried to ambush him was a Blue Sea realm super powerhouse. If it weren't for the Old Ancestor helping, they feared they would all be dead by now.

The branch division had already prepared a reception. After passing through so many transmission arrays, even Qin Yu felt weary. He rested for some time before managing to restore his energy.

Aunty Hong knocked on his door. As she saw his long silver-gray hair, awe shined in her eyes.

If the Great Desolate Lake and Cleansing Temple could obtain news, the inn also had certain channels. They naturally knew where this gray hair came from.

Moreover, she had personally witnessed today just how much the Old Ancestor valued Qin Yu. Her posture subconsciously changed because of that.

“Mister Qin, the young master has said you can arrange the travel route however you wish. Where would you like to go next?”

Qin Yu thought for a moment. “I’ll return to the Beast Hunting Battalion.”

Aunty Hong was clearly surprised but she didn’t say anything. She nodded and proceeded to make arrangements.

Half a day later, the only ones stepping into the transmission array were Aunty Hong and Qin Yu. After a few transit, they finally returned to the Beast Hunting Battalion.

Qin Yu had already taken off his face-changing mask. He reached up his arms and stretched his waist, a happy expression on his face.

The name Ning Qin was far too dazzling in the Southshine Nation. It was time to retire him.

Qin Yu would complete his most important cultivation goal at the Beast Hunting Battalion – rising to the Divine Soul realm.

From this day forth, in the rear court of the inn that no outsiders were allowed to enter, nearly a third of the area had been carved out and turned into a unique training site for Qin Yu alone. Aunty Hong knew that Qin Yu would perceive the rules through meditating and break into the Divine Soul realm, so she issued strict orders to the women of the inn that they couldn’t approach him and nor could they even wave.

But the more they learned, the more they discovered just how vital Qin Yu’s status had become. While they didn’t know what happened, observing was their strong point.

Thus, when Qin Yu woke up in the early morning and pushed open the windows, he could see beautiful ladies playing across the pond, each one gorgeous beyond compare as they laughed amongst themselves.

And most importantly, each one was wearing fewer clothes than the last. Their private parts were faintly visible under their thin gauzy dresses.

After that, things became increasingly worse. The pond soon became the favorite place for the women to walk and stroll around. The fragrance rolled in on the breeze.

But with so many people, the fragrance inevitably grew far too heavy. Qin Yu sneezed ruthlessly for several days.

Watching things become far too unreasonable, Aunty Hong heavily punished a few ‘wild women’ that were nearly naked as they walked around. Finally, this seduction play unwillingly came to an end.

Qin Yu rubbed his nose and forced a smile. He didn’t despise these women at all. After all, they were only looking for a powerful backer for themselves.

There was nothing wrong with that.

The seduction had ended. But as the most valued alchemist of the inn, there had to be people serving him. Even if he didn’t want anyone, he still had to have someone. Thus, the young bun-faced maid with

an overly full chest called Congcong was ordered to serve at the front lines. She became the only woman who could freely walk in and around the pond area...well, perhaps calling her a girl was more appropriate.

Congcong came here on the miss' orders. Although the miss hadn't been too explicit when she spoke to her, the assistant had actually been incredibly clear: do not let those harlots approach Mister Qin!

The young maid dutifully did her job. She blew up her bun-like cheeks and sternly observed the area. But, those women were really far too immoral and depraved. They could actually speak such shameless words.

So what if the miss had taken a liking to Mister Qin? If she married him, she would also have to put down a dowry. If so, then they might as well help the miss and test out Mister Qin's 'combat strength' ahead of time.

Peh! These flagrantly brazen women!

The young maid fumed just thinking about it. Even if the miss really did marry him, she absolutely would not allow anyone else to climb up on the bed before the miss did.

This was the family's customs.

But soon, she realized she was overthinking things in advance too much. She flushed red and hurried into the courtyard.

She pushed open the doors a little too quickly. A figure drew back and Congcong screamed out in fright.

Qin Yu helplessly said, "If someone should be scared it should be me. The door almost struck my nose just now."

Congcong had an embarrassed expression. She grabbed the hem of her clothes, her face so red that it seemed she would drip blood.

Qin Yu found things a bit strange. He liked teasing this maid, but for some reason she seemed a bit shy today.

He shook his head, not thinking about it too much. "Alright, today I will be leaving for a trip. There's no need to follow me."

Once Qin Yu left, Congcong let out a long breath of relief. She patted her chest, joy on her face. Luckily, he hadn't noticed anything, otherwise she would have to die from shame.

But with the current situation of the miss and second miss, if they were to marry, what could she do?

The young maid was immediately distressed.

### **Chapter 358 – 'Old Friend'**

Qin Yu left the inn and started walking down the street. The Beast Hunting Battalion was extremely large and populated by many people; it could be considered a small city. This was the reason why there was such an entertainment business like the inn. And not just that, but there were all sorts of other

recreational businesses in operation. As long as one had enough spirit stones or points, any sort of enjoyment could be found.

Without any particular destination in mind, Qin Yu was simply strolling about casually. He had been back at the Beast Hunting Battalion for half a month already and had attempted to break through the Divine Soul bottleneck every day. His magic power foundation was solid and strong and he had opened his soul space ahead of time. His soul force was also overwhelming. He had already obtained some harvests from his mediation, but his final goal was always blurry and out of reach, like an illusion filled with fog.

The more of a hurry he was in, the less likely he would be to succeed. So, he simply interrupted his cultivation and came out to relax and loosen his spirits.

When it came to cultivation, haste often led to carelessness.

Sometimes, Qin Yu even thought of the Deva Soul he had, and perhaps he should just swallow it down, take a nap, and wake up as a Divine Soul.

But after reaching his current step, using the Deva Soul as a breakthrough would be a considerable waste. Moreover, he faintly felt that perceiving the rules of the world on his own might be better for him.

It wasn't quiet where there were many people. Qin Yu came out to relax so he didn't want the area to be too noisy. Just as he turned and started walking towards a corner of the battalion, he ran into several young cultivators.

Qin Yu turned to leave, but a cold sneer caught up from behind him. "Qin Yu, you can I can be considered old friends, so how can you not stop and say hello?"

There was the sound of rapid footsteps and then several people blocked his way. Wang Yuanan's lips curled up in a cold smile.

He still hadn't forgotten the enmity of the fire kirin!

Qin Yu frowned. "Make way."

Wang Yuanan didn't speak, but a young cultivator to his side did. He said with a dark and gloomy tone, "Brat, I think your face is displeasing to my eyes. I really want to beat it black and blue."

Everyone else kept silent. Their glares more than indicated their attitudes.

There were many people on the street. The conflict immediately drew the attention of many others.

"That person is the brother-in-law of Captain Yang."

"That one seems like Steward Wu's son."

"Do you see? The one in the middle is the leader."

"I've seen him before. He is Lord Yuan Jingzhe's nephew."

The crowd began to gossip. Even the wild and normally fearless Beast Hunting Battalion hunters couldn't help but suck in a deep breath, pity in their eyes.

These young people couldn't be considered much alone, but when their backgrounds were added together they were a potent strength that no one was willing to provoke.

If an early Nascent Soul boy had a conflict with him, would his ending be any good?

Conversations occurred all around and awe filled the eyes of many people. The several youths lifted their chins higher, putting on a haughty act. One of them lightly said, "You brat, I don't know how you offended Brother Wang but kneel on the floor and knock your head ten times on the ground. Then, open up some apology wine tonight and I'll give you a chance to reconcile things."

"Ten knocks? Isn't that too few?" Steward Wu's son loudly said and the several other youths with him laughed.

Wang Yuanan had the highest status of them all. Though he didn't say anything, pride shined in his eyes.

Qin Yu had a calm expression. It wasn't restrained anger, but true unwavering indifference.

After experiencing the great competition and the events within the capital city, after coming into contact with someone like the Southshine Nation's Old Ancestor, a figure that stood above the highest heavens, these insolent youths in front of him simply couldn't arouse any interest.

Without a single word, he turned and left.

The laughter behind him suddenly stopped as if a palm was ruthlessly slapped on their faces. The atmosphere was filled with awkwardness.

The surrounding cultivators all felt their hearts skip a beat. This brat, he was actually quite brave!

"You motherfu— stop!" Steward Wu's son flushed red. He reached out a hand, crackling sounds breaking the air. His strength wasn't considered too weak.

Qin Yu didn't stop. He simply paused and said, "This is the Beast Hunting Battalion."

One second before the hand would have grabbed onto Qin Yu, it stopped. Wang Yuanan's complexion darkened. "Brother Wu, be patient. There will always be a chance in the future."

Within the battalion, besides a scarce few people, no one was allowed to fight. Otherwise there would be harsh punishments.

The Lord Commander had always handed down severe punishments when it came to this. Even if their statuses weren't low, they didn't want to offend him.

Everyone could hear the icy cold meaning in his words. But, Qin Yu simply continued walking forwards, no hesitation in his step.

Everything was silent, but the crowd seemed as if they could clearly hear another loud slap.

Wang Yuanan's complexion turned even cloudier. "Let's go!"

The group of second generation Beast Hunting Battalion young masters all had ill and nasty demeanors. The crowd quickly drew back, not wanting to mess with them.

Faintly, one could hear Chief Steward Wu's son say, "Brother Wang, don't worry. My father is in charge of logistics. There will be a time when that brat cries for us!"

"That's right, Brother Wang has managed to make constant cultivation breakthroughs in a short period of time. Once you reach Divine Soul, you can destroy that brat however you like!"

"Don't let him ruin our fun. I've already reserved a room at the inn. We brothers can go and have a cheerful good time!"

The second generation young masters gradually walked away. Without anything fun to watch, the cultivators dispersed. As they heard the fading voices of those young masters, they paid silent tribute to the boy who had caused them to hear a slap in their ears.

If that boy was targeted by them, his future days would likely be hard-lived. Perhaps he would die by tomorrow.

Qin Yu didn't place what happened in his heart at all. He stood at the edge of the Beast Hunting Battalion and looked out beyond the invisible barrier towards the endless sea of clouds that howled with astral winds.

Occasionally, a terrifying gust of wind slammed into the barrier, causing ripples to appear. Although it looked ordinary, if any cultivator below Divine Soul were to be placed within, they would suffer a terrible fate.

Qin Yu peacefully stared into the distance. As the astral winds roared in his ears, they might seem like sharp and loud sounds to most, but to him, they seemed to possess some sort of strange and unknown rhythm. His pupils widened and he entered into a trance.

Although it felt as if he had only fallen into an absent-minded daze for a moment, when Qin Yu's eyes refocused again, it was already pitch black outside the barrier. The astral winds still howled in the dark. Though his mind was still blurry, the great fog that shrouded his thoughts had dissipated by a great deal. Qin Yu smiled. It seemed like his breakthrough wasn't too far away.

Coming out today had been the correct choice.

But this good mood was ruined when he returned to the inn. Amongst the tender cries of women, there were the deep voices of several young men shouting about.

It was clear that the young men had paid a high enough price to take the women out for a night.

This was an extremely normal matter for the inn. But when both sides met at the great hall, the air instantly froze over.

Half drunk, Chief Steward Wu's son had his head buried in the arms and chest of a woman. As he looked up and saw the person standing at the entrance, his eyes widened.

"Fuck, it's you!"

Wang Yuanan was overjoyed. He smirked inside and thought that the evils we bring inflict on ourselves are truly the hardest to bear. Out of the few places where you could fight in the Beast Hunting Battalion, the inn was one of them.

They were men, right? Fighting and arguing was normal, right? As long as they didn't take another person's life, all they had to do was pay a fine afterwards.

Chief Steward Wu's son pushed the woman he held away and then drunkenly staggered forwards. "You bastard, you dare to compete with me for women? You are courting death!"

A slap came fanning out.

Wang Yuanan happily smiled. This Wu fellow was vulgar, but he was easy to use. This excuse was pathetic but it was enough to strike someone with.

The eyes of the surrounding drunken youths all flashed with light. As they glanced at Wang Yuanan and noticed his expression, they cursed inwardly.

They had allowed this Wu fellow to make the first move and leave a favorable impression on Wang Yuanan. As the one who would teach this brat a lesson, the honor and merit would also be his.

Just as they were unwilling, they suddenly heard a loud bang. The sound was so deep and heavy that it caused a chill to crawl up their scalps. Several youths fiercely looked up to see Chief Steward Wu's son, who had been rushing over, fly backwards at an even faster speed. He crashed through the wooden floor of the inn, splinters covering his entire face as he held his stomach and crazily vomited.

Blood was mixed with his vomit. Just looking at him made a cold chill shoot through one's heart.

As they looked at the calm and indifferent Qin Yu at the entrance who seemed as if none of this involved him, no one could muster up the courage to do anything.

Wang Yuanan had a dignified expression. After a brief moment he stepped forwards and said, "Qin Yu, you injured my friend so today you won't be able to leave."

Although everyone knew that this was retaliation for the earlier matter of the fire kirin, by draping it in the guise of avenging his friend, it at least looked much better.

Qin Yu didn't care about his thoughts at all. He frowned. "Don't mess with me."

Wang Yuanan smirked. "I really am curious. Just what qualifications do you have to be so calm in front of us?" He shook his head. "Depending on your late Nascent Soul cultivation? But in my eyes, you aren't anything at all."

Bang –

A powerful aura erupted, instantly reaching the peak of Nascent Soul.

Wang Yuanan lifted his hand and pressed forwards.

Heaven and earth spiritual energy gathered, condensing into a seal. It was square with rounded corners, containing the potential of the skies and land.

"This is Lord Yuan Jingzhe's secret technique!"

Several people in the inn immediately cried out.

Although no one moved to help, they were all paying close attention to this conflict.

Qin Yu stepped forwards and the ground collapsed. Without trying to dodge, his body seemed to become a mountain-splitting saber that slashed down at the seal.

There was a loud crack, one that caused everyone's ears to ring. The seal stiffened for a moment before completely disintegrating.

Qin Yu didn't stop. He approached Wang Yuanan, lifted his leg, and kicked out.

The air exploded with crackling sounds.

Wang Yuanan's complexion changed. He crossed his arms defensively in front of him but he gave a stuffy cough as he was kicked away, sent crashing into a column in the hall.

The column itself remained intact, but the jade urn placed behind it was crushed to dust.

Puff –

Wang Yuanan spat out a mouthful of blood. He stumbled to the ground, his eyes filled with shock. When he first arrived at the Beast Hunting Battalion, although Qin Yu was powerful, he could only be considered one of the stronger ones amongst the group. Now, with his uncle helping him, he had obtained several treasures from the Beast Hunting Battalion and his cultivation had increased by leaps and bounds.

Even so, he wasn't a match at all.

There had to be a secret on Qin Yu's body!

His thoughts racing, Wang Yuanan suddenly shouted out, "Qin Yu, you dare injure me!? Men, seize him!"

Several armored cultivators rushed in from outside the inn. They frowned, but they didn't seem to have any intention of refusing.

From his uniform, the one leading them was a lieutenant. His aura was at the peak of Nascent Soul and his body was wreathed in slaughter energy. He was far from being comparable to Wang Yuanan.

He grasped out in a probing strike. Then with a look of surprise, that grasp turned into a palm that collided with Qin Yu's fist.

Blood energy tumbled in his chest. He looked at Qin Yu who had only taken a step back and whose complexion hadn't changed, and his eyes suddenly brightened. He coldly said, "You dare to resist arrest?"

Qin Yu had no expression. "Why are you arresting me?"

The lieutenant didn't answer. He gestured his hand and the armored cultivators behind him all raised black crossbows. "Surrender, or be executed here and now!"

The bolts flashed with a cold metallic gleam. In particular, the blue points made one shudder. These were poison-tipped bolts used by the army. Not only was their shooting strength incredible but they had the attribute of breaking past defensive barriers. If a Divine Soul cultivator had several of these crossbows aimed at them, even they wouldn't dare to move.



Wang Yuanan's eyes flashed with joy. It seemed as if he was recklessly mobilizing his uncle's forces to publicly capture someone, but as long as he had Qin Yu in his hands, he could slowly chisel open his mouth.

For Qin Yu's strength to rise to such a degree in such a short period of time, this secret must be astonishing. Even if he was scolded by his uncle, it was well worth it!

### **Chapter 359 – Plot**

The lieutenant waved his hand. "Take him!"

He didn't believe that Qin Yu would dare to resist.

As expected, Qin Yu really did frown for a moment before relaxing his body. That fearful heart-shaking aura he released vanished along with it.

The lieutenant breathed a sigh of relief before his complexion darkened. He never expected that he would feel such dread towards a boy.

He coughed inwardly. He thought that from this point on, he would let Qin Yu experience what overwhelming brutality was.

But the two guards weren't able to approach Qin Yu before they were blocked by a red-dressed Aunty Hong. She smiled gently, her eyes warm, and said, "Lieutenant Du, why must you cause such a mess and capture someone in our inn?"

The lieutenant revealed a bit of dread in his eyes. "Aunty Hong, it isn't that I mean to be insolent, but this person has injured my master's nephew. I cannot let him off."

Aunty Hong's smile didn't dim. "Lieutenant Du, isn't there some way you can stretch the rules?"

Lieutenant Du's complexion changed. He braced himself and said, "Aunty Hong, please don't make things hard for me."

Aunt Hong lightly responded. "Lord Yuan Jingzhe has a high status and I have always felt deep admiration towards him. But, my inn's cultivators won't be bullied and humiliated by others so easily."

The lieutenant gnashed his teeth. "This person is one of the inn's cultivators?"

Aunty Hong smiled. "I have no reason to lie to Lieutenant Du." Her words sounded polite, but the meaning behind them tore apart all pretenses of face and implied that he didn't have the qualifications for her to bother lying. "The inn's entrance just happens to have monitoring cameras. We can find out exactly what happened easily enough."

The lieutenant had a somber complexion. Though he was angry inside, he didn't dare to say anything else. The inn's influence and background weren't something that a mere young lieutenant like him couldn't hope to provoke. But now he had hopped onto the tiger's back and couldn't back down. If he really were to retreat like this, the lord would suffer a loss of face and he would be punished for it. And all of this was caused by Wang Yuanan! As he thought of this, a bit of enmity grew in the lieutenant's eyes.

Wang Yuanan cursed inwardly. He never expected things would develop in this way, but he didn't dare to make a move at this time. He took a deep breath and cupped his hands together. "Aunty Hong..." But before he finished speaking he was interrupted.

Aunty Hong said, "From this point on, we won't need or be receiving Sir Wang's business anymore. What are you all standing around for? Go back and start greeting our guests."

As she spoke, the women who were being brought out suddenly bowed their heads and left.

Aunty Hong turned around. "Let's go."

Qin Yu rubbed his nose. He thought that this invisible slap wasn't too bad either. He smiled a bit and followed behind.

Wang Yuanan's face turned purple and blue. He spat out a mouthful of blood and slumped to the ground.

At this moment, all he could do was pretend he fainted to escape further embarrassment.

Lieutenant Du ordered someone to pick up Wang Yuanan. Then, he left with a pale face.

The other remaining youths had pallid expressions. They didn't think that their little game of 'stepping on the cockroach' would evolve like this.

The inn always had a mysterious and profound background. They had already been warned numerous times in advance not to provoke them.

After helping Steward Wu's son up, they followed behind the guards and warily left.

After entering the rear courtyard and avoiding outside eyes, Aunty Hong quickly bowed and said, "Mister Qin, in order to keep your identity a secret, I had no choice but to offend you. I ask for your forgiveness."

Qin Yu waved his hand. "It's fine." His eyes flashed. "Aunty Hong has shown such a tough and iron-willed attitude today. Aren't you afraid that Lord Jingzhe will retaliate?"

Aunty Hong smiled. "The inn's normal principle of conduct has always been to keep a low-key profile. But if we are being publicly bullied, we aren't afraid of getting into trouble. Moreover, Wang Yuanan was being so rude to Mister Qin. If it weren't for the fact that I didn't want to arouse suspicion, I would never have let them go!"

Qin Yu faintly smiled. "Is Aunty Hong trying to demonstrate the inn's muscles and win me over?"

Aunty Hong revealed an awkward expression. "I don't want to lie to Mister Qin. The orders I received were to fully satisfy Mister Qin and to increase any good feelings you might hold towards the inn."

Qin Yu hesitated for a moment and said, "Aunty Hong, there are some things I need to make clear. Once I break through to Divine Soul, I will be leaving. There is no need for the inn to place so much value on me."

Aunty Hong nodded earnestly. "Mister Qin need not worry. The young master said that since you refused the offer to stay at the Southshine Nation, you must have your own reasons for doing so, and

the inn knows there is nothing we can offer to have you stay behind. We only hope to become your friend. The young master added that as long as we can achieve this, it will be the inn's greatest harvest."

Qin Yu was surprised. He couldn't help but acknowledge that these words made him feel good in his heart. Moreover, the inn's honest attitude was especially commendable.

He smiled and didn't say anything. Then he turned and left.

Wang Yuanan had a pale complexion. He sat on a bed and clenched his jaws, a hateful look on his face as if he could tear a person apart and drink their blood.

"Has uncle said anything about this matter?"

"Young master, your uncle has asked me to tell you to be patient for the time being. The inn is strong and cannot be easily provoked."

"Out! All of you get out!"

He randomly drove everyone away. Wang Yuanan panted for breath, his face even paler than before. But, his eyes were actually calm, completely different to the mood he was displaying.

That's right, schoolmate Wang was putting on a play.

He needed to let everyone know just how much he hated Qin Yu. Only then would he have an excuse to move against him.

Wang Yuanan had an instinctual feeling that there was some enormous secret Qin Yu was hiding on his body.

This instinctual feeling had never been so intense before!

The next day, after slightly healing from his wounds, Wang Yuanan quietly found one of his uncle's subordinate cultivators.

"Uncle Xu, this little nephew has a problem. I hope that you can help me?"

The cultivator surnamed Xu cupped his hands together. "Young nephew need not speak so seriously. If you have any requests, feel free to ask."

Wang Yuanan lowered his voice, hatred thick in his eyes. "Uncle Xu must know that I shamed the lord yesterday. I cannot swallow this loss. I hope that uncle can help me out a little here."

Cultivator Xu had an awkward expression.

Wang Yuanan clenched his teeth. "I heard that Uncle Xu injured his knee long ago and that cloudy weather will cause pain. This little nephew just happens to have a bottle of beast marrow fluid. Perhaps it can be of some use."

Cultivator Xu's eyes brightened. "Young nephew master, it isn't that I don't wish to help you, but that there really isn't much I can do."

Wang Yuanan earnestly said, "Uncle Xu definitely can. I have investigated and found that Qin Yu hasn't completed his hunting missions for these past few months. I will try to find some way to have him enter

the wilderness. Uncle Xu, as long as you inform me of the coordinates you will transmit him to, then that will be fine. I remember that Uncle Xu has always been responsible for managing the transmission arrays and it shouldn't be too difficult to do this."

Looking at the beast marrow fluid in front of him, cultivator Xu nodded. "Alright. Once I get any news, I will immediately inform young nephew master!"

Wang Yuanan was overjoyed. He expressed his gratitude repeatedly and then ordered people to bring him away.

He closed his eyes and felt his physical state. Then, schoolmate Wang revealed a cold sneer.

After a bit more time when his wounds were fully healed, that would be when he attacked.

Qin Yu, I'll let you be smug for a few more days!

Wang Yuanan thought he had carefully managed everything, but he didn't know that once cultivator Xu left, he soon appeared at Yuan Jingzhe's office. He took out the beast marrow fluid and placed it on the table before relaying everything that had occurred just now.

Yuan Jingzhe glanced at him. "Brother Xu, do you think I spoil Yuanan too much?"

Cultivator Xu cupped his hands together. "I dare not assume. It's just that the inn is an unusual factor and offending them might not be a wise move."

Yuan Jingzhe smiled. "I know what Brother Xu speaks of, but I also have my own reasons."

Cultivator Xu's expression changed.

Yuan Jingzhe helplessly smiled. "The inn's limelight has been too abundant lately. Their influence is expanding too rapidly and they have already touched upon the benefits of many people. In the past, I used their hands to climb up to where I am today, so now I must repay them."

Cultivator Xu said, "It was I who was neglectful."

Yuan Jingzhe stood up and walked to the window, staring out into the distance. "Brother Xu, I fear that child has already settled on some secret that junior Qin Yu has. To reach the peak of Nascent Soul in such a short period of time is indeed unusual. I believe that child is worried that I also know of this and will try to steal the piece of fat that is about to enter his mouth. But, I am not angry. If one cannot conceal their thoughts and intentions in this world, they will not be able to live for long. Yuanan's actions were correct. However, he assumes he is smarter than he actually is, and there are some matters he might not be able to process correctly. I will have to trouble Brother Xu with helping him in secret a little to prevent any problems from occurring."

Cultivator Xu respectfully bowed. "I will excuse myself."

"Take the beast marrow fluid."

Cultivator Xu had a hesitant expression. Yuan Jingzhe smiled. "If Yuanan asks for your help, the things he gifts you are naturally yours."

For the next several days, Qin Yu was deep in cultivation. As time passed, the dense fog became increasingly thin. Now it was as thin as a chicken egg's shell, as if it would break apart at the slightest touch.

He was just a thread away from breaking into Divine Soul!

Contradictorily, Qin Yu became increasingly serene. He didn't chase after a breakthrough but patiently waited instead.

Unfortunately, these peaceful days were soon broken apart by the news Aunty Hong delivered.

He was being punished by the Beast Hunting Battalion. Within three days he had to step into the wilderness and complete the several month backlog of beast hunting missions.

Qin Yu frowned. He looked over.

Aunty Hong shook her head. "Mister Qin, I have already investigated this matter. It is the Lord Commander inadvertently thinking of you and then assigning someone to watch you. As a result..." She forced a smile. "We originally arranged everything. This really is an unexpected accident."

"Since it's an accident, you cannot be blamed."

Aunty Hong took a deep breath. "Mister Qin, in the end you are part of the Beast Hunting Battalion. Since this punishment was handed down by the Lord Commander, it will be difficult to refuse. However, if Mister Qin doesn't wish to go, I can try and pull some strings."

Qin Yu lightly said, "No need. Since the commander ordered this, I will take a trip into the wilderness."

With his current cultivator, as long as he was a bit careful he could easily finish the hunting missions.

The next day, after making some preparations, Qin Yu left from the inn's transmission array.

He didn't use his own dwelling's transmission array. After considering things again, it was best to be a bit more careful.

Hu –

Within a stone chamber cut into a dried out spring, the dazzling lights of the array formation were covered up. The rippling of space didn't spread out in the least.

Several breaths of time later, Qin Yu stepped out. Sensing that nothing was wrong, he left the dried spring.

At the same time, a group of cultivators rushed towards Wang Yuanan's residence. After a moment, he stepped out, four trusted cultivators behind him.

Hum –

The light of the transmission array flashed. Wang Yuanan and the four others vanished from sight.

The wilderness was still a land free from the markings of man. The thick and ancient branches hung up high, shrouding out the skies and leaving the ground a dim and murky haze.

Qin Yu ran forwards. Although he didn't seem fast, every several steps he took crossed a thousand feet. His footsteps were silent. His divine sense rained down around him, sweeping every nook and cranny. Suddenly, Qin Yu lifted his hand and grasped out. A vine snake exploded outwards, seemingly falling to its death in his hand.

Pa –

The snake's body collapsed. A faint smell of blood wafted through the air.

Qin Yu flashed forwards several times. Before the scent of blood marked his body, he had already left this region.

The wilderness was unfathomably deep. There could be terrifying monster beasts existing in any place.

With his current strength, he was still far from reaching the level of being able to ignore any dangers in this region.

It was never wrong to be a bit more careful.

Two hours later, Qin Yu came to a stop. After checking his points card, he found he had completed the penalty requirement.

There wasn't anything to be smug about. With his current combat strength, accomplishing this was a matter of course.

No longer stopping, Qin Yu turned and soared towards the transmission array.

Soon he spotted the dry spring. But as he passed through a thicket of thorns, Qin Yu suddenly stopped and a cold light exploded in his eyes. "Come out!"

### **Chapter 360 – The Troop in the Wilderness**

Pa. Pa. Pa.

Wang Yuanan clapped his hands. "Qin Yu, I never thought you would be so vigilant."

Before he finished speaking, he raised his hand and threw a small bag into the air. It blew apart and a nauseous black gas shrouded Qin Yu.

With a loud shout, four bolts of white saber light shot out, blocking all angles of retreat. This was a ruthless and merciless death strike.

They didn't hold back at all. Even if they were counterattacked and severely wounded or even killed as a result, they still needed to cut down Qin Yu here. With such a crazy suicidal and decisive attack, even a Divine Soul cultivator might not be able to retreat. Moreover, once the blades cut across flesh and blood, the poisons on them would be more than fatal!

Wang Yuanan soared into the skies, a pitch black lance appearing in his hands. A dark red light circulated around the lance tip, a fierce killing intent rising into the heavens.

With this, even if Qin Yu had some method to retreat, after running from the four saber strikes he would still meet a fatal attack.

Bang –

The four bolts of saber light shattered and collapsed without warning. The four saber-wielding cultivators all screamed out bitterly, their bodies instantly torn into countless pieces.

Wang Yuanan was frightened, shock filling his eyes.

The black gas split apart and Qin Yu walked out without expression. There was not even a single stain on his black robes.

“Ahh!” With a loud shout, the black spear shot down, the blood red light on its tip glowing brightly.

With this attack, Wang Yuanan turned and fled. To instantly kill four of his most trusted subordinates, Qin Yu’s strength had far surpassed his estimation.

Damn! How could he be so strong!?

Blue leather boots he wore erupted with a brilliant light. Wang Yuanan soared forwards with astonishing speed, leaving a trail of afterimages behind him.

Luckily he was prepared. The Wind Step that his uncle gave him was something that even a Divine Soul cultivator might not be able to catch up to. Retreating should be no problem.

But as soon as this thought appeared, Wang Yuanan’s heart violently shrank and a feeling of fear rushed through him.

“Stop!”

With a loud shout, another figure flew out, lifting a hand and pressing down.

Wang Yuanan was overjoyed, “Uncle Xu!”

There was a thunderous explosion behind him, like two titans colliding. Wang Yuanan was scared silly and continued fleeing.

He immediately thought that if this bastard Qin Yu was unexpectedly strong enough to clash with the middle Divine Soul realm Xu Younian, then he would definitely have to convince his uncle to kill him. Otherwise he was sure to become a powerful foe in the future.

But suddenly, Wang Yuanan felt that something was strange. Why did he feel so cold? He looked down and saw that there was a massive hole in his chest, one that was completely hollow.

Despair swelled up in his mind as Wang Yuanan toppled to the ground. He roared out inwardly: my talent is first rate and my skills are excellent! I am sure to have great achievements in the future, so how can I die here!?

Pa –

The earth of the wilderness gained another pile of ruined meat. It wouldn’t be long before monster beasts came looking for food and gobbled it all up.

Xu Younian paled. "You...you actually killed Wang Yuanan!"

The lord had no children and regarded his nephew as his own son. With such a massive incident occurring here, it would be impossible for him to escape responsibility.

Qin Yu lightly said, "He wanted to kill me, so he should already have been prepared to be the one killed instead."

Xu Younian turned and left. He needed to pass this news on to the lord.

But at this time, his complexion completely changed. He turned around and crossed his arms against his chest.

Bang –

With a loud explosion, Xu Younian was sent flying backwards. He smashed through several ancient trees and vomited a mouthful of blood before he came to a stop.

"Qin Yu, you dare attack me!?"

Qin Yu didn't respond. His feet moved forwards and he approached once more.

Xu Younian roared out loud. Space rippled around him and he vanished from sight.

Instant transmission.

Qin Yu frowned. The shadows beneath his feet rippled and he stepped into his shadow, vanishing from sight.

Xu Younian came staggering out from space. His body glowed and he flew away at a low altitude.

The wilderness was filled with layers of risks. He didn't dare to teleport too far; it was enough if he escaped Qin Yu.

This brat, he was clearly only at the Nascent Soul realm and yet his combat strength was so horrifying.

Alarm and fear colored his eyes and he sped up. But soon, his pupils widened and endless shock lit up his face.

Space rippled once more; this was the second time he used teleportation. But before his figure vanished, a palm already struck his chest.

Bang –

The sound was like the beating of a great drum. Tiny blood vessels ruptured on Xu Younian's eyes. His entire body was drenched in blood as he collapsed to the ground.

A palm-sized transparent soul came flying out from the top of Xu Younian's head. But before it could escape, a vortex appeared in Qin Yu's shadow.

"No!" With a shrill scream of despair, the soul was dragged into the shadow. Its aura immediately disappeared.



Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He didn't expect that the summoned life form which had integrated into his shadow would actually have the ability to exterminate the soul.

It had to be known that Divine Soul cultivators had many methods of preserving their lives. Besides instant transmission, using their souls to escape was one of them.

However, it was clear that if Qin Yu's future enemies wanted to use their souls to escape and live on, this would be incredibly difficult for them.

He bent down and searched through Xu Younian's corpse. Unfortunately, after visiting the Southshine Nation's treasury, he was already extremely wealthy. Besides some spirit stone cards, there wasn't anything that caught his attention.

He shadow stepped back to Wang Yuanan's corpse and searched it as per usual. Surprisingly, this wealthy young second generation master gave him a pleasant surprise.

There was a pair of boots called Wind Step as well as a divine transformation grass.

This spiritual item released an aura that could enhance the ability of a person's soul to sense the rules. Normally, it would be placed to the side during cultivation and was considered a perpetual and economical treasure.

Thinking about it, that still mysterious Lord Yuan Jingzhe must have prepared this treasure for his nephew who was about to break into Divine Soul.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. With several steps he returned to the dried springs. After placing the spirit stones in their slots, he stepped into the transmission array and vanished.

...

Yuan Jingzhe sat in his office. His face was dark and overcast, the air so heavy that it left one gasping for breath.

A day had passed and Wang Yuanan had yet to return. Even Xu Younian who had secretly followed him in case of an emergency had also vanished without a trace.

There must have been some accident!

His heart stirred and Yuan Jingzhe's eyes turned red. But with his formidable will, there wasn't any change to his appearance as he sat in his chair. He took a deep breath, slowly gathering himself. Then he said, "Go to the inn and see whether or not Qin Yu has returned."

There was a slight twist in the corner of the room before everything quieted down once more.

After a moment, a respectful voice said, "My Lord, Qin Yu has returned."

Yuan Jingzhe's eyes were closed in hesitation. He nodded, acknowledging that he had heard this.

After an unknown period of time, he opened his eyes, stood up, and walked out.

When he left his room, the great wooden chair he sat in shattered without warning.

Every piece of the chair that fell to the ground made no sound at all before they all crumbled into countless bits of powder.

Soon after, Aunt Hong entered a soft sedan and left, arriving at the commander's office.

As if already knowing she would arrive, the guards inspected her briefly before respectfully allowing her to pass.

Around four hours later, Aunt Hong walked out from the great doors with a frosty look. As she sat back down in the sedan, she couldn't help but rub her temples, weariness etched on her face.

It was lucky that Mister Qin had told her everything after he had returned. If she had come here unprepared, it would have been difficult to deal with Yuan Jingzhe.

It seemed that the rumors were likely true. Wang Yuanan was the incestuous byproduct of Yuan Jingzhe and his little sister. Otherwise, there was no way he would value him so much.

Returning to the inn, Aunt Hong knocked on Qin Yu's courtyard doors. After taking a seat inside, she nodded and said, "Mister Qin, everything has been appropriately arranged. With the suppression of the commander, Yuan Jingzhe shouldn't dare to do anything to you. But to ensure your continued safety, I suggest that Mister Qin not go out for the time being."

Qin Yu nodded. "I understand. I've troubled Aunt Hong."

Aunt Hong waved her hands, not daring to accept this apology. Then she bowed once more and left.

Qin Yu sent her out. When he turned and returned to his room, the young maid just happened to be boiling water for tea. She wavered as if she wanted to say something.

"Mister Qin, I heard from the miss that Yuan Jingzhe is one of those patient types with extremely ruthless and cruel methods. He's not the type that is good to provoke."

Qin Yu smiled. "I've already killed the person, so speaking of it further is useless."

The young maid puffed out her bun-like cheeks. "Why didn't you just bear it?"

Qin Yu shook his head. "You don't understand. At some other time, I might have let him go to make things less troublesome for me, but not now."

The breakthrough to Divine Soul was imminent. What mattered was that his thoughts needed to be smooth. If Wang Yuanan wanted to kill him, then he could only kill Wang Yuanan in return.

As for Yuan Jingzhe...he heard this lord was quite strong and his skills were astonishing, but Qin Yu didn't worry.

His current combat strength was enough to overwhelm the majority of Divine Souls. And once he made his breakthrough...there wasn't any need to explain further.

Thus, he had simply killed off Wang Yuanan.

The young maid seemed to want to say something more, but as she noticed Qin Yu's indifferent expression she curled her lips and continued to boil water. Once he really experienced trouble, she wanted to see if he could still be so spirited!

...

In the wilderness, a troop of men and horses quickly moved forwards. Although they were clearly a bit flustered, their movements were still neat and methodical.

There were several dozen black-robed guards, all of them emanating a military-like atmosphere. The one leading them was a tall and hearty man. He had clearly received a dire injury to his chest, but his face was like a rock, as if he didn't feel any pain at all. Invisible slaughter energy emitted from the guards. When it gathered together it caused the monster beasts in the wilderness to flee, none of them daring to approach.

But at this time the sky was dark and bleak. Shadows flickered in the wilderness behind the troop, as if countless evil spirits were following from behind.

After travelling for another hour, the leader lifted his hand and the troop stopped.

Without any orders, the guards automatically spread out and formed a simple defensive array.

The leader walked up to the only speedcar in the troop and bowed. "Noble one, our losses are great and we must stop to rest."

The car's glass window slid down a little and a woman's gentle voice came out. "I do not understand these matters. Captain Shi, feel free to make whatever decisions are needed." The voice continued to say, "Coming this far, everything is thanks to Captain and the guards. After I return home...there will surely be compensation."

Captain Shi respectfully said, "This is my duty, noble one, there is no need to speak so seriously." He turned and left and the troop immediately began to rest and repair.

Dozens of robed guards took rests in turns. As they dealt with the wounds that covered their bodies, the air was filled with the thick smell of blood.

Captain Shi allowed his subordinates to clean his wound. The skin and flesh turned outwards and the edges were dark blue and purple; it looked incredibly fierce. But from beginning to end, his complexion didn't change at all, as if there was no wound on his body.

But suddenly Captain Shi shoved away the subordinate in front of him. A sharp arrow shot forth and Captain Shi caught it right before it sank into his forehead. The arrow still quivered in his grasp.

"Enemy attack!"

With a loud shout, Captain Shi was the first to rush out. Miserable howls of pain and suffering filled the dark wilderness, accompanied by the sounds of tearing flesh and blood.

The guards all reacted quickly, forming a circular defensive formation around the speedcar. But at this time, the ground exploded and the terrifying impact sent the speedcar soaring into the air. The guards suffered numerous casualties.

“Kill them!”

With a loud shout, a large number of cultivators with black bandannas around their faces rushed forwards. Whenever they met an injured guard they would finish them off with a blade to the heart.

“Protect the noble one!”

The guards that could still fight leapt up, engaging with the other side in slaughter.

There was a horrifying explosion in the darkness. Several ancient trees were uprooted and Captain Shi went flying backwards. His chest wound was torn open and his face was pale white.

But his opponent was no better off. After vomiting several mouthfuls of blood, he flopped to the ground.

Pa –

Captain Shi crashed near the speedcar. It had clearly been specially reinforced. Even after withstanding the explosion and being sent tumbling over the ground, there were only a few cracks in the glass.

“Noble one, the enemy is too strong. Let me bring you and kill a way out!

The car was pushed open from within, but it was blocked by the dirt. Captain Shi grabbed onto the door and tore it open, causing two women to roll onto the ground.

Captain Shi hurriedly said, “Noble one, forgive me!”

A maid in green robes held a woman in her arms. “The noble one is wounded, hurry and save her!”

Fresh blood dyed her dress red. With her eyes closed, the woman already seemed to have fallen unconscious.