

## Refining 521

### Chapter 521 – Old Servant and Brothers

Qin Yu couldn't remember when he became the living nemesis of all dark and gloomy yin powers. Poisons, curses, things like that, the more that came, the more he welcomed them.

All of these supposedly vicious and ferocious abilities were like loud and blaring delivery boys with red flags on their backs, completely offering up their everything for the residents residing in his soul space.

This spirit was worth vigorously advocating and deeply praising. But what a pity, these delivery boys that worked with all their heart were doomed to be one-time disposables. It was impossible to encourage them to continue their efforts. This was a minor regret.

Beneath the layers of black curse threads, Qin Yu's lips twitched. He felt a little ashamed for these completely unsympathetic thoughts of his. This person was already pitiful enough so how could he still mock him ruthlessly? Between people, he should still take into consideration the most basic of emotions and civilities.

Mm. I can't laugh. I must be solemn and dignified. But...it's hard to bear! In particular, through the Cosmic Seacross Bell, Qin Yu could faintly feel the old servant's thought fluctuations.

You think you have too much curse strength? Hehe, I fear you don't have enough!

20%

30%

40%

The calm old servant finally revealed an earnest expression. With so much curse strength, even a peak Blue Sea master would have died several times, yet this brat was still alive.

This wasn't right, this wasn't right, something definitely must have gone wrong. Restlessness gushed out from the depths of his heart and beads of sweat appeared on the old servant's forehead. He felt that something had gone horribly awry.

Perhaps he should have been more cautious and investigated the situation further before making his move. As soon as this thought appeared, the old servant wanted to take back his curse strength, but then, his complexion changed. Because to his amazement, he discovered that the curse strength wrapped around Qin Yu's body seemed to be glued tightly to him; it was impossible to take it back.

No, it wasn't just that he couldn't take it back, but that he couldn't even separate himself. It was like some terrifying shackles had bound the two of them together. The old servant took a deep breath. Then, a storm seemed to blow past his incredibly old face, leaving in its wake fierce and twisted terror.

"Open!"

With a loud shout, the black threads began to burn, dissolving into ashes with black flames.

The old servant's back bent down as if he had lost too much strength. Without even glancing at Qin Yu who was wrapped in black flames and ashes, he turned and left.

His body submerged into the darkness and directly fused within as he vanished from sight.

In the martial world, it was said that the older one was, the less courage they had. This saying made complete sense. The old servant had lived for such a long time and killed countless people. Just what sort of scene had he not seen before?

But it was because of his vast experience that he truly understood what it meant for one's ship to suddenly overturn. He had personally witnessed this with his eyes many times.

The Qi Family was strong and there were many methods to kill this Yao Bin. There was no need for him to take this risk. Even if he retreated today with no results, it wasn't that big of a deal. He could look for more chances in the future.

When one was old, their mind might grow muddled, but they never lacked in patience. So when the old servant decided to leave, he didn't delay or hesitate.

Within the garden, the black flames began to gradually extinguish to reveal Qin Yu's calm face. Surprise flashed in his eyes. "Shadow Step?"

So he wasn't the only one who possessed this ability.

Although Undying was still in a state of deep sleep, he had clearly recovered a great deal because the supernatural arts he bestowed upon Qin Yu could be used again. So, after a brief moment of surprise, Qin Yu softly said, "The residents haven't eaten their fill yet, so how can you leave?"

He lightly stepped into the narrow shadows, melting within.

Outside of Dawnperch Hotel there was a large tree. The street lights shined down from above, causing the mottled shadow of the tree to spread out long and wide.

Somewhere in the shadows of the branches there was sudden movement. The old servant stepped out, his face pale and wan. He turned and looked at the still peaceful Dawnperch Hotel, a cloudy look on his face. For so many years, whenever he took action things had gone smoothly and easily. He never expected that he would be pecked in the eyes here today.

This brat was abominably strange. He had to inform the young master as soon as possible and caution him to be more careful and to not lower his guard. However, with his master's disposition, he feared that the more outstanding this Yao Bin was, the deeper his killing intent would be. He would definitely find some way to have Yao Bin stay in Heavenly Demon City.

The old servant's eyes clouded over a little and a bit of infatuation filled his eyes. His young master's personality was this lovable! He coughed several times, clearing these thoughts. He took several steps out, about to leave. But then, his complexion changed and he fiercely spun around.

The shadows of the tree parted like rippling water. Qin Yu smiled and said, "Since you've come, why leave? Life is hard to survive, so let me help you completely free yourself."

The old servant screamed out loud, "This is impossible! You actually know the Shadow Transformation Art!?"

Qin Yu shook his head. "I call it Shadow Step. I have no idea what the Shadow Transformation Art is. But, none of that matters. Let's continue from where we left off."

The old servant turned and fled.

Looking at the old servant sink into the shadows, Qin Yu's eyes flashed. He stepped forward and followed.

Around a corner, the two people appeared one after another. Then in an alley, a tower...

Qin Yu's lips curved up. As he thought, this Shadow Transformation Art caused extreme losses to the soul. After using it continuously several times, the old servant's aura had weakened a great deal. It was almost over. Then, let's bring things to an end. If one played too much, they might end up ruining their plans.

Shua –

After using Shadow Transformation once more, the old servant emerged. His face was pale without the least bit of red remaining. He looked up towards the distance where the brightly illuminated and majestic mansion was. Joy flickered in his darkened eyes.

If he used the Shadow Transformation Art once more he would be able to smoothly enter the Qi Family. At that time he would be safe with the young master protecting him. The old servant smiled. He took a deep breath, suppressing the feeling of nothingness in his soul. Then, he took a step forward.

His body began to transform into shade, fusing with the shadow beneath his foot. But just as he was about to finish, a hand suddenly reached out from the shadow.

Qin Yu lightly said, "Where do you think you're going?"

The old servant was startled. Too flustered to worry about exposing himself, he opened his mouth to shout for help. But then, he suddenly froze. His weak soul could no longer contend with the suppression coming from the Cosmic Seacross Bell. Faint traces of purple moonlight continuously infiltrated into his soul space.

The purple moon also helped out this time. This point was quite strange. It seemed that the curse strength within the old servant's body suited its tastes.

Bang –

A terrifying extraction strength erupted from Qin Yu's body. The old servant's body tensed as the curse strength within his body suddenly burst out as if a dam had been broken.

If this feeling had to be described with words, it was like someone ripping open another person's skull and then taking a tube and sucking out their brains with great gusto...this feeling, just thinking about it left one's scalp tingling.

In fact, the pain that the old servant was withstanding was even more terrifying than this. This was because the curse strength within him had already fully merged into one whole with his body. Every inch of his flesh and blood, his organs, bones, it was all quaking and twitching at this moment.

Indeed, if a person walked along the riverside, they would eventually get their shoes wet. This person had murdered so many people in his lifetime and now karmic retribution had reached him.

The old servant knew from long ago that once he stepped onto the path of curses, he was doomed to die some unnatural and horrific death. But, he didn't regret doing this, because this was what the young master needed. For the young master, he was willing to do anything, even if the young master never knew of his true thoughts.

But was this important?

The old servant exhausted the final dregs of his strength to straighten his back. He looked towards the not too far away Qi Family and gently let out a long breath. His pupils began to glaze over...this life had been far too tiring, it was finally time to rest.

Several breaths of time later, Qin Yu released his hand, allowing the skinny and withered corpse to fall to the ground. He glanced at the Qi Family and then stepped into the shadows.

Ancestral Hall –

Seated against the large wooden chair with his eyes closed in meditation, Qi Dongtai suddenly lurched forward and spat out a mouthful of black blood.

The fourth family manager was panic-stricken. "Father, are you okay!?"

Qi Dongtai's eyes were dazed. After several breaths of time, he stood up and walked outside.

Moments later, the great doors to the Qi Family opened and Qi Dongtai silently walked out, soaring to a large willow tree not too far away.

A corpse lay down peacefully beneath the willow tree. Its body was bent as if they suffered great pain before their death, but their expression was one of peace.

The fourth family manager's eyes violently shrank, fear and alarm rising in his pupils. This was because the one who died beneath the willow tree was his father's old servant. This gloomy and terrifying old dog had quietly died like this? Even as he was dumbfounded into silence, at the same time he also relaxed within.

Of course, the sorrow and despair on his face didn't diminish at all because of this. This old dog had followed by his father's side from his earliest memories and was the one his father trusted the most. In the heart of his father, this old servant probably held a higher status than his sons.

Qi Dongtai took a deep breath. He squatted down and slowly closed the open eyes of the old servant that were still looking at the Qi Family's residence. As he moved, his hand gently trembled.

The third family manager fell to his knees. "Father, the dead cannot return to life. You must restrain your grief and sorrow. You cannot harm your body!"

Qi Dongtai spun around and slapped the third family manager, sending him flying away.

"Father!"

Half of the third family manager's face was swollen blue and purple. Still, he kept on an innocent and unknowing expression.

Qi Dongtai fiercely said, "Shut up! If you didn't produce that little beast, Xia Yan wouldn't have died today! If you weren't my son, I would have already killed you by now!"

No one had the time to gloat. Everyone kept silent. As they looked at the Old Ancestor who was like an exploding volcano right now, they were all left flustered.

The Old Ancestor cultivated stability of his mind and soul. It had been many years since he had become angry. Even when Qi Yunshu died, he was still able to remain calm.

It could be imagined just how terrible his mood was right now!

No longer caring for everyone kneeling on the ground, Qi Dongtai lifted the corpse of the old servant. He suddenly discovered that the old servant's body was light, without any substance to it.

Bitterness surged in his heart. He raised his head, forcefully suppressing his mood. Then, he turned and started walking towards the Qi Family residence, muttering quietly beneath his breath.

"Xia Yan. We have a lifetime of friendship. The thoughts you kept locked in your heart, I naturally knew of them. But, I could not accept them, so I pretended to not know all this time. In truth, I've long wanted to tell you that there was no need to live such a difficult life."

"But I was greedy. I did not want you to leave the Qi Family. I wanted you to help me, to grow the Qi Family so that it became even stronger. For your entire life you stayed with the Qi Family, but when you finally died, it was outside the walls of my Qi Family. I am tortured by this."

"But don't worry. I know who killed you. I promise you that he will definitely follow you. Of course, I know that the person who killed you is not easy to deal with, so I will silently wait for an opportunity. I ask that you be patient. What I promise you, I can definitely achieve."

As Qi Dongtai ascended the stairs, he looked up at the front entrance. "For many years you didn't leave or enter from the main doors. You said that this was the right of the main family, and as a servant you needed to stand by your duty. You told everyone that you were a dog at my side, but I always regarded you as my brother. Today, allow your young master to bring you home. We will go back through the main entrance."

Tears flowed down through the wrinkled creases of his face, slowly dropping to the ground.

## **Chapter 522 – Temptation of the Demon Blood Crystal**

Someone had died within the Qi Family; this truth couldn't be hidden from those with the intention of finding out. When it was determined that the one who died was the old servant who always stayed close to the Old Ancestor, countless people widened their eyes. Initial shock gave way to panic, and then with the fastest possible speed, everyone ordered all the people they sent to probe for news to withdraw.

The old servant had always declared himself to be a dog of the Qi Family, but the reality was that he held an extremely lofty status. At times, he could even issue commands on behalf of the Qi Family. Even when the four family managers faced him, they still had to be respectful like nephews, not daring to show any disrespect at all.

Such a strong and vital character had perished overnight. Would the Qi Family's Old Ancestor let this go? Moreover, if one counted Qi Yunshu from before, then two people of the Qi Family had died beneath Yao Bin's hands. As for why it was Yao Bin? Such a question didn't need to be answered at all, nor was there a need for evidence.

Everyone feared they would be caught up in the Qi Family's subsequent retaliation, so they hurriedly pulled back their 'antennas'. But, what surprised them was that the Qi Family became unusually quiet, as if they weren't planning to respond to this matter at all.

But this time, no one taunted the Qi Family again. This was because the old servant's death indicated how aggressive their stance was. Even if someone became a disciple of the Demonic Path, they would make that person pay for murdering one of their own with a life! It was impossible for this current silence to mean that they had given up. Rather, the most likely possibility was that they were waiting for an opportunity.

Their plans would never be easily revealed!

...

City Lord Mansion.

The Lord Demon Envoy played with a light sphere in his hands. The light and shadows within fluctuated; the scene it played inside was unexpectedly the scene of Qin Yu killing Qi Yunshu and the old servant.

"Xia Yan's curse power is quite strange, yet he could completely disregard it. No...to be more accurate, he plundered all the curse strength in Xia Yan's body." he muttered beneath his breath, a happy smile on his face. "This boy Yao Bin, he is much more mysterious than I anticipated."

This was for the best. He only feared that Yao Bin was too weak. He could only wish that Yao Bin was much stronger, much fiercer than this.

The more cards one had, the more difficult it was to die. This was because the path Yao Bin wanted to take was really far too dangerous.

His five fingers squeezed and the light sphere was destroyed. The Lord Demon Envoy calmed back down and looked towards the door.

Yan Liu lightly sauntered in. This peach-like woman attracted attention with every movement she made.

"Lord Demon Envoy seems to have so much free time today. You actually aren't cultivating; it leaves me surprised."

Her beautiful eyes were flowing with layers of light as if she were silently singing. One couldn't help but wallow in her gaze.

The Demon Envoy had a serene expression. "What is it?"

He rolled his eyes. Luckily, they understood each other enough over these past years. He didn't say much, not wishing to further entangle himself.

Yan Liu held her hands on her waist, her proud chest becoming even more prominent. She said in a supple voice, "I came here to remind Lord Demon Envoy that there seem to be many people paying attention to that little boy of yours. They are all very interested."

The Demon Envoy had no expression. "So what?"

Yan Liu batted her eyes. For such a mature and beautiful woman to do something like that, it was particularly enticing. "Are you really not a little worried? Although that boy has a bit of cultivation and his actions are sufficiently ruthless, those paying attention to him are all big tigers. If he's not careful there will be an extra body."

The Demon Envoy lightly said, "If he dies he dies; what does that have to do with me?" He looked up, his eyes sharp, "I do not like to be probed by anyone. That includes you."

Yan Liu humphed, tossing back some last words saying she was done. Then she turned and sashayed away, sprinkling down the infinite grace and charm of a beauty.

The Demon Envoy lightly frowned. It seemed she really did notice something. But, the day when he brought Yan Liu out with him he really had no other choice. If he were to go alone, he would have been noticed by the divine sense of others. Fortunately, Yan Liu wouldn't ruin his work nor would she say anything, otherwise things really would become troublesome.

As he thought about the perils that Yao Bin now faced, the Demon Envoy furrowed his eyebrows together. Perhaps he should look for a way to secretly pass a protective charm to him. Although this wouldn't scare off all the wolves, it could provide Yao Bin with an additional layer of security...or, in a critical moment, it would give him a chance to interfere and defend his position.

Otherwise, if anyone realized what his true thoughts were, Yao Bin would die without a doubt.

...

Within the dim room, the windows and doors were tightly closed shut. The pale yellow light of an oil lamp was swallowed up by the darkness, leaving one's mind constrained. Behind a round table, there was a figure sitting there. His back was towards the entrance and he seemed to be savoring the flavor hidden in the darkness.

"Elder, our probe has failed. That trash Qi Yunshu was killed on the spot. The Qi Family tried to retaliate, but what a pity, the curse master they sent out also died a miserable death in an area not too far away from the Qi Family residence. He didn't leave behind any useful information at all." A black-clothed man knelt on the ground. "This subordinate has handled matters poorly. I ask Elder for punishment."

The sitting figure spoke up. His voice had clearly been modified; it was dry and raspy, with no fluctuation of emotion. "I already know of this. There is no need for you to blame yourself. It seems I underestimated Yao Bin's reaction. I never imagined he would respond with such a strong and aggressive counterattack." There was a brief pause, then he continued, "But, that doesn't mean we have accomplished nothing."

The black-clothed man was puzzled. "May I ask Elder to clarify?"

The sitting figure seemed to smile. "Qi Yunshu has died and Xia Yan has also died. The Qi Family now has a blood enmity with Yao Bin. As long as there is enmity, there will be a motive to take action. We will find a chance to obtain this motive and then openly and honestly deal with Yao Bin in the future.

"But right now there are far too many people interested in him. We've made our move once, so there is no need to make another. Let the others rush to the front for us. Remember, sometimes just by standing by, you can discover many things that no one else has."

The black-clothed person said, "This subordinate understands. But I am just worried that if we delay for too long, will..."

"Rest assured that it is impossible to refine and absorb the demon blood crystal in a short period of time. At the very least, even if Yao Bin managed to accomplish this somehow, I have the methods to have him spit it back out with interest."

The black-clothed man no longer said anything. After bowing, he turned and left.

The sitting figure turned around. Because of the dim light, his appearance was extremely blurry. It seemed as if this wasn't the face of a person, but a fierce and grotesque mask.

"Yao Bin, is the lost demon blood crystal really on your body? It truly leaves me deep in anticipation."

...

In the blink of an eye, three days passed, every day uneventful.

The ruined Dawnperch Hotel was already cleaned up. As the first rays of dawn appeared, a cultivator quickly walked in. He soared directly to Qin Yu's dwelling and respectfully said, "Lord Yao Bin, I am here on orders to ask Lord Yao Bin to come to the City Lord Mansion with me."

The courtyard doors were opened from within. A still-recovering Duan San'er had changed into the gray garb of a servant. He cupped his hands together and bowed, "Please wait a moment, my master will be here shortly."

The messenger cultivator was startled. Then, a look of envy came over his face. It wasn't honorable to be a slave or servant, but one had to look at who they were working for.

Servants of Demonic Path disciples were similarly people of the Demonic Path, thus they could follow them into the small world. Just that heaven-defying cultivation environment was enough to have countless cultivators chase after the hopes of servitude like a swarm of quacking ducks.

So every time after the Demon Ascension Gate, there would be countless demonic cultivators, many of whom had considerable backgrounds, who would take the initiative to apply to become servants of the newly minted disciples.

Besides this boy being a little bit 'pretty', he was completely average. Yet, he had been chosen. This was what they called dog-shit luck!

Duan San'er was good at observing the moods of others. As he noticed the change in this other person's complexion, most of the worry in his heart dispersed, and he appeared much calmer.



## Chapter 523 – Demonic Path Holy Land's Small World

Following behind Duan San'er from the courtyard was his little sister, Duan Jieyu. She was an alarmingly beautiful girl, filled with a certain charm and gentleness. She wasn't too tall, but her proportions matched her. Because of her perennial illness, she was pale and one could even see the small blue blood vessels beneath her skin. Right now, she was wearing the same drab gray servant clothes as Duan San'er, but this didn't diminish her beauty in the least. Rather, it made one wish to protect her from their heart.

As the messenger cultivator saw Duan Jieyu, he was stunned for a moment. Seeing the similarities in the facial appearances of the two, he seemed to become aware of something, as if he discovered the true reason why Duan San'er was chosen.

So, when Qin Yu arrived, he detected a strange look in the cultivator's eyes. Of course, when Qin Yu earnestly took another look, the cultivator had also put on a respectful and polite appearance.

Gossip and rumors, the cultivator could imagine all he wanted. But unless he maintained a sense of propriety, he was simply looking for trouble.

"Lord Yao Bin, the transmission array has already been prepared. You, as well as the other new disciples, will be sent into the Demonic Path's small world in batches today. I ask that you please follow me to the City Lord Mansion as soon as possible to avoid affecting the transmission arrangements."

Qin Yu nodded. "Let's go."

Dawnperch Hotel's current manager was still the old wealth-loving man from before. He stood at the intersection of the rear inn, watching the siblings Duan San'er and Duan Jieyu approach, a bit of excitement in his eyes.

However, both sides didn't exchange any words, otherwise it would have only caused more troubles for this old man just as they were leaving. Duan San'er made a vow in his heart that if he managed to accomplish anything in the future, he would find some way to repay this uncle of his.

Sitting in the speedcar arranged by the City Lord Mansion, Duan San'er and Duan Jieyu finally began to relax. But when they saw the opulent decorations within the car, they unconsciously became a little uneasy.

Qin Yu glanced at them, not saying anything. Some things couldn't be explained with words alone. It would be fine once they familiarized themselves with everything in the future.

They smoothly arrived at the City Lord Mansion. Looking at this grand mansion once more, although it still possessed an overwhelming momentum, it didn't give off the terrifying oppression that it did before.

It seemed that the great figures of the Demonic Path who had gathered here because of the accident with the Demon Ascension Gate had already left.

Qin Yu relaxed a little. To him, this was definitely something good. At the very least, from how things looked now, no one had managed to obtain any evidence that was disadvantageous against him. As for

suspicions...as the last person to leave the ancient tree monster, even if it was well known that he didn't have the strength to slay the beast, he still wasn't completely washed of suspicion.

And Qin Yu had now become a part of the Demonic Path. Moreover, his performance was splendid so many people knew of him. Even if some people had ill intent, without evidence they couldn't blatantly make things awkward for him. He would simply need to be more careful in how he conducted affairs in the future so that he didn't give anyone a weapon to use against him.

Within the City Lord Mansion, a temple had vanished and a massive array formation had taken its place. It was incomparably complex and occupied a region of several acres. A group of stern-faced Demonic Path array masters were hurrying to make the final adjustments and tests.

The one that was here to manage the transmission was the Lord of Heavenly Demon City. He was a thin and small old man dressed in purple robes. Though there was nothing special about his appearance, if he could rule over the Demonic Path's great Heavenly Demon City for over a thousand years, his strength couldn't be underestimated. Even if his aura was restrained, he still emitted a feeling that left one's chest stuffy.

When Qin Yu arrived, his status was confirmed and he obtained his own transmission number.

He was part of the fourth batch.

This time, the Demonic Path had decided to accept every cultivator who survived the small world. Thus, there were almost 2000 new disciples. This set a record for the highest number of disciples to be recruited into the Demonic Path in a single time.

In addition, some Demonic Path disciples were just like Qin Yu and brought their own servants. This led to a mind-boggling amount of people. Even if the transmission array had been strengthened this time, the entire transmission process had no choice but to be divided into five separate batches.

"First batch of disciples, enter the transmission array!" With a loud shout, the crowd began to turn noisy and chaotic. Hundreds of new Demonic Path disciples hurried forward with excited expressions.

For the cultivators who managed to survive the incident within the Demon Ascension Gate, luck was a must. But besides luck, there wasn't much else they needed. So strictly speaking, in this massive crowd of nearly 2000 people, there weren't actually many people who truly satisfied the standards for entering the Demonic Path. This was because when the Sage controlled the ancient tree monster's avatars to hunt down the cultivators in the small world, he had consciously chosen to pursue the relatively outstanding demonic cultivators.

So for so many people to become a Demonic Path disciple today, it was a complete and happy surprise. But because of this, besides setting the record for the highest quantity of disciples that joined in one session, they also set the record as being the session with the lowest average quality.

Hum –

The giant array formation on the ground began to shine and a boundless strength erupted. Space instantly distorted and a radiant divine light sparkled, leaving one unable to look directly at it.

Bang –

A pillar of light shot into the skies, breaking apart the heavens and forming a seven-colored vortex. Moments later, as the humming of the array formation winded down, the light began to scatter and the distorted space returned to how it was.

The first transmission had ended.

Many cultivators were left aroused with enthusiasm. They thought that this really was worthy of being the Demonic Path. Even if it were just a transmission, it possessed boundless momentum.

And most importantly, after today, we are officially part of the Demonic Path.

An hour later, after further adjustments and repairs were done, the second transmission began.

There was another brief pause, and the array masters seemed to work a bit faster this time with some more experience beneath their belt. The third transmission began and finished.

“The fourth batch of disciples, enter the transmission array!”

Qin Yu turned around, “Come with me.”

Duan San’er and Duan Jieyu nodded. Since when had the two of them seen such a grand scene before? They were already shaking with nervousness. Luckily, Qin Yu had been deliberately looking after them, so they hadn’t fainted. The speed at which they moved forward wasn’t fast, but they followed close behind.

Because of this, when they arrived at the transmission array, the array formation was already full of cultivators. Qin Yu handed in his transmission number and entered the array formation.

But Duan San’er and Duan Jieyu were actually stopped from entering.

“This transmission has been filled. You must wait for the next batch.”

Qin Yu turned around. He said, “They are my servants. Since this is the case, I will go with them.”

The array master had no expression. “You have already entered the transmission array. If you leave now it will affect the safety factors of the array formation. Do not delay us.” He lifted a hand, “Prepare the transmission!”

The array formation began to shine.

Qin Yu took a deep breath. “Be a bit more careful. I will wait for you to arrive.”

Bang –

A beam of light shot up into the skies, crashing into the heavens.

Everything around him flashed dark. When his field of vision was restored, Qin Yu found that he was placed in a sea of stars.

Beneath his feet was a massive jade disc engraved with countless runes. It slowly spun around, carrying the group of people through the sea of stars.

Everyone on the disc had wide eyes as they looked at everything around them with shock and awe.

Qin Yu's complexion didn't change, but he was incredibly shaken within. This was because he discovered that the sea of stars around him wasn't an illusion.

In other words, they had borrowed the strength of the array formation to tear open the barriers of the world, arriving somewhere outside.

Could the Demonic Path's Holy Land small world actually be an outside world?

Suddenly, the runes on the jade disc beneath their feet began to shine. Light rose up, submerging everyone.

In the next moment, a giant meteor dragging along a tail of flames howled into their line of sight.

There were screams of alarm and numerous people felt their hearts rise into their throats. Luckily, the imagined collision didn't occur and both sides passed by each other, several miles apart. Even so, the terrifying strength of the meteor caused the disc to visibly shake and tremble. There were even many people who couldn't stand still as their faces turned pale with fear.

An hour later, a bright spot appeared. It was like a lighthouse, guiding the direction of the disc.

Suddenly, as if crashing into an invisible stream, the disc noticeably slowed down, as if being squeezed out of this area.

Then light opened up in front of everyone and a brand new world appeared. To everyone's surprise, they could see nine great suns hanging in the heavens above!

This was the Demonic Path Holy Land's small world.

### **Chapter 524A – Utter Trash**

The nine great suns shined bright above, but they didn't give off a blinding feeling nor did they emanate a burning heat. Rather, there was just an endless warmth. Bathing beneath the sunlight made one feel as if they were soaking in a hot spring, comfortable from head to toe, with faint traces of mild heat constantly flowing into their body.

Qin Yu silently felt this warm aura constantly spread throughout his body and his heart shook. This kind of strange energy could actually nourish the body, magic power, and soul. Although it was only an incredibly small amount and the amount of increase couldn't even be observed, if it accumulated over a long period of time the increase would be significant.

Moreover, this entire Holy Land small world possessed a heaven and earth spiritual strength so thick that it nearly condensed into mist. With such a wonderful cultivating environment, it was no surprise that countless people wracked their minds to figure out how to join the Demonic Path, not even hesitating to become a servant.

"The Demonic Path Holy Land forbids people from causing a commotion. Everyone must follow directions and enter the waiting area. Once everyone has arrived, you will be brought away."

Foreign Affairs Protector Xin frowned, an obviously gloomy look in his eyes. The higher ups had decided to recruit almost 2000 new disciples. Since they had their own considerations for doing so, Protector Xin

naturally didn't dare to express his dissatisfaction about this. But, the sudden increase in workload had left him rushing about everywhere these past days and his mood wasn't any better for it.

Originally, he had only prepared for 200 new disciples. Now that the number had increased ten times over, even if he was some freak with six arms and three heads he still wouldn't have enough time to prepare for all of them in just several days.

Without any other options, Protector Xin could only temporarily allocate some dwellings that were supposed to be given to disciples who had displayed an outstanding performance.

For this, he had been complaining the entire time.

If this group of disciples had anyone that stood out, Protector Xin might feel a little better about the situation. At least he could consider it as planning in advance and it might be useful in the future.

But just take a look! Everyone he saw was worthless, simply horrible to look at. He couldn't imagine why the lords would receive these fools. To do so would be lowering the overall quality of the entire Demonic Path!

The truth was that this was the attitude held by the vast majority of cultivators in the Demonic Path. Thus, after everyone overcame their initial shock and excitement, they saw that numerous eyes filled with ill intent were glaring at them, and their high-spirited and heroic poses suddenly shrank away and they obediently landed on the ground.

The first three batches of people had already arrived and the very first arrivals had already waited for over two hours. From this point it could be seen that no one placed these new disciples in high regards.

Qin Yu laughed inwardly. Sure enough, bullying the weak and fearing the strong was a fine traditional virtue. Even within the Demonic Path, it was widely inherited. He closed his eyes and pretended not to see anything. At the same time, he thought about what he should do after entering the Demonic Path.

The truth was that the main idea had already been set. Qin Yu wanted to rise as soon as possible and gain enough authority and status to become a prominent figure in the Demonic Path. To do that, he would need to display a sufficiently outstanding performance. Thus, he couldn't remain low profile or anything like that. But there was a hurdle in his plan. With the demon blood crystal incident, many people were secretly plotting against him and observing him from the shadows. If he tried to do anything high profile he might create an opening for others to grab onto a weakness of his.

He would have to carefully consider this.

Within the Demonic Path, there weren't many kind or merciful people. If the demon blood crystal was exposed, Qin Yu was sure he would immediately be dismembered and then divided cleanly away.

It had to be known that the demon blood crystal was still in his body. Although it nourished his body at every moment, at this current absorption rate if he didn't have eight or ten years then he wouldn't be able to fully refine it.

This was really something that left one happy but also left them with a headache!

Time slowly passed. Qin Yu was awakened by a thunderous sound. The last batch of cultivators had arrived. He looked up towards the skies. Vast ripples were spreading out through space and a giant disc was being squeezed through.

In the next moment, the people on the disc all revealed looks of shock. Some cultivators on the ground revealed looks of haughty pride, completely forgetting that they were in the same situation not too long ago.

But Qin Yu wasn't in the mood to put on an appearance as if he had seen everything before. He looked around and soon found the siblings Duan San'er and Duan Jieyu. Then, he frowned, a cold intent in his eyes.

As the fifth batch of cultivators flew down from the disc, Duan San'er's figure shook and he almost toppled down from the air. Luckily, he was supported by Duan Jieyu and barely made it to the ground, avoiding the pitiful fate of plunging to his death before he even stepped foot on the Holy Land.

Protector Xin's eyes twitched. Although this person only wore the clothing of a servant, as servants of the solemn Demonic Path Holy Land, they should all be peak characters in their own right. Yet, someone so disgraceful had managed to mix their way in.

"Humph!" With a cold snort, Protector Xin told his assistant to handle the following matters. Then, he turned and walked away.

If he watched any longer he feared that his blood pressure would shoot through the roof and the blood vessels in his brain would explode!

Duan San'er's face was flushed red with shame. "Master, I've disgraced you."

Duan Jieyu tried to explain, "Big brother, some people clearly injured you intentionally..."

Duan San'er shouted in a low voice, "Stop talking!"

He had already guessed that the reason he was targeted was because of Qin Yu. But right now, his master had just entered the Demonic Path so it was best not to cause unnecessary complications for him. The fewer incidents that arose, the better it was.

But some people weren't willing to let things end like this.

A new disciple stepped forward. He coldly said, "Junior-apprentice brother Yao Bin, right? Your servants are really insolent. They dared to provoke me, so I decided to allow my subordinates to lightly punish them today. I hope that you can discipline them well in the future, because things won't end so simply next time!"

With an aggressive tone, this person maintained an arrogant and lofty attitude.

Behind him was a bald and tall fellow. He grinned and revealed a mouthful of shiny white teeth, an uncaring expression on his face.

These words instantly attracted the eyes of many people. After a brief moment of surprise, they were all stirred to excitement.

No matter the reason, it was always fun to watch something happen. Moreover, after entering the Demonic Path, as cultivators who entered the same year, they were doomed to become competitors.

If these two people came into conflict today, they might be severely punished. Wouldn't it be nice if two competitors were removed ahead of time?

Brother Yao Bin, hurry and fight! This person has already come knocking on your door; can you still endure it?

Erupt with all your power and punch his face in! I'm rooting for you!

Duan San'er hurriedly said, "Master, it was only a minor wound. There is no need for you to care about it."

Dian Jieyu bit her lips, her eyes filling with anger. How was this a minor wound? If it weren't for her big brother responding quickly enough he would have been kicked out of the transmission disc.

That was the same as dying!

Qin Yu's keen senses discovered that flash of urgency in this other person's eyes.

So it really was deliberate!

After the Qi Family, some people couldn't hold themselves in and decided to move against him?

Today's plan wasn't too profound or clever. But, young people tended to be proud and arrogant and easily moved to anger. If a battle were to erupt between fellow disciples on the first day, no matter what the reason was, he guessed that things wouldn't end too well for him.

This person must have obtained some kind of promise that nothing would happen to him if he were to stir up trouble. If Qin Yu had some weakness grasped, that wouldn't be good for him.

Qin Yu's thoughts raced. Once he thought everything through, his expression calmed down. His gaze was deep and indifferent, "Senior-apprentice brother Gong, right? I have no idea whose dog you are acting as today, but sorry, I believe I must disappoint you, because I have no intention of coming into conflict with you. But, I will remember you. Later on there will be many opportunities for us fellow disciples to get to know each other better. What does senior-apprentice brother Gong think?"

Gong Zhen's complexion stiffened and anger rose in his eyes. He clenched his teeth and prepared to attack and force Qin Yu to break the rules together with him. But, when he saw Qin Yu turn and walk towards a Demonic Path cultivator, he wavered for a moment before finally giving up.

"This senior-apprentice brother, if I were to attack just now, what would have happened?"

The Demonic Path cultivator that was questioned revealed a strange look in his eyes. After a brief hesitation he said, "New disciples that break the rules have always been severely punished. If you attacked, the best result would have been to suffer 50 paddles and you would also have had to stay in prison for some time."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together, "Thank you senior-apprentice brother for informing me."

This person chuckled. "There is no need to thank me. You should think about just who you offended first, otherwise you won't have any peaceful future days."

This person was unexpectedly kind. Qin Yu nodded and remembered his appearance. If this person was sent to greet a batch of 'out-of-the-ordinary' new disciples, then he likely wasn't doing so well in the Demonic Path. If there was a chance in the future, Qin Yu didn't mind giving him a hand up.

Zhang Xuan was also curious. Why would a newly arrived boy be targeted by others? Although he gave Qin Yu a reminder, he didn't think that this somewhat calm boy would have a good ending. If there was someone that dared to scheme and plot on the very first day, the powers behind them had to be considerable. This boy could avoid these plots once or twice, but could he do so forever?

Bad luck would arrive sooner or later. And, this sort of thing wasn't a rare occurrence in the Demonic Path. So, he gave Qin Yu a tip, not thinking too much of it. If Zhang Xuan learned that this boy across from him was thinking about supporting him in the future, he likely wouldn't know whether to laugh or to cry.

### **Chapter 524B – Utter Trash**

"Enough, everyone follow along and go straight to your residence!" Protector Xin's assistant shouted out loud. Then, he couldn't help but mutter a curse, "These lucky bastards!"

Because this group of residences had an important use, whether it was in location or quality of construction, they were all extremely good. Many senior disciples couldn't even obtain one if they asked, and now they were being given out to these worthless idiots.

The assistant was psychologically imbalanced.

The group moved along, crossing plains and rivers. The vast expanse of the Demonic Path Holy Land was soon revealed to all.

The group of over 2000 people ooh'ed and aah'ed, attracting many eyes as they travelled. When people learned they were the new disciples, the Demonic Path cultivators would all reveal mocking looks.

So these were the useless trash that had stepped into dog shit luck. After glancing at them for several moments, the Demonic Path cultivators would sneer even wider...they really were trash, so trash that they couldn't be any more trash!

An hour later, the group finally reached their destination. A mountain rose straight up from the earth. The mountain was imposing and beautiful, but it also emitted a somewhat cold and prideful atmosphere.

The assistant led the group. There was an unwilling look in his eyes. In this housing area, one of these residences should have been his...no don't think about it, think about it and you'll go crazy!

"As new disciples, you will be placed here. From the base of the mountain to the peak, the spiritual strength increases and the sizes of the dwellings also go from small to large. In order to ensure fairness, the dwellings will all be assigned according to your cultivation. What you obtain will depend on your own ability.



The assistant flicked his sleeve and a white crystal fell to the ground. "Attack this stone with all your strength, and it will release a red, orange, yellow, green, azure, blue, or violet light. The seven colors become increasingly difficult to release, and the assignment will begin according to the order."

The first new disciple pumped himself up for a long time. Then, with a loud shout, he punched out a fist. The pure white crystal emitted a weak and faint cry and a dark red light flashed on the surface.

The assistant's lips twitched. He waved his hand. "This is the very bottom. Go stand at the end."

The person flushed red with shame and scurried away.

Following that was the second person. His performance was a little bit better. Although it was also red, the color was much richer and he was placed in front of the first person.

Red...red...red...

No wonder these people were all despised. It had to be known that for this examination stone, even a somewhat stronger Holy Land servant would be able to cause it to light up.

Generally speaking, a disciple had to be orange. Seeing some yellow as also quite normal.

But these people...

A Demonic Path cultivator couldn't help but shake his head. This new batch of people was really garbage to the extreme!

...

Before Qin Yu, the best performance so far was an azure color. For better or worse, it was still the fifth rank. Even among the older established Demonic Path disciples, this result was still good. Without accident, this person was sure to have considerable achievements in the future.

The assistant smiled and spoke some words with the person, saying that once everything was settled they should go out for a meal and get to know each other better.

This sight caused the eyes of many people to burn with jealousy. But, this was cold and hard reality. Without strength, one would never earn respect.

Duan Jieyu looked at this new disciple who was trying his best to remain calm but still couldn't conceal his giddiness and smug satisfaction. She pursed her lips. She knew that this person was extremely fierce and he stood at a level she had never been able to look up to before. But, there was one thing she was sure of, and that was that her master was much stronger.

During that night at Dawnperch Hotel, she and her big brother had kept themselves hidden in a room at Qin Yu's courtyard. They watched as the old servant appeared and the entire scene that followed up to him fleeing. Although things were covered in fog and it seemed as if her master hadn't even done anything at all, her big brother told her that this was what it meant to be truly fierce.

Duan Jieyu thought about it and agreed. If a person was able to stand completely still, allowing their enemy to attack them freely, but finally still causing their enemy to flee in fear, if this wasn't fierce, what

was? Moreover, she also heard the news afterwards that some incredibly great figure from the Qi Family had died that night.

From that day forth, her uncle the manager was clearly much more respectful towards her master.

What would her master's performance today be like?

Duan Jieyu blinked her eyes, a bit of anticipation in them. Of course, one of the major reasons for this anticipation was because she wanted everyone here to know that they couldn't bully her big brother again. Hey, look how fierce our master is!

In fact, Qin Yu's performance didn't leave Miss Duan disappointed. When it was his turn, he calmly stepped forward.

His step was tranquil and steady, not anxious at all.

The assistant glanced at him and lowered his head back down, picking at his nails, a bored look on his face.

Initial Blue Sea. He was still far from being Revered. This boy was probably just another piece of garbage that managed to step into dog shit luck and enter their Demonic Path.

Tsk tsk. Thinking back to his youth, just how much pain did they have to endure, how much struggle did they have to overcome to join the Demonic Path?

This boy put on some good airs, but what was the use in that? Whether this person was a mule or horse, everything would be made clear soon.

Hum hum!

This kind of trash, even if they managed to enter the Demonic Path through luck, they were doomed to be at the very bottom. After failing three consecutive ten-year examinations, he would eventually be kicked out anyways!

As all these random thoughts were shuffling through his mind, he heard a slight buzz in his ears, followed by a faint vibration spreading through the ground.

The assistant's thoughts had drifted elsewhere. When he heard the sound, it took him a while to regain his senses. He looked up and the first person he saw was a Demonic Path disciple who stood to the side to maintain order. This person was named Zhang Xuan. He had a calm temperament and was diligent in his work. However, his luck wasn't good. He had made a mistake in his early years and thus wasn't taken seriously. After wasting so many years, it would be difficult for him to ever improve.

But what was this? Even though his status wasn't high, for better or worse he was a veteran of the Demonic Path. How could he reveal such an idiotic wide-mouthed expression in front of these newbies? It was just disgraceful!

The assistant secretly decided that he couldn't use this Zhang Xuan any further; he wasn't able to hide his emotions at all. He would likely blow up if he encountered any difficulties; there was no use in raising him.

After passing down this death sentence in his heart, the assistant turned around, a bit of curiosity in his eyes. He wondered, just what happened?

Then, his mouth slowly fell open, the exaggerated angle so great that it left one sighing in admiration. He was truly worthy of being a Demonic Path disciple; the flexibility of his bones and muscles was astonishing. Looking at how big his mouth was, it was almost possible to fit a cow inside.

But at this time, no one bothered looking at the assistant's humiliating dumbfounded expression. This was because everyone felt as if they had been struck over the head with a stick. Their minds buzzed and they lost the ability to think.

At the base of the mountain, the examination stone that was placed on the ground was still faintly trembling. Because it was trembling, it caused the ground to shake.

The rich purple color was like a fresh flower in full bloom. It recklessly radiated through the air, the pure and lustrous light leaving one's mind entranced.

The assistant's thoughts were caught within the purple light. It was only a long time later that he managed to regain his composure. His lips began to tremble.

Deep purple, this was definitely deep purple. Moreover, Qin Yu's punch had caused the examination stone to shake and shiver?

This proved that the strength of his fist had surpassed the limits of the examination stone!

This was an examination stone for newly arriving disciples. Although it was only the most basic kind, its highest withstanding limit was at the peak Blue Sea level.

Thinking of this, the assistant's scalp tingled. If he hadn't seen this with his own eyes, he wouldn't have believed it at all.

Peak Blue Sea...this boy unexpectedly...had a peak Blue Sea strength...

He struggled to close his mouth. In his excitement, the assistant's entire body was trembling. At this moment he felt as if he stood at the turning point of his destiny. Whether his future life would be filled with mediocrity or riches, he feared it would all depend on this person.

What nonsense. To possess a peak Blue Sea level of strength at the introductory examination, this sort of character was rare even throughout the entire Demonic Path.

To say this this person had an infinitely bright future, as beautiful as brocade, was still belittling him. Perhaps one day in the future, this person could rise and become a great figure within the Demonic Path, one that played a pivotal role.

If he could be on good terms with such a person when they were still low and humble, did he have to calculate just how great the returns would be on this investment?

This was a lucky chance bestowed by the heavens! A lucky chance bestowed by the heavens!

**Chapter 525 – Monkey Calls Himself King**

The assistant buzzed with trepidation. He quickly took out the register of names for the new disciples. He had to remember this boy's information first. Then, he could call him out by name and secretly indicate that he knew he was extraordinary from the beginning. From then on, he could find ways to pull the two of them closer together.

There was also Zhang Xuan. This dog, he really struck luck this time. When Qin Yu and Zhang Xuan were talking earlier, he had seen it from the corner of his eye. At the time, Qin Yu hadn't yet revealed his strength so this was definitely something similar to an early investment through leaving behind a good impression.

Mm...this comrade Zhang Xuan was definitely worth cultivating. Perhaps there would be a day when he could rise back up from the dirt.

As for Comrade Zhang, he was still stunned. He looked at Qin Yu and then the examination stone that was still flashing with a dazzling purple light and there was a look of bewilderment on his face.

Duan Jieyu clenched her fists. Because of her excitement, her previously pale face started to glow red like an apple, making her look extremely beautiful.

Her master was truly the fiercest, much fiercer than she thought!

Purple, this was the highest rank purple! Her eyes swept about and she took in the dumbfounded and shocked expressions all around. She couldn't help but lift up her head proudly, revealing her snow white neck.

We are servants that were personally chosen by master...from now on, no one will dare to bully big brother!

Gong Zhen froze in place. Behind him, his bald servant was also shivering uncontrollably, horror in his eyes. Before they made a move, they had inquired into some information. They didn't know much; they only knew that this surname Yao had a bit of strength.

But if one could become a Demonic Path disciple, no matter how disappointing they were they still had to possess some ability. So Gong Zhen didn't place this information in his heart to begin with.

But now...could someone tell me why this person would have a peak Blue Sea strength? This was peak Blue Sea...this was a height that the vast majority of people would never reach in their lives. If this person could take another step further he would be able to reach the Calamity Immortal realm...

All the redness faded away from Gong Zhen's face. Fear and despair swelled up in his heart, submerging his mind.

The numerous gazes directed at Qin Yu now revealed a deep sense of awe.

The assistant finally found Qin Yu's information and swept over it with his divine sense, immediately remembering all of it. He plastered on his brightest smile but just when he was about to take a step forward, there was a cold sneer from the crowd. "So what if he is a peak Blue Sea? He's a hundred years old if not older. How can someone like that be compared with us!?"

A hundred years old...

The assistant paused.

Another disciple said, "This fellow daoist Yao Bin comes from the Black Demon Sect. According to what I know, fellow daoist Yao joined halfway through his path and at that time he already had a profound Blue Sea cultivation. Then, he stayed in the Black Demon Sect for 80 years."

This explosion of information was even more accurate. Everyone's spirits were immediately lifted. If this person was a Blue Sea expert 80 years ago, how old was he now? Conservatively estimating, he should be at least 200 years old.

Hehe, what was there to say about this? When they were the age of this old foggy, perhaps they wouldn't necessarily be much worse than he was. Moreover, a Blue Sea that was over a hundred years old had limited potential. The chances of them making another breakthrough in the future and stepping into the Calamity Immortal realm wasn't too high.

The assistant looked over. When he saw Qin Yu's calm expression that didn't show any intention of refuting these words, he suddenly felt starkly disappointed. Still, he squeezed out a wide smile.

"Fellow daoist Yao Bin, your cultivation is wonderful. With your strike leaving behind a deep purple color, you are undoubtedly in first place. Fellow daoist may freely choose whichever dwelling you prefer on the mountain."

His attitude was sufficiently intimate, but compared to how he was going to treat Qin Yu before, the difference was like the heavens and earth. Within the Demonic Path, if one didn't become a Calamity Immortal they would never ascend to the highest heights.

Peak Blue Sea...through millions of years of inheritance, the Demonic Path had accumulated many of them. Each year there were peak Blue Seas that were on the edge of death, forever unable to break through the last threshold, that would die in their cave dwelling while sitting in hateful meditation.

All of their hard earned cultivation, the struggle of tens of thousands of years if not longer, would all turn to nothing.

Of course, peak Blue Seas were still absolute powerhouses. Placed within the Land of Divinity and Demons, they would still be powerful rulers of their own regions.

It was only in the Demonic Path that the corona of such a powerhouse would be weakened by a great deal.

Qin Yu had a calm expression. Since he had taken Yao Bin's identity, he naturally couldn't refute these 'facts'. But, he believed that the true high level figures within the Demonic Path would know the truth. For instance, the two guests that had visited him at Dawnperch Hotel that day.

His performance today was sufficient. Soon, information would spread to the high level figures, attracting even more attention to him. And this attention would become a shroud of protection, making those who had ill intent towards him feel some dread.

As for what these people around him thought of him or how they looked at him...did that matter?

In truth, Qin Yu really didn't mind at all.

So when he drew back his hand, his complexion was still serene. He moved to the side.

“Humph! When there is no tiger on the mountain, the monkey calls himself king! In our generation of disciples, there are several proud children of heaven. For instance, the Zhao Family’s Scion Zhao Qianyuan; he is a true peerless proud son of heaven that stands at the pinnacle! There is the Dong Family’s Dong Hanzhu who is also an extraordinary person. There is also the Western Tomb’s highest Du Tian, his dao arts are unparalleled in this world! Zhou Fenghuang and Mu Qingluan, these two proud daughters of heaven are also standout individuals who shine from the highest heavens! These are the true elites and each one has been selected by the various Elders as disciples, allowing them to enter the Holy Land ahead of time to cultivate so that they don’t have to stand with us.” Gong Zhen sneered again. “Otherwise, how could our limelight be snatched up by an old fogey like this!”

Since he had already offended this person, he wouldn’t dread them anymore.

These words resonated with the crowd. Many people nodded to themselves, and when they looked at Qin Yu again, there was a bit of mockery in their eyes.

So what if you’re at the peak Blue Sea realm? We are all Demonic Path disciples, so would you dare do anything to us?

Moreover, it’s unknown who will be stronger and weaker in the future. As long as you don’t reach the Calamity Immortal realm, there is no need to fear you!

Duan Jieyu’s heart raced, her lips white with anger. Why did these bastards always aim at her master?

But, was what they said true?

Did her master really have no potential?

Duan San’er let out a long breath and patted her shoulder, a smile on his face. “Our lives were saved by master, so why think so much? Just remember, no matter what happens, we are master’s servants. All we need to do is loyally serve him.”

Duan Jieyu argued in a quiet voice, “I know big brother. I just feel sorry for master because he is a good person...” No wonder the master had chosen to endure it when her big brother was injured before. It was because her master had his own difficulties to deal with.

Suddenly, she felt a bit of heartache. The small trace of resentment she felt before vanished like smoke.

Qin Yu’s complexion didn’t change because of Gong Zhen’s words. After all, a mountain would never care about the weeds that had taken root at its base. However, when he inadvertently glanced over at Duan Jieyu and saw the mixed emotions of suppressed anger, depression, and sadness on her face, his eyes flashed a little.

In particular, there was actually a bit of pity in this young girl’s eyes.

Qin Yu was left speechless for a moment. For someone as high profile as he was today, he was actually being pitied? This was simply absurd. Of course, he wasn’t angry over this, but was left in a mood where he didn’t know whether to laugh or to cry. When he glanced back at Gong Zhen, his eyes turned cold.

If I want to ignore you then I can ignore you. If I find you bothersome then I can also give you a ringing slap. Of course, I won't be able to hit you physically, but beating you up with words has the same effect.

Gong Zhen sneered, "What, did I say something wrong?"

Qin Yu lightly said, "These people you speak of, does senior-apprentice Gong know some of them?" Qin Yu then shook his head, "No, asking if you know them is thinking too highly of you. Have you ever seen them before?"

Gong Zhen flushed red, shame coursing through his body. He clenched his teeth and maliciously said, "The proud elites of the Demonic Path are like divine dragons; I have never seen them!" He looked up and mockingly said, "Does fellow daoist Yao know them?"

This was clearly a rhetorical question, so he never expected Qin Yu to earnestly nod and say, "That's right, I know them."

Gong Zhen was stunned for a moment. Then he started to recklessly laugh, "When it comes to fake boasting, I really do admire you. Fellow daoist Yao, don't forget that those fellow elites are also in the Demonic Path right now, and sooner or later they will learn of this. At that time, I'm sure your expression will be ugly to see!"

Qin Yu suddenly said, "You've been watching for such a long time, it's about time you come out. Strictly speaking, you were the one that abandoned me to begin with, so you should be feeling some guilt at least."

These sudden words came out of nowhere. Everyone was left confused for a moment, but soon enough their eyes widened as if their eyes would fall out from their faces.

Zhao Qianyuan walked forward. His hands were empty and he didn't carry his iconic dragon spear with him. But, his calm momentum was enough that no one here dared to belittle him.

Moreover, what he wore right now was a red robe with a black background. The golden collar signified his status as a Demon Son of the Demonic Path.

The assistant ran over as everyone watched in shock. He bowed deeply and said, "This lowly one greets Scion Zhao!"

These words left everyone dumbfounded. All of them were left gazing in a trance, as if they had come face to face with a living legend.

Scion Zhao...in the Demonic Path, besides that one, no one would dare be called by such a name...in other words, he really was Zhao Qianyuan.

Zhao Qianyuan walked in front of Qin Yu and looked him over a few times. He faintly smiled, "Good. There doesn't seem to be anything wrong with you, so I feel at ease now." After speaking, he thought for a moment and cupped his hands together. "What happened that day was indeed my wrong. I ask Brother Yao to forgive me."

Qin Yu lifted an eyebrow. "Why is Scion Zhao so polite?"

Zhao Qianyuan straightened himself. "I've discovered that Brother Yao's benevolence seems to be limited. I don't want any further trouble to come from this matter in the future." He turned around and honestly said, "I can testify that Yao Bin knows of the people you mentioned just now." He paused and then added in, "All of them."

Qin Yu had a calm expression. "I just arrived today so I don't have anything prepared, so I won't ask Scion Zhao to stay as a guest. If you come and visit another day, I'll treat you to a drink."

Zhao Qianyuan went with the flow, "Dong Hanzhu also, he has never forgotten you. I will bring him with me next time."

Qin Yu nodded, "Alright."

Not staying much longer, Zhao Qianyuan leisurely walked away. But, his sudden appearance left everyone feeling suppressed and gasping for breath. All of those mocking eyes were filled with awe once more.

This was Zhao Qianyuan! If he came all the way over here to see someone, even testifying on their behalf and speaking to them on equal terms, could that person be someone average?

Gong Zhen's complexion paled. He didn't say another word.

Qin Yu walked over to Duan Jieyu's side. Seeing the little miss' smile, he lightly said, "When some people boast and bluster, their words are like thunder and their lips and tongues waggle like fireworks. Hearing them out is fine, but should I lower myself to the same level as them? If I really am bothered, then I can just wait for another day to make a move and the world will fall quiet once more.

"I don't remember where, but I once heard a saying that said to not make a noise in a mess if possible. Although this seems a bit too much like acting, sometimes it is reasonable."

Duan Jieyu nodded with effort, her smile blooming. She seemed to hesitate a little before she asked in a tiny voice, "Master, could you help me and ask his highness Scion Zhao for an autograph?"

Qin Yu was stunned. When he was showing off his skills and had slapped this fellow black and blue, was it appropriate to ask him such a question? Humph, the thoughts of a girl are truly unfathomable. They shouldn't keep chasing after stars like this, otherwise they were sure to suffer a great loss!

### **Chapter 526 – The Flower of Ambition Quietly Blooms**

The examination continued without surprise. After Qin Yu made his move, everyone was left suppressed and quiet.

The assistant was all smiles. "Fellow daoist Yao Bin, the dwelling at the summit had extras added when it was constructed. Not only is it the most luxurious but the training environment is better." He didn't fear that others would mock him for his flattery. If Scion Zhao treated someone as his equal, who cared if they were over a hundred years old?

Qin Yu nodded, "Good. Then I'll take that one."

Since he decided to be high profile, he naturally needed a dwelling that matched.



Perhaps there were still some people that thought otherwise in their hearts, but no one dared to reveal it anymore. Even Gong Zhen kept a grim expression and didn't say anything else.

Qin Yu had said that if he was ever bothered, he could make the world quiet back down with a move one day...didn't this mean that he would deal with him in the future?

Although Gong Zhen kept reminding himself that he had his own backer, he still couldn't help but feel flustered and panicked.

The dwelling at the summit was truly luxurious. The palace complex was large enough that several hundred people could comfortably stay within. Most of the dwelling was located above the clouds. After entering, Qin Yu discovered what the 'extras' that the assistant spoke of were.

Nine shining mirrors floated high in the skies. They corresponded with the nine great suns in the heavens, gathering more light to fall down. The mysterious and strange energy that could nourish the soul, body, and magic power, was actually several times richer here than it was outside.

This massive dwelling was not easy to upkeep. Luckily, the assistant handled this and sent up ten men and ten women as servants. They were responsible for miscellaneous chores throughout the courtyard.

These servants were transferred over. They were originally dissatisfied to serve a new disciple, but once they entered the courtyard and felt the surrounding environment, all of them were stunned before their eyes lit up with wild joy. They knelt on the ground and bowed towards Qin Yu.

This sort of cultivation environment was excellent even in the Demonic Path Holy Land. Only Protectors, Demon Sons, Elders, or other equivalent personages would have the possibility of enjoying such luxuries. These people were only low level servants so they didn't even have the qualifications to serve such high ranking figures. They never thought that they would encounter such luck today!

Qin Yu nodded and received them. Even though he didn't say much, the assistant was already brightly smiling. If he needed anything in the future, he could simply mention it.

Duan San'er and Duan Jieyu felt a bit troubled because these 20 new servants were more outstanding than they were, whether it was in cultivation or appearance. Luckily, Qin Yu's arrangements left them feeling relieved.

"From today on, these two will be your leaders. Obey all of their instructions. You may disperse now."

Like this, Qin Yu's first day in the Demonic Path Holy Land came to pass.

Zhao Qianyuan had agreed to come another day with a guest, but Qin Yu didn't expect for him to visit the very next day, dragging Dong Hanzhu behind him.

The servants were still contemplating amongst themselves what the identity of their master was. When they learned the status of these two guests, their minds quaked and they were left shaking with excitement.

Competition within the Demonic Path was fierce and intense, and for servants it was important who their master was. Perhaps in the future they would have a chance to become fish diving past the dragon gate, rising to new heights. Now, it seemed that their new master was clearly an extremely thick and stout thigh!

Some servants hurried to receive these two guests and some others ran off to notify Qin Yu. When Qin Yu obtained the news through Duan San'er, a look of surprise flashed across his face and he immediately came out.

Zhao Qianyuan's smile was loose and carefree. "Yesterday I said I would come and visit. Since I have free time right now, I decided to keep my word."

This was an explanation.

Dong Hanzhu was much more straightforward. "I want to know just how strong you are!"

Qin Yu waved his hand. "There will be a chance in the future. I don't want to fight now."

Dong Hanzhu frowned but was interrupted by Zhao Qianyuan. "Brother Yao, it indeed isn't a good time to fight."

Dong Hanzhu thought for a moment and slowly nodded. His shining eyes calmed down as he looked around Qin Yu's dwelling, seemingly unable to summon any interest.

This fellow, so he came here today to fight!

Qin Yu looked at Zhao Qianyuan. There seemed to be a deeper meaning behind his words just now. He told Duan San'er to prepare a banquet and the two of them entered the main hall.

Hearing that Zhao Qianyuan and Dong Hanzhu had personally come to pay a visit, the assistant that had been paying attention to Qin Yu all this time immediately sent news of this to Protector Xin.

Protector Xin was worrying over his missed chance to greet Zhao Qianyuan yesterday and also his chance to show some goodwill towards Qin Yu. When he heard this news, he was overjoyed. He hurried and ordered others to ask for a seat to be prepared for him and also chose a great wine from his personal collection that he wanted to bring over himself.

The assistant blocked him. "Protector, Yao Bin and his two guests are likely old friends. If they are holding a reunion today, they will only be talking about the past. If you head over there now, I fear you won't be welcomed." Looking at the light in Protector Xin's eyes, the assistant continued to say, "Protector, all you need to do today is send over a message stating that you would like to get closer in the future."

Protector Xin nodded. "You're right." He also remembered something else. It seemed that someone in the sect wanted to deal with Yao Bin. He had investigated it, but he didn't obtain any harvests. From this, it could be seen that whoever was manipulating things behind the scenes was of a much higher status than he was. In this sort of situation, showing a bit of good will and waiting for the situation to clarify itself was the best possible choice.

Later, thanks to Protector Xin, Qin Yu opened up a new jar of wine. He filled out the wine cups for everyone and then raised his cup, saying, "Thank you for visiting me today."

He was confident that with Zhao Qianyuan and Dong Hanzhu visiting him today, no one would casually belittle him in the future.

Yesterday, Zhao Qianyuan had made an appearance and even publicly apologized. A good part of the reason he did so was as a show of support. Qin Yu knew all of this and remembered it in his heart.

Zhao Qianyuan raised his cup, "In the Demon Ascension Gate's small world, there were some misunderstandings between all of us. Since the matter has already passed, how about we just write it off?"

Dong Hanzhu nodded.

Qin Yu knew they were talking about the initial plan to plot against him and make him suffer the backlash of the monster race's bloodline curse. He smiled, "There is no need to raise the past."

The weak had no status; this was an especially cold truth within the Demonic Path. At that time and in that situation, Qin Yu had delivered himself up on his own initiative. His strength didn't seem poor either so he was naturally the best choice.

Since there was no conflict here that couldn't be soothed, in this situation it was best for everyone to turn hostility into friendship; that was the most intelligent action to take.

As for those people who remembered all grudges and had to take revenge no matter what, while those people might be happy for a brief moment, it wasn't good in the long term.

In this world, it was always better to have one more friend than one more enemy. Moreover, Zhao Qianyuan and Dong Hanzhu were both peak proud sons of heaven. They were destined to become great figures in the Demonic Path.

Zhao Qianyuan smiled. Dong Hanzhu also seemed to have relaxed a little.

In truth, everyone's thoughts were similar.

Having taken a drink of wine, Zhao Qianyuan said, "All new Demonic Path disciples have to undergo an extremely important examination." As he spoke, his eyes darkened, "Brother Yao, do you know what this examination is for?"

It was like a bolt of lightning crossing his mind. Qin Yu's thoughts turned, "Demon Body?"

Zhao Qianyuan nodded. "That's right, it's the Demon Body! Before, when I stopped Brother Dong from fighting with you, this is the reason why. Brother Yao, you must take care of yourself and make sure you enter the examination in your best possible state. Trust me when I say this is absolutely important!"

Dong Hanzhu said, "The Demon Body is the most important link between all cultivation methods within the Demonic Path. Many of the Demonic Path's greatest supernatural arts need to be coordinated with the Demon Body to be used. Moreover, there is something even more important. Right now, the throne of the Holy Palace is empty. As long as someone's Demon Body reaches the highest level, they can directly ascend and become the Lord of the Holy Palace!"

His eyes began to reveal a burning heat. "The Lord of the Holy Palace might only be a nominal leader, but they have the authority to control all within the Demonic Path. They are a supreme transcendent existence in the world...it's not just us, but in theory, all Demonic Path disciples have this chance!"

Qin Yu's heart rapidly beat. This was the first time he had heard such a great secret of the Demon Body. It was no wonder that You Qi was able to return to the Land of Divinity and Demons with him once he cultivated the Demon Body.

The banquet didn't continue much longer. After seeing off Zhao Qianyuan and Dong Hanzhu, Qin Yu took a deep breath and a sharp light flashed in his eyes.

The position of Lord of the Demonic Path, could he try for it? As soon as this thought appeared, it started to grow uncontrollably.

If he were to succeed...

At this moment, the flower of ambition began to bloom in Qin Yu's heart.

### **Chapter 527A – Quarter Moon is Not the Limit**

The Demonic Path highly valued the Demon Body talent that its new disciples possessed; this was particularly true now that the throne of the Holy Palace was empty. After Qin Yu obtained a reminder from Zhao Qianyuan and Dong Hanzhu, two days later the Foreign Affairs Division sent out news that they would start an examination the next day.

The examination process seemed to be extremely complex and needed to use a special environment. All new disciples being examined needed to arrive ahead of time so they could board a giant speedcar to go there.

Qin Yu had no desire to do something ridiculous like trying to be the last one to enter the stage, especially when he determined how important the examination was. So, when there was around an hour left until the scheduled meeting time, he arrived early on foot. After his status was confirmed, he boarded the giant speedcar.

It was clear that he wasn't the only who knew how important the Demon Body talent examination was. When he arrived he saw that there were many people in the speedcar. Upon seeing Qin Yu, their complexions changed and the atmosphere became a bit more tense.

During the first day, no one besides Gong Zhen had hopped out to make things difficult for Qin Yu. But that didn't mean they were all happily living together.

Qin Yu had a light expression. He swept his eyes around and casually picked an empty seat before closing his eyes in meditation.

Time slowly passed. More and more new disciples began to board the speedcar. But, the seats around Qin Yu remained vacant.

Not just that, but any disciple that walked near him would subconsciously hold their breath as if they felt uncomfortable.

Qin Yu was glad for the quiet. Then, a voice sounded out in his ears, "Demon Body cultivation values a rich blood energy, and the young have a blood energy that is particularly hot and exuberant. The earlier one cultivates it, the more they will be able to achieve. If someone is too old, I fear they would only be wasting their effort!"

It was Gong Zhen. This fellow had been beaten black and blue with words not too long ago, and he was still as disgusting as before, except this time he also seemed to lack long-term memory...

Actions spoke louder than words; this was something Qin Yu believed in. He decided that once he established his position here, he would make sure this fellow would find it too late to regret.

“Senior-apprentice brother Gong is right.” Someone also leapt out. “In my opinion, some people should honestly stay in their own dwelling and cultivate. If they come to an examination with us young people, they will only have themselves to blame for any troubles they experience. After all, today’s examination tests one’s talent and not their cultivation!”

A third person spoke up, and it was unexpectedly a woman. She covered her mouth and started tittering all around. “Senior-apprentice brother Gong, junior-apprentice brother Bao, you must not say that. Be careful or others might become angry out of shame and try to do something to us. The three of us are young and we aren’t a match for the old man. Besides, we should respect our elders, right?”

This woman sounded polite, but when she mentioned whatever old man and whatever respecting our elders, her mouth was simply cunning.

Qin Yu was suddenly happy. Although he couldn’t deal with them right now, he had been planning on ‘amazing the world with a single feat’ to begin with, so bringing these three along also seemed to be a good idea. So, he opened his eyes and looked at the two men and one woman standing across from him. The interior of the Demonic Path’s giant speedcar was incredibly large and yet the three people were gathered together.

Welcoming Qin Yu’s gaze, the three glanced back at him, a taunting expression on their faces. They were deliberately provoking him, telling him that they clearly came for him, but there was also nothing he could do about it.

Qin Yu took a deep breath and spoke as if he were forcefully trying to suppress his anger. “What use are mere words? Actions speak louder than words!”

Gong Zhen almost flew into a rage. You finally know that ‘mere words are useless?’ How come I didn’t see you spout such high-handed words before!

But the more it was like this, the more it indicated that this surname Yao was moved to anger. To Gong Zhen, not only was this a good way to vent, but he was also making great progress.

His thoughts turned and his anger subsided. He raised an eyebrow as if sending a message, ‘Hey, bastard, come and hit me. Aren’t you so epic and amazing? So come and hit me!’

The speedcar trip continued peacefully. In truth, no one here was an idiot. If Gong Zhen and the others were trying to pick a fight with Qin Yu again and again, there had to be a deeper story behind it all. Because news of the demon blood crystal involved significant events, the high level figures had put down an information blockade and thus it hadn’t spread out yet.

Some people knew of the incident in Heavenly Demon City with the Qi Family, but they also believed that the Qi Family didn’t possess such influence. But, was the reason really that important?

Everyone looked toward Qin Yu, waiting to see how he would respond to the provocations of these people. But, most of them also believed that he would choose to ignore them like before. Considering the situation, this was indeed the best way to deal with it. Although it was a bit vexing, it was always better than falling for the traps of others.

But today's events progressed differently from how others were thinking. Qin Yu looked at the mocking expressions of these three people and clenched his teeth, saying, "Do you dare to make a bet with me?"

Gong Zhen coldly sneered, "What bet?"

Qin Yu said, "We will take today's Demon Body talent examination as the bet. Based on the difference in the test result, the loser must agree to a condition from the winner as long as it is one that doesn't cause substantial harm!"

Gong Zhen's eyes brightened. "Good, we'll make that bet!"

Gong Zhen believed that his annoying actions had finally gotten to Qin Yu's head. He quickly said, "All the cultivators in this speedcar today can testify for us. If you fail to keep your word at that point, don't blame us for being impolite!"

The female cultivator chuckled, "Senior-apprentice brother Yao, count this little sister in too."

He was just an old fogey. Although he was strong, his blood energy was likely old and diminished; he probably didn't even have the qualifications to cultivate the Demon Body. As for a condition that didn't cause substantial harm...hehe, as long as she chose the correct condition she would be able to complete her mission. She definitely wouldn't miss out on the chance to obtain such merits!

The three people appeared calm on the surface but they were actually overjoyed within. They never thought that the seemingly indifferent Yao Bin would jump into their trap on his own initiative. As they thought about the rewards they would obtain after completing their mission, their hearts began to burn even hotter.

As for whether they would lose...how was that possible? There were three of them, so as long as one of them won, he was done for. Moreover, the three of them didn't believe that they couldn't compare to an old fogey like this whose blood energy had probably slowed down to a crawl!

Qin Yu coldly snorted and closed his eyes. Once everything was quiet around him once more, he faintly smiled within. He began to think – how would he play with these people afterwards?

Although he wasn't too sure what the Demonic Path's examination method was, Qin Yu's Demon Body cultivation had reached the Sovereign level. He naturally had confidence in his talent.

Even if he couldn't really do anything to them, he wanted to give them a lesson they would never forget in their lives! At the same time, he wanted this to serve as a warning to everyone that his temper wasn't good and it was best not to provoke him!

The giant speedcar was incredibly fast. But even so, they traveled for almost six hours before they arrived at the examination area.

Gong Zhen and the other two sneered and left the speedcar first. Qin Yu didn't push his way out with the rest of the group. He waited for most of the people to leave before he stood up and walked down.

What he saw was the summit crater of a giant volcano. But, this volcano seemed to have been silent for many years already. All around the crater, there were traces of solidified lava. Still, one could imagine how much destructive strength this lonely and shining black crater exploded with countless years ago.

Outside the crater, there were many people waiting already. The ones responsible for standing guard were impressively the True Demon Guards. This was already within everyone's expectations. Since the Demon Body was related to the throne of the Holy Palace it was natural for True Demon Guards to be here.

There were three old men wearing black robes with cold and indifferent expressions on their faces. They were clearly the leaders here. They swept their eyes around everyone and one of them waved his hand and said, "You may begin."

From their demeanors, it didn't seem as if they had any interest in this at all.

One couldn't blame them for being cold and indifferent; the quality of this batch of disciples was just far too disappointing, and this was something they had confirmed ahead of time. If it weren't for the fact that the rules stated they had to be here, they wouldn't have bothered wasting their time.

But since they were here, they had to be as fast as possible. Once they went through the motions they would all be able to go back home.

"The volcano crater you see in front of you is the examination place. Once I give the order, restrain your strength in its entirety and jump in. Remember, no matter what you feel within the crater, you cannot resist it with strength. Otherwise, if you end up suffering as a result, don't blame me for not having warned you." A Holy Palace cultivator said. Then, he cast a meaningful look over and the True Demon Guards standing near the edge of the crater began to draw backwards.

"Jump!"

No one hesitated. There were almost 2000 new disciples so even if some of these people were frightened, in this sort of situation none of them dared to waver.

The volcano crater was pitch black and cold within. As people plunged in, they were like stuffed dumplings falling into the belly of some giant monster.

When it was Qin Yu's turn, he leapt down. Soon his field of vision was covered in darkness. But strangely, he felt a strange peace around him. His divine sense was suppressed by an invisible strength and he couldn't probe his surroundings at all. But after carefully listening to everything around him and hearing nothing but absolute silence, he determined that he was alone.

Where were the other cultivators that leapt into the crater with him? Qin Yu didn't know where they had gone. He couldn't help but become a little nervous. Could someone have tried messing with today's examination in order to deal with him? But this sort of large official examination was being held by the Holy Palace. Who would be so fierce that they would disregard this?

As all sorts of thoughts were racing through Qin Yu's mind, a gentle strength suddenly wrapped around him. Then, his rapidly falling body began to slow down until he eventually started fluttering down like a feather.

He tried to move his hands and feet. This strength only seemed to be supporting him, not imprisoning him. When he carefully sensed this strength and discovered nothing wrong with it, he relaxed. It seemed like there weren't people trying to deliberately harm him in this situation.

Suddenly, Qin Yu's keen senses picked up on something. Small traces of a cold aura were appearing from nowhere and started to drill into his body through his pores. This aura slowly wriggled in. Starting from his skin, it seeped into his flesh and blood a little bit at a time. What followed after this was a numb and aching feeling, as if countless ants were crawling over his heart.

This was an extremely uncomfortable feeling. It wasn't fiercely painful, but it was a warm and greasy feeling, one that was soft and hard to resist.

Recalling the reminder from the Holy Palace cultivator, Qin Yu clenched his teeth and allowed this cold aura to seep into his body. Luckily, he possessed a firm will and had been tempered through countless experiences, so he managed to maintain his composure.

At this moment, Qin Yu suddenly realized something. Perhaps the standard for determining how much talent one had for the Demon Body was based on how much one's body could absorb this cool aura.

With this thought in mind, he relaxed his body even more. He didn't put up any defenses and allowed this cool aura to explore the depths of his body.

Time slowly passed. Although the acrid itching feeling was hard to endure, Qin Yu believed he could still withstand it. Everything seemed to be going smoothly, but when the last bit of cool aura bumped into the demon blood crystal within Qin Yu's body, it was like a spark of fire falling into an endless sea of oil.

### **Chapter 527B – Quarter Moon is Not the Limit**

Bang –

Terrifying flames instantly erupted. At this moment, the burning feeling caused Qin Yu to profoundly understand what a pain worse than death meant.

Fortunately, it wasn't the demon blood crystal that was burning away, but the cool aura probing his body. Or, to be more accurate, this burning sensation was a byproduct of the cool aura and demon blood crystal fusing together.

When the cool aura was exhausted, the flames were also extinguished. Qin Yu sucked in a deep breath, feeling overjoyed as if he had survived a disaster. But then, his eyes fiercely opened and startled anger filled his face!

The cold aura that permeated his body was like a shark that smelled blood. After a brief pause, all of that cool aura started to hurtle towards the demon blood crystal. At the same time, the amount of cool aura rushing into his body from the outside suddenly rose by dozens of times over!

Even with Qin Yu's firm will, he was still scared so silly that his soul could have leapt up three feet. It was just a wisp of cool aura, but that was enough to reach the limits of pain he could withstand. Now all of the cool aura was racing towards the demon blood crystal. If it all ignited at once, even if he didn't burn to death he would surely die from pain!



As for not resisting? Qin Yu had already tossed this thought into the recesses of his mind. He could barely manage to keep his own life, so what did he care about what consequences happened afterwards? But just as he was about to resist, before he could erupt with strength he suddenly froze in place. The cool aura merging into his body suddenly turned into an invisible imprisonment that nailed him in place.

Bang –

A blazing conflagration occurred. It was like the world's most gorgeous and enchanting smoke and fire was tumbling and swirling around, weaving itself into a most beautiful image.

Unfortunately, all of this was occurring within Qin Yu's body so it was doomed that no one would be able to appreciate this sight but him. And what was even more of a pity was that all Qin Yu could think of was why he wasn't dead right now; he had no thoughts of appreciating such beauty.

It was really a pity...

Outside the crater, after all the new disciples leapt within, space began to rapidly fluctuate. Then overlapping layers of fluctuations began to occur.

If one looked at these overlapping spaces, they would discover the exact same dark nothingness. But soon, changes started to reveal themselves.

Countless faint lights appeared in the darkness. They wriggled and grew. Some of these lights reached the level of a candle and continued to brighten. Of course, the vast majority of these stopped changing once they reached that level.

Although the three Holy Palace Elders didn't have much hope for this new batch of disciples to begin with, when they saw this they couldn't help but twitch their lips.

Forget discovering some talent from this group, the performance of these people indicated that this was simply wasting their precious materials! It was no different from tossing out resources in vain!

It had to be known that opening the examination just one time consumed a considerable amount of resources. And as they thought about how there were almost 2000 examinees here today...the three Holy Palace Elders wanted to clutch their hearts.

The loss this time was big!

After the candlelight level was the bonfire level. Out of the almost 2000 new disciples, only several dozen people managed to achieve this. The only thing that left the three Holy Palace Elders feeling some semblance of comfort was that even though the majority of these dozens of people had stopped growing, there were still seven flames continuing to grow in the darkness.

After the bonfire level was the star level; this was considered the standard for qualification. As long as they put in sufficient time and effort, their Demon Body would have a chance of reaching a high realm.

But this was only a chance. The probability of success was around 20-30%.

Out of the seven dark spaces, two were unable to make a breakthrough in the end. Although their flames were much more vigorous they weren't able to gather enough to reach the star level.

Moments later, five stars appeared in the darkness. Although they started off dim and gloomy, for better or worse they were several small fish; they at least had some harvests today.

The three Holy Palace Elders let out a light breath. In their hearts, they believed that this was already the absolute bare minimum for not fully disgracing themselves. They couldn't ask for much more from these new disciples.

But joyful surprise often occurred when one no longer had any hope. Within the darkness, the five stars began to brighten together once more.

The three Holy Palace Elders were startled. A happy expression lit up their faces.

After the star level was the quarter moon level. A disciple with this level of talent had a 90% chance of reaching a high realm in the Demon Body, and they even had a chance of attacking the top level.

But they didn't hold out for much hope. The difference between the star and quarter moon level might only be a single level, but there was an essential fundamental difference.

The first star stopped brightening.

Then a second, a third.

Only two dark spaces began to brighten. They were like true stars in the dark winter night, dazzling to the eyes.

Quarter moon...it wasn't too far off!

The crater fell silent. This included the three Holy Palace Elders. They all subconsciously held their breath.

If one could step into the quarter moon...for those that cultivated the Demon Body, this was a fork in the road of their destiny.

Whether they would stay stranded on the ground or soar into the skies, it would depend on this moment.

Even if this didn't matter to them, many people still felt nervous. They clenched their fists, gulping.

Suddenly, a star trembled as if it wanted to erupt. But even though it tried several times, it couldn't take that key step to the next level.

The Three Holy Palace Elders sighed. The star soon quieted down, with no further changes occurring.

Thus, there was only one star left.

It brightened, it continued to brighten.

Time seemed to slow to a crawl within the silence. After an unknown period of time, that star began to tremble.

The transformation had begun!

The star from a moment ago had been stuck at this level. If this star couldn't break through, all of the effort would have been for nothing.

Perhaps it was only a single breath of time or even shorter, but that trembling star suddenly radiated a more dazzling light.

Once the light restrained itself, a quiet curved quarter moon appeared in the darkness. It was extremely small, similar to a willow bud that gave off a fragile feeling, as if it could break apart at any moment.

But no matter how small it was, a quarter moon was still a quarter moon. There was an essential difference from before.

A Holy Palace Elder stroked his beard and smiled, true gratifications coming from his eyes.

Finally, there was a harvest...a real harvest...

The Demon Body was one of the most difficult abilities to cultivate in this world; it represented the Demonic Path's unsurpassed body tempering technique. If one had a quarter moon rank talent, then if that person gave his best they might be able to touch upon the Sovereign level.

This was already the largest harvest.

After all, in the current Holy Palace, the highest Demon Body rank was also the Sovereign level.

"This is a happy surprise. At least we haven't wasted the materials our disciples collected with such effort. After a moment, we will call out this quarter moon disciple. His future cultivation will be carried out in the Holy Palace." Another Holy Palace Elder said with a smile.

The third Elder's eyes flashed. "I still haven't had an outstanding disciple yet. I hope you two can help fulfill my wish."

The smile suddenly disappeared from the face of the Elder who was stroking his beard. "You don't have an outstanding disciple but you think I do? We're not discussing this!"

The second Elder coughed several times. "The three of us are responsible for overseeing today's examination, and according to the rules we all have the qualifications to receive this disciple. Since this is the case, how about letting this junior decide?"

He seemed to be confident in himself.

The three Elders locked eyes, a fierce and wild combat occurring in their gazes. Each one humphed and didn't mention the subject anymore. All of them were thinking, once this quarter moon disciples emerged, what kind of conditions could they use to move him?

But what happened afterwards caused the three of them to completely abandon such small thoughts. The Holy Palace Elders that normally bragged about how calm they were suddenly widened their eyes.

Because that curved quarter moon began to brighten. Although the range was small, it was actually firm and steady, like a flower blooming in the warm spring.

Could it be...this still wasn't the limit?

## Chapter 528A – Moon Fall

Those with a moon step talent all had the qualifications to try for a Sovereign rank Demon Body; the only difference was that between the different steps, the chances of assurance were higher or lower.

For instance, the quarter moon realm. It was like a willowy eyebrow, as thin as a hooked blade. Here, the chances of reaching the Sovereign rank didn't surpass 20%.

But as this quarter moon in front of them grew more stable, it became like a bamboo shoot coming up from the ground, stretching its waist and growing increasingly thick.

After some effort, the thin crescent budded into a semi-circle. It was like a sword had slashed it in half; it was bright and dazzling to the eyes.

Half moon realm!

At this level, the chances of reaching the Sovereign realm were at least 30%.

30% was already astonishing. At this time, the eyes of all the Holy Palace Elders were swept up by this sight and their breathing became unsteady.

When a quarter moon became a half moon, although there was not an essential difference, this actually represented the potential of the moon step disciples increasing, even doubling over from before.

The Elders hadn't held out for much hope during this examination, but now they all felt as if they had found a shining gold statue while sifting through sand.

If they could receive this moon step disciple as their own, then finding someone to inherit their legacy wouldn't be a problem. In the future, there was even a chance that this person would further their orthodoxy, spreading out into the world.

This was already not just a simple disciple, but something that involved their future hopes. As long as they could obtain this person, then let alone tearing apart any pretense of face, it would be worth it even if they were beaten black and blue.

But the ruthless Holy Palace Elders weren't even able to say any words before their eyes subconsciously widened and shock filled their faces.

They discovered that this wasn't a gold statue they found in the sand, but a gold mountain that shook the heart!

The half moon began to brighten.

The three ranks within the moon step were: quarter moon, half moon, and full moon.

The full moon was the strongest within the moon step. Although there wasn't a hundred percent chance of reaching a Sovereign level Demon Body, as long as there was no major accident, the chances were at least 70%.

And most importantly, those with a full moon rank talent had a faint chance of achieving the Emperor level Demon Body.

Even if the chances of this were 5% or even lower, as long as there was hope, this was enough to obtain immense attention and care from the Holy Palace.

Emperor level...in the current Holy Palace, perhaps only several old freaks that had been in life or death seclusion for many years already had reached this boundary.

Within the Demonic Path, while there weren't many people that had accomplished a Sovereign level Demon Body, if one searched, they could at least find several dozen people. But, it had been many years since someone successfully reached the Emperor level.

If they could raise an Emperor level existence...just by thinking this, the three Holy Palace Elders began to shiver with excitement!

The half moon started to grow outwards. Faint traces of moonlight gushed out as it became increasingly clear.

The process wasn't fast, but it gave off a stable feeling.

Around the crater, everyone was silent. Countless experts watched with wide eyes, a single thought emerging from all of their minds.

This person would succeed!

Then, the half moon truly reached perfection. It was like a giant disc, recklessly sprinkling down its own brilliance.

Although everyone was already prepared for this, when they truly witnessed this sight for themselves they couldn't help but suck in a breath of cold air.

Full moon realm...this was the full moon realm...

It was said that amongst the descendants of the previous Holy Monarch, a genius had appeared and their Demon Body talent had just managed to reach this level. This person was regarded as the hope for their family's resurgence and was highly valued by the Holy Palace.

If they didn't see this sight with their own eyes, no one here would have believed that amongst these garbage new disciples there would actually be such a proud son of heaven.

As long as this person didn't perish midway, this new disciple would be able to reach the Sovereign level, and perhaps even the Emperor level was within his reach.

His future would be limitless...from this beginning, he had already flung all his peers far behind.

People couldn't help but feel envy. While some people felt jealous, they didn't dare to make this too obvious. If they were to somehow provoke this person, wouldn't that just be asking for trouble?

Everyone wanted to know: just who was this newly born future great person?

If the full moon realm couldn't be considered a great person...hey, friend, how much sand is in that head of yours? Pour it out and get a new one!

Within the Demonic Path, there was a lurking restlessness that had been hiding all this time.

The source of this restlessness was the empty throne of the Holy Palace. This was because the master of the Holy Palace was not just the nominal leader of the Demonic Path, but also a necessary and unsurpassed existence of the Demonic Path. They were supposed to represent a peak combat strength that suppressed all sides.

On the surface, the current vacancy of the Holy Palace's throne might seem as if it wasn't a problem and the Demonic Path remained as stable as it always had been. But if a major accident were to occur, this was likely to produce a series of catastrophic chances.

Throughout the Demonic Path, there was an urgent hope for a new Holy Monarch to be born...of course, who the newly born Holy Monarch was and whose benefits they represented, this was a different question with a different set of factors. It was a dilemma that involved an incredibly risky battle.

It was exactly because of this when the Demon Envoy made some discoveries, he didn't dare to reveal anything. He even needed to be cautious when contacting Qin Yu.

There wasn't much to say here; there was only one point everyone needed to know and that was that in the entire Demonic Path, there was an incomparably high importance placed on one's talent in the Demon Body. Subliminally, all Demonic Path cultivators would look up to people with outstanding Demon Body talents.

The Demonic Path cultivators present already felt sufficient shock, envy, and disbelief. But soon, they discovered that they could feel an even greater level of these emotions.

Because in that dark space, the only full moon there suddenly fell. Without the slightest indication, it happened inconceivably fast.

Countless people widened their eyes, their minds falling into confusion. They recalled something they heard about in the past and correlated it with what they saw in front of them.

The Holy Palace Elders inevitably had a stronger mindset. And with their status, they knew even more of the situation.

"Moon fall!"

The first one to open their mouth was the Holy Palace Elder who tried to play the sympathy card to receive Qin Yu as his disciple. He suddenly screamed, sounding like he lost his voice.

The two beside him might not have opened their mouths, but their twitching lips indicated just how excited they were at the moment.

When countless dumbfounded Demonic Path cultivators heard these words, it was like a bolt of thunder crashed down from the heavens and cleaved them in half. They suddenly remembered some incomplete information they heard related to the Demon Body in the past. One part was, "...stars condense, the moon grows, the moon falls, the sun rises..."

Now, the moon had fallen. Would the sun be able to smoothly rise? If this happened, didn't this mean that after tens of thousands of years, the Demonic Path finally had a Holy Demon Son who possessed a sun step Demon Body talent!?

A Demon Son was an honored title given to those who cultivated the Demon Body and achieved mastery of it, reaching the Sovereign level. It represented the status of a direct descendant of the Demonic Path.

But the title of Holy Demon Son had nothing to do with one's cultivation boundary; all it looked at was a person's talent. As long as a person had a sun step talent, they would be given this title.

Its status...was far above that of a Demon Son. Theoretically speaking, it ranked ahead of Protectors and Elders.

Unfortunately, the number of times this title appeared was extremely small, so small that even within the ancient texts of the Demonic Path's history, this title appeared on not too many occasions.

But without exception, all Holy Demon Sons became incomparably sparkling existences of their respective eras. Of course, not all of them would be able to smoothly grow, but as long as they didn't die, there would be a space for them in the Land of Divinity and Demons.

Could they be witnessing the birth of a Holy Demon Son today?

The three Holy Palace Elders fell silent. This was because they discovered that after accomplishing moon fall, whether or not this new disciple could cause the sun to rise, his talent was already high enough to arouse the attention of the high level figures in the Demonic Path. This person was no longer someone any of them could receive as their disciple.

Everyone silently waited. The air seemed to freeze over and the watching cultivators even seemed as if they stopped breathing.

And within this tranquility that left everyone feeling constrained, in the skies of the Holy Land small world, a tenth sun quietly appeared.

To be precise, it wasn't complete. It was only the outline of the sun, like the scene of a solar eclipse.

...

### **Chapter 528B – Moon Fall**

Holy Palace.

A bell that had lain quiet beneath a Bodhi Tree for many years suddenly rang out loud. Its deep and broad sound seemed to cause some sort of resonance.

In the next moment, throughout the entire Holy Land small world, the thick heaven and earth spiritual energy began to rush and tumble about.

Rumble rumble –

It roared like rough and wild seas, sweeping out through all sides!

The first boundary of the sun step: shadow sun.

The sun was like a shadow, faint and illusory.

But no matter how faint it was, no matter how illusory it was, it was still the sun step.

“...The stars condense, the moon grows, the moon falls, the sun rises...” And the part following that is, “...the sun rises, the bell rings, the heavens and earth move, welcoming a new master...”

By the time the Demon Envoy arrived, the people standing around the crater were still watching on in stunned bewilderment. He wasn't in the mood to pay attention to the loss of composure of these people. He closed his eyes and reached out with his senses.

While the Demon Body talent test was extremely strict, as the Demon Envoy of the Holy Palace, he had studied the Holy Palace's secret arts and was able to sense the auras within.

He opened his eyes. Within the joyous surprise, there was also some worry he couldn't suppress.

It really was Yao Bin!

If it was said that he only had a 40-50% assurance before, then after today he was able to recognize that Yao Bin was the person he had been waiting for all along.

This should have been something good, but the commotion Yao Bin stirred up today was too large, so large that even he couldn't cover it up if he wanted to.

He glanced around. The powerhouses of the previous Holy Monarch's tribe had arrived. Each one had gloomy expressions with a chilling brilliance surging from their eyes.

As he thought about the full moon rank talent who had appeared amongst the previous Holy Monarch's descendants not too long ago, the Demon Envoy felt an even greater headache coming on.

But a headache was just a headache. Since he had thoroughly confirmed that Qin Yu was the person he had been waiting for all this time, he wouldn't allow anyone to harm him.

Figure after figure appeared above the crater. They maintained a certain distance from the overlapping spaces below, a show of their respect to the Holy Palace.

But this didn't stop them from utilizing their various detection methods to peer into the overlapping spaces below towards the new disciple who had triggered today's phenomenon.

These great figures of the Demonic Path were covered in space distortions so that people outside couldn't see their expressions. Still, looks of shock and surprise came over them.

It was actually him!

After a brief moment of thought, some people frowned, some people coldly sneered, and some people revealed a divine light in their eyes.

Above the crater, the dense overlapping spaces began to violently tremble. It was like some sort of formidable strength had erupted from within, surpassing its withstanding limits.

Thus, the overlapping spaces began to collapse one after another, ejecting the new disciples directly outside.

The originally empty lip of the crater was now overcrowded with people. After a brief dazed moment as if awakening from a deep slumber, they seemed to suddenly sense something. They looked up into the skies at the newly born tenth sun and their mouths slowly fell open.



...

Qin Yu felt as if he had been plunged into the eighteen layers of hell and had made the trip several hundred times over. Even though he possessed a firm will and formidable mind, he still thought of death more than once.

But what a pity, he refused to die. Although it was like a hundred giant volcanoes were all erupting in his body, a strange and invisible strength protected his mortal body.

His soul curled up into a ball and his consciousness reached the point of collapse countless times over. But whenever he reached this state, a cool feeling would pour into him, causing his hazy consciousness to sober up.

After struggling through the pain for an unknown period of time, Qin Yu finally realized something. Perhaps he wouldn't die here today.

Since he wouldn't die, then what benefits would withstanding this pain bring him?

Furnace fires tempered gold. If one didn't die...they would be reborn!

...

In the skies above, the splendor of the ten suns reflected and contrasted against each other. Across the entire Demonic Path Holy Land's small world, everyone looked up in shock, their eyes full of disbelief.

The moon falls, the sun rises, the bell rings, the heavens and earth move, welcoming a new master...

The minds of the majority of the Demonic Path cultivators were quaking and they weren't able to think of anything.

But, the emotions of those people that were closely paying attention to today's events surged like the sea in a storm.

Zhao Qianyuan's eyes glowed with divine light. He stared tightly at the tenth sun in the skies. After furrowing his eyebrows a little, he soon composed himself, not revealing too much shock.

This was because he had long since chosen his road. As long as he patiently walked down it, Zhao Qianyuan was confident that his achievements wouldn't be below anyone else's.

After all, it wasn't just Dong Hanzhu who was born different.

Still, he couldn't help but acknowledge that Yao Bin's performance today had far surpassed his expectations.

Sun step...this in itself was the qualification to touch up that supreme position of the holy throne. Even if the events within the Demon Ascension Gate's small world had been sealed away, after today he was bound to become a peerless proud son of the Demonic Path whose name echoed throughout the world.

But at the same time, this reputation was sure to bring him a great deal of trouble.

Zhao Qianyuan faintly smiled. He had personally experienced this sort of tempering before. But, the difference was that he had already broken free, while Yao Bin had just joined the game.

“I hope that you can break out of the darkness and thoroughly liberate yourself. In this vast world, if there is no one to travel with, it really is far too lonely.”

As for whether or not the person who stirred up today’s phenomenon was Yao Bin?

In Zhao Qianyuan’s mind, there was no doubt it was him. He believed his eyes, and he believes his heart even more.

There was also another person who recognized the one in the crater as Qin Yu.

Dong Hanzhu pursed his lips together. His eyes were dark and dim, but then a bright flame seemed to ignite in his pupils.

He was born differently and received a great lucky chance from birth; he was destined to have great accomplishments. Because of this, he had always been haughty and arrogant and his peers had never entered his eyes.

Zhao Qianyuan was the first one to teach him a lesson, and Qin Yu was the one who gave him a second lecture. Although the two of them had never fought, he wouldn’t deceive himself.

This person was absolutely a formidable existence on the same level as Zhao Qianyuan.

Someone that could thoroughly and decisively defeat him.

But so what?

Those running in the front might not go far, and those lagging in the rear might be able to soar. During this illustrious era, he, Dong Hanzhu, was destined to shine bright for 100,000 years!

The competition between you and me has just started. I will not be discouraged, so I ask that you also not be too arrogant.

There will eventually come a day, when you are at your most magnificent and radiant, that I will finally defeat you!

Within a grand and luxurious courtyard room, Sun Zifu let out a long breath. He knew he didn’t have to hide anymore and could lay down the guilt in his heart.

Today Yao Bin had finally managed to soar into the skies, displaying his unparalleled potential. Even if it were a little troublesome, it was enough for the Sun Family to make a bet.

The reward he had promised in the small world would soon be sent over. As one of the future inheritors of his family, Sun Zifu was confident in his judgment.

But, he was watching as those around him walked up higher and higher. Unless he wanted to keep looking up for the rest of his life, he needed to start working harder.

Over these years where he had meandered around obliviously, there had been wonders, splendors, and memories. But more than all of that, there was vanity and waste.

Sun Zifu sighed with emotion and walked towards the training chamber. He was luckier than most people. Because of his family, even though he had wasted precious time, he still had a chance to recover.

Even if the sun and moon were destined to shine blindingly bright in the future, he still wanted to be a glistening star in the skies that couldn't be ignored. Even if he couldn't compete with the sun and moon, he still wanted to leave behind his own ripples in the endless river of time.

No one wanted to live in mediocrity!

...

Because of Qin Yu, a blazing fighting spirit had been ignited in the most dazzling future great figures of the Demonic Path. But while he was supposedly triumphantly advancing towards his magnificent future, he had actually encountered a great deal of trouble.

Within the dark space, the strange cool strength that gushed out seemed as if it couldn't withstand Qin Yu's terrifying level of swallowing; it began to gradually dry up.

At the start, because of the reduction of that cool strength, the 'volcano' erupting in his body and wreaking havoc also started to lower in temperature, causing Qin Yu to suffer less pain.

But soon, the little bit of joy in Qin Yu's heart turned to deep fear. Because he discovered that as it vanished, the strength which protected his mortal body also began to fade away.

The temperature of the 'volcano' had decreased, but it continued to burn. And, it seemed as if it would continue to burn for some period of time.

If Qin Yu lost the protection surrounding his mortal body...after some quiet calculations, he discovered that he wouldn't be able to last until the volcano was extinguished before he was burnt to char.

...

The tenth sun in the skies gradually turned red. Faint traces of brilliant color began to extend inwards from the border of the sun, making it appear even more striking.

The moon step had three ranks, and the sun step similarly had different levels.

The shadow sun, where the great sun was like a shadow, like a dream, like an illusion.

When red appeared, coming from the outside in, slowly coloring it scarlet, that was the red sun.

But soon, one discovered that the dazzling red color flowing into the interior of the sun began to slow down.

Seeing this, everyone suddenly thought the same thing: today's unexpectedly great performance was about to come to an end.

No one had the qualifications to mention the name of the previous Holy Monarch, and even the bloodline descendants he left behind didn't dare to blaspheme him by sharing in his surname.

Their surname had originally been 'Lin', a character that represented a forest. But now, they called their surname 'Mu', a character that represented just a single tree, a part of a forest.

Now, the pale complexions of several powerful figures within the Mu Family began to ease a little. Although this person had managed to reach the sun step, it was only the lowest shadow sun.

Yes, while it was true that the shadow sun had a chance of reaching the Saint realm Demon Body, the chances of this happening were incredibly slim. At the very least, in the records of the previous Holy Monarchs, there were none of them who managed to reach their position with just a shadow sun achievement.

In order to become the Holy Monarch, one had to at least reach the red sun boundary. This was a fact mutually recognized by all high level figures in the Demonic Path.

As long as one didn't have a great chance of becoming the Holy Monarch, this situation could be manipulated. As the descendants of the previous Holy Monarch, the Mu Family possessed a special inheritance.

Mu Mo still had a chance!

The Demon Envoy sighed inwardly. The edges of the shadow sun had turned red but the color wasn't able to penetrate in further. It was truly a pity.

But this result wasn't too bad. If Yao Bin's performance was even more splendid today, the situation would have become even more dangerous for him.

While the shadow sun was a threat, as long as the Demon Envoy was looking after him and he was a bit more careful, there shouldn't be any problems.

The Demon Envoy glanced at the slightly relaxed Mu Family members and a cold light flashed in his eyes. He didn't have the inheritance of the Holy Monarch, but throughout the endless years of the Demonic Path there had been more than one Holy Monarch.

What the final result of this contest would be, no one could know.

## **Chapter 529 – Large Red Jujube**

While the Demon Envoy was deep in thought, thinking of where he would place Qin Yu after this, the complexion of one of the three Holy Palace Elders overseeing today's talent examination suddenly changed. He casually lowered his head, and when he saw the corner of a white stone in his sleeves, his pupils shrank and his face filled with shock.

His first thought was that he needed to say something, but as soon as he was about to move, he came to a halt. The reason he had his status today was because of the Mu Family. If he spoke up today, they would inevitably come into conflict.

These days, he was no longer alone. He had sons, daughters, family, friends, disciples...just half a month ago he welcomed the birth of a great grandson and even gave him a name. A single action and all of this would be destroyed. Beads of cold sweat formed on his forehead and he paled.

Luckily, everyone's attention was attracted to the shadow sun in the skies and no one noticed his expression. Seeing less and less of the crimson color, as if it would vanish soon, a Holy Palace Elder suddenly said, "What a pity!"

Another person nodded, his face etched with disappointment. "In the inheritance lineage of my Holy Palace, it is hard for a disciple to appear that might achieve a Saint step Demon Body, but he just missed the final step. Shadow sun, red sun, there is only the difference of a single rank between them, but if he doesn't make it, there is almost no chance for him to reach the Saint step!"

The second Holy Palace Elder sighed. "I wonder how many more years will pass before another sun step disciple appears. I fear I won't be lucky enough to live to see such a sight. Ever since we joined the Holy Palace, we have devoted ourselves to finding a disciple who can inherit the throne of the Holy Monarch. To work for our entire lives and have it all come to nothing, we have truly wasted the efforts of our teachers!"

The Holy Palace Elder who lowered his head suddenly stiffened. Images began to appear in his mind. When he was young, he had made a vow before the Holy Palace's temple throne that he would do everything in his power to restore the honor and prestige of the Holy Palace, and he would take this as his life's mission...his body began to tremble even further.

"Old Wu, what is the problem?" A friend by his side suddenly discovered something wasn't right.

That's right, this person was a friend. Even though they had been thinking about fighting over a disciple until they were both bloody and beaten, in the end a thousand years of friendship shouldn't be erased.

Wu Xianshou lifted his head and smiled. Though his face was pale, it gave off a clear and insightful feeling, as if he had just put down some great obsession in his heart.

"I'm fine, I was just thinking about some things, but now I've finally thought them through..." He paused for a moment and then said, "There is no need for you to be disappointed. Perhaps you and I will be able to witness a genuine miracle today."

He flung out his sleeves and walked forward, leaving behind the two surprised and wide-eyed old friends of his. Bowing deeply, Wu Xianshou raised the white stone in his hands and said, "Demon Envoy and fellow lords, please immediately supplement the examination with more energy lest this proud elite of my Demonic Path come to harm!"

With these words, the world fell deathly silent.

Everyone's eyes were focused on the white stone in his hands. Those Demonic Path cultivators who knew the details about this talent examination were left shaken.

This was because this white stone should have been blue. Yes, that blue color was the energy needed for the Demon Body examination.

To be more precise, rather than a Demon Body examination, it was actually an ignition, an activation.

This blue energy was used to activate the Demon Body. It was something obtained by the Demonic Path at a heavy price.

But the blue color had been exhausted...

The Demon Envoy's pupils widened and his heart began to beat like a thundering drum. Even though he said that no one knew what the final result would be, he would be lying to himself if he said he wasn't disappointed. This was because a shadow sun was still just a shadow sun. If one wanted to reach the Saint level with just this, the difficulty would be so great that it would leave a person wallowing in despair.

But now, the situation had reversed. It wasn't that Yao Bin's talent was insufficient, but that there wasn't enough energy to activate his full potential.

In that brief moment, the Demon Envoy came to a decision. Since Yao Bin had already caused such a stir today, even if he only managed to reach the shadow sun level, he would still be a thorn in the eyes of many others.

Then he might as well let him shine even brighter, so that he could inform everyone that he had the qualifications and talent to succeed the throne of the Holy Monarch.

Some people would hate him even more.

But at the same time, there would also be some people willing to invest everything into him.

The Demon Envoy lifted a hand and grasped forward. Space burst apart and an endless mass of blue fog gushed out. This blue fog seemed to be covered by some invisible strength. It didn't disperse in all directions, but instead raced into the pitch black crater.

When a Mu Family expert saw this, a cold light flashed in his eyes. But even though he gnashed his teeth, he couldn't stop it.

Today, everyone was watching. He couldn't allow a disciple who had the talent to become the Holy Monarch be injured in any way, otherwise he would welcome the anger of the entire Demonic Path.

The Mu Family couldn't withstand this!

Mu Xianglin's cold eyes fell onto Wu Xianshou's old body. If looks could kill, he would have been turned into a pool of crushed meat and blood.

Wu Xianshou lowered his head a little. Though there was a bit of guilt on his face, his eyes were serene and peaceful.

Righteousness came in different degrees. Perhaps his actions today might make the future more difficult for him, but he wouldn't regret it.

Moreover, that might not be true. Perhaps this was an investment into someone with infinite potential instead.

...

Qin Yu felt himself come alive again. He felt that the withstanding limits of the pain he felt had been refreshed.

Now that he felt the burning pain of the 'volcano' with the protection around him again, he was much more relaxed than before. This either meant that he became much more resistant to the pain, or perhaps this burning pain was about to come to an end.

As the saying went, be hit by a stick and be given a red jujube. The pain was painful enough, so shouldn't there be some compensation?

Where was the harvest?

...

The shadow sun continued to turn red. The sudden changes that went from up and down caused those with a poorer mental mindset to clutch their chests.

It still wasn't over? Was it over? Do you want to scare us to death before you are satisfied?

The great figures floating around the crater suddenly changed their complexions. Perhaps they could disregard a shadow sun, but if this disciple were to take it one step further then he would reach a level where he had the qualifications for them to invest their chips into him.

Of course, before they put down their chips, they needed to carefully observe and then come to a final decision.

But this was already a substantial change.

At least in their eyes, Qin Yu would no longer be a young and immature new Demonic Path disciple, a little ant whom they controlled the life and death of. He would have the potential to compete in the future, so he would naturally obtain a certain degree of recognition from them.

The Demon Envoy's heart relaxed. The bet he made just now had been right; he could feel the aura of some people change. He didn't need these people to be like him and try to maintain Yao Bin without any hesitation for their own safety. As long as they stood by the side, that in itself was a great harvest.

Looking at the tenth great sun in the skies, the Demon Envoy whispered beneath his breath, "Since you have surpassed my control and have exposed yourself beneath the sun, then please produce the most formidable proof and show all those watching that you are the best choice.

"But no matter what happens, this road will not be easy to walk down. Perhaps you might succeed, perhaps you might be defeated in the end, but I hope you will not turn your head and look back with regret.

"Therefore, please erupt with all your strength!"

And Qin Yu truly erupted.

The shadow sun became a red sun. The rise was steady all the way, reaching the next level without any pause.

Then, within that oppressive crimson color which seemed like an endless sea of red blood, a spot of pure white appeared.

Wu Xianglin wavered and the blood faded from his face. He shoved away the person supporting him, no longer able to conceal the cold light in his eyes!

The third boundary of the sun step – white sun.

As the saying went, the white sun appeared within the blue skies – those who reached the white sun step could control the blue skies.

The shadow sun had almost no chance of reaching the Saint step. A red sun had a 10% chance. And the white sun had a 30% chance. This was already the strongest display of potential possible for the Demon Body!

He actually reached the white sun boundary...he reached the white sun boundary...how could he...how dare he...!

At this time, all of the plans and schemes brewing in Mu Xianglin's heart vanished. This was because he knew that there would be no one willing to help the Mu Family again.

This was the deterrence of the white sun boundary!

No one wanted to provoke a proud son of heaven that was highly likely to succeed the throne of the Holy Monarch.

But at the same time, the killing intent in Mu Xianglin's heart had reached the strongest state.

Without a new Holy Monarch, the Mu Family was still considered the descendants of the Holy Monarch and they would enjoy all sorts of honors and special privileges.

Once a new Holy Monarch was born, all of that would become nothing but a dream, vanishing into thin air.

The Mu Family had stood aggressively these past years and they had countless enemies that lurked in the shadows. If they lost the corona of being the Holy Monarch's descendants, this would surely usher in the invasion of endless wolves and leopards.

There was no other path to take. Unless he wanted his family to fall and have even their roots cut down, he would need to walk down to the end of the path he chose.

Only Mu Family juniors could become the Holy Monarch. Everyone else...must die!

...

When the red sun in the skies turned white, Qin Yu finally realized what it was he obtained today. Listening to the clear cracking sound in his body, he discovered that this red jujube was far, far too large, so large that he wished he could revisit today's pain several times more...

If each strike of the stick gave him such a sweet jujube, then he really could withstand a heavier strike!

### **Chapter 530 - Woes and Blessings**

The moment the red sun turned pure white, it became no different from the other nine suns in the heavens. Soon after, it was like an invisible hand wiped away the skies of the small world. The clouds



scattered to reveal clear blue skies, without any impurities in the pure color. It served as a curtain that embellished the ten blazing suns.

The ten suns reflected upon each other, their halos of light overlapping, refracting, and diffusing all around, giving this scene a dream-like appearance. At this moment, the Demonic Path cultivators outside the crater all had absent-minded expressions. Restlessness appeared in their hearts, as if they had just witnessed the birth of a legend. Then, as if by prior agreement, they wondered just how far this person who had caused today's phenomenon would be able to go.

No one could answer this. Even the silent great figures of the Demonic Path had various complex looks in their eyes. If there was one common shared factor between them, it was the thoughtful and prudent light in their pupils.

This was true regard!

Within the records of history, Holy Demon Sons whose talent reached the white sun boundary had an extremely high chance of becoming the Demon Monarch.

Taking a step back, even if they didn't smoothly assume command of the Holy Palace, they would still have unimaginably high accomplishments.

Although this sort of potential required time to slowly activate, such bright prospects was already worth investing in.

At the very least, they had to publicize their position so that they didn't provoke a powerful future enemy.

To be able to stand out amongst the countless cultivators and become pivotal high level figures of the Demonic Path, while not all of these peak characters might possess supreme intelligence, none of them were idiots.

Today, Qin Yu had used his amazing performance to create a layer of protection around himself, slightly firming the road beneath his feet that he would have to walk down in the future.

What they needed to witness they had already witnessed. The great level figures started to withdraw. With their status, no matter what decision they made in the end, they needed to be cautious.

Even if Qin Yu's talent was unparalleled, they wouldn't easily invest everything in him. Since they didn't want to be prematurely entangled in the struggle for the throne of the Holy Monarch, leaving the scene ahead of time was the best choice. Otherwise, once Qin Yu came out, how should they act?

The Mu Family was the first to leave. Just like when they arrived, they didn't alarm too many people but there were still many eyes taking notice of them.

There were some truths that everyone was aware of in their hearts, even if no one spoke them out loud. The Mu Family was extremely powerful right now. If they wanted to remain powerful, they could only meet this new difficulty head on.

So this became a problem without a solution. Even though both sides had never met before and didn't have any previous grievances, from this day forth, they were doomed to be each other's greatest enemies. This would continue until one side gave up or died.

The Demon Envoy took a deep breath. He didn't leave with everyone else. As one of the highest ranked figures within the Holy Palace, it was natural for him to be concerned with this peerless proud son of heaven that had reached the legendary white sun boundary.

But in reality, there was a worry in his heart that no one knew of. Because the greatest explosive point today hadn't appeared.

That was, Qin Yu's actual Demon Body boundary.

At Heavenly Demon City, the Demon Envoy had found an excuse to go out with Yan Liu. Although there wasn't substantial contact between them, he still felt Qin Yu's rich and vigorous blood energy fluctuations, a blood energy so potent that it was inconceivable.

Sovereign rank Demon Body!

The reason the Demon Envoy could make such an accurate determination was because he was a long-established Sovereign rank existence. Moreover, he also had a Calamity Immortal realm cultivation, so finding out Qin Yu's foundation wasn't too difficult.

His initial plan had been to suppress Qin Yu for a period of time. Thus, he came to an agreement with all sides to seal all information of what occurred in the Demon Ascension Gate.

But changes always came faster than one could anticipate. Today, Qin Yu had amazed the world with a single feat. Before he could be suppressed, he had soared into the highest heavens, grabbing the attention of all factions.

A white sun boundary talent was terrifying, but the difficulty of cultivating the Demon Body was equally astonishing. If one wanted to have true achievements, this needed a massive amount of time and resources.

But if it were discovered by others that this white sun boundary disciple had obtained a Sovereign rank Demon Body before his talent had been thoroughly activated?

The Mu Family would be the first to go crazy!

That's right, they would go crazy. Because they would no longer have enough time to patiently wait for a chance to tear Qin Yu down.

As the bloodline descendants of the last Holy Monarch, even if only half their surname remained, they still possessed an incomparably mighty and dreadful background.

The Holy Palace's Demon Envoy controlled half of the True Demon Guards, and he himself was an unsurpassed Calamity Immortal existence. But, he didn't have any confidence that he could fend off the wild frenzied attacks of the Mu Family.

But the Demon Envoy didn't have a choice.

This world was fair sometimes. When Qin Yu obtained the protection offered by his halo of talent, as the positions of many people around him changed, he also had to withstand the collateral troubles caused by this.

In the skies above, the tenth sun gradually faded away. Clouds began to appear in the clear blue skies once more.

The phenomenon had come to an end and the final closing moments had arrived. The Demon Envoy had a calm expression. He had already prepared himself to meet any situation.

Even if he had to tear apart any pretense of cordiality, even if he had to slaughter through a sea of blood, even if he had to topple the balance within the Demonic Path, he had to preserve Qin Yu's life.

No matter the cost!

Above the pitch black crater, the only remaining dark space trembled several times before it split open. A figure walked out. Because the light outside was too bright, this person lifted his hand to cover his face, subconsciously narrowing his eyes.

Qin Yu swept his eyes around to see jaws dropped open and eyes so wide open that they seemed as if they would fall out in the next moment.

Qin Yu had a calm expression. This was because he had already expected this, and the final result was even better than he anticipated.

Originally, he only wanted to try his best to rise up and be highly valued by the Demonic Path. But, he never imagined such a large red jujube would fall into his mouth from this incident.

Although he had undergone a pain so agonizing that outsiders couldn't imagine it, this was nothing compared to his harvests.

He faintly smiled inside. At this time, Qin Yu seemed to feel something. He looked up and his gaze bumped into the Demon Envoy's.

It was him!

His body subconsciously tensed before he quickly restored himself. Qin Yu respectfully bowed.

The Demon Envoy had no expression on his face. He looked deeply at Qin Yu before turning to leave.

At this moment, the Demon Envoy's emotions were surging like a stormy sea, nearly uncontrollable.

That day at Dawnperch Hotel when both sides sat facing each other, he had laid down his wine cup and made one final probe of Qin Yu.

The Demon Envoy confirmed that he wasn't wrong. Those boundless blood energy fluctuations and that tyrannical aura that came from the same origin, that was absolutely a Sovereign rank Demon Body. Of this, he had no doubt.

But now, when Qin Yu emerged from the dark space, the Demon Envoy discovered that he couldn't sense any Demon Body blood energy fluctuations coming from him.

There were two possibilities.

The first was his Demon Body had been crippled...and the second was that he had risen to an even higher level, surpassing his scope of sense.

The tenth sun in the skies had just faded away.

It was impossible for Qin Yu's Demon Body to have been crippled somehow.

Then, there was only one option left...

Emperor rank...

Even someone with a formidable mindset like the Demon Envoy couldn't help but groan and waver.

If he hadn't personally confirmed this for himself, he would have never believed it.

But as he thought about Qin Yu's white sun Demon Body talent, while this was astonishing, it could also be reasonably explained.

However...was the white sun Demon Body cultivation talent really so terrifying?

The Demon Envoy didn't know. But, there was one point he was sure of. Qin Yu's chances of success were originally 50-50, but now they had risen by another 30%.

This was because in the eyes of outsiders, while Qin Yu was a junior who possessed heaven-defying talent, he still hadn't crossed the threshold of the Demon Body. This would give people the illusion that they had plenty of time left. They didn't need to worry and take dangerous risks, and simply needed to wait for the prime opportunity to present itself.

But in truth, Qin Yu had already reached the Emperor rank, just a single step away from the throne of the Holy Monarch. As long as he could obtain a Saint rank Demon Body, no one would be able to prevent his rise any longer. He would become a most peak existence, standing at the pinnacle of this vast world.

Besides the Demon Envoy whose emotions were crashing and surging, there were three other people whose minds went blank as they watched Qin Yu emerge from the darkness.

Although they had already completed the examination a long time ago, they had remained in a perpetually shocked state. They simply didn't have the mind to look around to determine who this last heaven-defying character was. Moreover, they subconsciously didn't believe that an old fogey who was several hundred years old could have such a performance.

Gong Zhen's lips paled and his body shivered. His entire mind was submerged in despairing regret. If the heavens gave him another chance, he vowed that he would hide as far away as possible and would absolutely not provoke Qin Yu.

But what this world lacked the most was medicine for regret. The billowing river of time continued to race forward, and it wouldn't stop or change directions for anyone.

Of course, this might just be a theory of relativity, but it was obvious that Gong Zhen wasn't a person with the qualifications to reverse time. Thus, he could only feel lament and fear, frozen as despair clutched his heart.

When Qin Yu looked at him, it was like a whip struck his body. Gong Zhen nearly leapt up from the ground in fright, but he immediately lowered his head instead.

“The three of you, it seems the bet between us has been decided. You wouldn’t go back on your promise, right?”