

## Refining 541

### Chapter 541 – The Heavens Have Opened Their Eyes

The placid and undisturbed life beneath the Endless Sea really made it difficult for one to clearly sense the passing of time. However, Qin Yu actually had a deep impression of every day. Because as time flowed on, his strength continued to rise without end.

So during the third month after Shang Yuntai entered the Endless Sea, Qin Yu's Emperor level Demon Body was soon about to complete its transformation. This feeling appeared in the depths of Qin Yu's heart, and before he could express much surprise, it was like a warm current spread through his body, igniting a flame within him and turning him into a natural furnace of the heavens and earth.

Throughout his entire body, he could clearly sense the astonishing strength that permeated every inch of his flesh and blood.

Qin Yu opened his eyes in his training chamber and spat out a mouthful of gray air. He stood up and his bones crackled without end. When these sharp noises entered a person's ears, they sounded like the roaring of wolves and tigers, causing a person to instinctually shiver.

Feeling his body's condition, Qin Yu couldn't help but reveal a joyous look.

After achieving an Emperor level Demon Body, his bodily strength was vastly improved. Although he didn't dare to say that he could match the strength of a Calamity Immortal realm expert, he could at least protect himself to some degree.

As for those below the Calamity Immortal realm, unless they were peerless proud children of heaven like Zhao Qianyuan, he could completely overwhelm them! A heroic valor stirred in his heart. From this day forth, Qin Yu would truly be a powerhouse of this world.

Although he was still a distance away from being someone who could freely control the winds and clouds, he was now someone who stood at the far-off edge of the highest peak. Suddenly, he had an impulse. He pushed open the doors and found Wang Chao as he was making a sweep across the grounds. He directly said, "Prepare a strength examination room for me."

He wanted to know just how strong he was.

Although Qin Yu had calmed himself, with his tiny changes in expression and the atmosphere around him...it wasn't hard to realize he was in a good mood. Looking at things, he had clearly made a breakthrough recently.

Wang Chao was overjoyed. He turned and quickly made arrangements. Since he had bet his life on Qin Yu, he naturally hoped that Qin Yu would become stronger.

Fu Shan was in seclusion. When First Lieutenant Yuan Zhen learned that the Lord Commander wished to use an examination room, he didn't object and immediately set out to make the best possible arrangements.

Initially, when Liang Shou defied his superiors and almost revolted, the crime he had been charged with was significant. However, Qin Yu lightly let it go; this could be considered an enormous show of face.

The three Lieutenants were good brothers and sworn friends, and Yuan Zhen regarded Liang Shou like his own nephew. Since he received such a great graciousness, he naturally had to repay it.

An hour later, Yuan Zhen clearly explained the method for use in detail and then respectfully excused himself. Qin Yu waited for him to leave the examination room. Then, with a wave of his hand, the stone door slowly closed.

Compared to the Dao Arena's training room, the equipment in the Holy Nether Guard's examination room could be called outdated antiques. Luckily, as a combat corps, the Holy Nether Guard had spent a great deal of time and effort in this aspect. Even if the equipment hadn't been updated in 100,000 years, the test results could be trusted.

A sharp light flashed in Qin Yu's eyes, mixed with some anticipation. He shouted out, "Begin!"

Yuan Zhen personally stood guard outside the examination room. Wang Chao also stood together with him. Unconsciously, their eyes drifted towards the tightly shut stone door.

Although he knew it was somewhat taboo and frowned upon to secretly inquire into the Lord Commander's cultivation, after hesitating over and over, Yuan Zhen couldn't restrain his curiosity.

From the moment he entered Holy Nether City, Qin Yu had never displayed his full skills in front of others. A white sun boundary talent was indeed an unimaginable achievement, but even though opening the Endless Sea Array was sufficiently astonishing, in the end it was only evidence.

What Qin Yu lacked was sufficient proof of strength. As the Commander of the Holy Nether Guard, he needed a formidable strength if he wanted to truly control this ancient war monster that had been stranded in the Endless Sea for 100,000 years!

"Brother Wang, the Lord Commander today..."

Wang Chao's mind was also filled with such thoughts. When he heard these words he forced a smile and said, "Brother Yuan Zhen, don't ask me anything because I also don't know anything. When the Lord Commander suddenly left seclusion he only asked me to prepare an examination room for him."

The truth was that these words had already revealed key information. He just didn't want to elaborate further because it involved Qin Yu.

Yuan Zhen's eyes brightened. He wasn't an idiot so he naturally understood the key points of these words. If the Commander left seclusion and went straight to the examination room, even an idiot could tell that he had made a breakthrough.

After hesitating for a moment he didn't say anything further. From his reply, he could tell that Wang Chao was a cautious person. To ask anything more wouldn't be good.

Antiquated examination equipment had the advantage of being antiquated. Once the Commander left the examination room he could gain some hints from the traces left behind.

Wang Chao relaxed. As the guard captain of the Commander, his future was limitless. He didn't want to lose everything because of some loose lips.

Don't ask me anything please. It will be better for you, better for me, and better for everyone else. As for the Commander's strength...there had been so many tragic deaths in the Demon Ascension Gate's small world and yet the Commander had managed to emerge unscathed. His strength should be relatively high.

Wang Chao wasn't worried about this point. He just didn't know what level the Lord Commander's true strength was at all. In terms of aura, the Lord Commander seemed to be at the Revered Blue Sea level. But Wang Chao knew that if he believed this, he really would have mental problems!

Would a Revered Blue Sea make him feel as if he were facing a towering mountain? Tsk tsk, the Lord Commander had truly hidden himself. Perhaps the Lord Commander only needed to reach out a hand to crush him to pieces.

As the personal guard captain of the Commander, being responsible for the protection of such a formidable figure was indeed something worthy of sorrow. Luckily, Wang Chao had extremely thick facial skin so he didn't feel awkward or embarrassed about this. In fact, he wished that Qin Yu could become ten times stronger or even 100 times stronger. Being backed by someone so powerful and being able to act domineeringly, wasn't that just a wonderful way of living?

Time slowly passed. Qin Yu had already been in the examination room for a long period of time. If he were just checking his strength, it should have been done by now. There shouldn't have been an accident, right? Or maybe the results weren't what he had been expecting?

As the two people were feeling disturbed and their expectations were constantly falling, the stone door to the room suddenly opened and Qin Yu quietly walked out. Wait, with this appearance, there shouldn't have been anything wrong, right? Yuan Zhen and Wang Chao quickly stepped forward and bowed.

Qin Yu hesitated for a moment. Then he said, "Yuan Zhen, I didn't hold back today so I really must apologize. I'll have to trouble you with finding someone to clean up the mess."

Qin Yu walked away, leaving Wang Chao behind in a muddled daze.

The two looked at the Lord Commander as he left. For some reason, how come it looked as though he was hurriedly fleeing the scene of a crime? Just what was happening? What did he mean by not holding back? Wang Chao had a plaintive expression. Lord Commander, if you are going to say something, please make yourself clear!

Yuan Zhen was also confused. Just as he wanted to say that it wasn't a problem, the Lord Commander had already left. He straightened himself and looked towards the examination room, slapping his forehead in realization. He had been perplexed by the Lord Commander's actions, so he forgot that he could just go in and clarify the situation himself.

He turned and walked into the examination room. Then...there was no then after that...

Yuan Zhen's eyes popped open and his mouth fell down wide enough to swallow a cow. He looked at the situation of the examination room in stunned disbelief, and he felt as if a herd of horses were rampaging through his mind. Because this was the first time that the Lord Commander had truly given

him orders and also because he wished to obtain the approval of the Commander, Yuan Zhen didn't dare to slack off in making arrangements.

This examination room was the highest quality one within the entire Holy Nether Guard. Only Fu Shan, the three Lieutenants, and some of the eldest individuals of the Holy Nether Guard had the qualifications to use it. Before Qin Yu came, Yuan Zhen had personally inspected the equipment and made sure everything was in working order.

But what did he see now...

The metal column used for the examination had been thoroughly twisted, making it look like some strange vine flower...the crushed stones on the ground should be used to test out the strength of one's strike. Three days ago, he himself had come here and expended all his strength to leave behind a small mark...there was also the soul lamp to the side. By pouring one's divine sense in, the soul lamp should become increasingly bright. But now the entire thing was pitch black. That should be because it had burnt out...

Because of some reason, Calamity Immortals were unable to appear within the ranks of the Holy Nether Guard. But, this top tier training room was enough to withstand a peak Blue Sea erupting with all their strength...this scene of chaos all around him clearly showed Yuan Zhen that this was a level of might far exceeding the Blue Sea realm.

Calamity Immortal...as this thought appeared, Yuan Zhen was left frightened. Could the Lord Commander be a Calamity Immortal? But as soon as he thought this, he thought it was impossible. This was because a transcendent Calamity Immortal realm existence was a great figure even within the Demonic Path. How could such a person be exiled into the Endless Sea? If he had to make an assumption, it was because the Lord Commander had made a breakthrough recently to have his current level of strength. Even if this wasn't at the level of a Calamity Immortal, it likely wasn't too far away!

At this moment, Lieutenant Yuan Zhen was so excited that his entire body trembled and he sighed just like Wang Chao did not too long ago. The Lord Commander had really hidden himself deeply! As his mind was in disarray, he thought back to the day when the Lord Commander first entered Holy Nether City. He recalled how he even thought that he was going to teach this person who didn't know the rules a lesson...thinking back to that day, he could only come up with a few words: thank you Commander for not killing me!

No...he had to report this matter to Lord Fu Shan immediately. The Lord Commander possessing a terrifying strength comparable to a Calamity Immortal had far surpassed their expectations.

The Holy Nether Guard had to respond suitably towards this. At the very least, they needed to let the Commander know that they all thoroughly respected him.

Yuan Zhen's face flushed red and he turned to leave. But at this moment, he suddenly came to a stop as he noticed something in the corners of his eyes. Because the examination room was in chaos and the lighting array formation had been destroyed, he hadn't noticed it at first.

After standing in place for a moment and looking around with a cloudy and uncertain face, Yuan Zhen finally stiffly walked over until he came before a common-looking blue stone deep in the examination room. Looking at the clear punch mark left on it, he was left in a daze.

He wasn't shocked by the fact that Qin Yu's strength was comparable to that of a Calamity Immortal. Rather, he was shocked by the mark left behind on this blue stone. This blue stone was a wonder treasure, and it could automatically repair any damage it received.

Unless...

His lips trembled. Yuan Zhen felt as if he had never been stimulated so many times in his life before. His shaking hand touched the fist mark and he closed his eyes, gently stroking it. Several breaths of time later, his eyes fiercely opened. He even forgot to breathe as hot tears fell down his face.

This sort of aura that left his soul trembling...he wouldn't mistake it...he definitely wouldn't mistake it...

Emperor level Demon Body! This was the Emperor level Demon Body!

The Emperor level was just a step away from the Saint level.

He thought about how they had waited for 100,000 years in the Endless Sea and of the countless generations of seniors that had died before them. Tears streaked down Yuan Zhen's face. He had to cover his mouth to prevent himself from sobbing.

Moments later, Holy Nether Guards standing far outside the examination room noticed Lieutenant Yuan Zhen clutching a blue stone and hurriedly rushing out. Before they could regain their composure, Yuan Zhen had already vanished beyond their line of sight, leaving behind an elusive image...just what had happened?

#### **Chapter 542 – Ascending Heaven, or Buried in the Sea**

Fu Shan's cultivation had already reached a bottleneck. Within the Holy Nether Guard, it was impossible for a Calamity Immortal to appear. This was because of a shackle that was marked down in their bloodline. Long ago, perhaps he had been unwilling to submit himself to such a fate and tried to break through, but now he had accepted the stark reality. Several days ago he had obtained some understandings. While it was hopeless for him to make a breakthrough in his boundary, he should still be able to improve his strength a little.

But at a critical juncture, loud blaring warning sounds rose up in his seclusion chamber. Fu Shan's eyes fiercely opened and the inspiration in his mind rapidly passed, leaving his face pale. He took a deep shuddering breath to suppress his anger and flicked his sleeves, opening the stone door and walking out.

After stepping out, the anger in his heart dissipated a little and Fu Shan couldn't help but become worried. If there was someone who tried to contact him without hesitating to disturb his seclusion, this inevitably had to be something important, right? Thinking of this, his heartbeat began to quicken. It seemed that the only matter right now that was worthy of such commotion was the Lord Commander. His footsteps quickened.

After rushing out from the tunnel, Fu Shan saw Yuan Zhen pacing back and forth. He was holding a blue stone and his face was flushed red; he was muttering beneath his breath.

Besides him, there was no one else. The air wasn't flooded with a heavy atmosphere either. Fu Shan relaxed a little. If only one of the three Lieutenants came here, then there shouldn't have been some major disaster. As he thought back to how his cultivation was disturbed, his face darkened once more.

“Yuan Zhen, what happened that you needed to call me out from seclusion?”

Yuan Zhen held up the blue stone and walked forward, simply not paying attention to Fu Shan’s angry appearance. His voice shivered as he said, “Today, the Lord Commander used the strength examination room that we use. I...”

His face filled with excitement and he found it hard to speak for a while.

Fu Shan reprimanded. “You are the solemn First Lieutenant so don’t lose your composure like this. Tell me exactly what happened.”

Yuan Zhen’s face was red and his lips moved with anxiousness. He suddenly thrust out the blue stone. “Old Fu, look carefully yourself!”

The blue stone was common and the fist mark on it was also ordinary. Fu Shan didn’t immediately realize the true meaning behind it. He furrowed his eyebrows, wondering just what Yuan Zhen was trying to get at...

Eh, no, that’s not right, this blue stone...his eyes widened and he stared at it in stunned disbelief for several breaths of time.

Yuan Zhen gulped. He nodded, “It’s that blue stone. After the Commander used the examination room, I directly brought it over here.” He constantly hunted with his eyes, “Old Fu, investigate it yourself. I fear my boundary is too low so I sensed it incorrectly.”

Fu Shan’s throat rolled and his breathing became deep and rapid. His previous mountain-like composure had completely vanished. The anger he felt a moment ago had also been tossed a hundred thousand miles away. He looked at the blue stone in front of him and only after a long time did he reach out a shivering hand to take it.

Because he was afraid, afraid that everything he saw before him was a lie...afraid that just as he saw the light, he would then crash into the dark abyss...

His fingers traced the fist mark, slowly touching it. Fu Shan shivered and he swung about like a leaf in the wind. He opened his eyes, and without saying anything, tears began to flow down his cheeks.

At this moment, Yuan Zhen’s tense heart finally relaxed. Even though he had willpower firmer than most others, he couldn’t help but cry and sob. He thoroughly determined that everything happening today was not a dream; he hadn’t been wrong!

The Holy Nether Guard had bitterly waited for 100,000 years...100,000 years...the day they waited for had finally come...heaven had finally opened its eyes...

...

After thoroughly pulverizing the examination room that was carefully prepared by someone else and leaving it in an utter mess, one would inevitably feel a bit awkward. After Qin Yu left in a hurry and let out a deep breath of relief, he disregarded Wang Chao’s curious look and waved him away. Standing in the garden of the ruined mansion, Qin Yu slightly narrowed his eyes. Traces of light flashed in his pupils and his mind rapidly raced.

Qin Yu now had an approximate understanding of what his current strength level was. If he erupted with all his strength and borrowed the powerful aid of his Emperor level Demon Body, he should be able to persist for some time in front of a Calamity Immortal. But if he wanted to win, it would basically be impossible unless his opponent vastly underestimated him and he also had an excellent opportunity appear. Still, this miniscule chance in itself was shocking enough.

On the road of cultivation, the further one walked towards the peak, the more difficult each step became. Correspondingly, the disparity between each boundary became so wide that it left one panting in desperation. There were countless talented cultivators in the Land of Divinity and Demons. Using various trump cards, it wasn't rare for someone to be able to leap past ranks to fight. But, this was mostly limited to below the Blue Sea realm.

As soon as a person entered the Blue Sea realm and touched the world's rules, the strength they controlled would rise drastically. Here, even the difference of a small boundary was hard to overcome. If it was said that a Blue Sea could persist in front of a Calamity Immortal for some time before being defeated, it was likely no one would believe this. Because the difference between the two sides couldn't even be described as the disparity between the heavens and earth.

This was a completely different level, comparing two different worlds that couldn't be compared at all...if a Calamity Immortal took action, unless someone was at a similar realm, it was impossible for anyone to escape through luck. This was a truth that all cultivators in the Land of Divinity and Demons acknowledged.

So even if Qin Yu was satisfied with his current strength, that didn't mean he was content to stay where he was. After taking the Demon Body Tempering Pills several times, he still had around half of them remaining. While it wouldn't be enough for him to reach the Saint Level, it could still help him take half a step forward.

It was just that after his Emperor level Demon Body transformation was complete, Qin Yu faintly realized something was wrong, but he couldn't place his hand on it. It was like some formidable instinct...but, what was it?

As Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows deep in thought, Fu Shan hurried over to request a meeting.

Wang Chao, who was drowning in curiosity about the Commander's actions, was given a fright because he had never seen Fu Shan in such a state.

"I need to see the Lord Commander!" Although he forcefully tried to maintain his calm, one could still feel the surging emotions beneath the surface.

What had happened? Could the Lord Commander's courting plan not have worked and he tried to do something dastardly instead? But that wasn't right...he had been standing guard outside for several days and hadn't seen the Commander leave.

All sorts of random thoughts filled Wang Chao's mind but he didn't dare to hesitate. Although he was clear that the Lord Commander was the highest wielder of authority in the Holy Nether Guard right now, that was all based upon the premise that Fu Shan and the others submitted to him.

If Fu Shan were angered, the position of the Holy Nether Guard could change at a moment's notice.

“Vice Commander Fu Shan, please wait a moment, I will immediately send a message!”

Wang Chao conveyed with a heavy voice that Fu Shan was asking for a meeting. Before understanding the situation, he didn't dare to say much else. He only hoped that the Commander could sense something from his nervous expression and prepare himself ahead of time.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. He lightly said, “Allow him in.” This meeting wasn't beyond his expectations. Since he had used his full strength in the examination room, even if Yuan Zhen didn't personally see it for himself, he would still be able to detect the strength he now possessed from the clues left behind.

The Holy Nether Guard naturally needed to confirm the situation before they changed their manner towards Qin Yu once again. Qin Yu didn't feel any disgust towards them for this. These people had been stranded in the Endless Sea for 100,000 years, so how could they not be cautious?

Fu Shan rushed over. When he saw Qin Yu, he knelt down and said, “Subordinate greets the Commander.”

This was a heavy show of respect. Even Wang Chao and the others normally just cupped their hands together in greeting.

Qin Yu gestured, “Rise.” He sighed inwardly. After touching upon the strength of a Calamity Immortal, his status wasn't the same anymore.

Fu Shan didn't stand up. He took a deep breath and said, “I have a question in my heart that I hope Commander can truthfully answer.” He looked up and his eyes shined, “May I ask if the Lord Commander has already achieved an Emperor level Demon Body?”

Qin Yu's heart skipped a beat but he didn't reveal anything on his face. His thoughts raced. He couldn't think about what clues he left behind in the examination room. He hesitated for a moment before he nodded, “It's true.”

Although Fu Shan already had some expectations, when he personally heard this being acknowledged his face flushed red, “Can Commander allow me to sense it a little?”

Qin Yu was aware of Fu Shan's current mood. Since he had already acknowledged this, there was no need to conceal it anymore. He lifted his hand upwards and fiercely grasped outwards. The air popped and an invisible flow of energy scattered in all directions, transmitting an incomparably potent aura.

At this moment, Fu Shan no longer had any doubts. His body shook and he nearly lost the ability to speak. “Congratulations Commander, this is too wonderful...really too wonderful...the Holy Nether Guard's future will be dedicated to you...we will become the sharp sword in your hand that clears the path for you...”

Qin Yu smiled. “Fu Shan, rise.” He knew that it was only today he had thoroughly subdued Fu Shan and the others and wielded the Holy Nether Guard.

“Yes.” Fu Shan took a deep breath. He respectfully stood up, keeping his hands near his side. But soon, his complexion turned cloudy and uncertain.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. “What is it?”

Fu Shan said, "This subordinate has suddenly remembered a key point recorded in the inheritance of the Holy Nether Guard. After the Demon Body breaks through to the Emperor level, if one wants to step into the Saint level then they will need to cut down a Calamity Immortal level demon beast, refining their demon blood and swallowing their undying demon soul. Only by doing this can one cross the final step."

Qin Yu's heart quickened. He finally understood why he sensed something wrong. This was an instinctual reminder, urging him to do just what Fu Shan spoke of.

It was unknown whether or not a Calamity Immortal realm demon beast existed in the Land of Divinity and Demons to begin with. Even if there was one, its strength was surely world-shaking. Qin Yu simply didn't have any chance of successfully hunting one.

In fact, all Holy Monarchs in the past had been personally raised by the Holy Monarch before them. They obtained the approval of the entire Demonic Path, and killing a Calamity Immortal realm demon beast was an undertaking also supported by the entire Demonic Path. But Qin Yu was exiled into the Endless Sea so he didn't have such qualifications. Moreover, there was the situation with the Emperor level Demon Body. Qin Yu still had to keep it a secret, otherwise he would be hunted down as prey by others before he could even attempt to kill a Calamity Immortal demon beast.

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows and looked over.

Fu Shan bitterly shook his head. "Although the Endless Sea is vast, there are no Calamity Immortal demon beasts here..." His eyes revealed a pained look. He thought there was a great deal of time left. While he was worried about this matter, he wasn't too anxious. He could slowly plan for it in the future.

But the present Qin Yu already possessed an Emperor level demon body. Was it supposed to just wait here? The Demonic Path was peerlessly overbearing, and their cultivation path was also fearless in trudging ahead. If a person encountered a bitter setback and fell into a bottleneck, if things were delayed for too long, the chances of making a future breakthrough would drop drastically.

If the Lord Commander stayed in the Endless Sea, he couldn't make a breakthrough with his Demon Body. And if he didn't make a breakthrough with his Demon Body, he wouldn't be able to leave the Endless Sea...this was a vicious loop.

Qin Yu naturally understood this. His eyebrows stretched out to reveal a calm look. "Since I can't make a breakthrough in the Endless Sea, I can only leave here."

Fu Shan's heart sank. "Commander, don't be impulsive! To leave the Endless Sea without authorization is an unpardonable crime!"

Qin Yu looked at him. He said, "No matter how the heavenly dao changes, it always leaves a slim chance of survival. There must be a way to safely leave the Endless Sea...Fu Shan, don't lie to me."

The scene turned deathly silent.

Fu Shan struggled for a long time. Finally, he sighed deeply. Although he hesitated, in truth he already knew what the result would be. How could someone like the Lord Commander be willing to resign himself to waiting out his days in the Endless Sea?

“There is indeed a way to avoid punishment. But this method means almost certain death. Within the records of the Holy Nether Guard, there has never been a single success documented. The Holy Palace calls it Ascending Heaven, but our Holy Nether Guard calls it the Sea Burial...you are either buried in the sea, or you rise into the heavens...”

### **Chapter 543 – Holy Palace Inheritance**

Fu Shan explained the information related to this process that was called either Ascending Heaven or Sea Burial in detail. In truth, simply put the summary was like this: At most, four people would work together, and with Holy Nether City as the starting point, they would rush straight into the Endless Sea up above. If they could break out of the sea, then they would be considered successful.

Of course, while this sounded simple, the difficulty was terrifyingly high. Throughout the inherited records of the Holy Nether Guard, there had not been a single success. But, there were actually piles and piles of failures to serve as examples. In the end, everyone that attempted this method was swallowed up by the Endless Sea and not even bones were left of them.

“The path of the Sea Burial is almost ten chances of death and no chances of survival. Perhaps you can continue to wait; a favorable turn might appear.” Fu Shan’s voice was filled with worry. The appearance of an Emperor level Demon Body should be a matter worth cheering, but he couldn’t summon any happiness. The Holy Nether Guard Commander that was exiled into the Endless Sea actually possessed an Emperor level Demon Body, just a step away from the Saint level...this was such a great taunt!

Qin Yu lightly said, “You and I both know that in this current situation, I can only take this risk. So there is no need to try and persuade me.”

Fu Shan clenched his teeth, a sharp light appearing in his eyes. “If Lord Commander really wishes to rush through this path, then you must accept my arrangements. The Holy Nether Guard’s hopes are all placed upon your body so I will do my best to ensure your safety!”

Qin Yu wasn’t suspicious about this. “What are you proposing to do?”

Fu Shan paced around. “Four people working together is the optimum result obtained from the casualties of countless Holy Nether Guards. One of the spots will be left to Hai Lanlan. That girl possesses a special physique and can mobilize the power of the sea. She will be able to provide a formidable boost to you in overcoming any obstacles.

“As for the other two spots, I will need some more time to prepare. While Calamity Immortals cannot be born in the Holy Nether Guard, through our countless years of inheritance, there have always been some shocking talented seniors who died in seclusion and collected all of their cultivation to be passed down. I will choose experts within the Holy Nether Guard to undergo fusion. Once the fusion is complete, they will be able to provide Commander with potent protection.”

As he said this, a pained look crossed his eyes.

In this world, there were no gains without reason. To inherit such a terrifying cultivation, there was likely an equally high risk. If one failed, all that remained was death. There wasn’t an unlimited number of attempts to inherit the cultivation of these dead seniors. At most there were only five chances for each

cultivation inheritance. After those failures, the inherited cultivation would scatter and disperse. Thus, only the most talented individuals would be chosen to undergo this process.

Moreover, they had to complete two cultivation fusions this time. It was unknown how many outstanding juniors would perish because of this. But this was something Fu Shan had no choice in. Qin Yu had already decided to go all-out so the Holy Nether Guard also had to do everything in their power to ensure he lived.

Qin Yu frowned. "Is the difficulty of fusion very high?"

Fu Shan took a deep breath. "The Holy Nether Guard isn't afraid of death. As long as the Commander can be safe, any price we pay is worth it." As he spoke, there was a strong smell of blood in his words.

Qin Yu was silent. He had a premonition that what Fu Shan was going to do would cause many people to lose their lives. And these people had parents, they had children, relatives, friends...still, he couldn't refuse this.

"Where is the difficulty in fusion? Perhaps I can provide some help."

This was all Qin Yu could do.

Fu Shan had a pained look. "The main problem is that our mortal bodies aren't strong enough. The Holy Nether Guard refines slaughter aura beneath the sea. Although we can obtain a formidable strength from this, the slaughter aura constantly corrodes our bodies, leaving numerous wounds within us. Even though we are all wary of this and even try to help it by cultivating body tempering arts, we cannot cultivate them to the highest realms. And once the inherited strength of our seniors is poured into a body, it is like a volcano erupting inside you, rolling through your limbs and bones. If a person has a slightly frailer body, it is extremely difficult to withstand it."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. His thoughts raced. After a long time he slowly said, "If it is just a problem concerning the mortal body, then I have better candidates." He flicked his sleeves and two towering large fellows appeared out of thin air. They bowed and said, "Greetings, master!"

Fu Shan's eyes widened, his face full of shock. Where did these two people come from? He hadn't sensed them at all...just how many secrets did the Lord Commander have hidden on his body?

Qin Yu lifted a hand. "Fu Shan, what do you think of the two of them?"

Tuba and Tutou had already silently received instruction. They stepped forward in unison and their blood energy suddenly erupted. There was a loud thunderous boom in the air as the ground disintegrated.

Tuba's body had long since broken into the Blue Sea level and Tutou had now also stepped into this boundary. Combined with their tall and burly bodies, this was an amazing sight.

Fu Shan regained his composure. After probing the two, he was immediately overjoyed. These two barbarian-like fellows had mortal bodies so strong that it was a complete mess. Withstanding the fusion shouldn't be difficult at all.

"Commander, if they accept the fusion process, I believe there is at least an 80% chance of success!" He hesitated and then clenched his teeth. "There is something I didn't mention just now...after inheriting

the strength of the seniors and completing the fusion, it will form an invisible imprisonment around them. In the future, there will be no possibility for their cultivation to advance.”

Qin Yu frowned. This was actually unexpected. But as he thought carefully about it, this was also within reason. If one wished to obtain a powerful cultivation out of nowhere, then that person also had to pay a similarly steep price. As he was hesitating, Tuba laughed and grinned, “Master has forgotten. We titans cultivate our mortal bodies. Our cultivation or whatever not being able to advance, that is useless to us.”

Fu Shan was stunned. This was the first time he had seen a tribe of people who only cultivated the body. But if they didn’t have any cultivation foundation, whether or not they could smoothly fuse with the strength of the seniors became an unknown. He spoke out his worries. Before Qin Yu could say anything, Tutou curled his lips and said, “We’ll know once we try.”

Tuba nodded in agreement.

As the titan tribe with incomparably strong bodies, their bravado was this great. If they failed, they would at most vomit out some blood. Would it take their lives?

Of course, compared to His Highness, the mortal bodies they were so proud of couldn’t be considered much at all. Tuba and Tutou glanced at each other, envy in each other’s eyes. They really wanted to know what His Highness ate growing up. Their bodies weren’t much different at the beginning, but after some time where they didn’t see each other, Qin Yu’s body had become preposterously strong.

As the titan tribe which specialized in body cultivation, they had an extremely keen perception towards blood energy. Others might not be able to feel the aura of Qin Yu’s body that he restrained, but in the eyes of Tuba and Tutou, Qin Yu’s seemingly common body possessed a horrific strength that could destroy the heavens and ruin the earth.

Fu Shan’s mind was filled with the casual utterance of ‘we’ll know once we try’. He wanted to remind these two that fusing with another’s cultivation wasn’t a joke. But when he saw how confident Tuba and Tutou were and how the Lord Commander didn’t intend to stop them, he hesitated and then suppressed these words in his heart.

Darkly considering things, he simply didn’t know who Tuba and Tutou were. Since these two wanted to give it a try, he would allow them to do so. There was nothing to lose if the process failed, and if they succeeded, the Holy Nether Guard would be able to avoid many unnecessary losses.

It had to be known that just before this, he had already decided to have his one and only son participate in the cultivation fusion process. As the Vice Commander, if he wasn’t willing to set an example for the others, how could he be able to convince them?

When Fu Shan thought of this, he truly hoped that Tuba and Tutou could succeed.

He didn’t delay any further. He bowed and left. The cultivation fusion process wasn’t simple. There were many preparations to be done and many people to be informed.

Fu Shan convened the three Lieutenants of the Holy Nether Guard as well as some core high level figures. He spoke straight to the point and informed everyone of the situation. As expected, the

revelation of the Emperor level Demon Body caused cheers all around. But soon after, the conundrum of making another breakthrough left everyone pale.

Fu Shan slapped the table. "The Lord Commander has already decided to take the path of the Sea Burial to rush out of the Endless Sea. Only like this will he be able to find a turning point in his breakthrough."

Everyone debated for a long time. Some people proposed that the Commander shouldn't be so impulsive. But after Fu Shan conveyed Qin Yu's firm will they fell silent and grew to admire him even more.

If a person knew this was a path of almost certain death and was still willing to try...

The Lord Commander's current achievements were definitely not just because he possessed a white sun boundary talent.

A vote was taken and passed. It was accepted that Tuba and Tutou would undergo the fusion process. The high level figures of the Holy Nether Guard began to mobilize. There were a number of arrangements that needed to be prepared for the cultivation fusion and they were rapidly carried out.

The first attempt didn't go smoothly. Not long after the cultivation fusion started, Tuba and Tutou both failed in succession. To the shock of everyone watching, they spat out several mouthfuls of blood, wiped the blood from their lips without a care at all, and then shouted to begin once more.

The titan tribe specialized in cultivating the mortal body. From youth, they tempered their body and spirit together, reaching a deeply profound level. The intensity of their bodies had reached a shocking degree. In addition, the array formation that the Holy Nether Guard prepared had an added cushioning effect. All of this resulted in the seemingly superficial injuries.

If it were anyone else, failing the fusion process would result in their life's cultivation dispersing and their mortal bodies being broken into several pieces.

Fu Shan relaxed a great deal. He hurriedly sent people to find out what the reason behind it was. If these two could fail in the fusion process, it meant that they at least met the conditions for fusion.

Most importantly, since Tuba and Tutou had such astonishingly strong bodies, from the way things were going now, they could try a few dozen more times without issue.

Ten days later, the slightly dispirited Tuba and Tutou sat in their own respective array formations. Magic power constantly drew in faint wisps of inherited cultivation, pouring it into their bodies.

Fu Shan and the others watched from afar, praise and gratification on their faces. They had experimented 30-40 times before this and several inherited cultivations had been used up. But in the end, they had succeeded.

And during this time, they all had a feeling in their heart that the Lord Commander was a truly epic person. He actually had such fierce characters hidden up his sleeves. The bodies of these two were so strong that they were like walking lumps of iron.

Completing the fusion in 30 to 40 attempts was the result of constantly adjusting the array formations after observing the results. If people from the Holy Nether Guard were to try this, they would die after a

failed attempt and there wouldn't be any experimental knowledge gained. As a result, their death rate would be ten times or even dozens of times higher.

They could only rely on luck.

Another half a day passed. Once it was determined that Tuba and Tutou's cultivation fusion was proceeding smoothly and there wouldn't be any more problems, Fu Shan appeared in front of Qin Yu once more.

"Without further incident, Tuba and Tutou will need one year to fully control the cultivation in their bodies." He paused and then continued, "I would like to give Lord Commander a suggestion. That is, to attempt the path of Sea Burial a year from now, because that is when the Holy Palace's main body will open up."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. "The Holy Palace's main body?"

Fu Shan said in a low voice, "Once the throne of the Holy Monarch becomes empty, the Holy Palace's main body is sealed up, only to be opened on a special date. I have researched the records and found that the next opening period of the Holy Palace's main body will be a year from now. Once it does, those with a King level Demon Body and above may enter to seek out formidable inheritances in the Holy Palace."

His eyes brightened. "It is rumored that within the Holy Palace, there is something behind by the Holy Monarch. After obtaining it, you can automatically gain the partial approval of the Holy Palace and assume the position of Holy Son. And the status of the Holy Son is that of the Holy Monarch's successor. If Lord Commander can obtain that, you can immediately become an extremely heavy and valuable existence within the Demonic Path. In fact, by relying on that status, you can receive the help of Demonic Path powerhouses, vastly increasing your chances of hunting down a Calamity Immortal realm demon beast."

"Holy Palace inheritance?" Qin Yu whispered, his eyes gradually lighting up.

#### **Chapter 544A – Hopes Shattered**

The two Demon Envoys sat across from each other, a red square table placed between them. Atop it was a teapot with its lid left open. Tendrils of water vapor curled up in the air, tumbling about and leaving behind a delicate fragrance. From time to time, the steam took on the appearance of a pine tree, or the appearance of a willow with a young shepherd child playing beneath, or a sea of fog, or a grand rising mountain. Just this simple water vapor seemed to contain an endless amount of possible variations.

"The main body of the Holy Palace fast approaches. The Mu Family has made many preparations. It seems that their ambitions great. If they were to obtain the key inheritance..." The previous Demon Envoy poured himself a cup of tea. Although his words trailed off, the meaning behind them was already clear.

The Demon Envoy had a calm expression. "When I sent Yao Bin into the Endless Sea, I had already prepared for this. The Holy Palace's inheritance is undoubtedly important, but ownership of the throne depends on the boundary of a person's Demon Body in the end. As long as he can achieve the Saint

level, even if the Mu Family has a thousand methods there is nothing they can do but bow their heads in hate.”

“But you and I both know that while trapped in the Endless Sea, there is no way to achieve a Saint level Demon Body.”

The Demon Envoy said in a low voice, “This disciple understands. So, I have been preparing in secret. After everything is done, I will make a trip to the Demon Realm.”

There was a long silence. The previous Demon Envoy put down his teacup. “You should be well aware how dangerous the Demon Realm is. Even with your current cultivation, you might not be able to escape unscathed.”

The Demon Envoy lightly said, “In this world, if you want to obtain something, you must pay the corresponding price. The Mu Family can only be the Mu Family. I will not give them a chance to restore their surname.” As he spoke, his voice became cruel and callous. “The position of Holy Monarch shouldn’t be theirs to begin with.”

There was another long period of silence. The teacher and disciple drank tea quietly, thoughts spinning in their hearts.

The previous Demon Envoy sighed and put down his teacup once more. “Your teacher will go to the Demon Realm with you. I hope we will find success.”

The Demon Envoy stood up and bowed. “Thank you teacher!”

...

Cloud Grove City, Mu Family Residence.

Within an underground temple somewhere, an exquisite illuminating array formation gently sprinkled light around. The pure halo of light illuminated the faces of those people in the underground temple.

There weren’t many people who had the qualifications to participate in today’s meeting. But those that did held true power in the Mu Family. Mu Xianglin was one of these people, but even he was ranked below the several old Ancestors.

The one sitting in the seat of honor was an old man with white hair and wrinkles piled up on his face. His eyes were partly open, giving off a somewhat weary feeling. But, if one sensed carefully, they would discover a terrifying aura beneath this old bag of leathery skin, one so vast that it left a person’s soul shivering...as one of the top families of the Demonic Path, how could they not have a Calamity Immortal assuming personal command?

“How is Mu Mo’s condition these days?” The first one to the left of the High Ancestor spoke up, asking. His appearance was somewhat younger. His hair was gray and he was full of spirit.

Mu Xianglin hurriedly said. “Mu Mo is in seclusion right now, trying to rush to the next boundary. With the Holy Monarch’s item bestowed by the High Ancestor, he has an enormous chance of success.” As he spoke, his spirits lifted and his smile widened.

The old man in the main seat opened his eyes, his voice calm and even. "Tell Mu Mo that he can only succeed; he cannot fail here."

Mu Xianglin bowed. "I ask High Ancestor to rest assured!" After he finished speaking, he hesitated a little.

The Mu Family's Calamity Immortal, Sea Suppressing Divine Needle Mu Rugui, closed his eyes once more. "I have already dealt with things on the side of the Holy Palace. You merely need to follow the plan accordingly."

After speaking these words, there was an even deeper weariness on his face. He lifted his hand and waved dismissively.

Everyone stood up and respectfully bowed as they excused themselves.

Once everyone left the underground temple, the illuminating array formation gradually extinguished itself. Darkness shrouded this place once more and a dense yin chill flooded the air.

"Ah..."

Faintly, there seemed to be screams of despair coming from the depths of the underground temple.

Mu Xianglin's face paled a little. But he immediately suppressed his state of mind and his expression became firmer.

A new Holy Monarch had to appear within the Mu Family! This had to happen!

...

The Demonic Path's long-sealed Holy Palace's main body would soon open. As all the young disciples with King level Demon Bodies were shaking with excitement, in the far-off Immortal Sect, they were also welcoming a great celebration. On this day, Nineheaven Mirrormoon Palace finally welcomed a new master.

In a pavilion built on the summit of a mountain, there was a woman of unparalleled grace and talent. She wore a magnificent flowing dress and there was no hint of emotion on her beautiful face. Just by standing there, she seemed to merge together with the surrounding world. She was like an incarnation of the infinite heavens and earth, making one instinctively feel awe.

Space faintly fluctuated and Purple Moon stepped out. Her gaze was calm but there was a trace of pride on her face that couldn't be concealed. As she thought, her judgment of others was far too sharp. The disciple she received in the past had finally risen on up and was now someone who stood upon the highest heavens.

From today, she was the Master of Nineheaven Mirrormoon Palace. Out of the endless trillions of lives within the Land of Divinity and Demons, she was one of the noblest existences there.

"Yuanyin, the time has arrived. Go to the main hall and receive the bows."

Beneath the pavilion, the woman turned around and slightly bowed. "Yes, honorable master." Her voice was cool and without any fluctuations. While her stance was respectful, there was no mood in her eyes.

It was as if the person in front of her was simply someone called 'honorable master' that she needed to nod to. Or, it could even be a stone...to the current Shen Yuanyin, there wasn't much difference between a human or a stone.

After cultivating the Sublime Lost Emotion Code to large success, all of one's own emotions and sentiments disappeared. Everything in this world and all that lived within it was nothing but ants in one's eyes. Naturally there was no need to care for ants.

Shen Yuanyin took a step out of the pavilion. Then, she stopped and looked back. There was a brief flash of confusion in her eyes, but this confusion soon disappeared like snow in the sun. Her faint and formidable will had already thoroughly grinded these emotions that shouldn't have existed to begin with into nothing. Since she couldn't figure out why this place stirred up her heart that should be as serene as a lake, then she would simply erase it from this world so it wouldn't affect her any longer.

One step rose and one step fell. Shen Yuanyin vanished from sight.

Soon, a bell resounded through the nine heavens, its sound like rumbling thunder. The grand ceremony of ascending the throne had already begun. From this moment on, Shen Yuanyin was doomed to be the center of all attention, becoming an unsurpassed divine existence that received endless gazes filled with awe and reverence.

A breeze blew past, stirring Purple Moon's skirt. She looked blankly at the place where Shen Yuanyin vanished. It seemed that the disciple who used to smile so affectionately at her in the past would no longer return. She didn't know why, but she suddenly thought back to that young man who loved to drink wine here and her lips tightened.

"I wasn't wrong...Yuanyin's destiny is to become the Master of Nineheaven Mirrormoon Palace...I have cultivated her, growing her into becoming the most honored woman in the world..."

"Since you have already died, then just disappear. Stop trying to affect her heart and ruin her infinitely bright future...I wasn't wrong, I wasn't wrong!"

....

Endless Sea, Holy Nether City.

Qin Yu didn't know that his life's most important woman had stepped upon the world's peak this day, becoming a peerless great figure who wielded authority within the Immortal Sect. Right now he was diligently cultivating. Deep blue ripples of light surrounded his body, gentle and soft like the sea above his head.

Cultivating the path of water in the Endless Sea seemed to produce an additional supportive effect. Since Qin Yu saw Hai Lanlan and inadvertently peeped into the threshold, his cultivation had gone as smoothly as wind and water. It could even be said that he was progressing with 'leaps and bounds'. While he was still a long distance away from reaching large success, using the path of water's gentle attributes to nourish his body was already simple.

The main body of the Holy Palace would soon open, allowing people to search for the formidable inheritances within. While the most basic qualification was to possess a King level Demon Body, there was no information regarding what standards there were to obtain the inheritances inside. However, it

was clear that the boundary of a person's Demon Body was key. While the Emperor level Demon Body was sufficiently powerful, Qin Yu didn't mind becoming stronger.

If he ascended the throne of the Holy Palace, that could help him leap into the highest heavens with a single bound. Since there was such a great shortcut opened up in front of him, he naturally took it incomparably seriously.

Moreover, there was no other path open to him. If the Mu Family could try to kill him even in the Endless Sea, then that meant they would never leave behind any hidden dangers for themselves...he had to seize the position of Holy Monarch no matter what.

As for whether or not he could pass the road of Sea Burial...Qin Yu didn't worry about it too much. Not to mention that his strength gave him great self-confidence, he also had a hidden card that might be able to show some wondrous effect.

As Qin Yu was cultivating, Tuba and Tutou were trying to control the strength they had fused with. A vast amount of extra strength had appeared within them. They had never trained in magic arts or supernatural arts before. Luckily, the titan tribe had their own inherited cultivation system. After the two groped about for a long time, they finally found a way to integrate this newfound strength into their own abilities.

His Highness was the hope of the titan tribe. Fu Shan had already warned them how terrifyingly dangerous the road of Sea Burial was. The two had to try their best to become as formidable as possible before they headed out.

They could die, but nothing could happen to His Highness. This was a firm belief that had never once wavered in Tuba and Tutou's hearts.

Shang Yuntai was also cultivating.

After the poisons in his body were eliminated, his tattered body soon recovered under Wang Chao's care. Then, he burst out with an unsurpassed fervor for cultivation. It was as if he wanted to make up for all the time he lost...using Wang Chao's native dialect, this silly baby had gone crazy!

The crazy Shang Yuntai carried with him a steadfast heart that had been tempered through sorrow and despair and had even made a round trip to death's door. And this heart was only growing stronger and stronger.

Many people said that the road of Sea Burial was incomparably horrifying. There had never been a single recorded case of success within the Holy Nether Guard. Even Wang Chao sighed woefully in private.

But Shang Yuntai had full faith in the Lord Commander. This faith had penetrated deep into his marrow on the day when he had been dragged back from the precipice of death. He fully believed that the Lord Commander would succeed!

Shang Yuntai would follow the Lord Commander back to the Demonic Path in the future. Everything that he suffered, all that he endured, would be returned to him. He would make sure that those close to him were no longer sad. He would make sure that those who harmed him felt pain and despair. He would make sure that those who failed him lived their lives in remorse.

That day wouldn't be too far away!

### **Chapter 544B – Hopes Shattered**

In the long life of a cultivator, a year was like a flashing comet in the skies. If one didn't pay attention, it would soon howl off into the unseen distance.

On this day, Holy Nether City was incomparably peaceful. But in this peace, one could feel a boundless constrained strength. It was like a bow that had been pulled past its limits. Once the opportunity arose, this bow would shoot out a heaven-shocking arrow, tearing apart all obstacles in its way.

Hai Lanlan looked at Qin Yu's calm profile. She couldn't figure out why he was so eager to walk this road of almost certain death. Was the outside world really something he couldn't sever himself from? Or, was there someone waiting for him?

As her thoughts moved, an almost imperceptible gentleness appeared in her faint eyes. Qin Yu could stay in Holy Nether City in peace and comfort. Although it was the same as being imprisoned here, as the Lord Commander who had the approval of the Holy Nether Guard, he could live a life far more satisfying than what the vast majority of people in the outside world experienced.

If he could discard all of this without hesitation and step onto a road of unknown life or death, this required an immense amount of courage. It was something worth praising.

However, Hai Lanlan couldn't figure out why such a courageous person did all that ridiculous stuff from before? She shook her head, suppressing these thoughts. Her eyes became faint once more. She looked up towards the great sea above her eyes and decisiveness began to flood her face.

She had already agreed to Uncle Fu Shan's request. So, no matter what price she had to pay, she would ensure that he survived.

Death...that wasn't something she feared. But, if she could see the skies outside before she died, that would bring her satisfaction before she perished.

She would treat it as completing what her father couldn't achieve in the past.

After fully completing the fusion, Tuba and Tutou's bodies had become even more grand and towering. As the two stood there without expression, they were like two terrifying vicious beasts that had taken human form. Every breath they took released a potent aura that shook the mind.

They saw Hai Lanlan. This delicate girl seemed as if she could be flicked away with a single finger. But, neither of them dared to underestimate her. After obtaining the remnant cultivations of the previous generations of Holy Nether Guards, their senses had become even sharper. They could perceive a dangerous aura coming from her petite body.

Moreover, what left Tuba and Tutou satisfied was that there was a vague indifference on Hai Lanlan's face. This was a mood that completely disregarded her own life or death. They wouldn't mistake someone who was feeling the same way that they did.

In the end, the two people had a simple judgment. Anyone who was willing to abandon their own life to protect His Highness was a good person.

Fu Shan knelt down. "Commander, I hope your journey goes smoothly!" He had already done everything he could, so there was nothing much left to say. And, if he spoke much more, he was worried he would reveal his own nerve-wracked feelings.

Hualala –

Behind him one could see 100,000 Holy Nether Guards kneeling in place. They joined together to form a sea of red. Armor clashed and collided and the waves of sound left one's mind rushing.

"I pray for the Lord Commander to Ascend to Heaven!"

At this moment, Wang Chao was kneeling on the ground with everyone else. His heart beat like a rapid drum. Beneath his helmet, his lips were shivering due to anxiousness.

The Lord Commander had to succeed, he had to!

Qin Yu was originally prepared to quietly leave; he never thought that Fu Shan would cause such a commotion today. Still, he had to acknowledge that his heart was affected. A heroic and valiant spirit filled his chest.

He took a deep breath and slowly said, "I know that many of you still think of me as a stranger. But since I am the Commander of the Holy Nether Guard, I will surely be responsible for all of you. I ask that you all rest assured. I am not rushing into my own death. Since I dare to take the road of Sea Burial, I naturally have my reasons.

"I guarantee you all that I will return before long. At that time, perhaps the Holy Nether Guard will finally retrieve their freedom!"

Qin Yu turned around, "Move out!"

He took one step out. His figure shot into the skies.

Tuba and Tutou stepped forwards. The ground shook and caved in and countless cracks appeared. Their towering figures were suddenly thrust upwards, following close behind.

Compared to the two titans, Hai Lanlan didn't make any movements at all. An invisible strength lifted her delicate body and she floated up like a fairy.

Fu Shan took out a blood stone from his chest and fiercely tossed it onto the ground. As the blood stone smashed apart, he opened his mouth and shouted out from the depths of his throat, "Road of Sea Burial, open!"

In the legends, it was said that long ago the stone used to open the road was pure white in color. But every time a person died in the road of Sea Burial, the stone would gain a tiny dot of blood red color. The blood red color gradually increased until it finally linked up into an endless stretch that became its current appearance.

Just how many Holy Nether Guards had died in the road of Sea Burial? If asked, Fu Shan would immediately give them an accurate number: 34,568 people. He took a deep breath, looking at the four figures that flew out from Holy Nether City. He earnestly hoped that this number would not grow once more.

If the Commander were to die today, then the Holy Nether Guard would only have that final choice left remaining to them...while they all might die in a sea of bloody battle, there would no longer be any path to retreat to.

The road of Sea Burial opened. The moment they stepped out of Holy Nether City, Hai Lanlan gently wrinkled her eyebrows together. Her bloodline possessed a formidable specialty that was compatible with the sea. Right now, she could sense an intense evil intent being exerted upon the four of them by the surrounding sea.

Hai Lanlan took a deep breath and a subtle aura emanated from her body. As it fused into the surrounding sea, it was like a gentle palm, comforting the feelings of malice and loathing. Thus, the sea region remained calm as before. The four of them rapidly sped upwards, not encountering any troubles.

Tuba and Tutou couldn't help but arch an eyebrow. Fu Shan had narrated a great deal of information to them concerning the road of Sea Burial, as well as many various methods to deal with the potential dangers they might encounter. But they had been in the sea for a long time already and there hadn't been a single disturbance. This seemed different from what Fu Shan said. Could their luck be good and they hadn't encountered the suppression of the Endless Sea? It had to be known that based on their current speed, they would break out of the sea soon.

Qin Yu turned his head and looked over Hai Lanlan. There was no change in her expression. If he didn't receive a reminder from Meimei, he wouldn't have noticed that she had already made her move.

Fu Shan's arrangements were truly reasonable. This girl could actually obtain so much peaceful time for them. But, he knew when it was time to stop. If this continued any longer, she might suffer a backlash.

Qin Yu stopped. He turned and grabbed Hai Lanlan's hand. Before she could react with anger or surprise, he said, "That's enough. You can stop here. From here on out, I will protect you, so make sure you restore yourself."

Hai Lanlan hesitated for a moment. Although she felt a bit of resistance, she knew that this was the best choice. She took a deep breath and nodded. Once she closed her eyes, beads of sweat instantly appeared, drenching her hair. Her face turned pale white.

Qin Yu relaxed. He was somewhat worried that Hai Lanlan might not cooperate because of her previous prejudices towards him. But now he saw that he didn't need to deal with such needless troubles. He turned and welcomed Tuba and Tutou's shocked expressions. It didn't take much to know what they were thinking. He said with an ill-humored tone, "Put away your thoughts. It's your turn now."

Before his voice fell, the previously incomparably quiet and peaceful Endless Sea became turbulent and raging. Loud rumbles roared all around. Tuba and Tutou separated, one taking the right and the other taking the left, protecting Qin Yu and Hai Lanlan between them. They roared out loud and terrifying blood fluctuations erupted from their bodies. Then, like two divine mountains within the sea, they blocked all the undercurrents that hurtled towards them.

The road of Sea Burial was a ray of hope left behind to the Holy Nether Guard. At the same time, it served as a warning to those who tried to change their destiny. Thus, after opening the road, those that stayed behind in Holy Nether City were given the ability to clearly see everything that happened to Qin Yu and the others...this was to show them the pitiful fate of those who tried to resist their destiny, to

serve as a warning to all those in the future that they shouldn't try to change something that had already been decided for them.

As the deep sea erupted with shocking waves, Fu Shan tensed up. This was because he knew that the true test was finally beginning!

"Lord Commander, no matter what, please survive!" Old thieving heavens, since you decided to give my Holy Nether Guard a glimpse of hope, please don't take it away!

Tuba and Tutou easily resisted the waves. After undergoing the cultivation fusion, they each possessed a terrifying strength that surpassed a Blue Sea. If they joined forces they could even contend with Qin Yu. And with their incomparably potent bodies, they simply didn't fear the shaking strength of the undercurrents. They were the best-suited to opening the road ahead.

But there was no relaxation on the faces of these two, because the game had just begun. Moreover, the threat within the road of Sea Burial came not just from the Endless Sea itself.

Bang –

There was another fierce collision. Before the undercurrent could approach Tuba it was already crushed to nothing by a tyrannical strength. But as this undercurrent collapsed, a large fish with golden scales appeared. Its tail rapidly swung about, rushing forward like a whistling dark golden arrow. Tuba's extremely powerful blood energy fluctuations were only able to slow it down a little.

"Come on!" He roared out loud and punched forward. Because of how dreadful the force behind his fist was, it shattered the water in front of him, causing a white line extending straight out.

The dark golden fish cried out pitifully as it was sent hurtling away. One could clearly see countless cracks appear on its surface. Then, its scales began to disintegrate, revealing the flesh below. Golden blood poured out from all across its body.

Seeing this, Tuba's complexion changed. "That's impossible!"

At the same time, in Holy Nether City, Fu Shan also emitted a cry of alarm. The three Lieutenants around him instantly paled.

Wang Chao's heart shrank. Disregarding his disrespectful actions, he shouted out, "What happened?! Why is the fish's blood gold?"

Hua Yanting and Huang Shan clearly discovered the horrified expressions appearing on the faces of those around them, as if they saw something terrifying.

No one replied to Wang Chao's question. The scene in front of them caused the fields of vision of those watching to flash black, as if all the strength were being sucked out of their bodies.

It was clear that this golden blood contained some strange information...

Wang Chao rushed ahead. His eyes were cold. "Vice Commander, I need to know just what the Lord Commander has encountered." His voice was calm, but there was a brutality beneath the surface. His eyes began to turn red. If something were to happen to the Commander, he had no idea how he would react.

This was an extremely impolite and rude questioning, but no one bothered to scold Wang Chao for offending his superiors. Even Yuan Zhen, who valued rules and customs the most, couldn't summon the strength to speak.

Fu Shan's voice was hoarse, like someone who had walked through the desert for many days without water. "Through the countless recorded incidents of the road of Sea Burial being opened, there have been some exceptionally tragic attempts. Everyone that stepped into the road of Sea Burial was submerged and swallowed up by monster beasts of the Endless Sea, without any strength to resist." There was a dazed look on his face. He paused and then continued, "In those tragic attempts, golden blood has already appeared...to our knowledge, that golden blood represents an extremely intense attraction for monster beasts in the sea and it will even cause them to fall into a berserk state..."

Wang Chao instantly froze. The road of Sea Burial was said to have ten chances of death and no chances of survival. If someone were to encounter something like this too, then that was almost ensured annihilation. He shivered and began to release a cold sweat. "No, that's not possible, that cannot happen! Hurry and have the Commander return! He just left not too long ago; he can definitely withdraw in time!"

Fu Shan shook his head. "Once the road of Sea Burial begins, one can only advance; there is no retreat. There is no longer any time." He seemed to instantly age. His back bent and a dreary aura surrounded him.

The hopes of the Holy Nether Guard had been shattered!

#### **Chapter 545A – Final Glimmer**

When the golden blood appears, the road of Sea Burial becomes one of absolute death. These were words known throughout the entire Holy Nether Guard which conjured the most terrifying image in the minds of countless people...without a single exception! Perhaps many of those who had witnessed this scene in the past had already passed away, but their fears had been passed down from generation to generation. When the first drop of golden blood appeared in everyone's sight, all of Holy Nether City seemed to crash into a vacuum. All sounds instantly vanished, replaced by dead silence.

Wang Chao felt as if the old heavens was playing a great joke on him. In his despair, it had given him hope. But just as the sun was dawning, it had been extinguished. A strong psychological surge caused his entire consciousness to fall into a blurry state. Then, a strange anger erupted. This old thieving heavens, did it plan to play with him until he collapsed? Did it plan on playing with him until he gave in to despair? Fine, if you don't want me to live, then I'll let you watch me die!

Clenching his teeth in anger and with eyes flushed red, Wang Chao's cultivation instantly erupted. But just as he was about to hurtle towards the road of Sea Burial, someone stopped him. If this were anyone else, perhaps Wang Chao might have bowled over them in his rage-filled haze, but the one who did so was Shang Yuntai.

"Old Shang, get out of the way!" Although they hadn't known each other for long, the two men got along very well. Now they were already genuinely good friends. Moreover, from the depths of his heart, Wang Chao felt a deep admiration towards how Shang Yuntai was able to endure everything this past year and still give his all.

Shang Yuntai said in a low voice. "Old Wang, don't lose your mind. If you rush forward now, not only will you not be able to help the Commander but you will make the situation even worse!"

Wang Chao mirthlessly smiled. "I indeed can't help the Commander, but since old thieving heavens wants to play me to death, I might as well go along with its wishes...but before I die, I still have to struggle once or twice so that the thieving heavens can have some fun!" There was a bitter viciousness in his voice, one that made others believe without hesitation that he had already gone mad.

Shang Yuntai took a deep breath. He knew that he had to cut through this mess of a situation soon, otherwise this fellow Old Wang might not even recognize him.

"You bastard, you were the one who told me that the Commander can definitely succeed the throne of the Holy Monarch and gave me hope to continue living on, but now you don't even believe yourself! Surname Wang, if you want to die then go find somewhere quiet and smash your head in, but if you dare to rush into the road of Sea Burial and harm the Commander, I will never forgive you!"

Shang Yuntai, who had been on the precipice of death, had experienced all sorts of tempering of the mind and had already reached a level where he could remain indifferent to almost anything. There was little that could cause his mood to swing about. So as he shouted at Wang Chao at this moment, Wang Chao was truly left stunned.

Wang Chao opened his eyes and tried to explain, "No...I don't want to harm the Commander...I just..."

Shang Yuntai roared, "Shut up! Let me tell you that the Lord Commander will definitely succeed today. He won't die here! His words were absolute, without any hesitation at all."

Wang Chao's lips moved as if he wanted to say something. In the end, he swallowed his words back down. Hua Yanting and Huang Shan finally regained their composure and a cry broke free from their throats as they grabbed onto Wang Chao and stubbornly held him down, shouting that he couldn't be impulsive.

But when the two looked at Shang Yuntai, there was a slightly ill expression. Big brother had been a bit reckless, but weren't your words too excessive? It was the same as publicly slapping him! Don't forget who looked after you and dragged you back from death's door! If not for our big brother you would have turned into a pile of ruined bones; how could you have lasted until the Commander helped you? You ungrateful bastard!

Shang Yuntai relaxed and he let out a breath of relief. When he sensed the gazes of the other two, he bitterly smiled. Besides this, he really didn't have any way to stop Wang Chao. But none of that mattered. Once the Commander succeeded, they would understand that he didn't ruin Wang Chao's reputation but had saved him instead.

Looking up above their heads, everyone could clearly see the scene that Qin Yu and his group were experiencing right now. It was as if they could hear the roaring of the Endless Sea around them.

Shang Yuntai's gaze was firm, without any wavering. The Lord Commander would definitely succeed! Perhaps in the entire Holy Nether City, only he was so confident at this moment. Not too far away from him, even the ordinarily cold and indifferent Liang Shou was sobbing in pain and grief with snot running down his nose.

Tuba and Tutou were similarly filled with pessimism and gloom. But, they had already readied themselves to protect His Highness at the cost of their own lives. So, they soon steadied their hearts. When they glanced at each other, they could see the resolve in each other's hearts – it was time to die for His Highness!

The voices and faces of the friends and family they had in their tribe rapidly raced through their minds. But soon, they were forcefully suppressed. All that remained in their eyes was a cruel and crazy light.

“Die!”

With a loud roar, Tuba and Tutou's bodies grew another foot taller. Their robes burst apart at the seams, revealing their rock-solid figures below. On the surface of their bronze skin, lines began to rapidly appear. They were simple and rough, releasing an infinitely wild aura.

Through the long history of the titan tribe, they had a special inheritance that was passed down amongst their people. Now, what Tuba and Tutou activated was a secret all-out technique of the titan tribe. By burning their bloodline, they forced their bodies to return back to the source, obtaining the terrifying strength that their ancestors once possessed in ancient times. In that moment, the two erupted with a tyrannical aura. Blazing, boiling, and wild blood energy fluctuations recklessly spread outwards. The two of them became like great blazing suns, causing one's mind to tremble.

Hai Lanlan opened her eyes, a bit of helplessness and disappointment in her normally faint gaze. It seemed that she wouldn't have a chance to see the outside world. She took a deep breath, preparing to summon the strength in her body. But then someone grabbed her hand and applied a bit of force. She looked up to see Qin Yu's calm expression. “Rest first; it's not your time yet.”

At this moment, Hai Lanlan was a little lost. Before she stepped into the road of Sea Burial, she had already prepared herself for the possibility of dying here. But when she saw the golden blood appear, she still instinctively felt a deep fear rise up in the depths of her heart. Qin Yu was the Commander of the Holy Nether Guard, and since he had already decided to rush through the road of Sea Burial, how could he not know about the significance of the golden blood? If so, how could he be so calm? Did he have some life-maintaining card in his hand?

But this thought vanished as soon as it appeared. This was because Hai Lanlan was well aware what sort of terrors would appear after the golden blood did. It was impossible for them to survive this. Still, she couldn't deny that Qin Yu's calmness had infected her. Or, perhaps it was her natural pride that made her unwilling to put on a frightened expression in the moments before her death.

Hai Lanlan closed her eyes. She knew that coming here was almost certain death, but since she promised her Uncle Fu Shan that she would protect Qin Yu, she would do so with the entirety of her strength.

A trace of cold determination emanated from her body. Qin Yu's eyebrows rose for a moment.

This girl was obviously prepared to go all-out.

Qin Yu looked up. His gaze was deep and profound, as if his eyes pierced through the barriers of time and space, looking upon something unknown. There was a bit of wariness and thoughtfulness on his

face, but there was no fear. But from the beginning, he knew that regardless of what happened today and how smoothly it went, he wouldn't die here.

Undying's awakening became a formidable life-maintaining card in his hand. Even in the road of Sea Burial, Qin Yu believed he had the ability to safely withdraw. And before he entered, he had asked Undying this and obtained a positive reply. As for Hai Lanlan, Tuba, and Tutou, he could use the Ninerealm Holy Land's Saint Son Token to carry them away.

However, the reason Qin Yu rushed through the road of Sea Burial today was because he wanted to openly and honestly leave the Endless Sea and subsequently participate in the competition for the Holy Palace's inheritance. Thus, unless it was a life or death moment, he wouldn't ask Undying to do anything. Moreover, there was another card in his hand. Perhaps it might have a wondrous effect; it just wasn't the time to use this card yet.

The monster beasts in the Endless Sea began to be drawn here by the golden blood. The depths of the Endless Sea that were filled with tumbling undercurrents now exploded like a boiling pot. Both familiar and strange monster beasts began to appear one after another, their eyes flushed red as they roared.

These monster beasts were incredibly powerful. In particular, after falling into a berserk condition, they didn't fear death at all. But, Tuba and Tutou soon taught them that even if they didn't fear death, that didn't mean they wouldn't die. Vast flowers of blood bloomed deep in the sea. Each one was preceded by a thunderous bang, as if thunder was striking deep in the sea.

Tuba and Tutou were human-shaped juggernauts. Every monster beast that tried to block their way was smashed into pieces.

In Holy Nether City, even those watching that were filled with despair couldn't help but be shocked by the terrifying strength that the two titans erupted with. Only by witnessing the scene from the outside could one clearly see just how much dreadful killing potential was contained in every kick and punch.

Everyone seemed to suddenly think of the same thing. If these two terrifying fellows were placed against the Holy Nether Guard, could they stop them? In the end, they had no idea.

Fu Shan subconsciously gripped his fist, his eyes brightened. But in the next moment, the light was extinguished. This was because he knew that Tuba and Tutou didn't truly possess such a formidable strength. If so, they must have erupted with some unusual taboo technique. And strength gained from such methods was impossible to maintain for a long time. Once these two people weakened, the situation would spiral out of control.

He swept his eyes around. Many Holy Nether Guards were leaning forward, their hands subconsciously clenched into fists. They clearly felt some hopeful expectations towards what might happen. But soon, they would discover that these hopeful expectations would become the deepest, most powerless despair.

Fu Shan's thoughts raced. He hadn't thought that Tuba and Tutou would possess such formidable eruption methods. If they didn't encounter the golden blood, perhaps they really would have been able to rush through...thinking of this, his heart began to twitch in pain.

Could this be their fate? Could the Holy Nether Guard only be stranded in the Endless Sea forever, all their attempts to escape heartlessly crushed?

### **Chapter 545B – Final Glimmer**

Tuba and Tutou's movements became increasingly heavy. Soon, they could no longer fend off attacks from the monster beasts. They relied on their incomparably potent mortal bodies, receiving blows upon themselves in exchange for an even faster killing speed! They hoped that before their strength was exhausted they could send His Highness out of the Endless Sea. But looking at the current pace of things, they clearly wouldn't be able to accomplish this.

It was unknown how many monster beasts died a horrific death beneath their iron fists. But, their numbers didn't diminish in the slightest. All that flooded their field of sight was infinite monster beasts, enough to cause one to fall into despair.

Tutou was the first to exhaust his strength. With a punch, he killed an octopus monster beast across from him. Then his body wavered and the lines that covered him began to rapidly fade away. As they vanished, the aura emanating from his body that was like 100,000 erupting volcanoes also dissipated, instantly leaving him weakened.

In their berserk state, the monster beasts had lost most of their reasoning. But, they still retained their hunting instincts. A black-scaled sea snake tensed its body and shot out like an arrow. Its speed was quick and its blood red eyes were filled with an earnest desire to kill. But unfortunately, it wasn't able to achieve its goal.

The instant it was about to pierce Tutou's throat, a hand appeared and grabbed it. After being grabbed, the sea snake's tense body weakened and it was casually tossed to the side where it sank to the seabed.

Tutou clenched his teeth. "Your Highness, do not worry about me!" He knew that if he continued to live he would be nothing but a burden.

Qin Yu had a light expression. "Don't have such stupid thoughts. You can die, but it won't be today." He looked at Hai Lanlan. "I'll leave these two to you. It's my turn to step up."

"Alright." Without saying much more, she stepped up. Two air bubbles appeared and wrapped around Tuba and Tutou. In the next moment, their strong auras dissipated and they fell quiet.

Looking at Qin Yu, Hai Lanlan wanted to know just how he could remain so calm at this moment. This thought appeared in the hearts of everyone within Holy Nether City. As they saw Tuba and Tutou exhaust themselves, it felt like arrows had pierced through their hearts. But even though their eyes were filled with despair, Qin Yu's calmness caused a final glimmer of light to remain.

Could the Lord Commander really reverse such a hopeless situation? Although their instincts told them this was impossible, a drowning person wouldn't care about whether a single straw could save their life. They would desperately grab onto it!

To the Holy Nether Guard, Qin Yu was not only the final straw they could grasp, but also the incarnation of all their future hopes. To most of them, a life of endless imprisonment was a fate more despairing than death.

So even at this moment, they forced themselves to maintain a final ray of hope in their hearts. They fervently prayed that a miracle would appear, even if their thoughts were being drowned in sorrow and gloom.

And in their gazes that were mixed with despair and hope, Qin Yu finally made his move. He lifted a hand and thrust it out. It was like he had pulled an invisible zither string, causing sounds to erupt in all directions. Then, the raging sea looked as if it had been torn apart into countless pieces.

White lines extended out like a giant spider web with Qin Yu at the center. They avoided Hai Lanlan, Tuba, and Tutou, as they swept out in all directions.

All of the monster beasts that were covered by these white lines emitted pained cries. Countless terrifying wounds began to appear on the surface of their bodies. Blood spilled out, dyeing the white net red. Because the monster beasts had fallen into a berserk state, their blood-filled eyes looked even more terrifying. They weren't frightened from being injured. Rather, the final dregs of cruelty stirred in their hearts. They eyed Qin Yu, wanting to rip him to pieces.

Unfortunately these monster beasts would never have the chance to take revenge. A numbing feeling began to spread out from the incomparably painful wounds on their bodies. Then, their blood-drenched wounds started to lose their color, like pieces of meat hung out to dry in the sun for a long time. Their powerful bodies slowly stiffened and the viciousness in their eyes began to stagnate.

Qin Yu stood in the deep sea. Besides the sounds of water tumbling around him, the scene fell into peaceful silence. Countless mighty monster beasts weakly struggled as they sank towards the bottom of the sea. Qin Yu's expression was calm, as if he wasn't the person who had sent these monster beasts to the depths of hell with a single strike of his palm.

But it was exactly the contrast between this calmness and the overwhelmingly tyrannical sight around him that left everyone's hearts shaken. At the same time, awe and reverence appeared from deep within them.

Tuba and Tutou were shocked for a brief moment before they recovered themselves. There was pride on their weak and weary faces. In their opinion, since Qin Yu was the Nine Realm Holy Land's Saint Son, anything he did was understandable. With such blind worship, accepting this sight was much simpler.

But relatively speaking, this had a much greater psychological impact on Hai Lanlan. Although she had heard all sorts of rumors related to the Commander, she had never witnessed them for herself.

Now her eyes widened a little. She knew Qin Yu was fierce, but she never imagined he would be fierce to such a degree.

"Let's go!"

When she heard Qin Yu's voice, she was stunned for a moment before she responded. Although she concealed herself well, her fair and delicate ears had reddened a little.

In Holy Nether City, it was even quieter. Countless people watched with wide eyes, their mouths having unconsciously fallen open. There were even some that were drooling without noticing it. Every one of them had incomparably strange looks on their faces. Some wanted to laugh out loud, but because their facial muscles were paralyzed, it produced awkward distortions instead.

The previous silence was because of the despair that drowned their hearts. Now, the current silence was because the joyous surprise had come far, far too fast, so fast that they found it hard to accept. Still, they clearly realized that what they just saw happen was the truth. The violent fluctuations in their emotions right now weren't something that an outsider would be able to understand.

The Lord Commander had thrust out his palm, looking as if he hadn't done anything at all, and then those vicious and bloodthirsty monster beasts had turned into corpses and started sinking into the depths of the sea? If they didn't see this with their own eyes, they absolutely wouldn't have believed it!

Fu Shan gasped for breath. He felt as if he had crossed some barrier and returned to a vacuum state of nothingness to finally feeling emotions. His intense heartbeat caused him to feel a heat spreading throughout his body, as if his entire being was coming 'alive'.

The golden blood had caused endless monster beasts to rush over. This was the most terrifying scenario in the Endless Sea. The inexhaustible waves of monster beasts were enough to drown anyone.

No matter how strong a person was, unless they could surpass the limit and reach a level where they crushed everything before them and directly ripped open a way out, then in the end nothing remained but eventual death.

And what Qin Yu exposed before them was an unknown strength. Though they couldn't determine what sort of ability this was, this strength was clearly able to overwhelm the monster beasts in the Endless Sea.

And most importantly, when he moved it seemed casual and easy, without any change in expression at all. It was clear that this technique wasn't too difficult for Qin Yu.

This represented the hope of living!

As long as the Lord Commander could maintain this terrifying strength, no matter how many monster beasts there were in the Endless Sea, they would only be seeking their own death.

At this moment, even the calm Fu Shan couldn't help but shout out praises in his heart. Commander, oh Commander, you really are unfathomably deep! My admiration for you is like an endless river!

At his side, Yuan Zhen's eyes were reddened. If he wasn't trying to maintain a dignified image in front of his subordinates, he would have already started crying in joy. Only those who fell into despair could understand the intense impact that shook one's heart when hope appeared once more.

It was just...Lord Commander, I beg you to not play with us again. If you have any hidden cards please take them out. Although our hearts are good, I don't think we can stand being tossed around anymore!

Shang Yuntai clenched his fists. Although he had full confidence in the Lord Commander, when this scene appeared he was still left excited. He really hadn't misjudged. The Lord Commander was destined to step upon the pinnacle of the Land of Divinity and Demons in the future, overseeing the world below. How could he quietly perish in the Endless Sea?

"Old Shang, thank you! Thank you!" Wang Chao's face flushed red. There was joy and shame on his face. He suddenly felt fearful. If it weren't for Shang Yuntai stopping him, he would have likely died by now.

It would have been fine if he died alone, but if his intrusion caused another incident to occur in the road of Sea Burial, harming the Commander and ruining everyone's hopes, then even 10,000 deaths wouldn't be enough punishment.

Hua Yanting and Huang Shan's flushed red. They wanted to apologize but they couldn't open their mouths. However, they secretly vowed to themselves that they recognized this brother Shang Yuntai!

#### **Chapter 546A – The Sea Wants to Kill**

Sky Hub Division Deputy Zhang Yuanling was in a terrified and restless mood. As time passed and things gradually calmed down, he couldn't help but sigh in satisfaction at the choice he made initially. Luckily, his prompt response had been decisive enough and the catastrophe of that day had vanished.

Otherwise, if he really had to truthfully report what happened, then even if he disregarded his current status which had taken him so many years to obtain, he would have likely been cast into prison by now and be suffering a miserable fate. As for any problems that might come from the Endless Sea Array...Zhang Yuanling didn't care at all.

Those people were nothing but a group of prisoners that would never taste freedom. Even if they were all killed off by pill toxins, that was just having them die a little ahead of time. In any case, they were going to die regardless, so perhaps dying now was helping free them from their suffering.

But accidents always happened quickly and without warning, catching anyone off guard. As Zhang Yuanling was sitting quietly at a table and taking a sip of tea, his eyebrows furrowed together as he saw an assistant running towards him with a flustered look. After wielding authority for so many years, Zhang Yuanling had tasted power and had a high regard towards his own prestige.

"What are you so panicked for? Calm down and catch your breath before you say anything!"

The subordinate paled. His voice trembled as he said, "My lord, there's been a change in the Endless Sea Array!"

Pa –

A few days ago, he had received a high-quality jade teacup as a gift. Now that teacup fell to the ground, shattering into pieces. But, he didn't care about this at all right now. Deputy Zhang's calm expression suddenly became one of panic. What he feared most right now was to hear the words 'Endless Sea'.

"My lord..." Seeing him sit in a stunned silence, the subordinate couldn't help but remind him.

Zhang Yuanling's eyes spun around. He leapt up and roared out loud, "Bring me over!"

There couldn't be an accident, there absolutely couldn't be an accident!

Within the Sky Hub Division, there was a treasure map that hung suspended in midair. It flashed with light, reflecting the entirety of the Demonic Path's small world. The condition of every single array formation could be seen at a glance. But right now, the region that represented the Endless Sea's array formation was red like blood, a color so deep that it was like a great stone pushing down upon one's heart.

The surrounding Sky Hub Division cultivators all around had already stood up, staring at the map with stunned shock in their eyes, as well as a little panic. Initially, when an accident occurred with the Endless Sea Array, the situation had been processed quickly so news of it hadn't spread out far. However, what happened in the Sky Hub Division wasn't actually a secret. It was just that this accident was incredibly significant and no one wished to provoke trouble, so everyone came to a tacit understanding to maintain silence and pretend that nothing occurred.

But right now there was clearly a great change occurring in the Endless Sea Array. No one knew whether or not this was related to the incident that occurred with the secret array formation a year ago. If this were true, it inevitably meant that some vital accident occurred in the Endless Sea.

Once things became noisy enough, it would spin out of control, and even the initial covering up of the previous accident would be revealed. Although there were some people in front that could take responsibility, not even a single person in the Sky Hub Division would be able to escape punishment.

Zhang Yuanling pushed his way through the crowd of people. As he saw the bright red spots of light erupting from the region of the Endless Sea Great Array, his field of vision flashed black and he nearly crumpled to the floor. As the Deputy of the Sky Hub Division, he clearly understood that this meant a great accident had occurred in the array formation.

According to the rules, the Sky Hub Division had to immediately report this and ask the Holy Palace to carry out an inspection to see what had happened. The Endless Sea was one of the Demonic Path's holy lands, so naturally only the Holy Palace could investigate.

This was the source of his greatest fear!

Although the Holy Nether Guard had been exiled into the Endless Sea, in the end they were still one of the Holy Palace's core armed forces. Once news of the initial accident was found, the consequences...Zhang Yuanling dripped with a cold sweat and didn't dare to think about it further. After a moment of panic, there was just a single thought echoing in his mind.

Since he had started, he would carry it through to the end. He had to conceal this. Just like the initial accident with the Endless Sea Great Array, as long as everyone in the Sky Hub Division stayed silent, no one would know what had happened.

Yes, this was it!

Zhang Yuanling took a deep breath and forcefully suppressed his tumbling emotions. He turned around and swept over the crowd with an icy cold gaze, "There is a false alarm originating from the Endless Sea's great array formation. We will temporarily shut down the monitoring for this part of the region. Once I've investigated the reason, it will be restored. Do you all understand?"

Everyone was panic-stricken. Their eyes widened, as if this was the first time they had seen the deputy. He had always been a careful and cautious person, but after an accident occurred his methods were actually this swift and fierce. He really couldn't be underestimated.

His decision-making had been sufficiently resolute. However, Deputy Zhang underestimated the influence of this matter. The Endless Sea's secret array was significant, but in the end it only harmed the

benefits of the Holy Nether Guard. If he wanted to conceal it, there naturally wouldn't be anyone willing to stand up and provoke trouble just for the sake of the Holy Nether Guard.

But today was different. The Endless Sea Great Array involved a massive region and was one of the Demonic Path's several ultra-large array formations; it was a key point of supervision. In addition to that, all previous Holy Monarchs and numerous high level Demonic Path figures were buried in the Endless Sea. If an accident occurred, anyone who tried to conceal it would die.

"You want to shut down monitoring of the array formation? Zhang Yuanling, who gave you that right?" An ice-cold voice sounded out from behind, each word like a knife that tore off flesh and blood.

Deputy Zhang, who was currently trying to frighten everyone with his eyes, suddenly looked as if he had been struck by thunder. He shivered as he turned around. When he saw the black-robed Elder Qing Ruhong behind him, he froze in place and nearly toppled to the ground.

Qin Ruhong's gaze was cold. As the master of the Sky Hub Division, even if she had been in seclusion during this time, if she didn't handle this matter properly she would inevitably have to shoulder responsibility for it. With her status, although no one would try to punish her even if a mistake occurred, since this incident involved the Endless Sea she couldn't underestimate it at all.

"Men! Take Zhang Yuanling away and strip his status. Detain him in prison. Once this matter is finished, he will be tried again!"

Zhang Yuanling's body shook and he howled in sorrow, "Elder, please don't! Show mercy and forgive me this one time; I promise I will never dare do something like this again!"

Qing Ruhong was without expression. "Lock him up!" She quickly stepped in front of the magic tool map. She closed her eyes and fused her mind into it. After several breaths of time, she opened her eyes and her complexion was even cloudier than before.

"You even closed the communication channel with the Endless Sea? Good, very good, I was just in seclusion for a short period of time and you all want to overturn the heavens?"

There was the sound of loud rustling all around as the cultivators of the Sky Hub Division fell to their knees, their bodies shaking and their faces deathly white.

Qing Ruhong took a deep breath. She coldly said, "Everything that happened while I was in seclusion will be investigated to the end. Now, reopen the channel. I want to know just what is going on!"

Several Sky Hub Division cultivators immediately leapt up from the ground. They rushed towards their seats at the control desk and restarted the Endless Sea's communication channel at the fastest possible speed. It was a part of the great array formation to begin with. After it was restarted, one could obtain detailed information on what was occurring within the array formation.

On the floating map, the array formation in the region of the Endless Sea began to emit an even brighter red light. A thick blood red light scattered down on every person present, making it seem as if they were doused in blood. Even if it was only light, everyone could actually taste and smell blood.

Everyone in the Sky Hub Division paled. Their eyes widened as if they saw some terrifying image. Their minds rumbled and shook, like a dam had burst in their heads.

A trace of surprise appeared in Qing Ruhong's icy cold expression before she immediately composed herself. But if one looked carefully, they would find billowing waves surging in the depths of her eyes! She knew what the true function of the Endless Sea Great Array was, thus she understood the true meaning of what was happening in front of her.

Within the Holy Nether Guard, someone had opened the road of Ascending Heaven!

This was something that Qing Ruhong had experienced many times already throughout her years here. But, without exception, all attempts from anyone at gaining freedom and breaking their shackles of destiny had ended in abject failure. In fact, there were few people from the Holy Nether Guard that had ever been able to truly stimulate the formidable strength contained in this great array formation.

But now, that thick blood red light indicated that the person who opened the road of Ascending Heaven was soon about to rush to the surface of the sea. As a result, the entire strength of the Endless Sea Great Array had fully erupted. If these people were to succeed, they would open up a new chapter in the history of the Holy Nether Guard, perhaps even having a chance to change their pitiful destiny of being trapped there for 100,000 years.

Qing Ruhong let out a long breath. "Immediately contact the Holy Palace. Tell them that the road of Ascending Heaven has been opened once more and there is a chance of them breaking through the sea. Ask them to be prepared."

#### **Chapter 546B – The Sea Wants to Kill**

Although the Sky Hub Division only needed to pass on a message to the Holy Palace, the current throne of the Holy Monarch was empty right now, thus the Holy Palace was nothing more than a symbol of supreme power. News of what was happening in the Endless Sea rapidly spread throughout the Demonic Path in the shortest time possible, leaving countless Demonic Path cultivators shaken. Anyone who knew the story behind the Endless Sea Array would understand what this meant. Just what sort of character had appeared in the ranks of the Holy Nether Guard that could actually Ascend to the Heavens? Just by being called the road of Ascending Heaven, one could understand how difficult this path was to traverse!

Qing Ruhong had managed the Sky Hub Division for many years and she was known for her calm and meticulous work. Since she had someone spread out this news, it definitely wasn't a lie.

As everyone thought about how the main body of the Holy Palace would open and how the Holy Nether Guard had chosen this time to open the road of Ascending Heaven, all sorts of interpretations were made, leaving everyone's thoughts in chaos.

But no matter what others thought, their attention had already fallen onto this sea region that had nearly been forgotten. Some high level figures of the Demonic Path had already left to travel there, prepared to witness a moment in history for themselves.

Of course, many of these people came for their own self interest. According to the agreement between the Holy Palace and the Holy Nether Guard, anyone that could rush through the road of Ascending Heaven would be able to regain their freedom and would obtain the qualifications to be part of the Holy Monarch's personal guard.

Moreover, if there was someone capable of rushing through the road of Ascending Heaven, even an idiot could understand that this was inevitably a peak master of the Holy Nether Guard. If these people could recruit such a person as their subordinate, they would become that much more powerful.

And while the throne of the Holy Palace was empty, the status of being the Holy Monarch's personal guard was still an incomparably honored one. This person would possess an incredibly high status within the Holy Palace. In the struggle for the throne of the Holy Palace, the title of a personal guard would play a vital role.

Those that had the qualifications to scheme for the throne of the Holy Palace were all peak figures of the Demonic Path. While they weren't omnipotent, they could at least clearly see these things.

As a result, the Demon Envoy arrived at the Endless Sea. As a commander of part of the True Demon Guard, he was inherently close to the Holy Nether Guard. If someone were truly able to rush past the road of Ascending Heaven, he would have an advantage that no one else had in recruiting this person into his ranks.

The Mu Family also sent over a great figure. While it wasn't the Mu Family's High Ancestor, it was still the new Calamity Immortal within their family. Even if he was facing the Demon Envoy, he could do so with a calm expression. 100,000 years ago when the previous Holy Monarch died a violent death, their surname had been cut in half to Mu. Still, as the family of the previous Holy Monarch, they continued to possess an honored status.

Looking at the calm surface of the Endless Sea, the Mu Family's new Calamity Immortal licked his lips in anticipation. This was because to be accurate, the Holy Nether Guard were the personal troops of the last Holy Monarch, someone who had belonged to the Mu Family. The Mu Family had the status of being the descendants of the Holy Monarch, and in addition, they were also sufficiently strong as they were. To be able to bring this Holy Nether Guard who rushed through the road of Ascending Heaven into their ranks shouldn't be too hard.

There was also Mu Mo's existence. This gave the Mu Family hope of contending for the throne of the Holy Monarch. In fact, he could even be said to be the person with the highest chances of success within the entire Demonic Path. And only the Holy Monarch could truly relieve the imprisonment of the Holy Nether Guard. As long as he explained this clearly to whoever was coming up, why would he need to fear that they wouldn't immediately bow their head and pledge allegiance to his Mu Family?

Thinking of this, the Mu Family's new Calamity Immortal felt even more urgency. He truly wished that this person or persons from the Holy Nether Guard would be able to cross the road of Ascending Heaven!

...

Qin Yu didn't know that the Demonic Path's small world was seething with excitement once more because of his actions. He also didn't know that many others wished he could make it out from the Endless Sea...

Even if he knew this, none of their hopes and wishes could provide him with any help.

Fortunately, while his path of water hadn't yet reached the stage of large success, it was actually strengthened beneath the Endless Sea and was able to play a formidable role. It wasn't realistic to directly chop these sea monster beasts to pieces, but tearing open wounds on their bodies was simple enough. When combined with the terrifying poisons contained in his right hand's index finger, eliminating these monster beasts was relatively easy.

This was because strictly speaking, the Great Dao Body was a level of strength that dominated above that of a Calamity Immortal. It was the mortal body that could only be possessed by someone of a higher boundary. Even if there was no change on the surface, the inside had nearly formed its own small world.

Qin Yu took advantage of the strength of poison, constantly transforming his right hand's index finger until it evolved into being a part of the Great Dao Body. The poisons contained within his finger had also started to change, becoming increasingly terrifying and toxic. When all of this combined together, it led to the scene of him easily slaying the sea monster beasts as if he were chopping up chickens and ducks.

Hai Lanlan had already made her move. What she did was simple. She used her own ability to change the direction in which the undercurrents flowed. This was different from forcefully controlling everything around her. In this, the range of control was much smaller and the losses were correspondingly much less. However, her actions played an important role.

Altering the directions of the undercurrents prevented the monster beasts from wildly rushing towards them in the sea. Once these monster beasts entered the range of the joint killing zone formed by the path of water and poison, they wouldn't be able to approach after that.

This was because once these monster beasts discovered that they were just sending themselves to die, they changed their strategy and started to self-explode.

That's right, it was this type of completely artless technique that used the final moments of their lives to go all-out. Still, it created considerable trouble for Qin Yu.

One monster beast self-exploding wasn't a problem. But, what if it were ten, a hundred, a thousand, or even more? Even if his Emperor level Demon Body was incomparably potent, he would eventually be reduced to ground up meat from the explosions.

With Hai Lanlan's help, the poisoned sea monster beasts were stopped for a few moments, greatly reducing the threat of their self-explosion. So in the end...they still died in vain.

Suddenly, a bright smile lit up Hai Lanlan's face. Because she was a naturally indifferent person, when she smiled at this time it was particularly charming. Qin Yu had to admit that he was also attracted, looking at her for two extra blinks of the eye.

"We're going to reach the surface soon." She earnestly sensed upwards and then continued to say, "Without accident, we should break out of the sea in ten breaths of time."

She glanced over at Qin Yu. Until this moment, Hai Lanlan had still felt as if everything was a dream. When the golden blood appeared, that should have been a situation of absolute death...but how come it seemed so easy in front of him?

Of course, Hai Lanlan understood that this so-called 'easy' was based upon the premise of the terrifying strength that Qin Yu had exposed. If it were anyone else, they would have all been buried in the bellies of monster beasts by now. Seeing Qin Yu look at her in a daze, Hai Lanlan's smile dimmed down, but there actually wasn't much anger in her heart. There was no close sentiment between a man and a woman here. It was only the respect and tolerance given to a genuine powerhouse.

Qin Yu immediately regained his composure. He wasn't excited like Tuba and Tutou were right now. Rather, his eyebrows furrowed together and he gave off a heavy expression. Once a person's cultivation reached a certain boundary, they had a little sense of their unknown future. This could be called a formidable intuition.

Before entering the road of Sea Burial, Qin Yu had felt an enormous threat coming from it. It was only because Undying was hidden in his shadows as well as having another hidden card in his hand that he had the courage to rush through.

But as they passed through the road of Sea Burial and were about to break through the surface, they hadn't encountered any true dangers – this simply didn't make sense. The golden blood and the berserk monster beasts that followed were indeed terrifying, but from Qin Yu's point of view, it simply wasn't that dangerous.

And a more important point was that even though they were just ten breaths of time from the sea's surface, that constrained and heavy feeling in his heart hadn't yet disappeared. Instead, it grew increasingly heavy, increasingly dark. Qin Yu thought about it but didn't say too much. His feet moved and he went first. If an accident really occurred, he would just need to adapt to the situation.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

In the distance, he could see some light.

Four breaths.

Five breaths.

Six breaths.

The light grew increasingly strong. This was the surface of the sea!

Seven breaths.

Eight breaths.

Nine breaths.

Qin Yu came to a sudden stop. Behind him, Hai Lanlan screamed in pain as blood wildly spurted out from her nose and mouth. The air bubbles that surrounded Tuba and Tutou suddenly blasted open and seawater wrapped around them. Blue veins stuck up on their foreheads and their bones creaked and groaned in pain.

This part of the sea had instantly transformed into an invisible hand, grabbing all four of them. A terrifying strength raged around them, constantly tightening its grip.

It wanted to kill them!

### **Chapter 547A – The Beam of Light from the Skies**

Qin Yu had made his move and easily killed off the monster beasts in the Endless Sea as if he were butchering chickens or ducks. Among the Holy Nether Guard whose hearts were filled with despair, hope and anticipation began to stir once again at the sight they saw. But when they saw light appear at the edges of the road of Sea Burial, this still greatly impacted their minds.

Because this light...represented freedom and hope! Throughout the long span of 100,000 years, many people were unwilling to resign themselves to their fate and tried to rush through the road of Sea Burial, only to end up buried there instead. Their actions had dyed the stone of opening blood red.

But their deaths hadn't been wasted. Today, the Lord Commander would walk across the road that had been soaked with their blood and rush through this sea of nightmares, leading the Holy Nether Guard into a brighter future.

Wang Chao's thoughts surged. He suddenly shouted out, "Lord Commander is invincible! Lord Commander is unparalleled!" This was his true emotions bursting out, as well as a way of washing clean his previous stupid actions that almost ruined everything. He thanked Old Shang once more. If it weren't for him...Wang Chao felt a cool chill run down his back. He didn't dare to think of the consequences.

"Lord Commander is invincible! Lord Commander is unparalleled!" Countless people widened their eyes and looked excitedly towards Fu Shan whose eyes were overflowing with hot tears. After a brief moment of shock, they immediately realized that he was no longer able to suppress the raging emotions from the depths of his soul.

"Lord Commander is invincible! Lord Commander is unparalleled!"

"Lord Commander is invincible! Lord Commander is unparalleled!"

"Lord Commander is invincible! Lord Commander is unparalleled!"

Their billowing voices rang through Holy Nether City. It seemed to shake the outside sea, causing it to shiver and for tiny ripples to appear.

Shang Yuntai's heart stirred. He looked up towards the light and that familiar figure which made one yearn for the light. He suddenly felt as if that figure had grown infinitely tall, as if he could break through the skies, as if no strength could ever suppress him anymore. A great image appeared in his mind. That figure rose up higher and higher until he reached the summit of the world. As for those who followed behind him, they were all basked in the glory of his light.

But at this moment, Shang Yuntai discovered that within that radiant light, a shadow suddenly appeared. One could faintly make out the face of a person in the blurry water. Then, a hand fell down from the clouds. It was so huge, so massive that it seemed to occupy the entire heavens. Endless fear erupted, submerging the mind.

Shang Yuntai had no idea where this great hand came from, but he had a clear intuition: this hand had the strength to thoroughly crush the image that had just taken shape in his mind!

“No!” He roared in fear.

The tiny ripples in the seawater suddenly erupted with a shocking level of strength. The somewhat calm Endless Sea suddenly became the incarnation of death and destruction. Wild waves crashed and pounded Holy Nether City. Even with the city’s protective array formation in full activation, it still fiercely shook beneath the continuous barrage.

No one knew what was happening. But that didn’t stop them from feeling the aura of total annihilation!

...

In the skies above the Endless Sea, many great figures of the Demonic Path had appeared. Even though they had restrained their own auras, their powerful cultivation boundaries still easily twisted and transformed the surrounding world rules. It formed numerous translucent spaces that covered them, making it so that they couldn’t be spied on.

When mighty waves began to rise on the calm surface of the sea, fluctuations appeared from the twisted spaces. Surprise appeared in those dignified eyes watching the scene. These people...they had actually succeeded!

As if to confirm what everyone was thinking, after the first waves appeared, the sea’s surface began to shake more and more. Water tumbled around, producing massive splashes of water as if a powerful fountain had appeared, wanting to break through the barrier of the sea and expose itself to the world.

Everyone understood what was going to happen next. The road of Ascending Heaven that the Holy Nether Guard had attempted numerous times over 100,000 years but had failed each time, was finally being rushed through today! To be more blunt, this had a powerful effect on every influence within the Demonic Path, thus everyone’s thoughts were racing as they tried to figure out how to deal with the following situation.

The eyes of the Mu Family’s new Calamity Immortal lit up, his pupils like two slowly spinning nebulas. He looked up, his gaze piercing through the space distortions to fall upon the body of the Demon Envoy. Although he was calm and quiet, his potent will was fully exposed.

These Holy Nether Guards that managed to rush through the road of Ascending Heaven and regain their freedom would certainly join the ranks of the Mu Family!

The Demon Envoy slightly furrowed his eyebrows before composing himself. He turned his head a little and two pairs of eyes collided in the void.

Strong winds were suddenly whipped up in the skies above the Endless Sea. The space distortion around the Mu Family’s new Calamity Immortal suddenly trembled and wavered, nearly dispersing.

Because the throne of the Holy Monarch was empty, the Holy Palace’s Demon Envoy was unable to muster all of the strength that should be under his jurisdiction. Still, he was an incomparably honored figure. If that older monster from the Mu Family who refused to die had appeared here today, he might

be willing to patiently endure a little, but how dare this trivial junior try to be so dissolute in front of him?

Those who were able to sense this confrontation occurring between the two all revealed dignified expressions. Although the internal struggles within the Demonic Path had never ceased, the overall balance could still be maintained.

However, today's events were of too high a significance. It was impossible for either the Demon Envoy or Mu Family to take a step back and give some concessions. If a frontal conflict were to result from this, even if none of the people watching wished for it, sooner or later they would be dragged into the quagmire.

As heavy thoughts weighed down on everyone's minds, something suddenly appeared on the edge of their perception. They almost simultaneously looked up towards the skies, unable to cover the shock on their faces.

Qing Ruhong's complexion changed. She took a step forward but halted, because she knew she could no longer stop it. A bit of sorrow and sadness rose in her heart.

This is the choice you made? Even if you completely destroy yourself, you still want to drag them down with you? She sighed, asking herself 'why' in her heart. But when she thought about what she would do if she faced a similar situation, she feared she would also make the same choice.

Qing Ruhong slightly closed her eyes. She knew that after today she would need to give everyone an explanation. But, she didn't want to think about this right now.

Over the span of 100,000 years, the Endless Sea Great Array had developed its own consciousness. As the overseer of the Sky Hub Division, she had discovered this long ago. She had an obligation to erase this consciousness to prevent it from harming the revolution of the great array. However, Qing Ruhong was first and foremost a grandmaster of array formations with incredible skills before she was the overseer of the Sky Hub Division. She hesitated for a long, long time, before eventually coming to an agreement with the great array's consciousness.

The great array's consciousness would not act recklessly. In return, Qing Ruhong would also be rewarded for her tolerance. With the help of the great array's consciousness, she was able to perceive more insights during her meditation.

Reality proved that her arrangement had been correct. Her exchanges with the great array's consciousness were highly beneficial to her. Many cultivation bottlenecks became as clear as day and her cultivation marched forward.

As for the great array's consciousness, it also abided by its end of the bargain. It went into perfect hiding, only observing the outside world and not doing anything out of the ordinary.

After a long time passed, Qing Ruhong and the great array's consciousness became something akin to friends, but with a connection much more intimate than normal friends. They both believed that this method of living with each other would be able to continue for a long, long time, until they both reached their natural ends.

But accidents always happened quickly. When Qing Ruhong received the signaling jade slip and left seclusion only to see fierce fluctuations occurring within the Endless Sea Great Array, while she did feel anxious about it, she perfectly fulfilled her duties.

Still, Qing Ruhong never expected that things would come this far. The road of Ascending Heaven was a final ray of hope left to the Holy Nether Guard by the Holy Palace. It was a warning for them to not challenge their destiny. Also, it served as a way to temper the Endless Sea Great Array, forcing it to evolve and become constantly stronger.

It was heard long ago that the Holy Nether Guard called the road of Ascending Heaven the road of Sea Burial. To succeed was to bury the sea; to fail was to be buried in the sea. In truth, these words were already extremely close to the truth. Both sides were indeed locked in a perpetual life or death battle, with no room for leeway between them.

If the Holy Nether Guard failed they would be buried in the sea without even their bones left; there wasn't much to say about this. But if they succeeded, the Endless Sea Great Array would self-destruct and restart, becoming even more perfect in its new life after destruction. After another period of years, it would eventually become even more formidable.

Strictly speaking, the Endless Sea Great Array wouldn't truly be destroyed. But once it was self-destructed and restarted, the great array's consciousness would vanish forever – to it this was no different than death.

So in front of the hopelessness of death, the great array's consciousness decided to make one final counterattack. At the expense of breaking the rules and thoroughly ruining the great array, it would drag these people to die with it.

The Holy Nether Guard had been stranded in the Endless Sea for 100,000 years and were constantly pursuing their freedom and future. As for the consciousness of the Endless Sea Great Array, it wasn't resigned to die here because of that. There was no absolute right or wrong on this; both sides had their own respective positions.

Qing Ruhong looked up towards the face that floated in the skies above. Although it was far, far too large, she could still make out some familiar traces. A bitter taste grew in her heart.

Throughout the long span of years, she had exchanged words with the array formation's consciousness more than once. If it were a real living person, what would its appearance be like? Qing Ruhong had given it many suggestions, smiling at the time thinking it was just a joke. But now, it seemed that it really had remembered every word she said.

The giant face that filled the skies wryly smiled. Then, it sighed with unwillingness as well as guilt. It lifted a hand and pushed down.

This was the first time and also last time it would betray the promise it made to her. With the alternative being to not do anything and simply die like this without fighting back, it just wasn't willing to resign itself to such a dismal fate.

As the hand came down, all of the fluctuations occurring on the surface of the Endless Sea suddenly came to a halt, as if the entire sea had become a massive block of ice. But, everyone could feel just what sort of terrifying strength was erupting beneath the surface.

The Mu Family's new Calamity Immortal instantly paled. All of his hopes and expectations suddenly vanished into nothingness. His eyes looked coldly towards Qing Ruhong. But facing this formidable character whose true strength could be ranked in the top ten of the Demonic Path, no matter how angry he was he could only patiently bear with it.

The Demon Envoy sighed, filled with regret and helplessness. But, this wasn't just from his closeness and sympathy towards the Holy Nether Guard, but also because of the plans he had prepared beforehand. He had placed Yao Bin in the Endless Sea, giving him the status of the Holy Nether Guard's Commander. If the Holy Nether Guard had truly managed to cross the road of Ascending Heaven, there would have been more room for movement in the future.

What a pity, all of this would be destroyed by the spirit of the Endless Sea Great Array.

No one doubted this. It had to be known that if the great array's spirit was recklessly summoning all the strength of the Endless Sea Great Array without any hesitation and erupting at once, not even a Calamity Immortal would be able to safely retreat.

This would be a battle to the death with no victors!

After the giant face in the sky sent out its attack, it had reached the end of its life. No matter what thoughts it had in its mind, it welcomed an irreversible disappearance from existence. But at this moment, it furrowed its eyebrows together. The formidable intuition it had as it stood on the precipice of death made it sense the arrival of some strength that surpassed its imagination.

What was this...?

### **Chapter 547B – The Beam of Light from the Skies**

Before it could finish its thoughts, a stabbing pain spread through its entire consciousness. Like a blazing star that had reached the end of its lifespan, all of that light and heat and matter suddenly caved in fiercely, absorbed and swallowed away, leaving behind a black point that could not be seen.

A blinding white beam of light tore through space. It arrived from beyond the highest heavens, the dazzling pure white light making everyone feel just what lowly and humble creatures they actually were.

Those that gathered in the skies above the Endless Sea were all great figures of the Demonic Path. Many of them had stepped into the Calamity Immortal realm, overseeing the world below them. Now, these people suddenly felt something they hadn't felt in a long, long time. It was just like when they first started walking down their road of cultivation and their souls trembled when they faced a superior powerhouse.

Of course, this low and humble feeling didn't refer to just strength, but the disparity of standing on utterly different levels. This white beam of light that descended from above the highest heavens made those present feel as if there were several boundaries of difference between them.

Pure white, brilliant, dazzling, radiant. It wasn't too thick, but it seemed boundless and vast, as if this thin beam of light somehow covered the entire skies. Countless eyes watched as this pillar of white light crashed into the cold ice of the Endless Sea, thoroughly smashing it apart!

....

When Qin Yu suddenly stopped, Hai Lanlan felt a strength that left her frightened and in despair. Its terrifying strength was vast and limitless, as if the world itself was crashing down around her. Because of her own special characteristics, Hai Lanlan immediately understood that they were all going to die.

Let alone that it was only the four of them against such a formidable strength, even if the entire Holy Nether Guard were to appear here and resist with all their strength, they would still be completely killed off.

The road of Sea Burial...it was only a road of death where the Holy Nether Guard was to be buried. There had never been even the smallest chance of success.

This was ten chances of death and no chances of survival. Why use such a despairing and hopeless situation to give the Holy Nether Guard an impossible hope, constantly tempting them to their own death?

The fear in Hai Lanlan's heart soon turned to anger. Her entire body shook. Then, she erupted. Her hair instantly turned clear blue and her ice cold eyes seemed to become a microcosm of the surrounding sea.

Layers upon layers of rippling waves suddenly appeared and surrounded her. It was like they were serving her as Empress, following her will to resist the destructive strength pushing against her from all around. But her cultivation was unable to support such a high level outburst of power to begin with. It continued for several breaths of time before it started to collapse.

Her cold eyes filled with despair. She didn't fear death, but she wasn't resigned to dying here, not yet. She wanted to leave the sea and ask those aloof figures in the Holy Palace why they were so cruel to the Holy Nether Guard. On what basis did they need to suffer like this?

Blood flowed out from her nose and mouth. Her field of vision started to blur and darken. Hai Lanlan forced herself to remain awake. She knew that once she closed her eyes, she would never open them again.

As her surroundings darkened, she subconsciously looked towards Qin Yu. This was a man she had never been able to figure out. She wanted to know what sort of expression he would make at the end. Did he regret his choice?

What Hai Lanlan saw was a calm face. Her eyebrows furrowed a little. There was dignity in his expression, solemnity, as well as respect. But there was no fear. Not even a bit.

She was surprised for a short period of time. She didn't know why, but her dreary mood recovered a great deal. Perhaps she had been shaken by how calm Qin Yu was in the face of death.

Hai Lanlan couldn't help but acknowledge that the current Qin Yu possessed a rare charm to him. What a pity, she had discovered it too late. As some regret lingered in her heart, she saw Qin Yu lift his right hand.

Was he thinking of struggling one last time? He was indeed worthy of being a man she admired. Even at this stage he could maintain his formidable heart that never gave up.

Of course, this was only because of her shift in mentality. If this were Hai Lanlan's previous attitude, she might have secretly despised Qin Yu's attempts at doing so. Hey, you want to struggle before you die? Don't you think that's tiring?

To sum it up, if you like what you see, it doesn't matter what they do.

However, even if you want to put up a final resistance, shouldn't you be using all your strength? What is the meaning of only lifting a hand? As confusion flashed in Hai Lanlan's eyes, another thought popped up. Did he have another card in his hand? But she soon mocked herself for thinking this. She said she didn't fear death, but when death truly arrived, it was still in her instinct to seek survival no matter how low the possibility was.

She thought to how at this moment, those in Holy Nether City were likely still able to see what was happening here. Hai Lanlan took a deep breath and tried to calm herself, telling herself that she couldn't lose face.

While she hadn't lived a long life, she had maintained a relatively good image. Did she have to ruin it all at her time of death?

As all sorts of random thoughts crossed her mind, Hai Lanlan's field of vision darkened once more. But this darkness was different than the one before. It was like night in the deep of winter before the sun rose, when the endless dark was all around. It submerged her consciousness, constantly pulling her into the infinite abyss.

Was she going to die now?

Hai Lanlan suddenly felt as if she shouldn't be wasting her time on such ridiculous thoughts. It would have been better to look at the Lord Commander for a few more moments, but it was clearly too late.

As her consciousness was about to be invaded by the darkness and torn asunder, a warmth suddenly appeared. Then, that endless darkness was torn apart by a white light. The light was clear and pure, emitting a flavor that caused her to wallow in euphoria.

In a stunned trance, Hai Lanlan opened her eyes and saw Qin Yu's back. Above his head was a translucent scroll. Although her line of sight was blurry, she was able to recognize it. All people of the Holy Nether Guard studied this picture from their youth. What she saw was a complete sea map of the Endless Sea...and the index finger of Qin Yu's right hand was touching the region of the sea map where they were right now!

In the next moment, a blazing white beam of light crashed down from the skies above, tearing into the Endless Sea and piercing through the water that wildly desired to kill. The beam of light continued straight down to the bottom of the sea, past the end of everyone's sight.

Qin Yu's body gently shivered. If it weren't for the Emperor level Demon Body being tyrannical enough, he would have fallen down in his weakness.

When the Endless Sea Great Array's consciousness made one final counterattack, in the moment when Qin Yu felt an intense danger he summoned the sea map without hesitation. If this didn't work, he would have had Undying help him.

As his will stirred, the special memory in his mind was instantly activated. Strange syllables began to sing through the air. And what left Qin Yu surprised was that while he still didn't understand these syllables, he knew what they meant – they seemed to be expressing a prayer...but at this time, Qin Yu couldn't bother with investigating this too much. He looked up at the sea map that had unfurled above his head and pointed at it without hesitation.

His intuition told him that there would be a greater effect if he were to use his right hand's index finger that had transformed into the Great Dao Body. Then, he did so without even thinking about it.

The moment his fingertip touched the sea map, Qin Yu's field of vision instantly darkened. A terrifying swallowing strength erupted from the sea map, sucking in all his strength in the blink of an eye.

Luckily, this strength seemed barely enough. In the next moment Qin Yu sensed that beam of light tear through space as it came crashing down.

It was like an extension of Qin Yu's body. Or, perhaps it could be described as the falling of his own finger. He could change the landing place to wherever he liked.

Similarly, Qin Yu also understood what sort of terrifying strength was contained in that beam of light.

Thus, the beam of light fell down from the heavens, ripping array the Endless Sea Great Array's final counterattack and destroying everything in its way. There was not a single thing that could hinder it. It was like a burning hot knife stabbing into butter.

Even though he knew how strong it was, Qin Yu was still shaken by this terrifying might. Great waves rose up in his mind and he wasn't able to calm them for a long time.

Long ago, Qin Yu realized that as long as he was in the domain of the sea, he could use the sea map to summon a strength that far surpassed his own power...but this kind of surpassing seemed a bit too exaggerated right now!

This beam of light could be called the strongest and most terrifying strength that Qin Yu had ever controlled or experienced.

In this world, there were no gains without reasons. Such a formidable strength wouldn't come without a price. While Qin Yu was pleasantly surprised at this moment, he was even more restless.

He took a long and deep breath, suppressing these thoughts. From here on out, he decided that unless it was as a last resort, he absolutely couldn't use the strength of the sea map.

When he turned around he saw the shocked looks of Tuba and Tutou. Even the normally cold and indifferent Hai Lanlan was looking at him with wide eyes.

He had been too astonishing just now!

Qin Yu lightly coughed. He cautiously said, "This is a lucky chance that I accidentally obtained a long time ago. It only has a single use and I've been treating it as my life-saving card..."

Tuba hurriedly nodded, “We believe what Your Highness says!”

Tutou nodded like a chicken pecking at grass.

Qin Yu had a helpless expression. Please, even if you don’t believe me can you at least put on a better act?

Hai Lanlan looked deeply at him and said, “I won’t tell anyone what happened here today.”

Come on, it would have been better not to explain. Qin Yu bitterly smiled and shook his head, not saying anything further.

But there was one thing Hai Lanlan was correct about. Anything concerning the sea map shouldn’t spread out from here. As long as he stubbornly insisted on his story that this was a one-time trump card, he should be able to deal with it somehow.

After all, if he said he really could control such a terrifying strength, there likely wouldn’t be anyone that believed him.

Qin Yu turned and said, “Now, let’s leave the sea!”

Hai Lanlan lowered her head and stood behind him. She felt that his relatively normal shoulders now seemed like the largest and safest mountains in the world.

Father, do you see me? Your daughter is about to follow the Commander and leave this great sea that trapped you for your entire life. The tragedies you experienced with mother will surely disappear from the history of the Holy Nether Guard. But I...

Hai Lanlan looked up. When she saw Qin Yu’s back, brilliance flashed in her eyes before turning into a deep resolve. She seemed to have made an extremely important choice.

Since she had bet her hand, she would not regret!

#### **Chapter 548A – Holy Son Armor**

The beam of light that descended from the highest heavens easily pierced through the Endless Sea. After this, there was a brief silence throughout the entirety of the Demonic Path’s small world before everything broke into chaos. Almost all the high level figures immediately stopped what they were doing and started to head towards the Endless Sea at the fastest speed possible.

Compared to the shaken factions in the small world, the surface of the Endless Sea was even more peaceful and quiet than before. The great figures that arrived afterwards seemed to come to a mutual understanding as they restrained their auras and looked at the sea.

If the beam of light that suddenly arrived from the skies had nothing to do with the Holy Nether Guards traversing the road of Ascending Heaven right now, then they wouldn’t believe that at all. But, if the Holy Nether Guard truly possessed such terrifying strength, why would they allow themselves to be bitterly trapped for 100,000 years?

But none of this was important. The only thought in their heads was to clarify just where this beam of light came from!

No matter whether or not they were in the Endless Sea, Calamity Immortal existences were able to instantly feel the dreadful might and prestige contained in that beam of light.

That beam of light had crashed into the Endless Sea. But what if it had fallen on top of them? Who could have resisted it?

At this moment, even the Demon Envoy was silent. There was a strange palpitating trepidation that still lingered around him. He had felt a strong threat of death coming from that beam of light.

Perhaps in the entire Demonic Path, only his teacher and a small number of other people would have the confidence to survive that terrifying beam of light. Anyone else would die as soon as they touched it.

Originally, there were still some vague worries in the Demon Envoy's heart, but these worries had already faded away. It was impossible for Yao Bin to possess such a terrifying strength, so he shouldn't be in the road of Ascending Heaven today.

This was also good. Right now, he should be hiding in the Endless Sea, relying on that powerful barrier to protect him from the plotting of others and growing stronger the entire time.

In at most several years, he and his teacher would slaughter their way into the Demon Realm together, finding the formidable demon blood required for him to break through to the Saint level Demon Body.

By that time, Yao Bin should have completed the transformation of his Emperor level Demon Body. Once he was given the demon blood, he would have the opportunity to leap into the heavens with a single bound. As long as he succeeded, he would undoubtedly inherit the throne of the Holy Monarch and the situation would then be decided! As for today's events and even the opening of the Holy Palace's main body for the inheritances within, he could give those things to others.

The Demon Envoy's eyes flashed. He stepped forward. He suddenly discovered four figures appearing along the sea surface. When that beam of light fell down from the heavens, not only had it pierced through the Endless Sea but it had all crushed everyone's pride and sense of moderation. So, if their urgency towards these Holy Nether Guards could be described as eight points before, then it was now at least ten times if not a hundred times higher!

He had to succeed in gathering them.

The Mu Family's new Calamity Immortal was named Mu Yuantai. Although his cultivation boundary was much lower than the Demon Envoy's, he was skilled in maintaining a strong front that didn't give way to others. Moreover, he could also feel the aura of the Old Ancestor. Although he hadn't yet appeared, his presence had already reached the Endless Sea.

So, he naturally had the energy to stand tall.

Zhao Qianyuan stood in the crowd. Even though he stood among the numerous great figures of the Demonic Path, they weren't able to fully conceal his light. Just by quietly waiting, he attracted numerous gazes.

Qin Yu had stayed in the Endless Sea for over a year, and Zhao Qianyuan hadn't been slacking off during this time. Four months ago it was said he fought against a mysterious Calamity Immortal and hadn't been defeated. This thrust his reputation to the peak.

It was said that Zhao Qianyuan was only a step away from reaching the Calamity Immortal realm. Once he made that final step he would soar into the heavens and even be comparable to the older established Calamity Immortals!

But at this time, his eyebrows were furrowed as he looked towards the surface of the Endless Sea. There was dread and surprise on his face. There were numerous almighty beings present, but perhaps only he could make out some clues from the depths of that beam of light...could she still be alive?

Whoosh –

Seawater splashed up into the skies. Qin Yu stepped out, his black robes flapping against the wind. Because of his serious losses, his face was pallid. He quietly looked around. Such a stir happening in the Endless Sea must have shaken all sides. He had already prepared himself for the current situation.

Compared to when he entered the Endless Sea a year ago, the Qin Yu of today was as different as the heavens and earth. While he couldn't say that he could fearlessly look upon everyone here with disdain, he still had some strength to preserve his own life.

So, he might as well appear openly and honestly. If anyone wanted to be enemies with him, he would welcome their challenge.

At this moment, Qin Yu felt no dread in his heart.

...

Because he felt no fear he felt no dread, and because he felt no dread he was able to remain calm. At this time, Qin Yu was at the center of all attention, his expression faint and indifferent. It stood in stark contrast to the still-shocked bewildered expressions of everyone looking at him, making him appear particularly dignified, as if he were a lion sitting upon his throne and looking down upon all his subjects.

Of course, this was just an illusion. The great figures all around had formidable mindsets and soon composed themselves. It was just that there was still some awe flashing in their eyes, proving that their innermost feelings weren't as calm as what they revealed on the outside.

How could it be him?

It was actually him!

It was him!

This was a gradual change of thought. From shock to disbelief and finally acceptance of reality. This was because Qin Yu stood in front of them right now...and most importantly, he stood at the front of the group. The Demonic Path paid great attention to ranking and standing. Where a person stood was able to define what role they held, if they were the leader or not. Moreover, Hai Lanlan, Tuba, and Tutou kept their heads slightly lowered, and their imperceptible show of respect spoke for itself. Then, could it be that the terrifying beam of light that appeared just now was due to Qin Yu?

As soon as this thought appeared, the complexions of the numerous great figures present began to change once more. Their eyes filled with an even deeper dignity and a subtle transformation started to appear in the depths of their hearts. However, they still couldn't figure it out. How could a junior at the

Blue Sea boundary control that beam of light which seemed capable of destroying the heavens and earth? Was a white sun boundary talent really so terrifying?

It had been a long time since the Demon Envoy had lost his composure like this in front of so many people. He had firmly believed that Qin Yu wouldn't appear here just now, but in the next moment he broke through the sea's surface and proved him wrong. The sudden change and flipping of his expectations had caused a splendid look to appear on his face. However, everyone present also had similar appearances and no one would mock others for having the same.

The Demon Envoy's emotions surged like the sea and countless thoughts shuttled through his mind like schools of fish. He felt as if the entire situation had surpassed his imagination and spun out of his control. His expectations towards Qin Yu were that he would soar into the heavens several years from now, but it seemed reality was much more wonderful than his imagination could ever be...it seemed that from the very start, despite all of the careful and tentative plans he had arranged to help this body, none of them had ever gone smoothly.

By breaking through the road of Sea Burial and burying the Endless Sea, Qin Yu had shocked the Demonic Path once more. The first time was during the Demon Body talent examination. Without a doubt, the Demon Envoy knew that there would no longer be a chance to suppress Qin Yu and give him some time to freely grow. He hoped that Qin Yu was prepared for everything that was to come. The brilliance of this scene would soon fade and by that time he would welcome the scheming and plotting attempts of numerous factions. But, perhaps he wasn't afraid of this? The beam of light that descended from the heavens had left a deep impression in his mind. Even if some people had ill intent, perhaps they would be too scared to make a move.

Mu Yuantai's initial excitement had vanished into thin air. All that remained was a pale face and a simmering fury in his eyes. Killing intent surged like a tide in his heart. At this time, he had already cursed out Mu Xianglin 10,000 times over. That stupid damned pig, news of Yao Bin's death had already been spread throughout the family for an entire year already. But look, he was still alive and hopping around, even breaking out of the Endless Sea! This was simply absurd! As for whether or not cursing his own bloodline would implicate him, the enraged Mu Yuantai couldn't care about any of this!

In the previous moments, he had still been thinking about how to recruit these people no matter the cost. But before he could recruit them, he discovered that those he wanted to recruit were his sworn enemy! This feeling couldn't even be described as cataclysmic. If it weren't for the fact that a Calamity Immortal had sufficiently strong willpower, he would have likely spat out a mouthful of blood.

Mu Yuantai could sense the countless eyes that turned towards him. Some of them were filled with worry, but some of them were thoughtful, sympathetic, and even filled with ridicule. The Mu Family was indeed strong, but within the Demonic Path, they still had many enemies, enemies that were either in the open or hidden in the dark. As a massive family that had occupied the honored role of the previous Holy Monarch's descendants for 100,000 years, their existence in itself naturally encroached upon the benefits of many people. This was an inevitable result.

Yao Bin's appearance today had caused many terrible speculations to occur. This would greatly influence the Mu Family, and there was even a chance it would affect the entire Mu Family's foundation in the future.

Suddenly, four streaks of light shot across the horizon, a long tail dragging behind them. They howled forth like meteors, and without pause, the four streaks of light fused into the bodies of Qin Yu and the other three.

In the next moment a deep and heavy sound echoed through the Endless Sea, carrying with it a deep majesty and dignity. "To bravely rush through the road of Ascending Heaven, you are bestowed the rank of personal guard. May you share in the revered glory of the Holy Monarch!"

A suit of exquisite armor appeared on the bodies of Hai Lanlan, Tuba, and Tutou. It was different from the full-bodied armors of the True Demon Guard and Holy Nether Guard. This armor only protected the key parts of the body and the empty spaces were covered with a dark golden halo of light. A potent aura erupted, sweeping out in all directions.

### **Chapter 548B – Holy Son Armor**

Countless eyes filled with envy, and even the great figures of the Demonic Path were no exception. It had to be known that the status of being the Holy Monarch's personal guard was extremely honored. There was not much true authority to this rank, the rank was only lower than that of a commander. But, because they were the personal guard of the Holy Monarch, they had to deal with all sorts of terrifying situations and as a result, they possessed the idealized armor, one which only personal guards possessed. Its defensive capabilities were mind-boggling and not even a Calamity Immortal could easily break through it. It could be considered a valuable defensive treasure of the entire Demonic Path.

100,000 years ago when the Holy Monarch died a violent death, his personal guards were stripped of their status. During the time for which the throne was empty, only several people managed to obtain the idealized armor, and each one was an existence that was fought over by all factions. And now today, four of them had appeared at once...mm? Something didn't seem right...

Yao Bin, where was this boy's idealized armor?

The eyes of many people still lingered on Hai Lanlan's body and the idealized armor she wore. But, the truly great individuals had already turned their eyes somewhere else and found where the key issue was.

Four sets of idealized armor had arrived. Three sets had appeared, and it didn't make sense that Yao Bin's hadn't come out. Mu Yuantai's heart skipped a beat. He didn't know why, but he felt an extremely foreboding premonition.

As if something was going to happen right now.

Suddenly, layers of light surged on the surface of Qin Yu's body. It was like pure darkness blended with a deep purple color. But the feeling it gave off wasn't strange. Rather, it was filled with an unexplainable sense of honor and majesty. Just looking at it made one feel awe in their heart.

Circles of complex and exquisite patterns appeared, slowly forming the outline of a suit of armor. It appeared from the layers of light, rapidly condensing into reality.

"Holy Monarch Armor!" A great figure suddenly shouted out loud. His pupils shrank and shock filled his face.

Above the Endless Sea, everyone's breathing almost completely vanished. There was not a single sound that could be heard in that instant.

In this world, the only one that could possess the Holy Monarch Armor was the Holy Monarch!

As this thought appeared, everyone's heart quaked. It was like a million bolts of thunder striking down together, shaking the soul.

If Qin Yu could obtain the Holy Monarch Armor today, then from this point forth he was the Demonic Path's unsurpassed Holy Monarch!

This was without a doubt!

There was a flash of excitement in the Demon Envoy's eyes before he revealed some disappointment. This wasn't the Holy Monarch Armor. Still, with this set of armor, Qin Yu's status in the Demonic Path would dramatically rise.

"No, it isn't the Holy Monarch Armor, it is the one rank lower Holy Son Armor!" Mu Yuantai loudly shouted. He relaxed a little, but his back had already been drenched with a cold sweat. If a new Holy Monarch had truly appeared today, then the only thing that awaited the Mu Family was the fate of destruction. Even if he were a Calamity Immortal, he feared he wouldn't be able to escape disaster!

"That's right, that's the Holy Son Armor!"

"Strange, why would the Holy Palace bestow the Holy Son Armor upon him?"

"Could it be that Yao Bin's white sun boundary talent was sensed by the Holy Palace?"

"Although there has been no precedent, it can be explained with his white sun boundary talent."

Many great figures of the Demonic Path started to discuss amongst themselves, their hearts much more relaxed. If a new Holy Monarch had suddenly popped out of nowhere today, they would have found it hard to accept. But after seeing what they did, their gazes had changed. It seemed that the Holy Palace favored Yao Bin...could this be a representation of some intent? Moreover, with the opening of the Holy Palace's main body imminent...one couldn't help but speculate about the possibilities.

Mu Yuantai felt as if he had survived a disaster. His complexion was even uglier to look at. He could sense the opinions of those around him rapidly changing. If he allowed this to freely continue, then the Mu Family's situation would only worsen. His thoughts raced and he took a step forward, saying in a deep voice, "Yao Bin, I am asking you with my status as a Calamity Immortal of the Demonic Path. Just what was that beam of light which fell from the highest heavens just now?"

One couldn't help but acknowledge that there were no Calamity Immortals that were easy to deal with. Mu Yuantai easily grasped the key point of the situation. Yao Bin already possessed a white sun boundary talent, so obtaining the Holy Son Armor was only improving upon this perfection; it didn't affect things too much because he was already astonishing enough.

But, the beam of light from the skies was different. It possessed the strength to kill a Calamity Immortal, and thus was the heaviest topic on everyone's mind.

Qin Yu looked up. With the Holy Son Armor serving to contrast his calm demeanor and expression, it lent him an even greater air of resoluteness and dignity. But before Qin Yu could speak up, the Demon Envoy interrupted, "Mu Yuantai, perhaps this matter involves Yao Bin's greatest secrets. How can he reveal it in front of everyone? It won't be too late to ask him later."

Mu Yuantai clenched his teeth. "No! This matter is too important and might involve the safety of the Demonic Path. It has to be clearly explained!" To question him in public view of everyone else was the best opportunity he had right now. Otherwise, if he were to miss out on this chance and Yao Bin's name and reputation spread throughout the Demonic Path, that would create a trend that would be disadvantageous to the Mu Family.

The Demon Envoy's eyes were icy cold. "How dissolute! Since when did you have the qualifications to speak against me!"

Bang –

The boundless aura of a Calamity Immortal erupted, like a great mountain pressing down on everyone.

How could the Demon Envoy not know what Mu Yuantai was thinking?

Since Yao Bin had leapt into sight of everyone, it was impossible for him to keep a low profile and continue growing. If so, then he had to expose his stance today to give the greatest show of support to Yao Bin!

Although he didn't know what that beam of light was, the Demon Envoy understood that even if it came from Yao Bin, there was an over 90% chance that it was some terrifying one-time use method.

But even this small uncertainty was enough to awe everyone. The later this could be verified, the more it would help Qin Yu. It would help Qin Yu consolidate his reputation and harvest more goodwill.

"Yuantai really doesn't understand the rules, but what if this old man wishes to know?" A light voice spread out. A figure suddenly appeared, one with a headful of white hair and a face stacked with wrinkles. The scent of decay wreathed him, but that rickety figure emitted an aura that shook the world.

Circles of weak fluctuations spread out with him at the center, as if he was in the middle of a lake being blown on by a cool spring breeze. The complexions of the surrounding great figures changed, their eyes shaking a little. This undying old monster from the Mu Family was actually strong to such a degree! For this freak to make an appearance today and even blatantly expose such a terrifying strength, it was clear that Yao Bin's existence made him feel nervous.

And more importantly, Yao Bin now had to give an explanation for that beam of light which fell from the heavens. This was because even the Demon Envoy didn't have much speaking power in front of the Mu Family's Old Ancestor.

The Mu Family Old Ancestor turned around, his eyes looking straight ahead. Even though he didn't say a single extra word, the world seemed to freeze.

The Demon Envoy's eyes flashed with a cold brilliance. It was unknown what he was thinking but he finally suppressed his thoughts. His expression was cloudy and he kept silent.

Qin Yu felt as if he was facing a towering mountain. A terrifying oppression caused his soul to instinctively scream out. While this old freak that suddenly popped out of nowhere might not be able to compare to the Dao Arena Master, he was definitely one of the peak super powerhouses that existed within this world. Qin Yu didn't know who he was, but there was one thing he could determine – this old monster didn't have a favorable impression towards him, and even wished that he could tear him apart.

Mu Yuantai...Mu Family...

Qin Yu's heart chilled. This family was indeed worthy of being the previous Holy Monarch's descendants; they actually possessed two Calamity Immortals, and one of them was even this terrifying. Luckily, he had completed the transformation of his Emperor level Demon Body and even obtained something that had fused with his Demon God Armor and transformed into the so-called Holy Son Armor. So, with his current level of strength, he at least didn't need to fear that he would be struck dead with a single blow.

### **Chapter 549A – Trust**

The Mu Family Old Ancestor's eyes flashed. He had used a soul suppression secret art to deliberately humiliate Qin Yu in front of everyone. But, he never expected that he would remain so calm. With his plan having failed, surprise flickered in his eyes, followed by killing intent. With such astonishing talent and restraint, if he wasn't eliminated soon, he would surely become a great source of pain for the Mu Family!

The thoughts of this old monster that had lived for an untold number of years were as deep as the sea. Even if there was killing intent surging in his heart, none of this was revealed on the surface. "Yao Bin, I wonder how you managed to accomplish this?"

Qin Yu said, "Long ago I inadvertently obtained a special treasure. It has saved my life several times in the past. Unfortunately, the number of times it can be used is limited, so unless it's a critical moment, I wouldn't." As he spoke to here he shook his head and said, "It's just that today, the power of this treasure was much more than I thought it was."

These words were both true and false. The sea map had indeed saved Qin Yu in the past, and he really didn't expect its display of strength today.

The reason he changed his answer and gave such a vague response was due to the dread he felt towards this old monster from the Mu Family.

Whether or not he was believed, he would frighten him first. Before this old freak clearly investigated things, he wouldn't dare to act recklessly.

The Demon Envoy suddenly spoke up, "Mister Mu, this matter will be clearly investigated by the Holy Palace. With your honored status, there is no need to waste time on a junior." His voice was light as he spoke, but there were some fluctuations in his words that broke through the void and interrupted the suppressive aura all around.

The Mu Family Old Ancestor fell silent for a moment. Then he suddenly laughed, "You're right. I'm already a dead man walking, so if I were to interfere in these matters I fear that others might secretly complain about me. But Demon Envoy, there is a point where you are wrong. Yao Bin possesses a white sun boundary talent and he is even able to rush through the road of Ascending Heaven and break out of

the sea today. To say that he is the future hope of my Demonic Path isn't going too far. Moreover, he has an extremely high chance of succeeding the throne of the Holy Monarch. He isn't someone that can be summarized with the word 'junior'." His cold eyes swept around one more time, then he chuckled and stepped away, vanishing from sight.

The Demon Envoy's tense body relaxed a little and he let out a deep breath of air he didn't know he was holding in. He was actually very worried that this old monster would suddenly decide to attack. It had to be known that the current Yao Bin represented a formidable threat to the Mu Family, and there were other vital interests at work too. Luckily, the old monster seemed to have some scruples and didn't dare to recklessly attack in the end.

The Mu Family members left. After a brief pause, some of the other great figures of the Demonic Path diverged. But, the majority of them actually stayed behind. They didn't do much, only arriving at Qin Yu's side and greeting him. There weren't any vows or pledges made. They simply spoke some words to him and then left. But the significance behind this was already sufficiently shocking.

This was the privilege of the great figures. Most of the other Demonic Path cultivators still lingering in the periphery didn't have the qualifications to approach. But, Zhao Qianyuan was an exception. He wasn't a Calamity Immortal, but his status within the Demonic Path wasn't below that of a Calamity Immortal. In fact, when he decided to step forward, a Calamity Immortal mulled over it and decided to wait for a moment. From this alone, it could be seen that the current Zhao Qianyuan had already stepped into the heavens.

"I have always believed that you would eventually emerge from the Endless Sea and shock all those that doubted you. But, I never imagined you would do it so quickly." His voice was mild and temperate, without any change from before.

Qin Yu didn't know if it was an illusion or not, but he could sense a bit of cautious probing in Zhao Qianyuan's face. He carefully looked for it again, but this feeling had already vanished.

After a pause, Qin Yu smiled and said, "Brother Zhao's cultivation increases with every day. If I don't want to be left behind, I need to try even harder." He had his own reasons for saying this. While he didn't know of Zhao Qianyuan's current illustrious reputation within the Demonic Path, he could feel his invisible aura all around, containing in it the potential to shake the world. This Zhao Qianyuan was no weaker than a Calamity Immortal.

Someone who wasn't a Calamity Immortal but was actually no weaker than a Calamity Immortal. If one thought deeply about the true implications behind this, how astonishing was it!

Zhao Qianyuan shook his head. "Brother Yao is too modest." He cupped his hands together. "Today isn't the time to talk. If I have free time I will pay a visit in the future. Then, I'll excuse myself first."

"Brother Zhao, take care."

As the two bid their farewells and left, this sight fell into the eyes of many people and they all sighed with emotion. These two had only entered the Demonic Path a little over a year ago, but they had become people that walked amongst the clouds, throwing their peers far behind them. Without accident, this disparity would only grow larger and larger until there was no more chance to overtake them.

Dong Hanzhu looked away and silently left. A year ago he believed he still had the qualifications to compete with Qin Yu, but now, he didn't even have the right to speak to him. This wasn't because he didn't put in sufficient effort, but some people simply couldn't even be classified as monstrous geniuses.

He clenched his fists beneath his sleeves. But, Dong Hanzhu didn't feel despair over this. Perhaps Zhao Qianyuan and Qin Yu had tossed him far behind right now, but that didn't mean he didn't have the chance to catch up. The opening of the Holy Palace's main body was right before him. This was a great lucky chance. If he had a good harvest then his strength would rise by leaps and bounds.

Sun Zifu lowered his head. He suddenly said, "Honorable master, let's go."

"You don't want to greet him?" A chubby old man narrowed his eyes, a telling grin on his face.

Sun Zifu bitterly smiled. "Where do I have the qualifications to?" He took a deep breath. "At least I don't today."

The old man nodded. "It's good that you know how great the disparity is. Cultivate well later and don't waste..." He mumbled, his little eyes veering back and forth. Only when he saw no one paying attention to them did he slap his forehead in relief.

Sun Zifu helplessly smiled. His teacher was good, but sometimes he lacked a guard for his mouth.

He looked deeply at Qin Yu who was surrounded by a crowd. Then, he turned and left, the old man smiling and following him.

In this world, everything changed with the passing of time. If a person grew, the others around him wouldn't stop growing either.

Today Qin Yu was able to proudly smile and laugh towards all those around him. But, what would this scene be like ten years from now?

## **Chapter 549B – Trust**

Holy Palace, Demon Envoy's Temple Hall.

Warm sunlight sprinkled down. Hai Lanlan lifted her hands and could feel the taste of sunlight mixed with wind on her fingertips. Tears began to surge in her indifferent eyes, shimmering with a dazzling light. At this moment, she temporarily put aside everything in her mind and genuinely basked in this thing called freedom. From today forth, she was no longer held down by shackles. She could freely walk through this world no longer suppressed by the sea all around her.

The carefully maintained garden was in full bloom. All sorts of fresh flowers swayed about and butterflies and honeybees flew among them. Beneath the sunlight, she felt as if she had entered paradise.

Qin Yu looked out the window, seeing all of this. There was a faint fluctuation of emotion in his heart. He could approximately understand what Hai Lanlan was feeling right now. He turned his eyes back and looked at the Demon Envoy who was sitting across from him. He said, "She's been waiting for this moment today for many years already. Since I brought her here, I hope no one ruins this in the future."

The Demon Envoy calmly looked out the window. "I have the same thoughts as you. But in the end, the key to all of this lies with you." He turned and looked at Qin Yu, his eyes as sharp as blades. "If you can succeed the throne of the Holy Monarch then everything will go according to your will. But if you fail, then however much hope you've given her will be replaced by a despair that is ten times or even a hundred times greater."

After today's events, the Holy Nether Guard had already made clear where they stood. If Qin Yu couldn't inherit the throne, then once a new Holy Monarch appeared he would surely carry out a brutal purge and cleanse them of Qin Yu's taint. This was because it was impossible to keep guards that weren't sufficiently loyal. While Qin Yu had no path of retreat, the Holy Nether Guard didn't either.

Qin Yu frowned, as if sensing the invisible pressure on his shoulders. He took a deep breath. "How can I believe you?"

The Demon Envoy arched an eyebrow. "My current performance isn't enough to have you believe me?"

Qin Yu nodded and then shook his head. "I believe you, so that's why I followed you here. But believing is different from trusting. I need a more explicit reason. Lord Demon Envoy, why are you helping me?"

The Demon Envoy was silent for a long time. He began to slowly say, "The reason is simple. It's the usual played-out stereotypical story you can hear anywhere. My grudge with the Mu Family is as deep as the sea. I will not allow them to take the position of Holy Monarch once more."

"Lord Demon Envoy, if you can explain in detail."

"The Mu Family's throne of the Holy Monarch in the past was seized from my ancestors!" In that instant, space seemed to freeze and an invisible aura erupted outwards. Qin Yu seemed to hear the sorrowful wails of the rules around him. But all of this was contained in their room, none of it leaking outside.

Within Qin Yu's chest, his heart beat vigorously, pushing blood through his body. Every inch of his flesh and bones emitted a silent roar. The Holy Son Armor appeared on its own volition and a dark purple halo of light flowed across his body, making him seem like a reviving demon god.

The Demon Envoy revealed a shocked expression. "Your Emperor level Demon Body has finished its transformation?"

Qin Yu nodded. "Yes." In his heart, he had already determined that this person was the one who had sent him into the Endless Sea. If so, then he shouldn't have any ill intent towards him.

His thoughts raced. Qin Yu thought back to Heavenly Demon City. When the Demon Envoy appeared and probed him, it was likely then that some of his secrets had been exposed, leading him to know about his current Emperor level Demon Body.

Even though the Demon Envoy had already sensed this, when Qin Yu nodded his head in acknowledgment, he still felt great waves surge in his heart. After a long period of silence, he said, "You are more outstanding than I expected. Even in the long cultivation history of the Demon Body, it's impossible to find someone that can compare with you. I originally thought that you would need several more years to complete your Demon Body transformation."

He shook his head. "No wonder you didn't hesitate to leave the Endless Sea, even if that meant rushing through the road of Ascending Heaven. Cultivating the Demon Body is like sailing a boat against the current; you cannot lose the momentum you have gathered behind you. If you were to delay for several years without advancing, that would be harmful to you. In this way, when I initially sent you into the Endless Sea, it seems I hadn't considered the situation well enough."

It really was him.

Qin Yu said, "Lord Demon Envoy, perhaps it's time for us to have an open and honest discussion with each other."

An hour later, the two sat in silence, quietly digesting each other's words. Qin Yu helped dispel the Demon Envoy's confusion, as well as the reason why he was able to obtain the Emperor level Demon Body. Of course, he didn't give the complete answer. At the same time, Qin Yu also believed that the Demon Envoy was holding things back. Still, through all of this, he was able to make a judgment. The Demon Envoy could be trusted...at least he could be trusted for now.

"The Holy Palace's main body will open soon. Since you have completed your Emperor level Demon Body transformation, you will have a great advantage over everyone else. If you can obtain an inheritance of the Holy Monarch's lineage, then you can obtain the status of Holy Son. The Holy Son is the only successor of the Holy Monarch so this is an incomparably honored status. Moreover, you will be able to obtain some of the authority granted to His Majesty the Holy Monarch ahead of time. Believe me, as long as you obtain this partial authority, no one within the Demonic Path will try to harm you in the future." The Demon Envoy's eyes suddenly turned dignified. "But let me remind you, even if you have an Emperor level Demon Body, you absolutely cannot be negligent and underestimate anyone. The Mu Family have made many arrangements for this. They will do everything in their power to obtain the Holy Palace's inheritance!"

Qin Yu stood up and walked to the window. He looked at the bright figure that was playing amidst the flowers. "Lord Demon Envoy, rest assured that I will do my best." This was for himself, as well as for the people who had placed their destiny in his hands.

...

The previous Demon Envoy sighed with emotion. "Emperor level Demon Body, this is the Emperor level Demon Body! It seems I really am too old; I cannot see through the depths of the youngsters these days." He shook his head repeatedly. In front of his closest and most intimate disciple, he didn't conceal his shock.

"To speak honestly, this disciple spent a great deal of strength to not lose face in front of Yao Bin. I was barely able to maintain my composure." The Demon Envoy forced a smile. "Teacher, is a white sun boundary talent really so formidable? In all the previous historical records, I have never read about such cultivation speed before."

The previous Demon Envoy's eyes flashed. "Perhaps there is some secret on Yao Bin's body that neither you nor I know about." He suddenly switched the topic. "Have you completed the investigation into his background yet?"

The Demon Envoy nodded. "There are indeed some problems with Yao Bin's background." He reiterated everything he learned from the Black Demon Sect. "According to the records, he is at least several hundred years old. It doesn't match with his current appearance."

The previous Demon Envoy frowned. "Continue the investigation. If there is anything wrong..." His expression was ice cold.

The Demon Envoy hesitated for a moment. "Teacher, perhaps you are overthinking things. There shouldn't be any connection between Yao Bin and the Immortal Sect."

The previous Demon Envoy lightly said, "When it concerns the throne of the Holy Monarch, one cannot be too careful."

"Yes, this disciple understands."

...

Cloud Grove City, Mu Family.

Yao Bin breaking through the road of Ascending Heaven and leaving the Endless Sea was like a heavy slap in the head, leaving the ears and minds of everyone in the Mu Family buzzing and their field of vision flashing black. Many of these people felt anger, and this anger was most directly towards Mu Xianglin. Some people weren't happy that he was in charge of the daily matters of the family, and their eyes flashed in gloating as they reveled in his misfortune.

"Old Ancestor, this is all my mistake. I will definitely investigate this matter and give you an explanation!" Mu Xianglin clenched his teeth, his heart filled with puzzlement. According to the information he had gathered from various sources, it should have been impossible for Yao Bin to escape. But reality had always been so cruel and uncaring. He had no choice but to accept this fact.

Mu Yuantai took a deep breath. "Old Ancestor, this isn't the time to assign responsibility and punishment for this. Since Yao Bin has suddenly appeared, there might be an accident with the inheritance of the Holy Palace."

The Mu Family Old Ancestor opened his eyes. "How is Mu Mo's current condition?"

Mu Xianglin quickly said, "Reporting to Old Ancestor, Mu Mo has already smoothly made his breakthrough and now has a Sovereign level Demon Body. He is currently consolidating his boundary." He said in a deep voice, "Even if Yao Bin has a white sun boundary talent, it is impossible for him to have achieved a Sovereign level Demon Body in a mere year! When the main body of the Holy Palace opens, Mu Mo will be able to step into the Holy Palace first and everything will be decided by then!"

The Mu Family Old Ancestor was silent for several breaths of time. He lifted his hand. Black light surged and a black crystal appeared. "Give this to Mu Mo. Tell him that no accidents can occur."

Mu Xianglin's eyes widened before filling with pleasant surprise. "Thank you, Old Ancestor. With this holy ancestor's treasure in hand, he will definitely succeed!" So what if Yao Bin had a white sun boundary talent? As long as Mu Mo obtained the Holy Monarch's inheritance, he would assume the position of the Holy Son!

All of the plans that the Mu Family had labored for throughout the years were finally about to bloom!

## Chapter 550 – Pitiful People Who Deserve Death But Cannot Die

Within the Demonic Path's small world, if one were to speak of the lands of misery, the Endless Sea would be one of them. But there was another place that wouldn't rank any lower. However, because it concerned the face of the Demonic Path, it was considered a supreme taboo. Whether it was by design or accident, news of this place was suppressed and slowly faded from everyone's attention.

Then, perhaps most people wouldn't believe that this second land of misery was actually that place which was revered by the entire Demonic Path, that countless proud sons of heavens tried so hard to pursue – the Holy Palace.

When the last Holy Monarch perished 100,000 years ago, he hadn't left behind a Holy Son successor. As a result, the throne of the Holy Monarch remained empty for 100,000 years. With the death of the Holy Monarch, the main body of the Holy Palace was sealed and all of the Holy Monarch's concubines, palace ladies, maids, and all the female servants were also sealed inside, none of them able to have contact with the outside world anymore.

In a way, it could be said that the destinies of these women were even more pitiful than the Holy Nether Guards stranded in the Endless Sea. They could only slowly wither away with the passing of time.

In order to seek out a new descendant that could succeed the throne of the Holy Monarch, the main body of the Holy Palace would open every so often. But, those women sealed within had no chance of leaving.

From the moment they entered the Holy Palace, their destiny had fused together with this palace that possessed limitless dignity and overwhelming momentum. Without the imperial command of the Holy Monarch, they would never be able to leave.

In the eyes of outsiders, the Holy Palace's main body represented transcendent grandeur, the very embodiment of the Demonic Path's supreme status. It was the incarnation of good fortune, the dragon gate which all carps could leap through.

But to these lonely women, it was a dark and infinite prison that swallowed their lives. The Holy Nether Guard had the slim ray of hope that was the road of Ascending Heaven...but they had no chance to leave.

No one longed more than them for a new Holy Monarch to be born, even if this meant that many of them would die in the aftermath. Because sometimes, living was a form of suffering worse than death.

The sealing of the Holy Palace's main body was a complete seal. There was no wind, no rain, no air, no light, it was completely isolated from the outside world. Within the darkness, not even flames could burn. There were only small round beads that emitted a tragic green halo of light in the drowning darkness.

There was a tall figure wreathed in a black robe. She stood proud, but in the next moment she subconsciously lowered her head. It was unknown whether it was because of these beads that were rumored to be grinded down from bones, whether it was the surrounding darkness, or whether it was the eyes in the shadows below that looked towards her with a burning heat.

A light cough came from above. The tall figure finally relaxed. It was because those creepy eyes that had been lingering on her for a long time finally disappeared. She looked to her side where there was a black-robed figure nearly bent into a ball, and her eyes were filled with terror as well as some gratitude.

As if satisfied by the tall figure's response, the black-robed figure on a throne high above had an even warmer expression. "Do not fear. They are just some unlucky people. If they could see you now, they would simply envy you. Come, come closer to me. Once I make my announcement, you will return to the palace with me."

The voice was gentle and lilting, making one feel as if a spring breeze was wafting past them. Listening to this voice, one couldn't help but feel closer to the person speaking. The tall figure hastily bowed, some excitement in her movement.

The black-robed figure on the high throne smiled. Then, she looked around below her. Her voice this time was slow and halting, seeming as if she were forcefully trying to keep a gentle tone. "In five days, the Holy Palace's seal will be opened once more, and us people that deserve to die but refuse to die will finally see some hope." There was a brief pause before she continued, "But how many times have we seen such hope? Yet each time we are disappointed, and in the end the feelings of us sisters are devastated. So this time, I am preparing to make a change. Although this goes against the rules, I hope that my fellow sisters will agree with me."

There was confused noise from the shadows. It was clear that this news had caused considerable shock. But in the end, everyone felt fear in their hearts and no one dared to say anything.

Still, some people managed to stand out. "Big sister, what do you plan on doing?" This voice wasn't pleasant to hear. It was like two dried pieces of meat jerky rubbing against each other, grating the ears.

Atop the high throne, the black-robed figure sprawled backwards as if she had found a comfortable position. She let out a long breath and said in a soft voice, "The reason us sisters have been stranded in the Holy Palace is because the throne of the Holy Palace is empty. As long as a new Holy Monarch appears, his imperial command will solve all our suffering. So, I am prepared to select an inheritance and place it at the entrance of the Holy Palace. The first junior to step into the Holy Palace should possess the most outstanding Demon Body amongst the current generation of juniors. After he obtains this inheritance, I hope he will be able to leap into the highest heavens in a single bound."

"Big sister, I oppose!" The coarse and harsh voice was as hard as nails. "The palace has already established long ago that the inheritance of the Holy Monarch must be decided by the dark flow of fate. This is something that involves the destiny and future of the Holy Palace, and any outside interference is not allowed in any way, otherwise a great catastrophe will descend upon us all. If not for this, why would we still be in our current situation?"

"Little sister, you might say that, but 100,000 years have already passed. Just how long can we last? We live out our days not even like humans or ghosts. I don't wish to live another day longer like this." Her eyes swept out. "I believe that my sisters think the same as me."

"Big sister..."

“There is no need to speak further; I have already made my decision. Since we all have our own opinions, then let us vote. Those that agree with my method, please withdraw from this hall. Those that disagree may stay behind.”

The tall figure to her side imperceptibly shivered. She lowered her head, about to bow, but she was stopped by the black-robed figure on the high throne. “You do not need to leave. Stay here. Since I have chosen you as my successor, then consider this as a learning experience on how to deal with similar situations in the future. I don’t want you to be thrown into a panicked confusion if this were to occur.”

The tall figure kept her head down and nodded. Beneath her black robe, she vaguely looked below the throne with regret, as if wanting to warn them, but in the end she didn’t say anything.

There was the sound of footsteps. At first it was just a few, but soon more and more could be heard. Faintly, one could sense panic and fear in the atmosphere. Soon the entire hall was emptied out. Only four figures remained. The person who spoke with an incredibly coarse voice was one of them.

The black-robed figure atop the high throne said in a soft voice, “My four little sisters, do you really want to oppose me?”

“The rules of the Holy Palace are there to prevent any disasters from taking root. Between you and me, as long as there is a single person who refuses, this resolution will not be passed...big sister, I know how much you have endured, how much you have suffered, but if we can keep persevering there will always be hope. Why take such a risk?”

“Hah...” The figure atop the throne lightly sighed. “We are people bound together by a common destiny, depending on each other to survive these 100,000 years. Even if there were ever any grievances between us, those things have long since vanished into nothingness. Why must things come to this...my four little sisters, big sister is sorry to all of you. But, please go.”

Bang –

Blood red flames instantly gushed out from the ground beneath the hall, swallowing up the four people and illuminating the darkness.

The robes worn by the four figures were instantly burnt to ashes beneath the scarlet flames, revealing four nearly corpse-like figures. They seemed to have lost all moisture from their bodies. Their grass-like hair was pasted onto their scalps and only the dark light that shone from their deep hollow eye sockets proved that they were still alive.

There were no pained cries. After a short flash of shocked anger and then stunned disbelief, there was an eerie serenity and freedom in the eyes of the four people. Bit by bit, they were burnt down by the blood red flames. They were reduced to tiny fragments that continued to melt away until there was nothing left of them.

Atop the high throne, the bent black-robed figure stood up with difficulty. Her back was extremely curved and her outstretched hands trembled.

The tall figure beside her respectfully fell to her knees. Her hood fell down to reveal an extremely beautiful face, one that was especially pale because she hadn’t seen light for a long time. Her long eyelashes shivered, as if expressing the fear and restlessness in her heart.

At this moment, the black-robed figure atop the throne had an incomparably warm gaze, as if she were looking at a rare worldly treasure. "You Qi, there is no need to feel fear. I will look after you. 100,000 years, this is 100,000 years with no end...we are a bunch of pitiful people that deserve to die but cannot die...only you are lucky...only you..."

Her quiet voice was still gentle, constantly echoing in this hall illuminated by blood red flames.