

## Refining 621

### Chapter 621A – God Skeleton

Night.

You Qi looked at the deeply slumbering Qin Yu. Her fingers were twined together with his. She gazed upon his wrinkled eyebrows, not daring to close her eyes.

The devil mark's backlash had erupted. She could clearly feel two consciousnesses fighting within Qin Yu.

After an unknown length of time, Qin Yu's tense body gradually relaxed. You Qi finally let out a deep breath and only then did she discover that her clothes were drenched in sweat.

A wave of weariness rushed over her. After a careful inspection to ensure that Qin Yu was fine, she fell asleep in several breaths of time.

These short several hours were no different from a round of brutal torture for Qin Yu. She had watched on, completely helpless as Qin Yu struggled to survive.

When Qin Yu woke up, the first thing he saw was her thin and pallid face. Ever since she realized his situation, she hadn't relaxed for even a single moment.

A feeling of guilt rose up in the depths of his heart. When he looked at this woman in front of him, he had no idea what he had to do in order to repay her.

In an absent-minded daze, You Qi's eyelashes fluttered and she slowly opened her eyes. As their gazes met, a brilliant smile broke free on her face.

Qin Yu couldn't help but acknowledge that he was moved by this smile. After hesitating for a moment he held onto her hand and said, "You Qi, thank you."

Looking at her hand that was being held by Qin Yu, You Qi's smile brightened. She squeezed back tightly, telling herself that since she caught hold of him today, she would never let him go.

...

At almost the same time, on an island off the distant end of Great Chu, Old Ghost opened his eyes, his face pale. He was able to confirm that Speechless's aura had disappeared!

He was well aware of what this meant. After a long period of silence he was unable to suppress the roiling feelings in his chest. He clenched his teeth and roared out, "Bastard!"

He stood up. With a flick of his sleeves a wild strength erupted, crushing everything around him and erasing all traces of himself.

Old Ghost shot into the skies. Space fiercely twisted and swallowed up his body.

No one knew that a long time ago, after a certain event, Speechless had already become a back road he had prepared for himself.

But now, this back road had been blocked...and if this person could kill Speechless, then killing him wouldn't be hard either. Thus, he wasn't full of anger and craving revenge. Rather, he felt panic and uneasiness as he fled to the west.

He wanted to flee, flee to the endless sea of the west...who knew whether that useless trash Speechless had exposed his position!

...

The Chu Empire occupied a vast territory supported by boundless lands. To the far west was the boundless sea. Here, islands were spread out like stars in the skies. Somewhere in these waters, several islands were connected to each other, their shape resembling a carp. Because of it, this collection of islands was referred to as Carp Archipelago.

Within the archipelago, around where the eye of the carp should be, there was an island that was several miles in size. But, what was astounding was that there were actually tall mountains covering this small island. Dozens of mountains were piled together, desperately towering into the skies. After seeing this, one couldn't help but feel worried that this little island would eventually topple over.

Beneath the mountain range there were valleys filled with ancient trees and vines. Old Ghost tightly furrowed his eyebrows together. He looked down at several terrifyingly large holes that extended down as far as the eye could see.

A stone pillar drilled out, shooting straight into the heavens. Its rough surface was covered with traces of erosion. It had clearly existed for a long, long time.

But between the blurry marks atop the stone pillar, traces of blood quietly extended upwards. They drilled all the way to the top of the stone pillar where a skeleton was sitting cross-legged, weaving together 'bloodlines' on its white bones.

Because of the existence of these 'bloodlines', the skeleton gave off a feeling that it was still alive. As if countless years ago, it had been exposed here in the world, doomed to suffer the onslaught of endless wind and rain.

"There is less and less god blood..." Old Ghost muttered to himself. There was a cold chill in his eyes as well as an inconceivable fear somewhere even deeper within.

Speechless had been killed and the god blood was continuously decreasing. Old Ghost could feel the smell of death rushing towards his direction once again and it left him feeling breathless.

He turned around left. Soon, the indigenous people living atop the archipelago received a message from their Lord Priest. The evil god was about to escape. If the tribe wished to ensure the continuation of their people and inheritance then they would need to begin a large-scale sacrifice and offer the power of flesh and blood to suppress the evil god.

Throughout the various great tribes of the archipelago, the sounds of happy talk and laughter soon disappeared. Those that had the qualifications to be sacrificed were all young men and women. They hugged their children and knelt in front of their parents. After deeply bowing, they strode towards their doom, their grief-filled faces full of firm resolve.

This was an unavoidable matter that had repeated itself since ancient times. But, as long as their parents and children were able to continue living on, they did not fear death.

Lines of indigenous men and women were led to the stone pillar by the priests. After bowing and praying, they leapt in. The giant hole in the ground was like the open maw of a giant beast. It swallowed them up, leaving no trace behind.

Old Ghost coldly watched all of this occur. Although this 'raising' function was becoming increasingly less useful, it was all he could do right now. If he had been able to kill the Demon Sovereign outside of Thistle Capital, he wouldn't have been placed in such a desperate situation.

"Damn it!"

Old Ghost cursed and walked away. This 'raising' would require a period of time. He couldn't delay here any longer.

Living was a wonderful miracle that one should be thankful for. He had to value and utilize every second of time available to him, not wasting even the briefest moment.

Two months later, the 'raising' finally came to an end. At the expense of millions upon millions of native lives, the decreasing trend of the god blood finally stabilized.

Old Ghost let out a deep breath but he didn't truly feel relaxed. He knew that this sort of 'stable' condition wouldn't last for too long.

The island natives wouldn't be able to carry out a second sacrificial ceremony for at least another hundred years. During this period of time he needed to find some other method to enhance the production of god blood.

Half a year had passed since Speechless died. Everything had been calm and quiet so far. He thought that he might have been overly wary; perhaps it was time to return to the Land of Divinity and Demons.

In the vast and endless sea, all one could see was water all around. A man and woman walked over the waves. Wherever they passed, the surface of the sea would instantly quiet down, as if it were the flat surface of a mirror.

You Qi pulled on Qin Yu's arm, a puzzled expression on her face. "My Demonic Path's influence is spread throughout the world but we still haven't been able to find any traces of Old Ghost's whereabouts. How did Your Majesty know he was hiding here?"

Qin Yu smiled. "It was the news given to me by the God Hunters."

You Qi furrowed her eyebrows together. "God Hunters? What influence is this? How come I've never heard of them before?"

Qin Yu explained, "To be exact, the God Hunters isn't a true organization. Rather, it is a union formed by numerous rogue cultivators. It's just that the threshold to join is extremely high. They purchase and sell information, as well as perform other services like assassinations."

You Qi wrinkled her nose. "Is Your Majesty saying that I don't have the qualifications to learn about the God Hunters right now?"

Qin Yu helplessly shook his head. "It's not like that." He and You Qi were extremely discreet in their movements; even the Demonic Path didn't know their whereabouts. But, they had still been found by the God Hunters. At least in terms of intelligence gathering, there weren't many other organizations that could match them.

Information about Old Ghost's location was given to him by the God Hunters on their own initiative because they desired to create a favorable impression. Although they were known as the God Hunters, able to perform any service and kill any person, there were still certain limits. For instance, the Demonic Path's Holy Monarch.

The status represented by this title was something that the God Hunters dared not touch. Of course, another possibility was that no one could pay the price to hunt down the Holy Monarch.

On the horizon where the sea and sky met, a mountain range suddenly appeared. The closer they approached, the more mountains appeared. Finally they could see several islands connected together.

You Qi pursed her lips. She softly asked, "It's here?"

Qin Yu nodded. He turned and traced her hair, smiling as he said, "Don't worry. Just wait here for me to return."

With a flick of his sleeves, seawater automatically rose up. It formed a water bubble that wrapped around You Qi.

Pa –

The water bubble fell into the sea and vanished from sight.

Qin Yu took a deep breath and walked towards the archipelago. Faint traces of an invisible aura spread out from his body. It resonated with the heavens and earth, touching the rule lines.

As a result, winds began to rise within the world. Although there were no clouds in the skies, it began to darken as if the light itself was disappearing.

The invisible aura spread over the entire archipelago. The monster beasts racing through the mountain forests started to howl and sob, falling to the ground and shivering. The priests amongst the tribes who stepped upon the road of cultivation all stared with wide eyes as their complexions paled.

## **Chapter 621B – God Skeleton**

Shua –

In a palace, Old Ghost fiercely opened his eyes. His face was full of anger!

There was no need for reason. His intuition told him that the person who arrived was the same person who had killed Speechless. How did this person know he was here?

But thinking about this was no longer useful. Old Ghost took a deep breath and a sharp light shone in his eyes. If it was some other place he would have fled without hesitation. But, this Carp Archipelago was his roots. If this place was ruined then he would die without a doubt.

In other words, he could not retreat today. He could only meet this opponent head on!

He took a deep breath and stood up. He took a step forward. When he next appeared he was in the skies above the archipelago. His gaze drifted off towards the horizon.

A white-haired youth was walking towards him along the waves. His robes flapped around him and a formidable aura gradually melded together with the world.

“Demon Sovereign!”

Old Ghost cried out in alarm.

Qin Yu lightly said, “My injuries have yet to recover. I will take you all as my grinding stones and temper my will to pass this tribulation.”

He lifted a fist and punched out. The world fiercely shook as strength rumbled forth like a massive tide.

Looking forward, the sea instantly split in half, forming an abyss!

Old Ghost roared. “Demon Sovereign, if you let me go then I am willing to join the Demonic Path and be used by the Holy Palace!”

He thrust his hands forwards. Black fog gushed out from the void, forming a thick barrier before him.

Dang –

With a deep ring the fog sunk inwards. Then, a wild strength erupted, tearing the fog into pieces. It tumbled about, rapidly disappearing from sight.

Old Ghost backed up. His face was pale but his eyes were blazingly bright, filled with wild joy and disbelief.

The Demon Sovereign had arrived here by himself. He wouldn’t be so bored as to be playing a joke on him. Moreover, Old Ghost had felt the swift killing intent in that strike. It might have been strong, but it didn’t reach the standard that the Demon Sovereign should possess.

It was true! The Demon Sovereign was injured!

Just like Speechless, Old Ghost suddenly firmed his resolve. No matter what price he had to pay he would kill the Demon Sovereign today. This was the best chance for him to change his destiny!

He turned and shot up into the skies.

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He never thought that Old Ghost would react like this. He raced forward in pursuit.

In the skies above Carp Archipelago, explosive sounds began to ring out one after another. The fierce rumbles roared like thunder.

The massive hole that swallowed up millions of native lives suddenly emitted a repressed and excited gasp.

Atop the stone pillar, the skeleton that was covered with ‘bloodlines’ suddenly opened its mouth and released a silent cry.

Old Ghost's approaching body burst apart in midair. He changed into a mass of crimson blood that was completely absorbed by the skeleton.

Organs, flesh, blood, hair, everything started to regrow...in just several breaths of time the skeleton regenerated into a living being.

What appeared was a middle-aged man. He had an incomparably tall and strong body. Deep killing intent blazed in his eyes.

The man placed one hand across his chest and slightly bowed. "Please allow me to formally introduce myself. I am Wei Zongyuan, a descendant of Great Wei's royal family. Unfortunately, I have disgraced my ancestors in these past years and thus had to conceal my identity. Right now, Your Majesty is the only one in this world who knows my true identity. If I am killed here today by Your Majesty, I ask that you set up a memorial tablet for me and leave behind my true name. Of course, if I luckily manage to kill Your Majesty, I will also properly bury your remains for you."

Qin Yu nodded, "I promise you."

Wei Zongyuan straightened himself. "Your Majesty, I must offend you!"

He took a step forward. Like a million mountains falling, the entire world violently shook and emitted deep crackling groans.

Kacha –

Kacha –

Countless cracks appeared in space. Then, they moved and separated themselves from space, condensing into a black saber in Wei Zongyuan's hands.

Shua –

The saber slashed downwards. Qin Yu's body unexpectedly stiffened as a numbing feeling appeared between his eyebrows and started to rapidly spread outwards.

What an incredibly terrifying saber!

Qin Yu lifted a hand and grasped forward. Within the shaking space all around, countless translucent lines appeared. Then, these lines were grabbed by Qin Yu and pulled backwards. With this action, the phantom of a great bow appeared. The translucent lines shined with countless motes of light as they condensed into an arrow.

He let go and the arrow shot out with rage. This arrow was formed from the killing intent of the world's rulers and had an absolute attribute of tearing apart all.

A heaven-shaking explosion rang out as terrifying shockwaves smashed into the sky-reaching stone pillar. Although it was covered with traces of erosion it was actually indestructible. With a light humming sound, a formidable suppressive strength was released, containing the shockwaves of the collision to a small area.

Wei Zongyuan looked down at the bloody hole that appeared in his chest. He revealed a look of admiration.

“The Holy Palace’s Demon Body cultivation arts can temper the mortal body into a living treasure. By communicating with the world, you can directly summon the strength of the rules. The power is indeed terrifying. It seems that by relying on my strength alone it will be impossible to kill you.”

He looked up and there was madness in his seemingly calm eyes, “Perhaps by doing this I will no longer be me; my consciousness might even lose its dominant role. But I will continue to live, and I will live forever. In truth, this in itself is enough. To survive, I am willing to pay any price.”

His lips lifted in a smile. Then, Wei Zongyuan flew to the peak of the stone pillar and knelt down, placing a hand on the pillar. “Many, many years ago I discovered you and suppressed you, taking in your flesh and blood to survive. I know that you hate me to the marrow of your bones, but now is the best opportunity for the both of us. You can regain your freedom and I will be able to live on; both of us will benefit. If you want, then release your strength and merge into one with me.”

As his voice fell, countless cracks began to form on the stone pillar beneath him.

Through tens of millions of years, countless ‘raisings’ of natives had maintained the production of god blood and also permeated this stone pillar with an immense power.

As the master of these natives’ bloodline, he wielded their life and death. Naturally, he could also borrow this bloodline that seeped into the stone to destroy it from within.

Bang –

A bloody slaughter intent shot up into the skies. In the blink of an eye it formed a pillar of clouds that connected straight to the heavens. It released a terrifying and constraining aura that shook the mind and left one wallowing in despair.

With a loud cry, the stone pillar smashed into pieces. A skeleton drenched in blood flew out from the massive hole below.

It hung in midair. Soul flames blazed in its eyes...these flames were pure gold in color!

Honored, mysterious, capable of holding all things in this world.

In the ancient rumors, there were spiritual gods in this world. Their souls were gold...this was the skeleton of a spiritual god!

To reverse the limits of life that the rules placed on a person and continue living even though one should have withered away, a person naturally needed to draw upon strength that surpassed the rules.

And the strength of a spiritual god was enough to achieve this!

Even if it was only the skeleton of a god that had perished countless years ago, it still retained an incomparably formidable will.

An invisible pressure swept out in rippling tides. Wherever it went, the world trembled.

The golden divine flames in its eye sockets looked at Wei Zongyuan. It seemed to be considering something.

Suddenly, the golden divine fires blazed higher. Golden lines started to appear on the blood-drenched skeleton.

In the next moment, with these lines as the divisions, the skeleton blew apart into countless pieces.

These shattered god bones lost all of their might and energy. This was because all of its strength was taken back into its soul.

This golden soul was like a great blazing sun. It emitted a light so bright that one couldn't look straight at it.

Faintly, one could see a towering figure within this light. It seemed to support the skies, looking upon the world with disdain.

Whoosh –

The golden soul flew out and submerged between Wei Zongyuan's eyebrows.

Wei Zongyuan closed his eyes and gently shivered. After several breaths of time, when he opened his eyes once more, his pupils had turned light gold in color. He looked down at his hands. After a brief silence he gently sighed and said, "I never thought there would be a day that I revived."

He looked up and his gaze covered Qin Yu. "Low and humble mortal. Your aura actually causes my heart to race. Although I have no idea what it is, after today, everything of yours will be mine."

At this time, Wei Zongyuan's consciousness had been suppressed by this spiritual god from ancient times. He had lost himself and...become a god!

### **Chapter 622A – A Finger to Ask the Heavens**

A god was born beneath the rules but they also surpassed the rules. With a thought the heavens and earth would move. With a turn of their hand they could summon wind and rain.

In the skies above Carp Archipelago, four doors appeared. Each one shined with dazzling golden light and emitted a horrifying pressure.

With a deep thunderous ring, the four doors started to slowly open, isolating this part of the world from the outside.

Qin Yu stuffily coughed as his complexion paled. His communication with the world's rules had been forcefully severed at this moment.

Wei Zongyuan pointed down a finger, "Separate!"

His voice was faint and cold, without any fluctuations.

Qin Yu's world immediately turned black and white. They split apart from each other and started to spin around at an astonishing rate.



A formidable tearing strength erupted from the black and white. It wanted to drag Qin Yu's consciousness inside and grind it apart, thoroughly destroying it!

What Wei Zongyuan wanted to obtain was the complete Qin Yu, including his soul and body. Destroying his consciousness was the best method to do this. Only a god could accomplish it. They could pierce through the body and soul, directly attacking one's consciousness. This was a method on a completely different level.

In chasing down Old Ghost, Qin Yu had managed to draw out a god. The danger level of this mission suddenly rose several times over.

To use a god as a grinding stone...that was truly a foolishly brave decision. In truth, if Qin Yu had a choice, he really might have thought of withdrawing.

Rumble rumble –

The spinning of the black and white colors grew faster and faster. They were like massive grinding pans that emitted a soul-piercing sound.

Qin Yu's consciousness trembled and started to relax. His field of vision began to blur and his connection with his body was constantly weakened.

Qin Yu was well aware that if things continued like this then his consciousness would collapse and he would die forever – even if his body and soul still existed.

“Don't panic! I still have a chance!

“Calm down and wait for the flames to appear. By detonating them, I can definitely break through the strength of this god!”

Time rewinded back to the day when Qin Yu first entered Clear Sun City. He was imprisoned beneath the net of souls, locked in the duplicate world made by the Space-time Lock.

Within that ice cold darkness, the aura of death grew increasingly strong. Qin Yu bitterly struggled. It was unknown how much time passed, but at some point a weak 'flame' appeared within his soul.

In a moment of inspiration, Qin Yu's consciousness entered this weak 'flame' within his soul. He instantly felt that he was the center of the world, an omnipotent god that stood above the highest heavens. With this, he had torn apart the net of souls around him and Speechless had suffered a backlash as a result, dying in the end.

But what a pity, these soul 'flames' only lasted for an extremely short period of time before vanishing. Qin Yu carefully looked for information related to these 'flames' and finally found something.

The so-called soul 'flames' actually had a resounding name in ancient times – they were called 'Godfire'.

When a cultivator stepped upon the road of cultivation, they cultivated magic power, the body, and the soul. In truth, these three things were progressive steps that should happen one after another.

Magic power was first, the mortal body was next, and the soul was last. Thus, in the world, there were specific methods for cultivating magic power and cultivating the body. Cultivating the soul was commonly seen as the most difficult.

When a cultivator's strength reached a certain limit, their soul grew stronger and stronger, slowly transforming until they finally ignited their own Godfire. And within this Godfire, they would temper their own godhead, eventually becoming a god!

It was incredibly difficult for one's soul to give birth to Godfire. So much so that it was simply impossible at the Calamity Immortal realm. But, Qin Yu had borrowed the power of the little blue lamp to truly step onto the road of cultivation. He had never once relaxed in cultivating his soul and his soul force was extremely formidable.

In addition, an even more important reason was the purple moon and Cosmic Seacross Bell in his soul space. They quietly enhanced the quality of Qin Yu's soul in the background.

And not too long ago, Qin Yu obtained the Ancient Dao inheritance, causing his soul to experience a qualitative leap upwards. In fact, even the devil mark sealed away in his soul was helping boost the birth of the Godfire in his soul.

Thus, when death approached, Qin Yu's struggle and insistence caused his potential to explode and ignite his Godfire ahead of time.

But his soul force was insufficient to maintain the burning of the Godfire. So even though it had ignited, it had extinguished itself almost immediately.

What Qin Yu was waiting for now was the moment that the Godfire ignited. Because at that time he could erupt with a strength approaching that of a god!

But this sort of waiting might not necessarily produce any result. Just because the Godfire appeared once didn't mean it would appear a second time. Even if it really did appear, it would only be for an instant. If his consciousness was on the verge of collapse it would be difficult for him to make use of that brief opening.

If he missed this chance it would mean death!

Wei Zongyuan's eyebrows furrowed together. This low and pathetic mortal in front of him was actually able to persist for such a long time. Moreover, for some unknown reason he could feel a faint threat coming from this person. A little hesitation appeared in his eyes before they turned sharp once more.

Wei Zongyuan lifted a hand and pointed out a second finger. Destructive fluctuations instantly erupted. He had given up on completely obtaining this mortal and decided to destroy his soul instead.

When Qin Yu inherited the Ancient Dao, it was unknown whether the ancient decided that he needed to keep it a secret or if it was for some other reason, but the ancient had sealed away the Cosmic Seacross Bell and purple moon using some unknown method. Even until this day that seal hadn't been lifted.

So Qin Yu's soul was in a nearly unguarded state. Facing the erasing power of a god, he had no strength to resist.

But in truth, there was another will within him. Even if it was deeply slumbering, it instinctually didn't wish for Qin Yu's soul to be destroyed.

Hum –

A deep blue sheen of water exploded. It was similar to the path of water but far outstripped the current level of Qin Yu's path of water.

This was because this was also the strength of a god – it was the godhead fragment that had fused into Qin Yu's soul, the power that was capable of summoning the sea map!

Wei Zongyuan's eyes lit up, "Godhead!"

His path was different from others'. He could plunder and swallow the strength of other gods. It was exactly because of this reason that other gods had joined forces to suppress him in the past, eventually locking him below the God Sealing Stone. He had finally managed to free himself. But even though he seemed filled with unparalleled might, the truth was that he was currently incomparably weak.

If he could swallow this formidable godhead then he would rapidly recover his strength. He could truly occupy this mortal body and wouldn't need to worry about suffering a backlash.

Bang –

Wei Zongyuan's pale golden eyes suddenly turned blood red. He stared closely at Qin Yu. Or to be more exact, he stared at the godhead fragment lodged in Qin Yu's soul.

He opened his mouth and let out a sharp cry. The sound shook with a horrifying frequency, instantly crushing the world rules, causing them to regenerate and reorganize. Then, a blood red and withered arm crept out from nothingness, grasping towards Qin Yu's forehead.

The godhead fragment seemed to sense an incomparably intense threat. The sounds of crashing sea waves rumbled through the world. Then, the phantom of a boundless sea wrapped around Qin Yu.

The blood red withered arm fell into the sea phantom. It violently trembled for several breaths of time as it tried to push its way in. The scent of the godhead was irresistible. The fingers gently shivered as they steadily advanced forwards.

Shua –

A woman's figure appeared in the sea. She looked at the blood red arm approaching and a soft melody came out from between her lips. It was ancient and boundless, possessing an unsurpassed honor and dignity to it, as if she were the ruler of all, controlling every life in the world.

Within the sea phantom, sea beasts began to appear. Even though they were only phantoms they released an earthshaking aura. But as these sea beasts approached the blood red arm, they were like balloons that had been pierced. They wailed in pain, rapidly shattering into nothingness.

The arm itself wasn't strong. But, it seemed to possess an unimaginably destructive attribute towards the strength of a god. It was able to easily destroy this power.

The woman within the sea phantom wrinkled her eyebrows, revealing a thoughtful look. After several breaths of time, she gently sighed. This mortal that she was temporarily residing in possessed a speed of growth that far outstripped her imagination. She really didn't want to help him.

But in this situation, if she didn't help him, she would vanish into nothingness.

The woman turned around and spat out a mote of blue light. It was pure and clear, so beautiful that it left one drunk on its beauty. It flew in between Qin Yu's eyebrows like a bolt of lightning, entering his soul space and melting into his soul.

The birth of Godfire was established upon the basis of a soul's formidable foundation. If so, this blue light was the same as a seed of fire that ignited Qin Yu's Godfire.

Bang –

Like a spark falling onto a barrel of oil, those golden flames that Qin Yu was painstakingly waiting for suddenly erupted.

Qin Yu opened his eyes and golden light burst forth from his pupils, submerging into the void before him. He lifted a hand and ruthlessly punched forward.

Bang –

The sea phantom collapsed, its waves tumbling and vanishing. Qin Yu's fist collided with the blood red arm, causing it to emit an unwilling scream of pain.

Kacha –

Kacha –

The arm folded several times as it was smashed into pieces!

### **Chapter 622B – A Finger to Ask the Heavens**

Wei Zongyuan drew several steps backward. Golden god blood flowed out from the corners of his lips. He furrowed his eyebrows together, his eyes as cold as ice. Then, he raised his arms up into the skies. World rules wildly spun around and a python emerged from thin air, its mouth opening as it bit towards Qin Yu.

The fragmented piece of godhead continuously spun around, releasing a deep blue light. This light was absorbed by Qin Yu's soul, allowing him to maintain the combustion of the Godfire.

During this process, Qin Yu felt as if his soul was an ingot of metal placed into a tempering furnace. All of the impurities were being burned away and the quality of what was left behind rose at a rapid rate.

When some gods trained their disciples in ancient times, they would sacrifice a part of their source godhead to help their disciples ignite their Godfire ahead of time. Although it wasn't possible to directly turn someone into a god, this method allowed their disciple's soul to experience a leap in quality, firming the foundation for them to ignite their Godfire later.

Of course, the disciple referred to here was an absolute direct descendant personally chosen by the god to inherit everything they had.

What Qin Yu enjoyed now was a god cultivating him without any hesitation over the price. Even if 'she' wasn't willing to do so.

As the Godfire burned, Qin Yu had a strength comparable to a god. But, he was still a mortal. The fusion of god and mortal allowed him to easily destroy that blood-colored arm.

Otherwise, even if another god arrived here today, that god would only suffer the fate of being swallowed up.

A fist punched out and the world shivered. The python that was biting at Qin Yu had its head blown apart. But, it didn't seem to suffer any substantive damage at all. Its massive body wrapped around the space where Qin Yu was and crazily contracted inwards.

A battle between gods could be seen more as a comparison between the levels of their rules. In this aspect, Qin Yu was undoubtedly at a disadvantage. But, the combination of man and god was able to restrain Wei Zongyuan's strength. Thus both sides had their own advantages and disadvantages and were evenly matched as a result.

The python's body constantly broke apart but was immediately repaired. It wanted to break the protection of rules that surrounded Qin Yu but was unable to.

If Qin Yu could wait then he would wait. After all, as his Godfire burned his soul was being constantly strengthened. Wei Zongyuan also seemed as if he would be fine for some time.

But besides them, there was someone else that couldn't last much longer.

The icy cold woman's voice was weak as she spoke within his soul space, "I have no idea if you are pretending to be confused or are intentionally delaying for time, but let me tell you that if things continue like this then the portion of my godhead will collapse. You should be aware of the consequences of this."

Qin Yu took a deep breath. These words might be exaggerating, but he couldn't take the risk.

He lifted a hand and pointed out.

Rumble rumble –

Winds and clouds seemed to close color. A massive finger appeared within the raging storm, falling down at Wei Zongyuan.

The finger fell without pause. Qin Yu raised a second finger.

With this finger, the skies suddenly darkened and the temperature rapidly decreased. A cold yin chill filled the air, piercing into one's bones.

Phantom after phantom, both beast and man, appeared in the gloomy skies. In the blink of an eye, the heavens seemed to become a netherworld prison of ghosts!

After the second finger was the third.

With this finger, the world lost color. Countless picture scrolls unfurled in the air, depicting the endless flow of time and the birth and death of countless lives.

The three Blue Fingers: Boundless Blue, Blue Spirit, and Blue Sea!

But at this moment, as Qin Yu burned with Godfire, after he pointed three fingers he paused for a moment before raising his hand once more.

His actions were extremely slow. As he pointed a finger upwards, the top of his fingertip rapidly turned clear. It seemed as if it were some kind of crystal but also seemed as if it were fusing together with the world.

The fourth of the Blue Fingers – Blue Heaven!

Its meaning: One finger to question the heavens, who dares contend with me?

This name and meaning appeared in Qin Yu's mind the moment he raised this finger. It appeared directly in his mind, never to be erased, as if it were branded in him by a hot iron.

At this moment, Qin Yu even had a faint feeling that pointing out the fourth Blue Finger wasn't the end. Rather, there was an even more terrifying strength behind it.

But it was clear that this wasn't a stage Qin Yu could reach with his current level. So, he simply recorded this in his mind before suppressing the thought.

Wei Zongyuan's complexion changed. He flicked his sleeves and a golden circle appeared behind him, releasing endless golden light.

In the next moment, the four Blue Fingers were like four arrows. They spanned across space and time, smashing into the golden circle.

Rumble rumble –

There was a heaven-shaking explosion. The surrounding space instantly shattered into chaos. Every time this space tumbled about it would release destructive shockwaves that swallowed up Wei Zongyuan's figure.

After several breaths of time, the golden Godfire that burned within Qin Yu's soul rapidly faded away. He fell back down from that feeling of being the center of the world.

He felt a little disappointed at the empty feeling. But then he couldn't help but smile. The godhead reclaiming its strength indicated that today's battle had ended.

Hu –

With a despairing howl, the python blew apart into pieces.

Wei Zongyuan emerged from the chaos. His expression was calm. He looked around, a deep sense of unwillingness in his eyes. "Your Majesty, you have won. I really am someone that deserves to die. I was willing to toss away my dignity and will, and yet I still couldn't survive in the end.

"Then, I will die here today. I only hope Your Majesty can abide by our promise and set up a stone tablet for me."

Qin Yu nodded. "Since I promised you that, I will naturally fulfil it."

Wei Zongyuan bowed. "Thank you, Your Majesty." In the next moment his body disintegrated, turning into dust that blew away in the wind.

Golden flames fell to the ground. They flickered like candles in the autumn wind, about to extinguish at any moment.

This was the final remnant soul of that god!

"Keep it, don't let it fall apart..."

The purple moon's weak voice echoed in his mind.

When the Godfire burned in Qin Yu's soul and tempered him, this somehow managed to undo the seal on the purple moon. Although he didn't know what the goal of the purple moon was, he trusted her. So, after a brief hesitation he lifted his hand and grasped forward.

Shua –

A pale purple moonlight flashed forward and the golden flames vanished from sight. After sensing that nothing was wrong, Qin Yu took a deep breath and smiled.

In hunting down Wei Zongyuan he had encountered a god. Although it had been dangerously risky, the harvests were equally tremendous. His soul had been tempered by the Godfire and the feeling of being at the center of the world had sublimated his will.

Not just that, but he had unintentionally forced out the 'Sea God' godhead that had already awakened but had remained hidden all this time.

As expected, harvests were always proportional to the risks!

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves. The shattered islands and mountain peaks rapidly repaired themselves. At the summit of a mountain, a grave appeared with a stone tablet above it.

Qin Yu landed in front of the grave. He cupped his hands together and bowed. Powder quickly fell down from the surface of the stone tablet, revealing the words: Great Wei's Royal Family, Wei Zongyuan.

Since he had promised to do this, he would naturally do it. Moreover, with Wei Zongyuan's cultivation, no matter what kind of person he was he still deserved a certain measure of respect.

His second kill had been achieved!

Qin Yu turned and walked away. But then he paused in his step. He flew above Carp Archipelago and his deep voice echoed out over every island.

"From this day forth, the sacrifices have ended forever. You are free from this demonic curse."

Countless pale and terrified natives were left stunned. Their eyes widened as they fell to their knees and bowed.

Through their generations of inheritance, it wasn't that the natives of Carp Archipelago never suspected whether or not this so-called evil god truly existed. Rather, they didn't dare to find out, nor did they

have the means to find out. They could only offer generation after generation of sacrifices, exchanging the lives of their family members for the continuation of their tribe.

As Qin Yu flew away from the archipelago, a water sphere rose up from the sea's surface. When You Qi saw Qin Yu her face lit up with joy and she threw herself over him.

...

In the Land of Divinity and Demons, the seven great empires occupied all of the territory. But, this didn't mean that all places were ruled over.

For instance, at the border of the Qin, Wei, and Han Nations there was a place called Deep Stream. The three nations had once tried to integrate it into their domains, but after a series of various accidents they decided to give up.

Gradually, Deep Stream became a region that was under no one's jurisdiction. As time passed, this land set up their own system of rules.

All kinds of heinous and ferocious figures or cultivators that had nowhere else to flee to came to Deep Stream. As a result, the living environment here was incomparably bad.

Of course, there were always exceptions.

Within Deep Stream there were three great cities. They were named Aspiration, Forward, and Survival. These three great cities had powerful influences standing behind them and order here was maintained through an iron fist of blood and violence.

If anyone dared to cause trouble in the city they would be hunted down and would suffer a pitiful fate.

This order only existed inside the city gates. Once one left the city, even if it was just a single step, they would be free prey. Even if their blood splashed against the gates the guards wouldn't even bat an eyelash.

On this day, outside Aspiration City, a man and woman arrived. Their clothing was neat and their steps were calm and steady.

Many eyes locked onto these two from the shadows. But, no one attacked them. The reason was simple. These two people were far too calm. This calmness wasn't something that could be camouflaged.

Another reason was that these two people didn't show any weariness at all. This meant that along this way, no one had tried to kill them...or that all those who tried had been instantly killed off without being able to affect them at all.

### **Chapter 623A – God Hunters' Huntmaster**

As the man and woman were about to enter the city there was suddenly the sound of rapid hoof beats. A squad of black-scaled horses came dashing in, riders mounted on their backs. They were as fast as lightning as their dreadful momentum left plumes of dust in their wake!

All of those people that were hiding in the shadows soon quieted down. Each one restrained their auras, not daring to release any of it. But soon their eyes widened and their faces paled as if they had seen a



ghost. The young man and woman continued to walk down the road towards the city gate, no intention of avoiding in their step. They maintained their original rhythm as they walked forward.

The hoof beats rang like startling thunderclaps, bringing with them an aura that destroyed one's heart and mind. It blotted out the skies, seemingly capable of grinding everything to pieces.

The city gate guards immediately turned dignified. In their anxiousness they shouted out, "Hurry and screw off, are you seeking death?"

Pata –

The sound of footsteps was light but it spread to everyone's ears. The man and woman had already stepped through the city gates.

The faces of the guards changed color. Looking at the black tide that was howling their way, the leader clenched his teeth and roared out, "Stop them!" As long as anyone entered the city's scope they would be protected by Aspiration City. This was a bottom line that would never be altered as it was the very basis for the city's existence.

Seeing that both sides were about to collide, a sudden cry came from the black current. The riders pulled the reins of their mounts and came to a sudden stop. The black-scaled warhorses paused right outside the city gates.

The guard captain let out a long breath. He quickly bowed. When he looked up, his eyes were icy cold. He glanced down at the young man and woman passing through the city gates and clenched his teeth, roaring, "Leave here immediately..."

The returning gaze from beneath the black robes caused his heart to shiver. Before he could even utter the curse that was on his tongue he had swallowed it back down. Only after the young man and woman vanished from his line of sight did the guard captain discover he was drenched in a cold sweat.

The black tide passed through the city gates and soared straight towards the central region of Aspiration City. The troop had a black speedcar at the center that occasionally flashed with traces of lightning.

"Young master, I have ordered people to follow them. Once they leave the city we will capture them and leave them to you to handle as you please." A rider said in a low voice.

After a brief silence there was a faint response from the speedcar, "Be secretive about it." With his status he couldn't allow anyone to know of this matter.

"Young master, rest assured that this subordinate will arrange everyone properly." The rider had a confident expression.

Their eyes were located all throughout Aspiration City. And as long as they were able to find the whereabouts of these two people, they wouldn't be able to escape even if they had wings.

But soon, the rider took out a signaling jade slip and probed it with his divine sense. His complexion turned incomparably ugly. He clenched his teeth and turned around, bowing as he said, "Young master, we have lost the trail of those two people. But please rest assured that I will definitely find them!"

In the black speedcar, the young man furrowed his eyebrows before he composed himself. He hummed in acknowledgement as if not caring too much.

There were countless outstanding individuals in this world. To be able to escape surveillance wasn't anything special at all...but this time, his father had called him back in a hurry. Just what was the reasoning behind all of this?

The black tide stopped outside the City Lord Mansion. The black speedcar opened and a youth in blue robes stepped out.

"Greetings, young master!"

Hualala –

Everyone outside the mansion fell to their knees.

The blue-robed youth nodded. But just as he was about to step into the mansion he seemed to realize something. He turned around to look behind himself.

A man and a woman were standing there. They were particularly striking amongst the crowd of kneeling people.

It was them!

The youth's pupils shrank. He walked forward and cupped his hands together, "Greetings fellow daoists. My name is Wu Yun. For what reason did you come here and is there any way in which I can assist you?"

A voice fluttered out from beneath the young man's black robes, "The two of us came here to pay a visit to the City Lord."

Wu Yun said, "Do you two have an appointment?"

The black-robed man responded, "We do not."

Wu Yun furrowed his eyebrows together. "My father is usually extraordinarily busy. If there isn't an appointment I fear it will be hard for him to find time in his schedule. If you two aren't in a hurry, please enter the mansion with me. I will try to arrange a meeting as soon as possible."

The black-robed man nodded, "Alright."

His attitude was somewhat crass, but Wu Yun's smile actually brightened. He slightly bowed and gestured invitingly with his hand, "Please."

The black-robed man held the hand of the woman. They calmly walked up through the entrance.

As soon as they passed the entrance they could perceive the difference. Their bodies seemed to have fallen into mud and every step became particularly difficult.

Dang –

Dang –

A deep thumping sound came from deep within the mansion. Wu Yun, who had just passed through the gate, changed complexions. This sound had to have come from the large soundless drum in his father's courtyard. This was also the first time he had ever heard it make a noise. Could some sort of problem have occurred?

As Wu Yun was deep in thought, his pupils suddenly flew open. Space rippled in front of him and a middle-aged cultivator stepped out. He was handsome, with white hair at his temples. At this moment his expression was filled with joy. "Honored guests have come from so far away, it is my greatest shame that I didn't come to greet you sooner. I hope you don't mind."

The black-robed man said, "There is no need for City Lord to be so polite. Your son has already entertained us outside the city gates."

A shocked expression came over the middle-aged cultivator's face. "Wu Yun, hurry up and bow to these two honored guests."

Wu Yun finally regained his composure. He quickly cupped his hands together and said, "I greet two honored guests. I had no intention of offending you before. If there is any place in which I did wrong, I ask that honored guests please be broad-minded and forgive me!"

If these people could cause his father to personally come out to welcome them and also treat them with such deep respect, even an idiot could tell that these were amazing characters.

In particular, the black-robed man's words were clearly a warning, so how could he pretend to not know?

The middle-aged cultivator fiercely said, "Wu Yun, what have you done?"

The black-robed man lightly said, "City Lord, there is no need for you to be upset. I won't bother bringing up things that happened in the past. Just consider this as me repaying the favor you did for me before."

The middle-aged cultivator cupped his hands together. "I thank honored guests for being so gracious." He paused for a moment and then continued, "Since you came from so far away, please come with me to the hall so that I may entertain you."

Wu Yun kept his head lowered. His face was pale and beads of sweat dripped down his forehead. He could clearly hear the meaning behind the exchange of words. These two people had come here today and deliberately lured him out, using him to return a favor to his father.

His father had directly recognized this, proving that these people really did have the qualifications to move against him. In other words...without him knowing it, he had taken a trip to death's door!

The three people walked into the main hall. Once the maids set down drinks and snacks, the middle-aged cultivator waved everyone away. Then, he stood up and bowed, "Wu Dongliu greets Your Majesty the Demon Sovereign!"

The black-robed man drew back his hood to reveal a head of white hair. Qin Yu calmly looked over and said, "Huntmaster, there is no need to be so polite. With your status it is fine if you treat me as a peer."

Wu Dongliu smiled. "If that is so, I won't be polite about it." He cupped his hands together and said, "Ever since Your Majesty the Demon Sovereign ascended the throne, I have yet to congratulate you. Thus, I supplied information related to Old Ghost on my own initiative. If Your Majesty is unhappy in some way, I ask that you forgive me."

Qin Yu shook his head. "What has happened between us is now clear. I only hope that from here on out, Huntmaster does not try to pry into my whereabouts, otherwise it will cause a misunderstanding between us."

Wu Dongliu's smile brightened. "Since Your Majesty the Demon Sovereign has asked, I will do my best. From this day forth, we will no longer be involved in Your Majesty's affairs."

Qin Yu said, "Thank you, Huntmaster."

When it came to information networks, the God Hunters could be called number one beneath the heavens. But at the same time, the Demonic Path couldn't be underestimated either.

With the Demon Sovereign's status, if he decided to, it wouldn't be difficult to temporarily block the information network of the God Hunters.

As for that brat Wu Yun, Qin Yu had deliberately used him as a pawn. Using him to get rid of a favor was one aspect, but more importantly he used him as a warning towards the God Hunters to not try and influence him anymore.

Wu Dongliu took a seat. "Demon Sovereign came all the way to Deep Stream. Is there anything you need?"

Qin Yu said, "Does Huntmaster not know the reason for why I came here?"

The two looked at each other. After several breaths of silence, Wu Dongliu laughed and said, "Of course I know. Then, I ask that the Demon Sovereign please wait a moment."

He lifted a hand and pointed a finger upwards. Layers spread out, covering the entire hall.

In the next instant he flipped his hands and took out a jade slip. The jade slip's surface flashed with a halo of light.

"The information that the Demon Sovereign desires is in this jade slip. Take a look and you will see."

Qin Yu received the jade slip. The item scattered into a blue energy that entered his body.

At the same time, lines of information rapidly appeared in his mind.

Qin Yu closed his eyes. After several breaths of time he opened his eyes, a sharp light flashing in his pupils.

This result...was unexpected!

### **Chapter 623B – God Hunters' Huntmaster**

Wu Dongliu cupped his hands together, "Demon Sovereign need not worry. It was I who didn't consider things well enough beforehand, so please consider this an apology."

Qin Yu asked, "Huntmaster is willing to give him up?"

Wu Dongliu shook his head, "To speak disrespectfully, if the one who came today wasn't the Demon Sovereign then perhaps I might have personally tried to make you stay behind. But with your status I am doomed to only be able to bow my head. If so, why entangle myself further?"

"To exchange the death of a single person for the continued stability of the God Hunters organization, I think that even if that Hunchback learns of this, he will still forgive me."

The information in the jade slip was exactly what Qin Yu was looking for – information related to the third of the four old monsters – Hunchback. He was actually a part of the God Hunters and held a high position. But at this time, he had been cleanly sold out by Wu Dongliu.

Qin Yu looked at the calm and confident Wu Dongliu and gave him the label of a 'true villain'. Still, looking at things from the angle of the entire God Hunters organization, the decision he made was undoubtedly the best possible one.

"If so, then I'll be impolite and accept this favor."

Wu Dongliu smiled. "To help Your Majesty the Demon Sovereign with a favor is an honor of mine. But..."

Qin Yu said, "I understand. I won't make things difficult for Huntmaster. I will kill this person on my own."

Wu Dongliu stood up, "Three days from now, outside Cloud Creek Valley."

Qin Yu nodded. With a flick of his sleeves the barrier covering the hall dispersed. He grasped You Qi's hand and vanished with a single step.

The smile on Wu Dongliu's face disappeared. He coldly looked down, a chill lingering around him.

"Huntmaster, we have already verified that the Demon Sovereign has been injured. This is the best time for us to complete our contract, so why didn't you attack him?"

On the surface of a stone pillar in the hall, a person's face slowly wriggled into being. Although it was blurry, one could still sense the unhappiness there.

Wu Dongliu coldly sneered. "You think I didn't want to? The aura coming from him is terrifying. Even if you and I attacked together, we might not have succeeded."

The blurry face frowned. "I don't believe that. What aura could possibly make you feel such dread?"

"Godfire!"

Wu Dongliu lowered his voice and roared.

The stone pillar's face fell silent. Its eyes had widened in shock and disbelief.

Wu Dongliu wouldn't lie about something like this. But looking at the entire Land of Divinity and Demons, a genuine Great Dao boundary had yet to appear. So how could a person possibly ignite their Godfire?

Wu Dongliu took a deep breath, calming himself. "Don't ask me. Even I don't know what is happening!"

No wonder those two old bastards Speechless and Wei Zongyuan had been successively defeated by this severely injured Demon Sovereign. The Demon Sovereign had unexpectedly ignited his Godfire.

Even if the Demon Sovereign was only able to maintain this state for an extremely short period, just one or two breaths of time, the strength he possessed during the brief moment would be enough to sweep away anyone in the world.

Betraying Hunchback was a final chess move he had prepared. The most important reason he tossed it out without hesitation was because of the aura of Godfire coming from Qin Yu.

But another reason was because Wu Dongliu wanted to investigate just how Qin Yu had ignited his Godfire ahead of time.

Three days from now, the battle at Cloud Creek Valley would be his best chance to find out!

Outside Aspiration City, Qin Yu and You Qi peacefully walked forward. Countless eyes looked their way, their stares filled with awe and hidden fear.

As people that lived in the shadows and survived through killing and looting, they naturally had their own information channels.

Although they had no idea what had happened within the City Lord Mansion, just Wu Dongliu personally coming out to welcome them inside the mansion was more than enough to frighten and deter everyone here.

You Qi hesitated for a moment. Then she said in a soft voice, "Your Majesty, I keep thinking that this Huntmaster is harboring evil intentions beneath that fake smile of this."

Qin Yu smiled. "Your intuition isn't wrong. In that hall just now, besides you, me, and Wu Dongliu, there should have been one more person." He narrowed his eyes and continued to say, "That person's aura was extremely formidable and hostile. They were constantly locked onto us."

You Qi's eyes widened. She didn't think there was such a great danger hidden in that seemingly peaceful meeting.

Qin Yu rubbed her back. "Don't worry. I still have some traces of the Godfire's aura lingering about me that has yet to fade away. Although it doesn't have any strength to it, using it to frighten others isn't a problem."

You Qi bit her lips. "But three days from now..."

Qin Yu said, "Don't worry. I won't give them a chance to take advantage of me while I'm down." He turned and suddenly said, "Fellow daoist Westgate, do you think I'm correct here?"

Space quietly collapsed and Solitary Westgate stepped out. He revealed a helpless expression. "Qin Yu, if you continue like this you will ruin your life sooner or later."

The strange three-legged bird stood on his shoulders. It nodded repeatedly, saying, "Boy, it isn't easy for humans to live. You should cherish your life some more!"

These past days, it had personally witnessed Qin Yu's desperate efforts. Not only had Qin Yu killed Speechless and Wei Zongyuan, but during the gaps in between he had resisted the backlash of the devil mark while he was exhausted and weakened. There were many times where he almost died.

The strange bird had seen many people gamble with their lives before. But, this was the first time it had seen someone gamble with their life as if it was a normal course of action.

You Qi revealed a look of joy, "Senior Westgate!" With Solitary Westgate here, even if an accident occurred there would still be room to recover!

You Qi quietly pinched Qin Yu. Since he knew Solitary Westgate was here, why didn't he tell her sooner? She had been left worrying this entire time!

Qin Yu forced a smile. When he killed Speechless and Wei Zongyuan, Solitary Westgate had yet to arrive. But, he also didn't plan on explaining this to her. It was better if she believed what she wanted to.

Late at night, a bonfire burned in the wilderness, emitting light crackling sounds.

You Qi leaned against Qin Yu, her eyes closed as she breathed in his scent. Qin Yu glanced at her face before turning and saying, "I really must thank fellow daoist Westgate. She is clearly much more relieved now that you're here. This is the best sleep she has gotten for days."

Solitary Westgate dismissively waved his hand. "Don't try to push that onto me. The reason this miss is sleeping so well is because she's glued onto you." He flicked his finger and a barrier of light fell over You Qi's body, making it easier for the two of them to talk to each other. "Alright. It's time to tell me. What is your condition like right now?"

Qin Yu said, "The devil mark is truly terrifying. It has already merged into one whole with my soul and can no longer be separated out. Either I fuse and sublimate it or it swallows me."

Solitary Westgate had a complex expression. "I have no idea whether you are an overly courageous idiot or whether you have no sense of fear. The devil mark is something that even someone at my level won't easily dare to touch, yet you decided to use it to suppress the Netherworld Lotus."

Qin Yu shook his head. "I only did this because I had no other choice." He looked up straight ahead and said, "Fellow daoist Westgate, I've relied on your care to come this far. In reality, I shouldn't make any more requests of you, but right now I am sure that you are the only one I can truly depend on."

The Demon Envoy's previous actions had left Qin Yu sorely disappointed. He didn't dare to entrust him with something this important. "If I suffer misfortune and die, I ask that you shelter You Qi so she may live on in peace. I already owe her a great deal in my life and I cannot continue dragging her down with me."

Solitary Westgate frowned. "Qin Yu, I can agree to this, but you should understand that the reason I helped you from the very beginning was because I had my own goal in mind. So if you really want to protect her, your best option is to survive this tribulation and continue to live.

"I have a premonition that as long as you survive these current difficulties, your future will be free of problems. No one will be able to stop your rise."

Qin Yu smiled. "I will try my best."

Three days passed by quickly.

Cloud Creek Valley.

The figure of Old Hunchback appeared. He looked around at the empty valley entrance, his eyebrows furrowing together.

He didn't know why but he suddenly felt an intense threat in the depths of his heart.

As if this mountain valley was a massive mouth, one that could swallow him up whole!

Thinking about the inexplicably confusing arrangements this time, his heart suddenly skipped a beat.

There was a problem!

Old Hunchback turned to leave. His movements were clean and simple, without any hesitation. But just as he moved, the space behind him shattered and a fist came punching out.

Bang –

There was a heaven-shaking impact. Old Hunchback was sent flying away. When he saw the person who sneak attacked him his expression vividly changed.

“Demon Sovereign!”

Qin Yu threw up his hands and the Space-time Lock integrated into the world. In the next moment, the figures of the two people vanished from sight.

Deep Stream was the stronghold of the God Hunters organization, thus he had to be even more discreet in his actions. Since this place met the conditions for activating the Space-time Lock, Qin Yu definitely wouldn't forget about it.

At Carp Archipelago, due to the existences of the god skeleton and god sealing pillar, the Space-time Lock wasn't able to form a perfect duplication and thus couldn't be used.

### **Chapter 624A – Sealed Stone World**

Aspiration City.

Wu Dongliu fiercely stood up. He clenched his teeth and roared out, “The Holy Palace's Space-time Lock!”

In the image flowing in front of him, there was no one left.

His eyes flashed. He took a step forward, his body piercing through space.

The Godfire involved matters of great importance. No matter what, he needed to clearly investigate it!

But before Wu Dongliu arrived at Cloud Creek Valley, a sense of imminent danger swelled up within him. His complexion changed and he quickly thrust a palm forward.

Rumble rumble –



Space shattered. Wu Dongliu staggered backwards from the backlash. Each step he took caused space to collapse inwards, forming unfathomable black holes.

“Dao Arena Master!” He shouted in a hoarse voice.

Solitary Westgate walked out from the shattered space, his eyes deep, “Hunter’s depths are truly well hidden. Only today have I realized that your boundary isn’t too far away. In another several thousand years at most, this world will gain another giant who has broken free from the shackles of life and death.”

Wu Dongliu took a deep breath. He cupped his hands together and said, “I have no idea why Dao Arena Master is here, but I must be disrespectful and ask.”

Solitary Westgate went straight to the point. “The Demon Sovereign and I have a prior agreement in place. No one can disturb his battle with Old Hunchback. I hope that Hunter can understand me.”

Wu Dongliu’s complexion stiffened. “So that’s how it is...I was also worried that if the Demon Sovereign suffered an accident here I would suffer retaliation from the Demonic Path. But since Arena Master Westgate is here, it appears that I was overthinking things. Then, I will bid my farewells first!”

He turned around and teleported away.

Solitary Westgate revealed a look of acclaim. Not to mention this person’s cultivation, but his thick skin and decisiveness was amazing. This person deserved to be called the leader of the God Hunters organization. Not only was he able to immediately give up his original goal, but he cleanly extricated himself from the situation.

He turned and looked towards Cloud Creek Valley. With his cultivation he could vaguely feel the duplicated world produced by the Space-time Lock. Qin Yu’s battle with Old Hunchback had entered its white-hot phase, and looking at the current momentum, the chances of Qin Yu winning were high.

The three-legged strange bird flew over. Its body was several dozen times larger than usual and it carried You Qi on its back. She hurriedly asked, “Senior Westgate, do you know what Qin Yu’s current condition is like?”

Solitary Westgate smiled. He pointed over and said, “Why ask me? Just watch and you’ll find out.”

Qin Yu suddenly emerged from the overlapping worlds. Although his face was pale, his eyes remained as bright as before.

He met You Qi’s eyes and warmly said, “I’m fine.”

He turned and flicked his sleeves. A nameless grave suddenly appeared on the ground. Looking at the blank tombstone, there was no joy on his face.

After striking down Speechless and Wei Zongyuan, perhaps he had already adapted to this sort of intense slaughter.

Although he had just undergone a great battle, Qin Yu’s will hadn’t undergone any significant tempering.

In truth, Qin Yu was left somewhat disappointed by Old Hunchback’s strength.

Solitary Westgate said, "There is still one more. Trust me, that Woodchopper Fu will not leave you disappointed. Of course, the premise of all this is that you can find him."

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. "Someone just made a mistake and should definitely be willing to do me a favor. He should be happy to tell me the news I wish to know."

This fellow Wu Dongliu, did he really think he wouldn't need to take any responsibility just because he ran away quickly? What a joke!

Solitary Westgate shook his head, "Right now you should worry about yourself and how you'll endure this."

The devil mark had started to move restlessly. The aura it released couldn't be hidden from Solitary Westgate.

Qin Yu's complexion paled further, "Following this, I'll have to bother fellow daoist Westgate to protect me."

The group flew away from Cloud Creek Valley. Just when they found a place to rest and Qin Yu sat down in position, the backlash of the devil mark erupted.

It was like a violent storm passing through the sea, leaving tumultuous heaven-reaching waves in its wake. Qin Yu's consciousness was a little boat, ready to capsize at any time.

This continued throughout the night. When the skies lightened up Qin Yu's tense body finally relaxed.

He gasped for breath in great heaving gulps. When he opened his eyes his weary gaze fell on You Qi. Then, he nodded to her and fell asleep.

After every battle the devil mark would seize that chance to fight back. Each time it did it was more intense than the last. If it weren't for him tempering his will by killing Speechless and Wei Zongyuan, he likely wouldn't have been able to endure it.

Five days later, Aspiration City.

Qin Yu went to visit the City Lord Mansion alone. Wu Dongliu seemed to already be expecting him. He cupped his hands together in apology and said, "Demon Sovereign is currently within the borders of Deep Stream, so if any accident were to have happened to you, I fear that my God Hunters organization wouldn't have been able to escape blame. Because I was so distressed I did something rash. I hope that the Demon Sovereign didn't take any offense!"

His expression was sincere and full of rebuke for himself. Besides the thickness of his facial skin, this Huntmaster's acting skills were also top notch.

Qin Yu said, "As long as Huntmaster gives me information on someone, I will believe you."

These words...they were simply too direct.

Wu Dongliu's face nearly collapsed. He dryly coughed and said, "What request does the Demon Sovereign have? Feel free to ask me."

Qin Yu said, "Woodchopper Fu."

Wu Dongliu shook his head, "There isn't anything." Fearing that Qin Yu might not believe him, he lifted a hand and tapped the space in front of him. Stars began to appear one after another, forming vast starry skies.

This was the legendary treasure of the God Hunters, said to be the most powerful one they had – the Illusionary Star Map. Each star corresponded to a different identity and contained a detailed account that the God Hunters organization had on them.

The brighter the star, the greater the status and strength of the person. Oftentimes this also meant there was more detailed information.

Wu Dongliu picked down a bright star. "Your Majesty Demon Sovereign, please look through carefully and do not damage the treasure."

Qin Yu received the star and probed it with his divine sense. He could directly see all the information the God Hunters organization had on Woodchopper Fu.

From his mediocre youth to when he began to rise, there was a more detailed record. But in the last 30 million years, information related to Woodchopper Fu became extremely fragmented.

The events that occurred in Four Seasons City and outside Thistle Capital, where Woodchopper Fu had attacked Qin Yu, were the last two pieces of information he left behind in the world.

Qin Yu put down the star and frowned. Wu Dongliu shouldn't be lying. Even if the God Hunters couldn't find the trail of Woodchopper Fu, then wanting to hunt him down would be a task more difficult than ascending to heaven.

His eyes clouded over for some time. Then, he took a deep breath and suppressed his thoughts. Qin Yu said, "I want to look up information on another person."

Wu Dongliu asked, "Who?"

"Immortal Sect, Shen Yuanyin."

Wu Dongliu's complexion changed. "That's not possible. While the God Hunters collect information pertaining to the supreme beings of the world, we have never released it. Otherwise, that would be violating a great rule that invites death."

Qin Yu was without expression. "I didn't hear you clearly. I ask Huntmaster to repeat that one more time." Between his fingers, the star that had Woodchopper Fu's information constantly rolled about. No one knew whether it would be cracked apart in the next moment.

Wu Dongliu fell silent for a moment. His complexion was extremely ugly. He never thought that a solemn Demon Sovereign would do something so undignified.

He took a deep breath and clenched his teeth, saying, "Demon Sovereign, you must promise that no one will ever find out about what happened here today."

Qin Yu nodded. "I also don't want to provoke unnecessary troubles."

Wu Dongliu's fingers flickered in hand seals. Then, a dark region in the Illusionary Star Map suddenly burst out with dazzling light. An extremely bright star appeared. The moment it did, all of the stars in the surrounding region were overshadowed by its light.

Wu Dongliu carefully took the star out. "Demon Sovereign, this is the first time and also the last time. I hope that you can abide by your promise, otherwise the God Hunters will definitely become your enemy!"

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and grabbed hold of the star. He searched it with his divine sense. There was very little information related to Shen Yuanyin. This current master of Nineheaven Mirrormoon Palace had appeared out of nowhere after he escaped the Immortal Sect.

From this, Qin Yu could determine that Shen Yuanyin was Ning Ling!

But the star's last recorded information was: Nineheaven Mirrormoon Palace had sealed itself up, freezing everything for 30 million miles around. It appeared that Shen Yuanyin had suffered a backlash through the Sublime Lost Emotion Code that she cultivated. The reason for the backlash was unknown, but there was a high possibility that it was related to the Demonic Path's current Holy Monarch, Qin Yu. The exact circumstances were still being investigated.

Qin Yu tensed. After several breaths of time he composed himself and tossed the two stars back to Wu Dongliu. He stood up and said, "I will bid my farewells first."

He took a step out and vanished from sight.

Wu Dongliu held onto the star that recorded Shen Yuanyin's information. His expression was full of uncertainty. Although he thought it was unbelievable, he wavered for a moment before adding a note to the star: It is inferred that Shen Yuanyin and Ning Ling may be the same person. Assign a person to the Immortal Sect to investigate.

He looked up towards the direction Qin Yu vanished in and his eyes shined...this was a possibility he could use to kill the Demon Sovereign and complete the contract.

### **Chapter 624B – Sealed Stone World**

There was also a Dao Arena branch in the Deep Stream Region. According to Solitary Westgate's point of view, as long as it was a place where masters gathered he would establish one. Whether or not it earned profits didn't matter. At the very least he would have eyes and ears in that location.

This Dao Arena was located in Survival City; Solitary Westgate brought Qin Yu and You Qi there to rest temporarily.

No matter which Dao Arena branch it was, the top level training rooms were all beautifully constructed. Qin Yu rested beneath a pavilion, leaning against a soft bed as he drank some wine.

"It suddenly occurred to me that the reason you constructed these Dao Arenas is so that you would have a comfortable place to rest no matter where you went."

Across from him, Solitary Westgate's smile stiffened and he fell silent.

Qin Yu sat up. "Did I say something wrong?"

Solitary Westgate bitterly smiled. "No, you should be the first person who's guessed the truth." He stood up, looking at the beautiful garden before him. "In truth, the reason I set up the Dao Arena system was originally because I wished for me and my family to enjoy happy days together."

Qin Yu had a dignified expression. "If my words caused you to remember some unhappy memories, I really do apologize."

Solitary Westgate shook his head. "It doesn't matter." After several breaths of silence, he continued to say, "There are some things that I should tell you about." He turned around, "Do you mind coming with me somewhere? Don't worry, it's very safe within the Dao Arena. As long as the moon bird is here, You Qi won't be in trouble."

Qin Yu nodded, "Alright."

Solitary Westgate flicked his sleeves. Space collapsed inward to form a fathomless black hole.

The two stepped within.

Colors flashed all around them at a dizzying speed. Qin Yu could feel that this wasn't a temporary space channel, but one that had been specially prepared long ago.

Solitary Westgate explained, "Every Dao Arena in the world has such a specially prepared channel. It is so that I can return home as quickly as possible...as for why, you will soon find out."

Qin Yu could feel the heavy atmosphere coming from him and didn't say much.

Soon, they reached the end of the spatial channel. When they exited they appeared above a vast sea.

A low mountain peak was suspended in the skies above the sea. It was covered in clouds, obscured from sight.

Solitary Westgate revealed a gentle expression. "Qin Yu, you are the first person in the Land of Divinity and Demons to step into my home. From here on out, no matter what you see, I ask you not to reveal anything."

He took a step forward. The fog automatically parted to reveal an ordinary courtyard situated in the mountainside.

"Daddy!"

With cheers of surprised joy, a little boy tossed himself into Solitary Westgate's arms.

Solitary Westgate lifted him up and patted his head, his smile kind and warm. "Anning, have you been a good boy lately?"

The boy nodded repeatedly. "Of course. Mommy praised me many times..." He suddenly saw Qin Yu in the back. With a timid look he hid behind Solitary Westgate.

"Don't be afraid. This is uncle Qin Yu, daddy's good friend."

Qin Yu suppressed the shock in his heart. He stepped forward and bent over a little. "It's nice to meet you, Anning. I often hear your father talk about you. You really are a good child."

Anning's head drilled out and he smiled in embarrassment. But, there was friendliness in his eyes.

A beautiful middle-aged woman walked out in welcome. She earnestly bowed towards Qin Yu and then dragged Anning away with her. "Be obedient and come prepare a meal with me. Don't disturb your father and uncle speaking to each other."

Qin Yu watched the mother and child walk away. He turned his head toward Solitary Westgate, a dignified look in his eyes. With his cultivation and boundary he could naturally see that this supposedly ordinary mother and child were actually two specters that had died long ago.

But with a powerful strength of rules, someone had molded bodies for them, forcefully maintaining their souls that should have faded away by now.

"Now, you know everything." Solitary Westgate said in a quiet voice. "I once said that I would need your help for something in the future...this is it. I need your help to revive my dead wife and child!"

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows together. "Westgate, I can help you, but the great terror of life and death is something that even a Calamity Immortal finds difficult to free themselves from. Moreover, what you want to do is to bring them back from death. This is something that has never been recorded in the history of the Demonic Path. Are you sure that it is even possible?"

Solitary Westgate lightly said, "In the past, after Yun Niang and Anning died, I went crazy looking for every possible method to keep them in this world. Thus, I divided off this part of the world and reversed the rules here so that their souls could continue.

"At the time, I thought that they wouldn't be able to be revived. Then, I discovered a great secret of this world. Right now I cannot tell you what this is. It isn't that I don't want to tell you, but that if I even mention it, it will touch upon some invisible perception that can produce unpredictable consequences. But there is one thing for sure. As long as you help me with all your strength, there is a chance that they can be revived. And for that, I will surely give you back enough in return!"

Qin Yu's eyebrows relaxed. "Even if there is no repayment, the assistance that you gave me in the past is more than enough."

Solitary Westgate replied, "Thank you!"

Qin Yu smiled. "I suddenly feel a great pressure on me. It seems my life is no longer purely my own."

Solitary Westgate said, "So, you must survive. You absolutely cannot die!"

Because you are my only hope in reviving my dead wife and child. It is impossible for Yun Niang and Anning to wait for a second 'turning point' person to appear.

The food and wine was quickly prepared. Yun Niang and Anning sat quietly on the right. As they watched Qin Yu and Solitary Westgate eat and drink together, their eyes were filled with joy.

It had been a long time since a guest had come to their home. After Anning got to know Qin Yu a little bit more, he immediately started to ask questions.

"Uncle Qin, what is the outside world like?"

“Are there really birds in this world that are so large they can block out the skies with their wings?”

“I really want to go take a look at the great sea. But daddy says I am too young and the fish will eat me if I try. Is it really like that?”

“I am really bored at home. Daddy leaves often and only mommy is here with me. I really want to go out and take a look. Can you bring me?”

Looking at Anning’s pure and innocent eyes as well as his hope-filled face, Qin Yu felt a slight bitterness in his heart. He put down his wine cup and smiled, “Anning, be a good child. The outside world isn’t safe and your father is worried about you. However, uncle promises you that before too long, you will definitely be able to leave.”

“Really? But daddy tells me the exact same thing all the time.” Anning’s bright eyes started to dim down.

Solitary Westgate said, “Trust your Uncle Qin. He won’t lie to you.”

Night arrived. Yun Niang brought Anning away to sleep. Qin Yu waited outside in the courtyard. After a long time, a weary Solitary Westgate wandered out.

“The reason you built so many rapid transmission channels in the Dao Arenas, is it because sister-in-law and nephew are in a condition where they can disappear at any moment?” To contend with the Heavenly Dao’s samsara with the strength of man alone, even if that man was Solitary Westgate he would still have to pay a steep price.

Solitary Westgate rubbed his eyebrows. “That’s right. Their conditions worsen with time. I am becoming increasingly worried about them.”

He looked at Qin Yu and said, “So, if possible, please become stronger as quickly as you can, until you reach the level where you surpass life and death. Only like that can I bring you to open that secret.”

Qin Yu took a deep breath. “Let’s go. We should discuss what we are going to do.” Since he couldn’t find Woodchopper Fu, he would have to end his plans of tempering his will through life and death battles ahead of time.

Although there were many powerhouses in the Land of Divinity and Demons, there actually weren’t many who had the qualifications to serve as a grinding stone for Qin Yu. At the very least it wasn’t as if he could recklessly attack random strangers. Otherwise, even if he were the Demonic Path’s Holy Monarch, he still wouldn’t be able to afford the public anger that would be directed against him.

In this world, there was no one that was truly free from all fetters...this included even supreme beings of this world!

Solitary Westgate nodded. With a flick of his sleeves he opened a channel. Then, the two of them left this small world that had been separated and now existed by itself.

Hualala –

The moment Qin Yu stepped into the channel he could hear the sound of crashing waves. Solitary Westgate’s figure paused for a moment.

Anning wanted to see the sea. But what he didn't know was that what lay beneath the shroud of fog was the endless sea.

This was a sorrow he had endured since a long time ago. But each time it was like a hot iron branding itself into Solitary Westgate's heart, burning his innermost feelings.

So what if he was a supreme being of this world who possessed unsurpassed power and influence? So what if he could shake the heavens and sunder the earth with a thought? In the end he was just a pathetic lonely man whose wife and child had died!

Deep Stream, Survival City's Dao Arena.

Solitary Westgate and Qin Yu stepped out of a spatial channel one after another. Although only several hours had passed, after that brief interlude the two of them had grown closer to each other.

"Woodchopper Fu is a qualified grinding stone, but since he cannot be found, you will have to end your plan of tempering yourself through life and death battles." After Solitary Westgate took a seat he went straight to the point, "I know a place which is an unsurpassed treasure trove for tempering your will. But that place is extremely dangerous. If no one in the Demonic Path told you about it, it should be because they are wary of it."

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. "If I don't go, what do you think the chances are that I will be able to resist the devil mark's backlash?"

Solitary Westgate lifted one finger, "At most 10%. Perhaps even lower."

Qin Yu said, "The reason I risk my life is because I regret my life. If there is a great chance for me to continue living, I will still give it a try. Moreover, my luck has always been extremely good, otherwise it would have been impossible for me to emerge from that declining land of exile and have my current achievements."

Solitary Westgate lightly said, "Although I hope that you go, I still have to clearly explain things to you. Throughout the years, many people have entered the Sealed Stone World. But, only around ten people or so have ever managed to come out.

"In the rumors, it is said that only those who have tempered their will to the point where they can affect reality, in other words, to materialize their will, can break free from that world and return to the Land of Divinity and Demons. Think it over. If you are still interested then I will tell you more about the Sealed Stone World."

Qin Yu said, "I don't need to consider. I'll go."

Solitary Westgate nodded, "Good. If you were indecisive about it then I would have urged you to give up. If you don't even have the courage to risk it all then you absolutely cannot come back out from the Sealed Stone World."

Qin Yu said, "You have my full attention."

**Chapter 625A – Stone Beads**



Half a day later, Qin Yu and You Qi bid their farewells and left. He decided to enter the Sealed Stone World. But before doing so, he needed to return to the Demonic Path and make some arrangements.

He had already received a lesson from the Sea of Purgatory incident. Before he left he would need to make sufficient preparations to deal with any possible accidents.

“If you dare throw me away and vanish without a trace, I will immediately commit suicide.” You Qi’s words immediately cut off Qin Yu’s plans of convincing her to stay.

Her expression was earnest, without any joking meaning behind it. Qin Yu hesitated for some time before finally swallowing down all the words he wanted to say. He had to admit that he was a bit touched by her sentiment.

It was easy for someone to say that they would follow someone through life and death. But, how many people in this world could actually achieve that? To find someone who was truly willing to do this was one of life’s greatest fortunes!

Ten days later, the Demonic Path’s Holy Palace was sealed up. The Holy Monarch announced to the outside world that he was going into seclusion. Demonic energy billowed into the heavens.

On that day, Qin Yu spoke to the Demon Envoy with a calm expression. “I have no idea how things are going to turn out this time, but I hope that you don’t disappoint me again.”

He turned and flew away with You Qi, leaving the Demon Envoy behind with his uncertain expression.

After a long time, the Demon Envoy bowed and said, “Your Majesty, please rest assured. This subordinate will obey your orders no matter the price!”

...

The Sealed Stone World was only a name given to it by the first cultivator who found it due to half of a stone tablet.

Where did it come from? What was its background? Why did it arrive in the Land of Divinity and Demons? These were enigmas, questions that had yet to be answered.

But there was one thing that could be determined. The world within the sealed stone had an extremely potent effect of tempering a cultivator’s will.

80 million years ago, the first cultivator who emerged from the Sealed Stone World was a man named Zhou Ruyi. He rose up like a comet, sweeping through the world and establishing an unsurpassed nation, becoming a peerless great emperor who ruled over the Land of Divinity and Demons.

This Zhou Ruyi was the founding emperor of Great Zhou. He was the terrifying existence who had appeared in the Sea of Purgatory like a divine dragon.

This founding emperor’s most terrifying ability was to crush an opponent with his will. In the recorded texts, one of his greatest accomplishments was facing off against five super powerhouses of the same level and killing three of them. After this event, he was known as the number one powerhouse to exist for the last 100 million years of history!

It was because of this reason that the Sealed Stone World was taken so seriously by others. It once caused a torrential surge of people to enter into it. But, as time passed, the brutal reality of what happened was quickly revealed. People discovered that those who entered the Sealed Stone World never emerged and were trapped inside forever. After this, the waves of people quickly died down.

But the truth was that through the tens of millions of years, there remained a steady flow of people who entered the Sealed Stone World. Some had nowhere left to go, and some were trying to break free of their shackles and step onto the next level.

There were also some influences who purely desired to produce an incomparably formidable existence, thus they sent their subordinate cultivators inside.

Emperor Zhou's existence was the inspiration that drove generations of people into the Sealed Stone World.

Of course, because Emperor Zhou was far too blinding he outshined everyone else. There were actually many people who had managed to emerge from the Sealed Stone World over the years, and each one of them possessed unparalleled strength that was capable of dominating their era!

And if one wanted to enter the Sealed Stone World, they first needed to obtain a key. This was a special type of stone bead that could only be found in one place.

Before, it was said that the seven great empires divided the endless territory of the Land of Divinity and Demons amongst themselves. But there were always some places that they couldn't touch.

For instance, the Deep Stream region. For instance, the Deer Chasing region where Qin Yu and You Qi were now. It was located within the Han Empire. But since ancient times, it had been an autonomous state. This was because the ones who ruled here were the Sealed Stone Sect, and the Sealed Stone Sect was the only influence in the world that could take out the Sealed Stone!

Throughout the long years, there had been multiple attempts from people trying to take control of the Sealed Stone Sect or even trying to seal the method to make the stone beads.

But without exception, all attempts were defeated in the end. To say it was defeated might not be right...in some attempts, the entire Sealed Stone Sect had been captured and all of its people imprisoned. But, no one could find out the method to produce the stone beads. In fact, they couldn't even obtain a single extra stone bead.

Killing was useless. No matter how grave the threat of death or injury was, no one within the Sealed Stone Sect blurted out any secrets. In order to prevent the stone beads from vanishing forever because of this, there were always some influences that decided to take action and interfere in order to preserve the inheritance of the Sealed Stone Sect.

After this happened several times over, no one tried to take advantage of the Sealed Stone Sect again. If they wanted to purchase a stone bead, they would have to honestly participate in an auction.

"Any influence that moves against the Sealed Stone Sect will forever lose the rights to obtain a stone bead. If some people decide to exchange in private, they will also lose the qualifications." Qin Yu muttered to himself. He looked up at the common-looking house in front of him and said, "We're here."

You Qi's eyes widened and she revealed a dazed expression. She never imagined that the legendary Sealed Stone Sect, the location where the stone beads were auctioned, was actually in such a place.

Qin Yu walked forward and knocked. After someone opened the door he handed over a jade card. The young man inspected the jade card and then nodded with a desolate expression, "Please come in."

The outside of the house was narrow and the inside was even more cramped. But, the young cultivator walked to a wooden cabinet in the corner and placed a hand above it. The wooden cabinet immediately burst out with brilliant lights that wove together to form dazzling fluctuations.

The young cultivator gestured, "Guests, please."

Qin Yu didn't hesitate. He grabbed onto You Qi's hand and stepped inside. Space darkened and swayed about them. When the surroundings lit up once more they found themselves in an extremely broad hall.

At the center of the hall was a high platform. Circles of stone chairs were arranged around it. Right now, around half of the chairs were filled with sitting cultivators.

Each person had a layer of light covering them. Their auras and appearances were covered up so they didn't have to worry about anyone remembering them.

"Guests, please take a seat. The auction will soon begin." A female cultivator from the Sealed Stone Sect said. Her tone was respectful but her expression was similarly cold.

Qin Yu and You Qi followed the indicated direction and soon took a seat. Not long after, an old man with a white beard stepped onto the platform and announced the beginning of the auction.

"In today's auction, there are a total of 12 stone beads. Six are low-grade, four are medium-grade, and two are high-grade. For new fellow daoists that have arrived and do not understand the different rankings of the stone beads, please allow me to explain. All three grades of stone beads can be used to enter the Sealed Stone World. But, low-grade stone beads have no resistance strength. medium-grade stone beads can resist one destruction of the will, and high-grade stone beads can resist three times.

"What 'destruction of the will' here refers to is a sudden eruption of terrifying aura within the Sealed Stone World. its appearance does not follow any rules and is the greatest threat within the Sealed Stone World.

"Please be aware that this auction house only accepts bids in spirit stones...very well, let us now begin the auction. We will first start with low-grade stone beads. The first stone bead has a base price of 10 million spirit stones. There is no limit to how much the price can be increased by."

There was a series of loud gasps within the hall. high-grade stone beads were something that could only be found, not asked for. Moreover, two of them had appeared here today.

But many people knew how terrifying the price of high-grade stone beads was. It was simply impossible for the vast majority of them to hope to compete for. If so, then they might as well seize a low-grade stone bead while everyone's attention was focused somewhere else.

Thus, there was no awkward silence during the auction. The six low-grade stone beads were soon auctioned off and after a short bout, the four medium-grade stone beads also found their owners.

“These last two are also the only two high-grade stone beads in today’s auction. Their base price is 100 million spirit stones. There is no limit to the bidding increase amount. Let the auction for the first high-grade stone bead begin!”

Qin Yu’s eyes flashed with a sharp light. He lifted a hand, “One billion!”

The hall suddenly fell silent. As numerous people were left stunned, many gloomy eyes gathered from all around, ill intent flashing within them. It was rare for two high-grade stone beads to appear. Although everyone knew that the final price would inevitably be high, Qin Yu’s method of bidding was hard for them to accept.

“Humph! 1.1 billion!” With a cold sneer a guest suddenly bid out loud, a taunting tone in his voice. To scare away other competitors with a high bid was a good method, but it was useless here today.

As expected, several people bid one after another, slowly pushing the price to 1.5 billion. Now, the ones left competing were cultivators with considerable backgrounds. Their mission for entering the Sealed Stone World was to constantly grow stronger until one day they could leave.

But not all of them went willingly. In order to provide some sense of comfort to them, the influences behind these people would tolerate a certain degree of ‘unruliness’ from them. For instance, spending spirit stones to buy a high-grade stone bead that could maintain their life. This was something tacitly agreed to by all.

Qin Yu lifted a hand, “3 billion.”

He directly doubled the bid!

The faces of numerous cultivators changed. Although their background influences had considerable businesses and wealth, they absolutely could not afford such a terrifying amount.

While it was a matter of course for these influences to buy a life-maintaining stone bead for their subordinates, it also had to be within a certain reasonable scope.

“3.1 billion!” The first guest to join in after Qin Yu spoke up again. His tone of voice was icy cold, as chilling as the deep winter wind.

“3.2 billion!”

“3.3 billion!”

Only three contenders were left.

Qin Yu lifted his hand a third time. “5 billion!”

The hall fell silent.

### **Chapter 625B – Stone Beads**

His momentum of inevitability was decisively exposed. This sort of careless and indifferent attitude left many people feeling unsure of just how far he would go.

Whatever. There was still a second high-grade stone bead. They shouldn't pay such a deep price for just one.

On the high platform the old man loudly said, "5 billion. If no other fellow daoist wishes to increase the bid, this high-grade stone bead will belong to this guest."

For the next several breaths of time, the hall was silent. The old man clapped his hands together and said, "Auction completed. Congratulations to this guest."

Cultivators from the Sealed Stone Sect immediately brought the stone bead over. Qin Yu took out a spirit stone card and completed the transaction, quickly dispelling the last glimmer of hope in the hearts of the other bidders.

The auction continued.

The old man said, "The auction for the second high-grade stone bead will now begin. Everyone, please grab onto this opportunity. There might not be another chance at a high-grade stone bead for a long time."

The cultivator who had bid first after Qin Yu before hurriedly said, "One billion!"

It was clear that he wanted to use a similar method to inform the remaining bidders that he would obtain the stone bead no matter what.

But it was clear that no one wanted to give up. After several bids the price rose to 2 billion, at a pace even more astonishing than the first.

Jiang Zhoudao had a pale face. He turned his head to speak to the person beside him. After several muttering whispers, the man beside him nodded hesitantly.

"4 billion!"

Everyone could give up on struggling with him!

As he thought, his competitors fell silent. A little smile appeared on the corners of Jiang Zhoudao's lips. But before his smile fully formed, a calm voice rose up.

"6 billion!"

Hu –

Jiang Zhoudao turned and glared at Qin Yu. This bastard!

This person had already obtained a high-grade stone bead before this and yet he still wanted to meddle.

"7 billion!"

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He directly stated, "10 billion."

These two high-grade stone beads just happened to match him and You Qi. He wouldn't give up on either of them.

As for spirit stones?

He was the Demonic Path's Holy Sovereign, a supreme being of this world. For him, pure wealth had lost all meaning.

Hu –

Jiang Zhoudao rose from his seat. If looks could kill, Qin Yu would have been torn into pieces.

He was well aware that no matter how precious his status was, his sect would absolutely not pay 10 billion spirit stones for a high-grade stone bead.

In other words, it was impossible for him to continue bidding.

How hateful!

With a high-grade stone bead, his life could be saved twice in the Sealed Stone World. If he missed out on it today there would be no chance for him to wait for another auction.

Moreover, even if he waited until the next auction, that didn't necessarily mean a second high-grade stone bead would appear.

Taking a deep breath, Jiang Zhoudao turned and walked away, rapidly leaving the hall.

Atop the platform, the old man revealed a look of surprise. He lifted his hand and said, "10 billion spirit stones. Congratulations to this fellow daoist for winning another high-grade stone bead!"

The payment was completed and Qin Yu received the second stone bead. Without pausing, Qin Yu brought You Qi and left the hall.

Shualala –

Within the hall, most of the competing cultivators had left.

These two high-grade stone beads had a combined cost of 15 billion spirit stones. It was enough to tempt the hearts of the people.

In any case, they were now in the Deer Chasing region, a chaotic land without any law or order. As soon as those two left the auction house there were sure to be some people ambushing them. While these people might not have the qualifications to join in on the hunt, there was no loss in watching the fun.

If their luck was good...who knew what would happen in the end?

But what surprised everyone was that after leaving the auction house, Qin Yu and You Qi were like ghosts, vanishing from everyone's eyes.

No matter how much they looked, they couldn't find a single trace of these two people. In the end they could only disperse helplessly.

Within a duplicated space, Qin Yu had a calm expression. He and You Qi stood not too far away from the entrance of the auction house and watched with their own eyes as the excitement on these peoples' faces slowly turned to disappointment.

"Let's go." Qin Yu took You Qi's hand and walked away. The duplicated space rapidly flowed forward with them, like a surge of liquid mercury.

The function of the Space-time Lock was not only to suppress and imprison people. Since it could produce a duplicate space that overlapped with the real world, this duplicate space could also serve as a temporary shelter.

Unless there was a person whose cultivation had reached the realm of surpassing life and death like Solitary Westgate, it would be hard for them to find a trace of this Space-time Lock.

After entering the Sealed Stone World, dangers could erupt at any time. The Space-time Lock was Qin Yu's safety measure for resting and also resisting the backlash of the devil mark.

Three days after the auction ended, in a cave within the wilderness, Qin Yu and You Qi stood shoulder to shoulder. The stone beads they held in their hands started to shine.

Hum –

Fluctuations erupted. Ripples spread outwards like the disturbed surface of a still lake, soon swallowing their figures.

...

Within the void, countless stones of varying sizes were calmly suspended in space. They revolved at a fixed speed, looking like an endless nebula in the skies.

Suddenly, space twisted and two figures ran out. The woman bent over and violently coughed. The man held onto her and gently patted her back. After some time she composed herself and nodded her head to express that she was fine.

These two people were Qin Yu and You Qi, who had just been transmitted into the Sealed Stone World through the stone beads.

The transmission here could be described as dizzyingly chaotic, so turbulent that the heavens and earth seemed to swap places. Even with Qin Yu's cultivation he still felt a stuffiness in his chest. As for You Qi, if it weren't for him protecting her he feared she would have been thoroughly crushed by the strength of the transmission and reduced to dust by now.

"This is the Sealed Stone World?" You Qi mumbled out loud. She looked ahead at the 'stone kingdom' in front of her.

Qin Yu nodded, a dignified expression on his face. In his eyes, he could see that every stone contained a formidable aura.

It was as if even though countless years had passed and thousands of catastrophes had occurred, they weren't able to be destroyed even a little bit...this was a sort of will that would last through eternity!

A feeling of awe gushed out from deep within him and waves of shock stirred in his heart. He couldn't imagine what level of existence could leave behind marks on these stones.

"Qin Yu, what is it?" You Qi asked, worry on her face.

Qin Yu took a deep breath. "I'm fine. I just suddenly feel very small."

There is a sky beyond the skies, and there is always someone that stands higher...

At this moment, Qin Yu suddenly felt an extremely profound sense of understanding. He didn't know what the origin of this Sealed Stone World was, but it must have borne witness to a period of unimaginable glory. This was a level which Qin Yu couldn't even hope to contact with his current level. This was a distance as far apart as the heavens and earth.

You Qi had a thoughtful expression. "These stones...are they that great?"

Qin Yu nodded, "Yes. Very, very great." He lifted a single finger. "If I can achieve just a tenth of the residual will left behind in these stones, I can easily solve the problem of the devil mark's backlash."

"Ah!" You Qi cried out in alarm. She finally understood why he revealed such an extraordinary look. She ecstatically said, "So these stones are extremely helpful for you?"

Qin Yu said, "I don't know yet. I am preparing to test it."

He looked behind him at the endless void. He didn't know what was hiding in that nothingness, but his intuition told him that it was best if he didn't try to satisfy his curiosity.

Taking a step forward, Qin Yu approached the nearest stone. Once he approached within 100 feet, his complexion suddenly changed. A boundless pressure suddenly arrived, pressing down upon his chest like a mountain. He needed to gather the entirety of his mind to resist it.

Qin Yu closed his eyes, sensing for a long time. The corners of his lips slowly curved up in a smile. Yes, this was the place he needed.

"You Qi, I need to immediately start cultivating. You can first –"

Before he finished speaking, his eyebrows furrowed together. He looked into the distant void.

In the 'nebula' of stones, several distressed figures marched forward. Several of them were deathly pale and already wounded.

"Stay behind me!" Qin Yu grabbed hold of You Qi and welcomed the several people flying over.

A cultivator screamed out loud, "Hurry and run! There are people in the Sealed Stone World trying to steal our stone beads!"

Before his voice fell the cultivator's eyes flew open and he screamed out loud. His chest blew open.

A black shadow flowed out, stretching into the figure of a cultivator. His hands held onto a still-beating heart and he was smiling cheerfully. "I don't like killing people. But little kids, why can't you just be obedient and listen?"

Shua –

Shua –

Several black-clothed cultivators arrived, surrounding the group.

## **Chapter 626A - It's You**

Pa –



The heart was crushed. Warm blood splashed onto the corners of the man's lips. He stretched out a tongue and licked it off, an ecstatic expression on his face. He darkly said, "This is your last chance. Be good little children and sever your connection with the stone beads and hand them over, otherwise once I catch you I won't mind steaming half of you and frying the other half in oil."

To say such words with his expression seemed especially cold, as if a poisonous snake was wrapped around everyone's necks, ready to bite down at any moment. The several people that were surrounded immediately had all blood drained from their faces.

Suddenly, a cultivator said in a high-pitched voice, "Senior, I know a place where you can find high-grade stone beads. As long as you let me go I will tell you immediately!"

"High-grade stone beads?" The blood-stained cultivator's eyes brightened. "You should know that your fate will be miserable if you try to deceive me, right?"

Jiang Zhoudai suppressed his fear and nodded, "I promise you that as long as you agree you will soon find the stone beads!"

The blood-stained cultivator nodded. "Very well, you have succeeded in moving me. I will give you the vow you want. Now, tell me."

Jiang Zhoudao lifted a finger and pointed over, "Those two people each have a high-grade stone bead!"

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and You Qi's figure vanished from sight. He looked up at Jiang Zhoudao, a calm expression on his face.

When this person first opened his mouth Qin Yu already had an expectation of what he might say. Now, he was able to confirm his suspicions.

The blood-stained cultivator's eyes shrank. He smiled and said, "Interesting, how very interesting." He looked at Qin Yu. After several breaths of silence he said, "Hand over the two high-grade stone beads and I will let you leave."

Qin Yu shook his head.

The man's eyes turned. He pointed at Jiang Zhoudao and said, "What if I add on his life? As long as you agree I will immediately kill him."

Jiang Zhoudao was shocked with anger. "Senior, you promised me..."

The blood-stained cultivator sneered, "Promise? That sort of thing can only be used to fool you naive amateurs who've just arrived in the Sealed Stone World!"

He looked at Qin Yu, "I am speaking with sincerity. What about it?"

Qin Yu said, "His life isn't worth anything."

The blood-stained cultivator shook his head, "It looks like there's nothing else I can do. It seems I have to personally deal with you. I hope your strength can match your self-confidence."

Bang –

A tyrannical strength broke free from his body, followed by some sort of aura that seemed to look down upon the world with disdain. Qin Yu immediately coughed and his complexion paled.

Suppression of will!

...

The Sealed Stone World was shattered and incomplete. No one could predict whether or not these seemingly harmless sealed stones would erupt with terrifying fluctuations that could annihilate anyone's will in the next moment.

These sorts of fluctuations were called 'destructions of will' and could almost instantly kill all living beings in their vicinity.

Cultivators that had entered the Sealed Stone World earlier had already experienced how terrifying these 'destructions of will' were. Because of this, their ice cold eyes landed on the bodies of people who came in after them. This led to today's events where people tried to steal stone beads from newcomers to increase their own chances of safety.

The blood-licking cultivator was named Song Zhongyi. He was a relatively infamous character within the Sealed Stone World. His methods were ruthless and cruel and there were few people that dared to offend him.

Of course, he wasn't a weak person. By relying on the tempering of the Sealed Stone World he managed to smoothly step into the Calamity Immortal realm. This was the most basic reason for how he was able to survive this long.

When Qin Yu placed You Qi in the duplicate world of the Space-time Lock, Song Zhongyi had lost track of her. This was the reason why he felt a sudden sense of dread. If it weren't for the enticement of high-grade stone beads, he wouldn't have bothered attacking Qin Yu at all.

The Sealed Stone World seemed tranquil, but due to the competition over stone beads, the atmosphere was unimaginably frigid. People that survived here all felt awe and reverence towards life. None of them were willing to easily gamble with their lives.

But if one attacked, they wouldn't show any mercy at all. They would do their best to kill their opponent so that they could continue living.

At this moment, Qin Yu felt as if an iron rod had maliciously smashed into his head. His field of vision flashed black and there was a humming sound in his ears.

In this condition, even if he managed to counterattack his strength would still be greatly reduced.

Bang –

With a loud explosion Qin Yu rapidly retreated backwards. The strength that rumbled into his body was like flowing lava as it raged through him, carrying with it a terrifyingly destructive attribute.

Wherever it visited, flesh and blood cracked apart. In just the blink of an eye Qin Yu became like a 'cracked doll'. His exposed skin was covered with cracks.

But not a single drop of blood flowed out from these cracks. The potency of the Saint level Demon Body was exposed without reservation. His heart wildly beat as vigorous blood energy erupted throughout his body. His skin began to regenerate with a speed visible to the naked eye. The cracks rapidly closed over. As long as it wasn't a devastatingly ruinous injury, it could be healed over in a short period of time.

Song Zhongyi smiled, "No matter how strong your mortal body is, there will come a time when you cannot withstand it. It seems your self-confidence will ultimately kill you."

Words could also apply a formidable pressure on an opponent's mindset. Unfortunately, this was useless against Qin Yu. Qin Yu's feelings had already been thoroughly tempered. Besides the few people he cared about, the words of others couldn't shake him.

The suppression of will was still there. But after recovering from the initial attack where he was unguarded, he began to rapidly adapt to it. His eyes started to brighten.

"Perhaps the one who dies here today will be you."

He lifted a hand and punched out. A turbulent strength raged outwards. Song Zhongyi sneered and flicked his sleeves, counterbalancing it.

"You're one of those people who won't cry unless they see their own coffin. Allow me you deliver you onto the road towards the west!"

Qin Yu fell into a disadvantageous state. He was tossed about like a human-shaped rubber ball, beaten left and right. But as time passed, Song Zhongyi's complexion grew increasingly ugly.

This was because as more time went by, Qin Yu erupted with an increasingly great strength. If he was a rubber ball at the start, he had become a stone ball and was slowly transforming into an iron ball. Even if Song Zhongyi could send Qin Yu flying about, the shaking strength he received in return was giving him a headache.

Song Zhongyi's complexion paled. He had no choice but to accept the reality. Not only did he not have the qualifications to kill Qin Yu, but if things continued like this he might be the one to be killed instead!

In truth, the reason was simple. Qin Yu's own will had already been sufficiently firm and tyrannical. It was like a piece of raw stone that was slowly being polished by the barrage of attacks from Song Zhongyi, gradually beginning to shine even brighter.

Bang –

There was another loud explosion. Song Zhang coughed and took a step backwards. His complexion paled as he looked at the increasingly powerful Qin Yu. He cursed inwardly at this freak of nature and then turned and fled without a single extra word. If things continued like this, he wouldn't be able to leave even if he wanted to.

Qin Yu was enjoying himself so much that he didn't want to stop. But after chasing a single step he came to a stop and sighed to himself.

Song Zhongyi was weaker than he was, but because of the suppression of will he was able to suppress him. To Qin Yu, he was actually a perfect 'training partner'. By fighting him, he could rapidly adapt to the suppression of will and also strengthen his own will at the same time.

If Qin Yu wasn't worried about a sudden backlash from the devil mark he absolutely wouldn't have allowed Song Zhongyi to leave so easily.

Jiang Zhoudao was scared silly. After a moment of absent-mindedness, the blood completely drained from his face. He never thought that seemingly invincible Song Zhongyi would run away in fear...of course, he absolutely never expected that Qin Yu would also have a Calamity Immortal level cultivation.

Big brother, you are already a Calamity Immortal so why didn't you stay in the Land of Divinity and Demons and enjoy yourself? Why did you come all the way to the Sealed Stone World to ruin the lives of others?

Puff –

Jiang Zhoudao fell to his knees. "Senior, this lowly one had eyes but couldn't see. I beg you to be merciful and spare me. I vow that –"

Pa –

His head blew apart and red and white goo splashed onto the ground. Qin Yu drew back his hand. If apologies really did work, then there would be no deaths in this world. The only reason he survived today was because he had been strong enough. If it were someone else, they would have suffered disaster already.

"Senior, please forgive us!" The several other cultivators were paralyzed with fear. Their bodies shook and trembled.

Qin Yu glanced at them. He lightly said, "You may leave." Although they had drawn Song Zhong and the others here, it wasn't intentional. And the man who died first had also tried to warn him.

Qin Yu wasn't afraid of slaughtering, but he didn't want to randomly kill the innocent. After all, there was a bottom line that he had to maintain.

"Ahh! Thank you senior, thank you senior!" The people felt as if they had survived a disaster. They quickly bowed their heads and crawled away. If they didn't hurry now, did they plan on waiting until Qin Yu decided to change his mind?

After everyone left, Qin Yu turned and walked away. While he had frightened Song Zhongyi away, he didn't believe that he could freely travel through the Sealed Stone World without any scruples.

Throughout the tens of millions of years, it was unknown how many cultivators had entered this place. Although the vast majority had died, those that survived had to be masters.

There were certainly terrifying powerhouses that existed in the Sealed Stone World. Qin Yu naturally had to be discreet in his actions.

### **Chapter 626B - It's You**

After flying far away, Qin Yu came to a stop. He already understood that the outermost edges of the Sealed Stone World seemed to be free of pressure, but it was actually one of the most dangerous places to be. Anyone that wanted to steal stone beads could fly out from the stone 'nebula' and encounter a newcomer with some luck.

The best method was to enter that stone 'nebula' as soon as possible. That provided the greatest chance of safety.

With a thought, You Qi appeared in front of him. Qin Yu said, "I am immediately going to start cultivating. Do you want to wait here for me or would you like to follow me?"

You Qi succinctly stated, "I will follow you!" The difference between her cultivation and Qin Yu's was far too great. If she wanted to stay with him forever, she needed to diligently follow close behind as much as she could.

Qin Yu nodded. "Alright. But remember not to force yourself. If anything seems wrong I will immediately shift you into the duplicate world."

The sealed stones could not be duplicated. Thus, the duplicated world was confined to a small and narrow space. It could be used to hide or go into seclusion, but could not be moved.

The two each chose a sealed stone. After approaching within a hundred feet, they sat down cross-legged.

You Qi soon stopped cultivating. She hurriedly stood up and withdrew from the suppression range, panting and sweating all over. She looked up at the still motionless and closed-eyed Qin Yu, her eyes filled with expectant hope.

He had to succeed!

At this time, Qin Yu suddenly opened his eyes. He stood up and walked forward, arriving in front of the sealed stone he chose. Then, he placed a hand above it.

A warmth gushed out, fusing directly into his mind. Qin Yu could clearly feel his own will being enhanced.

This was a feeling beyond description. It was illusionary and yet existed in reality, leaving one's mind wallowing in addiction.

After a long time, Qin Yu let out a long breath. A smile came across his face.

Only now did You Qi dare to speak up. "Qin Yu, how is it?"

Qin Yu turned around and said, "I have already obtained the approval of this sealed stone. Now, the outermost sealed stones won't suppress me."

You Qi's eyes brightened. "Then you..."

Qin Yu nodded. "I have had great harvests. The suppression of the sealed stones can not only temper the will, but after obtaining their approval you can also be granted a gift...that should be the aura of the person who left their immortal will upon these stones. It is capable of directly intensifying one's will."

He looked ahead at the 'nebula' of stones that stretched out as far as his eyes could see and a heat rose up in his chest.

The deeper into the sealed stone 'nebula', the larger the stones became and the stronger the inherent will contained within them. If he really could arrive at the end someday...

He took a deep breath and suppressed his surging thoughts. He said, "You Qi, I must continue cultivating."

You Qi quickly said, "Don't worry about me; you keep doing what you've been doing!"

Qin Yu nodded. He walked several hundred feet forward and chose a slightly larger sealed stone. Then, he sat down in front of it.

Looking at his back, You Qi had a proud expression on her face. Before entering the Sealed Stone World, she had specifically looked up information related to this land. Although the inherent will contained in the outermost sealed stones wasn't too strong, this proved how great Qin Yu's strength was.

However, finding such a formidable man really did place a considerable amount of pressure on her. She pursed her lips in thought. Then, she took a deep breath and walked back into the scope of the suppression of will, closing her eyes and beginning to cultivate once more.

One could barely feel the passing of time in the quiet Sealed Stone World. Before they noticed it, three months passed in the blink of an eye.

The sealed stone in front of Qin Yu was originally half the height of a person but now it was several dozen feet tall. The color seemed to be deeper and a halo of light occasionally flashed on its surface.

You Qi had no choice but to enter the Space-time Lock's duplicate world two months ago. Her withstanding capacity simply couldn't compare to Qin Yu's and once the two people were too far away from each other, there was the possibility that an accident could occur.

Luckily, You Qi didn't mind this at all. This left Qin Yu feeling comforted. She could also cultivate within the duplicate world so passing time wasn't a problem for her.

At the start, Qin Yu would frequently enter the duplicate world to see her. But later on he was driven out by You Qi and ordered to focus his concentration on cultivating.

In any case, whenever Qin Yu moved he needed to temporarily put away the duplicate world and they would naturally see each other at those times.

Shua –

His eyes opened and a crystalline light flashed in his pupils. He stood up and let out a gentle breath.

He had spent four days here and finally obtained the approval of this sealed stone. He took several steps forward and arrived in front of this sealed stone that was several dozen feet tall.

He placed a hand atop it, carefully sensing the warmth flowing into his body. After a long time he opened his eyes. He turned around and looked towards the outermost edge of the sealed stones that he could no longer see. As he recalled the three month long period of time when his will constantly grew stronger, he couldn't help but smile.

During these three months, the devil mark's backlash had occurred several times but had been resisted by him. Although it was still dangerous, it was much easier than it had been before.

The devil mark also seemed to realize that Qin Yu's will was growing stronger. It now seemed to be saving its strength. Almost a month had passed since the last backlash had occurred and there wasn't any sign of movement.

Perhaps it was waiting for the perfect opportunity.

"The revolution hasn't succeeded yet, all comrades still need to work hard..."

Qin Yu muttered to himself. Although he was puzzled by these sudden words from the Dao Arena Master, he understood the general meaning behind them. It was that he had yet to succeed in his goal, and he wished for everyone else to double their efforts.

With a thought, Qin Yu's figure vanished and he entered the duplicate world.

The duplicate world was only several dozen feet in size. When You Qi sensed Qin Yu arrive her eyelids moved and she opened her eyes. She revealed an incomparably bright smile towards him.

Qin Yu suddenly felt guilty. She had to remain in this duplicate world alone, a place that was deathly silent without any movement at all. He had once experienced such boring and dry cultivating moments before so he was well aware of how it was.

"I'm sorry..."

Before he could finish speaking, he was interrupted by You Qi who had walked over. She hugged Qin Yu, "Don't ever apologize to me. To be together with you is the happiest time of my life."

Qin Yu took a deep breath, inhaling the fragrance from her body. After several breaths of silence he suddenly said, "Shen Yuanyin is very likely Ning Ling. She has her own difficulties so she cannot acknowledge me right now."

He had to clarify some things even if it made him appear heartless.

You Qi lifted her head, "I know."

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows together, "You..."

You Qi reached out a hand and smoothed his eyebrows apart. "In the past, I didn't want to nor was I able to leap in, but since Ning Ling gave me the opportunity she will need to accept the consequences of what happened."

She wrinkled her nose. "You can forget leaving me. Don't even think about it!"

Feeling her sincerity, Qin Yu felt his heart warm up. He hugged her tight.

"Okay, that's enough. Stop fussing over such things. We don't even know if we will be able to leave this place. If we're stranded here forever, Ning Ling will regret it for the rest of her life!"

Qin Yu smiled, "Don't worry, we can definitely leave this place."

Shua –

The duplicate space vanished. Qin Yu appeared, holding onto You Qi and resisting the surrounding impact of will. "We should continue."

At this time, Qin Yu's complexion changed. He lifted a hand and thrust backwards. Ripples appeared in the void as a figure was shaken out.

"What sharp sense!" This person's voice was hoarse and wrapped up in a pall of black fog. One could only see a pair of yellow and brown eyes, cold and strange.

Qin Yu frostily said, "Who are you? Why did you sneak attack us?"

The black fog figure cackled. "Simple. I'm curious as to how you managed to travel through the sealed stone tempering and obtained their approval so quickly."

Qin Yu's expression turned even colder. "You have been following us?"

The black fog figure didn't deny this. "I originally wanted to grab onto this woman to threaten you, but now it seems I won't have the chance.

"Brat, let me warn you of something. The Sealed Stone World is far more dangerous than you think. By carrying such luggage with you, you will suffer an accident sooner or later."

Shua –

The black fog figure flew away, soon vanishing amongst the numerous sealed stones.

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows together. He never expected that this mysterious person would leave so quickly and even toss down some final words that seemed like a warning.

This black fog person, just who was he?

You Qi bit her lips. She suddenly said, "Qin Yu, no matter who he is, his words weren't wrong. My decision to follow you really did drag you down.

"You don't have to comfort me; I am well aware of my situation...Qin Yu, I remember that you have some space with you that can contain living beings. It would be better if you let me stay there instead..."

"No!" Qin Yu shouted out. When he looked at her, his expression softened. "The space you are speaking about is a special status token. Although it possesses formidable defensive capabilities it cannot withstand the impact of will from the outside. Unless I...Unless I seal it off completely..."

You Qi's eyes brightened. "Then seal it off!"

Qin Yu earnestly said, "You don't understand. Completely sealing off the token's space would make it so that one cannot see the outside world and all light would disappear. It would become an endless night within. If you stay inside, you will withstand a suffering ten times, even a hundred times more agonizing than staying within the duplicate world."

You Qi said, "I can." A smile crossed her lips. "You seem to have been underestimating me all this time. In the past when I was trapped in the sealed Holy Palace, the fear and pressure I withstood was far more than you understand. But I still managed to survive well. Moreover, at least now I know that you are outside and with me.

"Qin Yu, I know this is a distressing decision, but me entering the token's space will be the best choice for the both of us. Don't hesitate anymore."



Qin Yu looked at her. After a long time he let out a long breath. He flipped his hand and took out a jade slip. He placed a strand of his divine sense inside it and gave it to You Qi.

“If you can’t withstand it anymore, just crush this, alright?”

You Qi received the jade slip. “Don’t worry, I understand. Now, send me inside.”

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and You Qi vanished from sight. The space of the Saint Son Token was like a window that was slowly being closed until all light vanished.

In the pitch black darkness, You Qi took a deep breath, “As the future Empress of the Holy Palace...first off, how can I still be afraid of the dark? This is the best chance for me to overcome my mental flaws...come on, you can do it!”

### **Chapter 626C – It’s You**

The person wrapped in black fog came to a stop after fleeing far away from Qin Yu. Then, like a bubble popping in the air, he vanished from sight.

A voice lingered around, “It’s been a long time since I’ve met a junior with such talent. It shouldn’t be against the rules for me to give him a little warning, right?”

“Mm, it shouldn’t be...”

These final words revealed a clear sense of relaxation, as if this person had laid down some heavy psychological burden.

...

The deeper one went into the Sealed Stone World, the more spacious it became. This was because the sealed stones started to grow larger. From several dozens of feet they turned into several hundreds of feet and then into several thousands of feet.

One year later.

Qin Yu sat down cross-legged. A giant sealed stone stood across from him, as large as a small mountain. His mind was completely focused as he resisted this will that seemed as heavy as the heavens and earth.

Behind his closed eyes, a distorted figure slowly appeared in his mind.

Even if it were blurry, it was enough to shock the mind. It was like nothing else existed in the world but this figure. It completely flooded out everything else in his mind.

It was disdainful of all, formidable and invincible!

Qin Yu’s intuition told him that this figure was the one who had entrusted these sealed stones with their immortal will.

He had already sat in front of this sealed stone for over 20 days. But, there was no sense of anxiousness in his heart. He was well aware that the tempering of will from the sealed stones had reached a new level. Once he obtained their approval, he would definitely have immense harvests.

Now, he needed to do his best to slowly enhance his own will and obtain the approval of the sealed stone.

Qin Yu suddenly furrowed his eyebrows and took a step back, leaving the range of the suppression of will. With a thought, he entered the duplicate world of the Space-time Lock.

Several breaths of time later, five figures howled towards his direction. One of them was clearly being chased by the four others behind him.

“Lei Zhen, you cannot escape. Hand over the stone bead!”

The chasing cultivators roared.

The man being chased clenched his teeth and cursed out loud. “We all came to an agreement that we would search according to our own skills and methods! I was the one who found a high-grade stone bead. Since this is my luck, you shouldn’t push things so far!”

“There’s no need to spout such nonsense. I’m just going to ask you, are you handing it over or not?”

“You can forget about it!”

Lei Zhen shouted in reply.

One of the four chasing cultivators suddenly said, “I’ve got you!”

His lips curved up in joy. A yellow paper doll appeared in one hand and a wooden needle appeared in the other. He used the wooden needle to pierce through the chest of the paper doll.

“Ahh!” Lei Zhen screamed. He grabbed onto his chest and staggered to a stop.

On the chest of the yellow doll where it had been stabbed, some red liquid flowed out as if it were blood.

The cultivator took out a second needle. “Lei Zhen, are you still going to run?”

Puff –

The paper doll’s thigh was pierced through!

Lei Zhen roared in anger, “It’s impossible! You had no chance to curse me so how you have locked onto me!”

“As long as people live long enough in the world they will come across all sorts of unbelievable events. Luckily, soon you will not have to experience such things.”

Another cultivator said, his eyes sharp and dense.

Lei Zhen was deathly pale. “We have been friends for many years. Don’t kill me; I am willing to give the stone bead to you.”

“It’s too late. What we want now is not just the stone bead you obtained but also the ones you had originally.”

The spell-casting priest raised up two fingers. "I want two medium-grade stone beads. You can divide the rest amongst yourselves."

The other three people furrowed their eyebrows. They nodded in agreement after hesitating for a moment. The spell-casting cultivator's eyes warmed and he turned to Lei Zhen, saying, "We have known each other for many years so you should understand me well enough. You had best take out the stone beads yourself, because if I have to do it, you will suffer immensely."

Lei Zhen's expression turned fierce. He suddenly lifted a hand and slapped his forehead. "If you want to kill me then let's die together!"

The spell-casting cultivator's five fingers fiercely tightened and the yellow doll figure exploded into dust in his hands.

Lei Zhen's fierce expression stiffened. His palm remained pressed against his forehead but he couldn't summon any strength at all. His aura began to rapidly fade.

"The agreement is that two medium-grade stone beads are mine." The spell-casting cultivator turned towards the other three people.

One of the three shook his head and said, "Lei Zhen has died, so you can only take one."

"That's right, take one."

"Only like that can we divide it."

The spell-casting cultivator's complexion turned ugly. He screeched in a hoarse voice, "Fine. But remember that I must take at least one, otherwise no one here is going to be well off!"

They quickly cleaned up Lei Zhen's goods. He had just obtained a high-grade stone bead and he hadn't had enough to have it recognize a master, so it naturally remained well-preserved.

Besides that, there was a medium-grade stone bead, two low-grade stone beads, and some other items.

The four people all relaxed. It seemed that there was enough to divide the spoils amongst everyone.

"I will take the medium-grade stone bead first. You can divide the rest amongst yourselves!" The spell-casting cultivator said. He reached out a hand to take a stone bead.

But at this time, his eyes widened in startled anger.

A fierce layer of black light erupted, forming a thick defensive shield behind him. But, it couldn't block the punch that was headed his way.

The fist didn't slow down at all. It crushed through the black light and smashed into the spell-casting cultivator's head.

Pa –

A transparent little man flew out from the headless corpse. It glared at Qin Yu with hatred before turning and fleeing.

It fled extremely quickly, so fast that it nearly couldn't be seen with the eyes. But then, the little man screamed in horrified panic.

“No – !”

A terrifying suction strength latched onto it, pulling it back.

Qin Yu gripped onto it. The little man rapidly withered away before vanishing from sight.

Within Qin Yu's soul space, the Cosmic Seacross Bell that freed itself from its seal a bit later than the purple moon began to emit excited cheers.

It was really, really, really hungry!

Qin Yu turned and looked at the three people across from him. He lightly said, “I want these stone beads.”

The three people instantly paled. This man had instantly killed the spell-casting cultivator and then used strange methods to extinguish his soul. In truth, they didn't dare to provoke such a ruthless person.

But the ownership of the stone beads wasn't something they could decide on. If they returned empty-handed, they would definitely be punished.

One of them clenched their teeth and said, “Senior, we are here upon orders of Lord Frostfire. We can give you the medium-grade and low-grade stone beads, but I ask that you show us mercy with the high-grade stone bead.”

If Qin Yu had stayed in the Sealed Stone World for some time longer he might have known the infamous name of Frozensky Frostfire. Unfortunately, at this moment the name didn't ring any bells for him.

“Leave behind the stone beads, or none of you will leave.” Qin Yu lightly said. As he spoke he took a step forward and his aura erupted like a towering mountain.

For these three people to freely move around this area, that meant that they had already obtained the approval of the sealed stones. But, the absolute disparity in their strengths wasn't something that could be made up for with the increase of their wills alone. Moreover, the intensity of Qin Yu's current will was enough to resist the suppression of the three others.

“Since senior isn't willing to give up, we will bid our farewells first.”

These three people didn't dare to argue any further. They turned and ran away. If this person could easily kill off the spell-casting cultivator, it wouldn't be hard to kill the three of them too.

Moreover, these three people were actually frightened. Just who was this mysterious powerhouse? He didn't even care upon hearing of Lord Frostfire's great name.

How could they dare threaten such a character? That was no different from suicide!

Qin Yu had no idea that he had unknowingly provoked an extremely formidable cultivator. After he searched around, he obtained two high-grade stone beads, three medium-grade stone beads, and six low-grade stone beads...that spell-casting cultivator was much wealthier than expected.

Qin Yu had been in the Sealed Stone World for over a year now. He didn't know whether he was lucky or not, but he had already encountered a 'destruction of will' event once. Even though several months had passed he could still vividly recall it.

In his line of sight, all of the sealed stones began to vibrate with a similar frequency, as if countless waves were fusing together, finally turning into a sky-covering dreadful tsunami that rolled through the world.

Qin Yu's consciousness immediately fell into darkness and he lost the ability to think. After an unknown period of time passed he finally regained his composure. A deep crack appeared in the stone bead he had fused with. It was a clean and smooth crack, as if it had been slashed across with a saber.

Qin Yu didn't doubt that if it weren't for the stone bead's strength resisting the 'destruction of will', he would have already died.

Seeing with his own eyes was always better than hearing any stories. After personally experiencing a baptism of the 'destruction of will', Qin Yu's urgency towards the stone beads became far stronger.

Including today's harvests, he had a total of three high-grade stone beads, six medium-grade stone beads, and 15 low-grade stone beads. However, when he thought about how the token's sealed space couldn't isolate out the 'destruction of will' and how he and You Qi both needed stone beads, he wasn't satisfied with this amount at all.

In the Sealed Stone World, the more stone beads he had the better.

### **Chapter 627A – Transformation of Will**

After carefully putting away the stone beads, Qin Yu rummaged through the other items. In the storage treasure of the spell-casting cultivator, he found a crystalline rib.

This bone gave off an unexpectedly familiar yet constraining feeling...god bone!

This was a rib left behind by a dead god. It had to be known that a spiritual god was the highest level of cultivator Qin Yu was aware of. At the very least it was two whole realms above the highest level that existed in the Land of Divinity and Demons. Even if this was only a rib, it couldn't be underestimated!

After investigating it with his divine sense, he made further discoveries. This god rib actually had a vague fluctuation of energy hiding within it.

It wasn't a divine sense of remnant soul, but a strength that was purely used to store and hold information. Qin Yu carefully probed it with his divine sense. Several breaths of time later, he opened his eyes and a strange look came over his face.

The information stored within was a cultivation technique of the soul. By using a cultivator's hair, flesh, or blood as a medium, one could utilize an invisible killing curse. After cultivating to a sufficiently high boundary one could even condense an aura in the void that could be used to cast a killing tribulation down upon someone. It was a tyrannical and strange method.

It was clear that the methods the cultivator used just now came from this god rib. However, there was a limit to this law formula. Only a woman could cultivate it. A man could forcefully try to learn it, but their

cultivation speed would be much lower and their disposition would be altered in a strange direction...it was no wonder that this person just now had such strange behaviors...

Qin Yu shook his head and put the rib away. He didn't care what others chose to do, but he absolutely wouldn't cultivate this kind of technique.

Mm...giving it to You Qi was about right. Yes, let's do that!

To avoid future troubles, Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and destroyed the corpse. His body flickered and he flew far away. He chose another sealed stone and started to cultivate again.

Half a day later, in the place Qin Yu had left, two beams of light howled forth. When they arrived the light dissipated to reveal the figures of two cultivators. They glanced around and their complexions darkened at the same time. As they thought, that cultivator had already left. How hateful!

The person on the left said, "Song Zhongyi, Lord Frostfire's demand for stone beads is increasing. During this time you've already failed twice. If this continues, once the lord is angered even I will be implicated by you!"

Across from them, Song Zhongyi's complexion sank. "Did you think I wanted things to be like this? Okay, we'll take some stone beads out from the stockpile to meet Lord Frostfire's needs first. I will try to figure out a way to make up for it as soon as possible."

"Humph, you had better do so!" The other person left after they finished speaking.

Song Zhongyi clenched his teeth. He had no idea what was going on. Ever since he met that abnormal newcomer, his luck had been so bad that it almost killed him.

On that day, disregarding him fleeing in distress, he had also encountered an old enemy of his. They had engaged in a vicious battle, and while he didn't suffer a loss, he had no choice but to leave the region ahead of time. In the end, he had obtained nothing in his 'hunt'.

Now another high-grade stone bead had slipped out of his grasp. Perhaps Lord Frostfire was already becoming unhappy with him.

He had to find some way to obtain high-grade stone beads as soon as possible. Song Zhongyi turned to leave, but at this time he suddenly furrowed his eyebrows together.

His five fingers opened up and grasped forward. Some fluctuations that had yet to dissipate began to rapidly condense in his hand, gradually taking out a faint outline of a person.

Song Zhongyi's eyes widened and he cursed out loud, "This bastard, it's actually you again!"

Enough was enough. If this could be tolerated, what couldn't?

This was going too far! This was bullying to the extreme!

Song Zhongyi's lungs nearly exploded with rage. At this moment, the only thoughts left in his mind were that he wanted to grab a hold of this bastard and tear him apart!

After hopping around in anger a few times, his heated thoughts gradually cooled back down. When he thought back to their first meeting and where they were now, Song Zhongyi's expression immediately turned into that of a frostbitten eggplant.

This bastard really was a freak. In just a single year he had come from the very edges of the sealed stones to this area. The intensity of his will must have risen by an astonishing degree.

Song Zhongyi had no choice but to admit that if he were to fight with Qin Yu today, he likely wouldn't even be able to escape. His face darkened. After a long period of contemplation he clenched his teeth and a cruel light surged in his eyes.

If he could kill this person, not only could avenge his old grudges but he could obtain high-grade stone beads. That man had to have at least three high-grade stone beads if not more!

That's right, he wasn't a match for that person. But in this Sealed Stone World, fairness and justice was never a consideration to begin with.

As long as he put forth sufficient benefits, killing someone was simple enough.

Song Zhongyi turned and walked away, soon vanishing from sight.

...

Qin Yu had no idea of the commotion that was about to arrive. As time passed, the blurry figure in his mind became increasingly clear.

An intuition appeared in his heart that as long as he could clearly see this form, he would obtain the approval of the sealed stones. But like water that was about to boil, he was just a step away from reaching that boiling point.

Qin Yu opened his eyes, a dignified expression on his face. His will was sufficiently tempered. He had enough accumulations. What he lacked now was a turning point to serve as the catalyst for the qualitative change he needed.

He had no idea what this turning point was. But if he couldn't find it, he would likely be stuck here for a long time.

He furrowed his eyebrows, deep in thought. Then, Qin Yu suddenly turned around. Besides the numerous sealed stones, there was no other figure.

He had a strange feeling just now that someone was spying on him. But after sensing it again, that feeling had vanished.

Was it an illusion?

Qin Yu shook his head and suppressed these thoughts. He faced the sealed stone and continued his meditation.

...

The Sealed Stone World was a massive void. In this void, countless sealed stones of varying sizes floated about. These sealed stones were sorted in circles. The smallest sealed stones on the outermost edge

formed a circle, then the slightly larger ones formed a second circle inside, and the ones larger than those formed a third circle inside, continuing onwards.

Sealed stones of the same level had a relatively fixed position. Thus, after Song Zhongyi vowed to kill Qin Yu, all he had to do was wander in a circular path with the last point as the beginning. By doing this there was a high chance he would find him.

And reality proved that Song Zhongyi's thoughts were correct.

"Brother Song, I've found him!"

In front of a 10,000 foot tall sealed stone, four figures sat down cross-legged. One of them suddenly opened his eyes, a smile appearing on his face.

The person who found Qin Yu could obtain a medium-grade stone bead. As for killing him, that was another reward.

But that person's sensing abilities were astonishingly sharp. His supernatural arts could be called almost traceless, but he had almost been discovered.

Still, looking at the three people beside him, Ji Yun's restlessness soon calmed down. If the four of them joined forces, then besides some heaven-defying great figures here, they could freely rampage across the Sealed Stone World. To kill someone whose will was at a lower level was naturally easy.

Moreover, that fellow Song Zhongyi had used some unknown benefits to convince that crazed witch Mei Ruyu to join them. With her help, their success was almost guaranteed.

Song Zhongyi's eyes brightened. He said, "Brother Ji, lead the way!"

Ji Yun nodded, "Alright."

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

The four figures flew out like arrows. They left the sealed stone they were at, flying off in the direction of Qin Yu.

They all had Calamity Immortal realm cultivations. Even if they couldn't use teleportation here, their speed was still amazing.

Around two hours later, Ji Yun said from the front, "He's right ahead of us."

Song Zhongyi's aura rose and his speed quickened. A figure soon came within line of sight.

It was him!

This bastard. After ruining his work again and again, he would teach this person how to spell the word 'death'!

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. As he glanced at these four people that were menacingly coming his way, a cold chill percolated in his eyes.



He recognized Song Zhongyi with a single glance. With that, he understood that these people didn't come here with good intentions.

"Fellow daoist, I never imagined that we would meet here again today!" Song Zhongyi coldly cackled. "I would like to see whether you can escape from the hands of us four together."

He turned around, "Fellow daoist Mei, I'll have to trouble you."

She was the only woman in the group of four cultivators and her appearance was particularly outstanding. She took a step forward, a powerful will breaking free from her body. It was wild, cruel, destructive...this was no longer pure suppression but a direct attack – the attack that came from an incomparably powerful will of a higher level.

It was hard to imagine that such a beautiful bag of skin had a hateful soul hiding beneath it that wished to destroy the entire world.

Qin Yu's complexion changed. As if falling into a swamp, his thoughts became slow to move and revolving the strength in his body also became more difficult.

"Kill him!"

Song Zhongyi roared out loud and was the first to move. He pointed a finger forward and crystalline motes appeared, condensing into an ice sword. Then, like a flash of lightning, the ice sword pierced through space, leaving behind a series of afterimages as it thrust at Qin Yu's chest.

Ji Yun moved his fingers together in hand seals. Faint traces of gray energy appeared around him, rapidly gathering into the phantom of a small altar.

He raised his hands and thrust forward. The small altar phantom vanished from sight. In the next moment, loud rumblings appeared from above Qin Yu's head.

An incomparably grand altar projection appeared from nothingness, so thick and dense that it took on an almost tangible form. It emitted a terrifying aura.

The suppressive strength fell onto Qin Yu like a million mountains!

The last of the four people was a man with a young, babyish face. At this time, the young cultivator faintly smiled. He took out a flute, placed it near his lips, and started to play.

No sounds came from the flute but his eyes were filled with an intoxicated infatuation. His eyes were half-lidded as if he were entranced by some strange music.

Within Qin Yu's mind, the sounds of countless collisions of swords and spears appeared. The countless sounds gathered upon each other, making it seem as if he had arrived onto a battlefield. The vast and endless killing intent charged at his mind with endless roars, wanting to collapse his consciousness.

In order to kill Qin Yu smoothly, Song Zhongyi had expended a great deal of thoughtfulness. These three helpers might not be the strongest, but when combined together, they could erupt with the most terrifying killing strength.

Mei Ruyu's suppression of will made Qin Yu unable to display his complete strength. Ji Yun's summoned alter cast down a terrifying suppression. The baby-faced cultivator attacked the mind, tearing down Qin Yu's consciousness.

With all three combined, it was enough to diminish Qin Yu's strength by five levels or even more.

As for him, he would complete the final killing blow!

### **Chapter 627B - Transformation of Will**

This common-looking ice sword was a gift granted to Song Zhongyi by Lord Frostfire after he accomplished a great merit. It contained a chilling slaughter intent. As long as this slaughter intent pierced a person's flesh and blood, it could instantly destroy their soul.

Puff –

The ice sword pierced through Qin Yu's chest. Song Zhongyi revealed an ecstatic expression. He really hadn't been disappointed. His hard work and preparation had forced this person into a deathtrap through an absolutely overwhelming display of strength.

With a thought, the ice sword instantly dispersed and a terrifying chill proliferated through Qin Yu's body. Loud cracking noises sounded out as Qin Yu was sealed within a block of ice.

Song Zhongyi laughed. "Fellow daoists, let's go!" All of the anger he had been suppressing in his heart was completely swept away, leaving behind only smug satisfaction and excitement.

He had paid a great price to kill this person. But, it would be worth it as long as he could obtain a high-grade stone bead. Lord Frostfire would definitely be satisfied. Perhaps he would be granted other formidable treasures besides the ice sword.

Mei Ruyu, Ji Yun, and the baby-faced cultivator all cupped their hands together and congratulated Song Zhongyi. They were only responsible for killing. As for who they killed, why they killed, and whether that person should be killed, none of this mattered to them.

Song Zhongyi bowed in return. "Please rest assured that I will immediately give you the offered rewards. But before then I need to take him away first."

With a lift of his hand, the ice-bound 'corpse' flew over. But soon Song Zhongyi's complexion changed because the treasures in the storage object couldn't be sucked away.

Not good!

His heart skipped a beat. Song Zhongyi's feet moved as he tried to run away, but before he could respond the block of ice in front of him loudly exploded.

Each shard of ice carried with it a terrifying strength. They whistled as they tore through the air, crashing into the four people.

A fist followed close behind. In a spark of time, Song Zhongyi was punched in the chest. Qin Yu's ice cold voice echoed out, "When it comes to the strength of destructive cold ice, I once saw someone who is far, far more powerful than any of you."

Bang –

With a loud ring, Song Zhongyi's chest violently caved in. His bones cracked and split apart and his scalp tingled with numbness. His body was sent flying away as blood wildly spurted out from his nose, bits of organs mixed within it. With one punch, Qin Yu had thoroughly destroyed Song Zhongyi's body.

A wild strength swept through Song Zhongyi. Wherever it went, bones, flesh, and even blood would break down. His organs were smashed to goo and his vitality withered away like a flower in winter.

Qin Yu took a step forward and overtook Song Zhongyi's collapsed body as he soared through the air. He lifted a finger and placed it between his eyebrows.

“Ahh!”

The loud pained scream of a soul echoed in everyone's heart. As Qin Yu withdrew his finger, a translucent soul phantom was pierced through by his fingertip and forcefully drawn out.

This was a miniaturized version of Song Zhongyi. With his Calamity Immortal cultivation and formidable will, his soul had condensed into a semi-substantial state. Even if his mortal body died, as long as his soul was still intact he could seize a mortal body and revive himself.

But now, Song Zhongyi no longer had any opportunity to. Since Qin Yu decided to kill this person he wouldn't give them any chance to escape.

“Forgive me! Forgive me!”

Song Zhongyi's soul pitifully screamed. As he saw Qin Yu's cold expression that didn't show any hint of mercy, his face soon twisted fiercely.

“I am a subordinate of Lord Frostfire and am being protected by him! If you kill me you will inevitably suffer his retaliation!”

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. He finally understood why Song Zhongyi and these people came looking for him today.

Frostfire...it was this Frostfire again...

This seemed to be some extraordinary character.

But, so what?

Since they attacked today there was no more room for discussion. Qin Yu didn't believe that Song Zhongyi would feel any gratitude for him if he were to let him go.

If that was the case, then kill him off!

Bang –

Song Zhongyi's soul was ripped to shreds by a formidable strength. All of those soul fragments submerged into his palm.

After the Cosmic Seacross Bell woke up it had constantly been whining in hunger. The soul of a Calamity Immortal should satisfy it.

It was just that killing Song Zhongyi was easier than Qin Yu imagined. It seemed that the Calamity Immortal realm in the Sealed Stone World was a level weaker than the Calamity Immortals in the outside world.

This wasn't an illusion. The Sealed Stone World was shattered and incomplete to begin with. If they were to become Calamity Immortals here, they would not possess complete control of their rules and their corresponding strength would weaken.

"Run!"

Mei Ruyu, Ji Yun, and the baby-faced cultivator turned and fled without hesitation.

This person had not only withstood Song Zhongyi's ice sword strike without any problems at all, but he had even counter-killed Song Zhongyi with a single blow. Just how terrifying was this level of strength!

Even if the three of them joined forces they didn't have any confidence that they could win the fight.

Luckily, they were all experienced veterans. Even if they were fleeing for their lives in panic they each chose a different direction and erupted with their greatest speed.

Who died, who lived, that would depend on everyone's own luck!

Qin Yu was without expression as he took a step forward. The baby-faced cultivator's complexion changed and he cursed out loud.

Why was he chosen?

But this question clearly wouldn't receive an answer. The baby-faced cultivator coughed out loud and his complexion instantly paled.

Bang –

A blood red flame broke free from his body and wrapped around him. In an instant, his speed increased several times over.

Song Zhongyi was far stronger than he was. In other words, as long as this mysterious person caught up to him then he would die without a doubt. In the face of death, nothing else mattered.

Qin Yu's eyes sharpened. He shouted out, "Meimei!"

Within his soul space, the Cosmic Seacross Bell flashed with light and Meimei appeared. She held a round sphere between her chubby hands.

"I'm here!" She lifted her hands and bit her lips. "Qin Yu, you'd better not slip up and let him escape!"

The majority of Song Zhongyi's soul force was here. If it weren't for the fact that she could toss out a little bait to catch a larger fish, she wouldn't have agreed to cooperate with Qin Yu.

Clenching her teeth, Meimei tossed out the sphere.

Shua –

Between Qin Yu's fingers, the sphere appeared. Without any hesitation he grabbed tightly onto it.

With a loud crack it shattered like an egg. Then, a terrifying soul impact crazily erupted outwards.

Bang –

In that instant, all living beings within 3000 miles felt as if rusty iron needles had been maliciously stabbed into their souls!

The baby-faced cultivator shrouded in blood red light, Mei Ruyu, and Ji Yun all immediately screamed out loud. Their bodies stiffened and they toppled down like birds shot out of the skies.

Qin Yu immediately moved. His feet smashed down, causing loud rings to echo through the void. Faint ripples appeared as the powerful reverse thrust propelled him forward. He was like a human-shaped cannonball as he shot towards the blood red light in the distance.

He punched out his fist and the dazzling blood red light broke apart. The baby-faced cultivator's expression filled with despair and panic but he couldn't move at all.

A fist punched through his chest. It pierced through flesh and blood, drilling out from his back. The baby-faced cultivator was left hanging off Qin Yu's arm.

Within Qin Yu's soul space, Meimei cheered out in joy. The strength of the Cosmic Seacross Bell instantly suppressed the soul of the baby-faced cultivator. Then, a sharp net swept out and cut the soul into countless fragments.

"Hurry up! Qin Yu, there are still two great dishes. Don't let them escape!"

Qin Yu flicked his sleeves and the baby-faced cultivator's corpse vanished. He instantly veered towards a different direction, his body groaning as he did so.

If it weren't for his Demon Body being sufficiently strong, this rapid change in direction would have caused his leg bones to burst apart into dust.

Like lightning, he howled towards Ji Yun and overtook him. In truth, Qin Yu wanted to kill Mei Ruyu the most but her will was simply far too strong. She had likely regained control of her body by now. Meimei didn't have enough time to make a second soul explosion bomb, so there was a high chance that Mei Ruyu would escape if he went for her.

Ji Yun's soul fell still. He frantically roared in his mind, struggling to restore contact with his body.

In that life or death moment, he erupted with an unprecedented level of strength.

Hum –

His vision began to return and his connection to his body was rapidly being restored.

"No!"

He finally opened his eyes. But, what he saw in front of him was Qin Yu's icy cold face. A fist was approaching him, rapidly growing larger in his line of sight.

Bang –

Like that, a head was smashed apart. Qin Yu landed on the ground as he came to a stop.

He fiercely spun around. At the end of his line of sight, he saw Mei Ruyu's body burst apart.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

Countless beams of light flew out like angry arrows, rapidly shooting away.

Qin Yu took a deep breath. Within his tense body, his heart beat vigorously in his chest.

After killing Song Zhongyi, the baby-faced cultivator, and Ji Yun, his mind was filled with killing intent. The stagnant will he had been cultivating unexpectedly began to transform.

If he killed Mei Ruyu then he would be able to break past his current shackles and have his tempered will step into a brand new level. Today, these four people that delivered themselves to his door were the turning point that he needed!

But at this time, a cold yin chill suddenly erupted in Qin Yu's soul. It was like the sudden arrival of a winter night, thoroughly submerging him.

The devil mark's backlash!

It had sensed danger and couldn't bother with continuing to save strength. It had to prevent Qin Yu's will from completing this transformation!

Otherwise, if it wanted to swallow Qin Yu later it would be especially difficult!

### **Chapter 628A - Have Him Hurry Up**

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows and instantly decided to give up on chasing Mei Ruyu. He flicked his sleeves, retrieving Ji Yun's corpse, and ran far away.

Qin Yu's field of vision flashed black and his aura began to fluctuate, becoming unsteady. Just as he reached his limits, he sat down cross-legged and vanished from sight.

Within the duplicate world of the Space-time Lock, Qin Yu shut his eyes tightly. Black energy tumbled around his body and a devil head appeared between his eyebrows.

"Give up. Stubborn human, it is impossible for you to resist the strength of a great devil. Allow your soul to fuse together with mine. You will not vanish. Instead, you will obtain the formidable devil strength that I possess!

"If you and I merge together we will become one of the most formidable beings beneath the heavens. You can accomplish all of your wishes, even taking back that pitiful woman from the Immortal Sect. I can help you suppress the strength of the Sublime Lost Emotion Code! As long as you agree, you can be with her forever.

"Do you hear me? Give up your resistance and don't fight back, otherwise you will lose your final chance!"

With enticement, with threat, the devil mark's roars reverberated through his soul space.

Qin Yu revealed a pained expression. He could clearly see black lines drilled out from the devil head between his eyebrows, constantly spreading outwards.

When these black lines covered Qin Yu's entire body and connected with each other, the devil mark would complete its replacement of consciousness. It would be able to forcefully suppress Qin Yu's consciousness and obtain complete control of his soul.

This was a method it had prepared after staying quiet for several months and slowly gathering its power. However, its hasty eruption today had caused a flaw in its plan. Otherwise, the devil mark would never have wasted any words on trying to affect Qin Yu on a psychological level and diminish the resistance of his will.

But as it saw that Qin Yu was completely unaffected, the devil mark howled in anger and finally tore off its mask of mercy.

"Low, base, and pathetic insect. This devil strength will completely corrode your soul. At that time you will be a devil slave forever, living in pain for all of eternity!

"I will ruthlessly torture you. I will use every method at my disposal to make you taste every pain in this world. You will howl in despair and sorrow, your soul shivering as it shrinks away!

"I am eagerly anticipating the scene of you kneeling towards me, crying and wailing. Believe me, that day will soon arrive!"

In the duplicate world, Qin Yu suddenly opened his eyes. He slowly said, "You are afraid."

The devil mark's voice came to a sudden stop. Then, it raucously laughed, "Little insect, what did you say? Are you trying to make me laugh?"

"You are afraid."

Qin Yu repeated himself.

"Shut up! I am the great devil, the ruler of darkness. My inborn ability is to deceive souls. From the day I fused into your body, your soul was doomed to belong to me!"

"You are afraid." Qin Yu said a third time.

Qin Yu's lips lifted up in a smile. There was even a faintly happy expression on his face.

He shook his head and closed his eyes as if he didn't want to argue about this matter anymore.

This sort of natural attitude as if Qin Yu had grasped the truth of the situation caused the devil mark to fly into a rage. It crazily roared out loud. But what a pity, it couldn't elicit another response from Qin Yu. After a long time it fell silent. However, the black lines drilling out from the devil head between Qin Yu's eyebrows grew faster and faster.

It decided to respond with practical action!

But in the end, the devil mark fell into a stalemate and exhausted its strength after a day and night.

The black lines covering Qin Yu's body drew back like a falling tide. They retracted into the devil head where they hid from sight.

Qin Yu's robes were drenched in sweat. He opened his eyes, his pupils dark and filled with a deep sense of weariness. His tense heart relaxed. At this time, he didn't even want to move a finger. He carefully probed his body. After making sure that the devil mark had fallen into a deep slumber he fell onto his back and went into a deep sleep.

This devil mark's backlash this time had been the strongest one yet. But, this wasn't its limit...a greater challenge was waiting for Qin Yu.

Yet as Qin Yu was deeply sleeping, certain marvelous changes were occurring within him. His aura didn't change, but if one carefully sensed him they would discover that he was different.

He had killed three people to spur the transformation of his will. After that, he experienced a day any night of struggle with the devil mark's backlash. This allowed him to smoothly complete the final step. If the devil mark knew that it had helped Qin Yu fulfill this 'turning point', it would likely commit suicide in regret.

The sins of heaven could be forgiven but the sins self-inflicted could not be survived...perhaps as early as today, the devil mark had determined its final fate.

...

Song Zhongyi died.

As one of Frostfire's public agents in the Sealed Stone World, this news caused considerable commotion as it spread outwards.

Towards the killer, everyone felt both admiration and pity. No matter the reason, since Song Zhongyi had died, Frostfire would definitely make a move.

If this was so, then this killer's fate was decided.

No one doubted this!

...

The sealed stones were supported by an immortal will and couldn't be destroyed or altered. But, by using their original form and carefully arranging them around, one could still obtain a relatively safe place to stay.

For instance, this sealed stone that was narrow at top and wide at the bottom. It was around 40-50 feet high and there was a crack on one side that was less than two fingers wide. If one didn't carefully look for it, it would be almost impossible to find.

But if someone drew close to this crack and looked inside, they would find that after it extended three or four feet inwards, it would begin to expand, finally forming a space around 20 feet wide inside.

If one stood up high they would need to bow. But, to find this sort of safe place in the Sealed Stone World, one couldn't ask for more.



Now, in the middle of this sealed stone, a mass of blood red light was pulsating as if a blood egg was breeding something.

Suddenly, the blood light grew brighter. An isolating strength on the inner walls of the sealed stone was activated, covering the blood red light.

Pa –

There was the sound of an eggshell cracking apart. A naked woman appeared. Her slender and perfect figure was completely exposed and her skin flashed with an ivory luster.

She reached out a hand. The shattered blood light eggshell condensed into a long dress that covered her beautiful figure.

Mei Ruyu looked up to reveal a pale face. She pursed her lips, her heart still shaking with fear.

Just who was that cultivator?

Four of them had joined forces. Even if they were facing a genuine almighty being, they would still have had a certain chance of retreating alive. But now, things had ended with three of them dying and one of them injured!

If it weren't for her possessing the strongest will of the group and freeing herself a step earlier, and also not hesitating to use the Blood Soul Explosion Art to escape, then perhaps even she wouldn't have managed to leave alive.

He had been truly horrifying!

Mei Ruyu didn't dare to provoke this sort of existence again. She would simply heal herself and wait for the storm outside to subside. After avoiding the limelight it wouldn't be too late to go out again.

The general idea was good, but reality always liked to make jokes of people's plans.

On the second day that Mei Ruyu was in seclusion, an old man in black clothes came to a pause outside the sealed stone she was in. There were wrinkles stacked up on his face but his back was straight and tall. He didn't give off any sense of decaying at all. From inside and out, he emanated a boundless sense of vitality.

Within the sealed stone, the recuperating Mei Ruyu opened her eyes. All she saw was a frost white color rapidly spreading through the inside of the sealed stone. The strength of absolute cold it contained left her mind shaking.

In an instant, she guessed the status of the person who arrived...Frozensky Frostfire. He was one of almighty beings who stood at the peak of the Sealed Stone World.

Mei Ruyu had no time to be annoyed about how her hiding spot had been found. If she didn't leave then she would freeze to death in this sealed stone.

She stood up. Her body turned into a blood red light that flew out from the crack. Mei Ruyu bowed, "Junior greets Lord Frostfire."

Frozensky Frostfire was a name given to him by others who feared his strength. As for his given name, Wen Congong, it was a warm and kind name.

Of course, not many people knew this name. And the majority of them had died already.

“Tell me, where is the man who killed Song Zhongyi?”

He simply didn't care about Qin Yu's status or background. Because in Frostfire's heart, Qin Yu was already a dead man walking.

Mei Ruyu instantly tossed aside any thoughts of staying out of the matter. Since Lord Frostfire personally came here, even hesitating to answer him would result in death.

“Lord Frostfire, I don't know much information related to the killer. But, that person is currently using the sealed stones to temper his will. Fellow daoist Song Zhongyi had relied upon this to find his location.”

Frostfire suddenly said, “From this day forth, you will be protected by me and will fill Song Zhongyi's position...Mei Ruyu, do you want this?”

Mei Ruyu fell to her knees, “This subordinate greets the lord.”

Frostfire lightly said, “Come with me.”

He didn't care about Song Zhongyi at all. But, he needed a confession for this matter, otherwise who would be willing to work for him in the future?

After reaching the depths of the Sealed Stone World, one would discover that the strength of a single person alone was a very troublesome thing.

### **Chapter 628B – Have Him Hurry Up**

Within the duplicate world of the Space-time Lock, Qin Yu's fingers began to move. After a short moment of absent-mindedness his eyes started to regain focus.

But at this time he was suddenly stunned. He looked down at his own fingers as if he had discovered something inconceivable.

After carefully investigating and determining that he wasn't mistaken, he revealed a strange expression. Then, he reared back his head and laughed.

His voice was filled with hearty joy and humor. If that devil mark fellow knew that this was the final result, would it be so annoyed that it would lay down its head to be freely kicked like a ball?

With his transformation of will completed, this meant Qin Yu's cultivation had reached a new level. Without accident, his future progress would continue in leaps and bounds.

The stronger he was, the lower the chances of the devil mark's backlash being successful!

Impatience suddenly surged out from the depths of his heart. He took a deep breath. Then, sensing that there was nothing wrong outside, he scattered the duplicate world around him.

Shua –

His figure appeared. He looked up and locked onto a giant sealed stone in front of him.

He walked forward and entered the sealed stone's suppression range. As he did he paused for a brief moment before a smile lit up his face.

This was because at this moment, this suppression was no different from a light spring breeze on a clear sunny day. There wasn't any use to it at all.

He closed his eyes and a blurry figure appeared in his mind, rapidly becoming clear. A face, hair, clothes, a straight back, the unyielding eyes, an overbearing posture that revealed an unparalleled temperament – all of these things began to slowly appear.

Qin Yu's mind shook. He didn't know why but he suddenly felt something strange, as if this figure was himself. Immediately after, this absurd thought became like a seed in his mind, taking root and rapidly growing.

When lies were spoken ten times over they had a compelling power to persuade others. There were even strong psychological suggestions that could change one's subjective subconscious.

Qin Yu fell into confusion. He thought that this figure in his mind became increasingly familiar. The facial appearance was even the same as his own.

Could it be that he was this person's samsara reincarnation?

As this thought appeared, an angry roar erupted within Qin Yu's mind. An ancient and boundless aura carried with it the vast vicissitudes of the years, sweeping across all.

The motionless figure suddenly turned around, their eyes revealing a dignified expression. "Ancient?"

There was a deep roar that contained an irresistible will. Qin Yu's consciousness buzzed and everything fell into darkness.

But at this time, another strength suddenly poured into his consciousness. Although he couldn't free himself from the suppression, he regained clarity of his surroundings.

At this time, Qin Yu was like a bystander, standing high in the skies and watching everything occur down below.

Another figure appeared at the end of his line of sight. It walked forward, each step causing the earth to shake and shiver and emit painful groans.

The giant's body was towering and grand. Its shoulders stood on par with the heavens, as if it was a mountain that supported the skies.

The ancient race...this was one of the inheritances of the ancients that Qin Yu obtained.

As the formidable and proud ancients, they would never allow the inheritor of their own will to be assimilated and tamed by others.

"I am the Fifth Chief of the War Clan!"

Across from him, the giant roared out loud. "Ancient!" This was the name of his tribe and also his name. This word alone was enough to represent everything!

The giant raised a fist. An incomparably wild strength broke free from his body like an erupting volcano.

The Fifth Chief's expression was solemn and dignified. Facing this heaven-shaking fist, he had no intention of avoiding.

He raised a hand, formed a fist, and welcomed the attack!

From the start, both sides engaged in a brutal melee. This was because this wasn't a true battle but a collision of will.

It wasn't fanciful or exquisite. This was a comparison of absolute strength. The strong would win and the weak would be destroyed...besides this, there was no other possibility.

The world of Qin Yu's mind quaked and rumbled. Destructive strength wreaked havoc in his mental landscape.

Fortunately, his consciousness had been separated outside and was looking down from the position of an observer. Otherwise the intensity of this collision would likely have broken apart his consciousness.

What the ancient giant represented was the unyielding inheritance of the ancient race, those who were born to support the world and didn't fall even after they died. As for the Fifth Chief, what he possessed was a formidable will that could battle the heavens and earth.

To a certain extent, both sides had achieved an extreme of the self – to exist forever in the world, indestructible, never to fade away.

But there was a limit to everything in this world. The so-called 'indestructible' was actually limited to a certain threshold.

If things continued to rise but the limit remained the same, there would come a time when the limit was broken through, leading to inevitable destruction.

The ancient race's inheritance was like so, and the War Clan's will was the same.

Thus, as both sides brutally fought within the world of Qin Yu's mind, they inevitably became mutually wounded.

Motes of light flew out from the Fifth Chief and the ancient's bodies. The former was pure silver white, proud and cold. The latter was deep gray, a fusion of black and white, representing that it could never be erased.

Silver white and dark gray, even if these lights were separated from their main bodies they still retained formidable instincts. They sprinkled down like snowflakes, but even as they were falling they didn't forget to fight each other.

You bite me, I bite you – both sides wished they could swallow each other and transform each other.

Beneath the vault of heaven, the Fifth Chief fought with the ancient giant. They were like two towering gods, each collision releasing thunderous rumbles. They didn't discover that the 'snowflakes' that fell upon the ground began to slowly change in color, as if some sort of fusion were occurring.

That was right, this was fusion!

The silver white and gray lights wildly attacked and swallowed each other. But they couldn't quickly absorb and sublimate their opponents. Thus, what happened was that their colors became increasingly similar...this became a metallic color that leaned towards a muted ash gray.

On the ground, marvelous changes were appearing within the 'gray snow'.

Qin Yu's consciousness clearly saw all of this happening. Even though he had lost the connection with his body, he still felt his mouth go dry.

Although he wasn't sure what the consequences of the silver white and gray lights fusing together would be, his intuition told him that it was an unimaginably immense great fortune!

In the world of his mind, more and more 'snowflakes' appeared. The figures of the War Clan's Fifth Chief and the ancient giant had become extremely blurry.

Suddenly, the gray 'snow' on the ground seemed to come to life. A great tide rose up and the 'snow' began to gather from all directions.

A 'snow mountain' rapidly piled up. As it grew larger, a terrifying swallowing force burst out.

This strength simultaneously covered the Fifth Chief and ancient giant's bodies. They were like invisible shackles, tying them up together.

"No one can fuse me, no one!"

The Fifth Chief roared. He reached out a hand and grasped at the 'snow mountain'. The 'snow mountain' began to violently shake as the strength belonging to the Fifth Chief tried to free itself.

Across from him, the ancient giant suddenly looked up into the skies.

Qin Yu was startled. This was because he discovered that the ancient giant's eyes were looking at him.

This giant seemed to have already realized his existence. He had even discovered the 'snowflakes' that were fusing together!

"Please remember. You are of the ancient race, and you will forever be of the ancient race."

A low and deep hum echoed through the mental world.

The Fifth Chief roared out in anger, "Are you insane!?"

The ancient giant smiled. He stretched out his arms and gave up all sense of resistance, allowing the snow mountain's swallowing strength to carry him away.

The giant fell back upon the snow mountain. Beginning from its feet, it slowly submerged into the snow mountain, merging into one whole with it. From start to finish, it looked up into the skies, its eyes locked onto Qin Yu, a single thought coming from it.

Remember my words...you are of the ancient race...you will forever be of the ancient race!

Bang –

The size of the snow mountain drastically increased, instantly becoming as tall as the skies. The War Clan's Fifth Chief roared out again and again but it could no longer fight back against this swallowing strength. Slowly, he was pulled in. The moment his body touched the snow mountain, a pair of hands reached out from within it and dragged him inside.

At that moment, all fluctuations disappeared from within Qin Yu's mental world. Everything fell into an eerie silence.

Thump –

Thump –

The sound of a beating heartbeat came from the snow mountain. It was weak at first, but it quickly grew stronger until it was like a great drum that shook the world with each strike.

### **Chapter 628C – Have Him Hurry Up**

Outside world.

Facing the giant sealed stone, Qin Yu sat down cross-legged. Amidst the numerous massive sealed stones all around him, he seemed incomparably tiny.

But, he gave off an immeasurably lofty and grand feeling, as if he were a god watching from the clouds above, his honor unable to be provoked.

Weng –

Weng –

The sealed stones began to shiver at the same frequency, transmitting a wild will. Then, they completely burst out.

Destruction of will!

A terrifying annihilating strength smashed into Qin Yu. But at this time, his body was like a silent and still rock. No matter how the tides crashed into him, he didn't move at all...nor was he injured.

This was because from this moment on, while Qin Yu might be weaker than the War Clan's Fifth Chief in terms of absolute strength, in terms of pure will, they now stood at equal heights.

In the world of his mind, the snow mountain suddenly collapsed and a figure walked out. Although this figure wasn't too tall, it seemed as if it could crush the world beneath its feet.

The figure wore black robes. Their back was straight and tall and their appearance was completely the same as Qin Yu!

Shua –

Qin Yu opened his eyes, a divine light shining in his pupils. They were like two genuine stars, gathering the attention of all beneath the night sky.

A strange and inexplicable temperament exuded from his body. It was like he was one with the world but also surpassing the world. Even if he passed through endless years, no matter how the river of time washed over him he still wouldn't be erased...this was an absolutely pure strength of will!

This was an accidental change that no one could have expected. The confrontation between the Fifth Chief's and the ancient's wills was the same as Qin Yu standing upon the shoulders of two giants, reaching an inconceivable boundary in a single step.

He looked up at the sealed stone in front of him. That feeling of omnipresent suppression had thoroughly vanished.

Qin Yu took a deep breath and calmed his racing heart. He took several steps forward until he came before a sealed stone. Then, he reached out and placed a hand upon its surface. Like a bag of water that had been pierced through, a warm flow of energy gushed out, instantly fusing into Qin Yu's body where it was directly absorbed by him.

Kacha –

Kacha –

Cracks spread out like a spider web, finally extending to every corner of the sealed stone. Then, the sealed stone that was said to be indestructible began to collapse in front of Qin Yu. It didn't shatter into fragments but disintegrated into powder before instantly vanishing without a trace.

With this, the 'nebula' of sealed stones that had existed for hundreds of millions of years without change, was suddenly missing one piece.

Qin Yu looked at the blank space in front of him and his expression became dignified. His first thought was that he absolutely could not allow anyone to see this, otherwise he would immediately become the top public enemy of everyone in the Sealed Stone World!

The reason was simple. Everyone that entered the Sealed Stone World was using these sealed stones to temper their will and grow increasingly strong.

But Qin Yu's appearance was a true catastrophe to them. If the sealed stones were destroyed, what would be the meaning of staying here?

Throughout the long years, only fewer than ten people had managed to emerge from the Sealed Stone World. But, the difference between a trace of hope and complete despair was as great as the heavens and earth.

No, it wasn't that he couldn't allow others to see this but that he couldn't directly destroy any more sealed stones. Otherwise, if too many of these massive blank spaces appeared, it would inevitably be discovered by others.

Qin Yu took a deep breath and flew towards another sealed stone. After taking several deep breaths, he slowly placed a hand atop it. In the next moment a flow of heat gushed out once more. But at this time, he loudly roared in his heart, "Stop!"

The flow of heat suddenly ceased. The sealed stone in front of him trembled several times but finally stabilized itself.

Qin Yu compared the flow of heat to what he had absorbed before; it was about 20-30%. The sealed stone was intact, but the suppression of will it gave off was only two-thirds of what it was originally.

His heart relaxed. As long as these sealed stones remained then that was fine. Even if people discovered that the will contained within them had weakened, this should still be able to delay them for some time.

He hoped that this period of time could be extended for as long as possible. Qin Yu's strength rose at a noticeable rate every day. This was because the Sealed Stone World was now a hunting ground filled with 'food' for him. As long as he digested the food a little he could let loose his belt and eat as much as he wanted.

Looking at the endless sealed stones before him, Qin Yu's eyes glowed with burning heat. Time was precious and couldn't be wasted.

Then, let's begin.

...

Atop a sealed stone shaped like a massive mountain, there was a palace. At this moment, this giant palace was covered by an invisible pressure and a deathly silence filled the air.

Mei Ruyu stood behind Frostfire, her complexion becoming increasingly pale. Five days had already passed and swarms of cultivators had been dispatched on a search mission for Qin Yu. But even now, they hadn't been able to find him. He was like a fog that had vanished from sight.

In particular, during these five days, for some unknown reason, several region-wide 'destructions of will' had continually exploded. A squad of cultivators subordinate to Frostfire had encountered bad luck and suffered two severe losses.

Although Frostfire had yet to say anything, the atmosphere around him became increasingly heavy and bad. It was unknown when he would suddenly lash out.

"This shouldn't be. Just where could he have fled to? Is there someone pulling the strings behind this matter and hiding some other plot?"

Mei Ruyu's thoughts raced. Although she had a dark and dreary soul that wished it could destroy the world, she still treasured her own life. If things continued like this and they didn't find Qin Yu, she was worried she would become a tool which Frostfire vented his anger upon.

But as the fear in her heart was about to grow beyond control, a brilliant light flew into the hall from outside and stopped in front of Frostfire. The light dispersed to reveal a black jade slip.

There was news!

Mei Ruyu's eyes lit up.



Frostfire reached out a hand and grabbed the jade slip. In the next moment, his eyes fiercely opened. He said in a low voice, "Mei Ruyu, are you sure that the place where you fought with that man before is right?"

Mei Ruyu was stunned. She quickly said, "My lord, I am willing to use my head as a guarantee for my words. I would not dare to deceive you."

A cold light exploded in Frostfire's eyes. With a loud crack, the jade slip shattered into pieces. He stood up and his voice was slow and terrible. "Amusing. How interesting. I really am curious just which old friend is scheming against me."

Qin Yu's whereabouts had been discovered. But, he was a thousand miles deeper than where Mei Ruyu had described. Although this seemed a minor distance, this was the Sealed Stone World. Every time one took a single step forward they would need to expend considerable effort.

To cross such a distance in a mere six days, there was no one that could achieve this. Then, there was only a single explanation...the person who killed Song Zhongyi had come from deep within the Sealed Stone World.

With a flick of his sleeves, Frostfire grabbed Mei Ruyu. His figure flew forward like lightning, quick beyond imagination. No matter who his opponent was, he had the confidence to face them. If he didn't have such confidence then he wouldn't have been given the name Frozensky Frostfire by his enemies.

Perhaps he had been too quiet these past years. Some people might have already forgotten about his power and prestige...very well, he would take advantage of this opportunity to show everyone that he, Frozensky Frostfire Wen Congong, hadn't yet died of old age!

...

Qin Yu was without expression. As he looked at the two trembling cultivators kneeling in front of him, his eyes were icy cold.

"You were both spying on me from the shadows for a long time. Did you come for me?" He paused for a brief moment and said, "Frozensky Frostfire?"

After seeing them stiffen, Qin Yu nodded, "It really is him."

He had some unexpected origins with this mysterious man who he had yet to meet face-to-face. Just after entering the Sealed Stone World, this Frostfire's subordinates had tried to steal his stone beads. And the several conflicts afterwards could also be connected to him.

Now, this person was even trying to find out where he was. Without mentioning it, he knew it was related to the deaths of Song Zhongyi and the others. Whether it was right or wrong, if someone killed another they had to shoulder the consequences of their actions. Rather than letting things drag on and becoming further entangled, he might as well clean it all up at once.

If he could eliminate Frostfire then there likely wouldn't be anyone disturbing him for some time. Right now, Qin Yu's time was precious. He didn't want to waste any time or energy on such unnecessary things.

Drawing back a step, even if he couldn't kill Frostfire then this battle would be the best chance for him to estimate his strength. Moreover, he wanted to see how his strength compared to that of the peak existences in this Sealed Stone World.

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. He lightly said, "Pass a message on to Frostfire. I don't have much time for him so tell him to hurry up."

The two horrified cultivators were stunned upon hearing this. They had lived for so many years, but this was the first time they had seen such a rampantly arrogant person.

Could this person not know how horrifying Lord Frostfire was? Although they were currently fish on the chopping block, they still gave Qin Yu the death sentence in their minds.

Lord Frostfire would absolutely leave him in despair!

...

The racing Frostfire suddenly came to a halt. He grasped a hand forward and grabbed onto the jade slip that howled his way.

He probed it with his divine sense. After this, one could sense an obvious change to him. His breathing deepened and he began to emit a dreadful aura.

"Good, very good. It's been many years since someone has dared to enrage me like this." Each word that he spoke carried with it a dense chill. "Since you are so sincere in your actions, I won't leave you disappointed!"

Bang –

A terrifying aura erupted and his speed instantly rose several times over. Frost and snow covered the space where he passed. A layer of ice formed on the surface of sealed stones that were in his path.

If one looked from high above, they would see a long line of ice rapidly extending forwards, racing towards where Qin Yu was!

...

The temperature in the air rapidly fell. Snowflakes appeared out of thin air. In a single breath of time, a snowstorm nearly flooded out all visibility.

Each snowflake contained the strength of absolute cold. Once it touched anything, it would instantly erupt!

The two cultivators kneeling in front of the sealed stones revealed a look of happiness, before that joy turned into deep fear and despair. As snowflakes covered their bodies, the ice cold aura destroyed all of their vitality.

A layer of ice rapidly spread over them, thickening and wrapping around their corpses, turning them into two ice sculptures.

He came!

Qin Yu opened his eyes. His gaze pierced through the heavy snowfall, landing upon the rapidly approaching figure.

Mei Ruyu followed close behind. As she saw Qin Yu she suddenly stiffened.

In just several days, the feeling that this man gave off had experienced heaven and earth-shaking changes.

At the beginning she had only felt Qin Yu's immense strength and his strangely terrifying methods.

But now, just a single glance from him caused her to give rise to infinite fear in her heart.

Let alone killing him, she was afraid she wouldn't even have the courage to attack him!

This was the absolute suppression of a will that was on an entirely different level. If she didn't have a deep recollection of Qi Yu's calm eyes, she probably would have assumed his body had been seized by some horrifying old monster.

### **Chapter 629A - Killing Frozensky Frostfire**

Frostfire frowned. He had an even clearer understanding of Qin Yu's aura. From just a glance, he could tell that the formidability of this person's will was no less than his own. Yet, he was a strange and unfamiliar face.

He sneered inwardly. For these old monsters that had lived for so many years, changing their appearance and even transforming their aura was easy.

But regardless of how well this person hid himself, once they fought he would inevitably expose his identity.

He glanced at Mei Ruyu. This woman was beautiful and he had to acknowledge that he was tempted by her. However, he really had no interest in her for these past few days. Still, the expression on her face seemed a bit off...

Before Frostfire could think any further, Mei Ruyu regained her composure. She quickly nodded.

Frostfire frowned. "Move further back."

Mei Ruyu respectfully bowed and drew several steps back. As she turned away, a look of panic crossed her face. She had a sudden intuition that right now was the only chance for her to continue living. Since Frostfire wanted her to step back...she would flee as far away as she could!

Frostfire loved enjoying women. But as someone who had reached his level of cultivation, he never wasted too much thought on these things. Thus, he didn't realize the strangeness coming from Mei Ruyu.

He looked at Qin Yu and said, "I believe that through these many years, I have abided by the rules. I wonder where I offended fellow daoist to the point where you had to kill my subordinate?"

Qin Yu shook his head. "I do not know you."

Frostfire furrowed his eyebrows. "At this point in time you and I are already facing each other. There is no need for you to continue concealing your identity."

Qin Yu lightly responded, "That is the truth."

Frostfire's frown deepened. This person didn't seem as if he was lying. But since he didn't know him, why make things hard for him? The situation seemed to be different from what he had imagined. Just before he was about to say something, he was suddenly interrupted by Qin Yu.

"Frostfire, please enlighten me."

The aura within Qin Yu's body instantly erupted. The air became thick and heavy as an invisible suppression descended!

Frostfire stuffily coughed, his complexion paling. "You killed my subordinate cultivator so it is within reason for you to give me a confession!"

Did this person think he was scared?

How ridiculous!

The pride of a powerhouse prevented him from saying anything further. Frostfire lifted a finger and pointed ahead.

Between the heavens and earth, the falling snowflakes fell into still silence.

He wanted to fight?

But in reality, as soon as he had arrived, the fight had already begun!

The still snowflakes were like nodes. The countless nodes connected together, forming a frozen world array formation.

And this array formation contained the great dao inherent within nature. It possessed an endless prestige and energy. Only by instantly erupting with a strength that surpassed its withstanding limits could an enemy break through it. Otherwise, they would be suppressed within until their strength was exhausted, the ice cold energy corroded away their vitality, and they died.

The world had already been frozen. Placed within, Qin Yu was naturally no exception.

"Frozensky Frostfire, you really live up to your name."

With a sigh of praise, Qin Yu lifted a hand. As he moved, loud cracks resounded through the air.

Cracks appeared on the ice surrounding his body. Light twisted around him, causing his figure to become blurry.

Frostfire's pupils shrank. He was someone who could see the greater picture from minor happenings. Qin Yu's casual lifting of his hand proved just how terrifying his strength was!

This frozen world array formation couldn't entrap him!

Frostfire sucked in a deep breath. In his heart, Qin Yu's threat ranking rose to a new level. He took a step backwards and lifted a hand, bringing it falling down.

The array formation he laid down had no imprisoning effect on him. And, the strength he could erupt with inside this array formation was incomparable to what he could do outside.

As his palm fell down, snowflakes began to shine and shimmer. They blazed with translucent light, connecting to each other and forming a giant palm.

This palm crashed down toward Qin Yu!

Qin Yu looked up, welcoming the palm coming his way. He punched a fist up to meet it.

Bang –

A deafening roar spread through the world, causing the earth to shake. The sealed stones floating in the air began to hum from the impact.

Countless cracks erupted from the point of collision and started to rapidly spread outwards, soon covering the entire array formation.

Qin Yu waved his hand. The cracks covering the skies immediately exploded and countless ice crystals were swept away by the wind, turning into a silver-white tornado.

Frostfire's eyes shrank. At this moment he was able to determine that this cultivator standing in front of him wasn't someone he knew.

Could he really be a newcomer who had only just entered the Sealed Stone World? But how could this be? Calculating from the point where he came into conflict with Song Zhongyi, less than a year had passed. It was simply impossible to go through the test of sealed stones and travel all the way here.

But he was standing here...a burning heat began to rise in Frostfire's eyes. This was a monster that had produced abnormal circumstances, and if he could capture this 'monster', perhaps he would be able to unravel his questions and obtain a lucky chance.

"Please remember. My name is Wen Congong, known to others as Frozensky Frostfire."

Qin Yu smiled. "Fellow daoist Wen seems very confident."

Frostfire lightly said, "You will soon understand."

Although arguments were useful sometimes, the only thing that would ever truly decide the situation was absolute strength.

He took a step forward. "This was originally a card I prepared for rushing into the sequence. But, my instincts tell me that I won't regret using it on you.

"For me to survive until today and reach my current level of cultivation, it was because in several critical moments I made a decision based upon my instincts. I hope that this time my instincts are still right...then, please die."

Frostfire lifted a hand. Faint traces of ice flowed out from his fingers, weaving together into an ice spear.

As the ice spear condensed, Frostfire's face rapidly paled. The hand that held onto the spear also began to be covered in snow and ice, quickly spreading up along his arm.

For a technique to harm the user through a backlash, especially for someone like Frostfire whose cultivation had reached profound levels, the might of this ice spear could be imagined.

Even though it hadn't yet been shot out, Qin Yu still felt as if he had been thrust into an ice cave. A terrifying chill continued to spread into his bones and even his soul began to shiver...this wasn't fear, but a reaction to the absolute cold in the air.

Frostfire took a step forward. He bent his knee, leaned backwards, and lifted his arm into position.

Whoosh –

The ice spear was like an illusion. It instantly pierced through space, arriving right in front of Qin Yu's body.

In the void behind, the phantom of a world of ice and snow appeared. It was pure white in color and one could see its end with a single glance. A massive snow mountain stood there, cold and proud, piercing through the skies.

This single strike was able to affect reality and weave together the projection of a world. This was what happened when strength reached the extreme.

Qin Yu's eyes widened. He shouted out loud and took a step forward, punching out his fist.

Roar –

A deep howl suddenly reverberated through the Sealed Stone World. It seemed to cross the endless river of space and time to arrive here, carrying with it an endlessly desolate aura of vicissitudes.

Unwilling, unyielding, never giving up, fighting with the heavens and earth!

A terrifying figure appeared behind Qin Yu. Its feet stood steady upon the earth and its head reached into the skies. Its eyes were like stars and its aura was violent and magnificent, looking down upon the world with disdain.

With its movements in sync with Qin Yu's, the terrifying figure raised a hand. An incomparably large fist punched forward like a moving mountain.

The inheritance of the ancient race!

The strength of this inheritance had been in a deeply slumbering condition to begin with. This was because Qin Yu's current cultivation wasn't yet sufficient to activate it.

But after the ancients' inheritance fought together with the will of the War Clan's Fifth Chief and fused together, both sides had transformed into a strength that Qin Yu could wield. And, the strength of the ancients' inheritance had been unsealed.

The incarnation of the ancient race was an ultimate combat form. To avoid exposing his status as an ancient, Qin Yu wouldn't use this ability unless it was a crucial moment.

But this didn't mean he couldn't utilize the strength of the ancients' inheritance. For instance, this simple-seeming fist actually summoned the phantom of an ancient ancestor, and by combining one's strength into this fist, the power behind it was equally astonishing!

The ice spear violently trembled. The cries superimposed upon each other until they became a sad and shrill scream. Tiny cracks began to appear on the spear point, rapidly spreading upwards until they covered the entire spear shaft.

"That's impossible!" Frostfire roared in shocked anger.

Bang –

The ice spear exploded. The world of snow and ice behind it began to collapse and disintegrate.

The snow mountain that pierced into the skies was severed in half. The endless fields of snow transformed into raging black seas.

Qin Yu's eyes shrank. This was because in this world phantom that was being destroyed, he could see the existence of life.

It was a giant ice crystal mountain. It roared as it flew out from a shattered iceberg. Its massive eyes were filled with anger and fear. It swung its tail about as it raced into the skies and tried to escape this world that was being destroyed. But in the end, it was swept into the collapsing space.

This was only a world phantom formed by supernatural arts, so how could there be life living within? But now was not the time to be thinking about such things. Qin Yu's eyes flashed and he suppressed these thoughts. He looked towards Frostfire, a cold light shining in his pupils.

He never minded killing, especially when it came to his enemies. To not kill his enemies when he had the chance was an immensely irresponsible action against his own life.

At this time Frostfire had an incomparably pitiful appearance. The ice spear had shattered and the world of ice and snow had been destroyed. As a result, he suffered a horrifying backlash.

Blood gushed out from every orifice of his head. The thick red liquid was smudged across his face, making him appear even more pathetic and pitiful.

He welcomed Qin Yu's gaze. Frostfire stiffened. An unprecedented shadow seemed to loom over him.

A yin chill, the aura of despair – all of it gathered together and finally turned into an extremely rich flavor of death. Frostfire wasn't a stranger to this taste, but today was different...he had a sudden feeling that he wouldn't be able to escape today's tribulation.

All the experiences he had gone through in his life began to rapidly flash through his mind. Frostfire stood up and straightened himself. His eyes were incomparably bright, like two blazing bonfires.

As a Calamity Immortal cultivator, a powerhouse who had dominated the Sealed Stone World for hundreds of thousands of years, he had his own pride and dignity. Even if his death was imminent, he couldn't allow himself to appear humble and small.

Since he was going to die, then he would die gloriously. He would use all his strength to leave one last perfect mark on his life.

### **Chapter 629B - Killing Frozensky Frostfire**

Qin Yu could feel the change in Frostfire's aura and a glimmer of respect appeared in his eyes. There were trillions of lives in the world, but how many of them could face death head on? Even if this person was an enemy, he still deserved respect.

Extremely terrifying fluctuations of aura erupted from within Frostfire's body. White flames ignited around him, wrapping his body.

The blazing flames leapt about. But, they didn't emit any heat at all. Rather, the already cold temperature began to fall at an even more astonishing speed.

He had been given the name Frozensky Frostfire because of this current phenomenon. But what a pity, this was the last time such a sight would appear in the world.

"I am Wen Congong!"

With a loud roar, the white flames immediately blew into a conflagration. Frostfire's body disintegrated within, fully vanishing. After losing control of the white fire, it burst out like a broken dam, sweeping out through the surrounding area for 5000 miles.

Everything in that region was frozen. The ice was pure white in color, without any impurities.

In this 5000 mile zone, everything, including the sealed stones, had become an incomparably large block of ice.

A calm voice spread out from the ice. "I will remember your name. Fellow daoist Wen Congong...have a nice trip."

Mei Ruyu had fled 10,000 miles away before she relaxed and came to a stop. As she turned back and looked towards that area which was covered by sealed stones, her eyes filled with even greater horror and fear.

If she were only frightened before, then that fear now grew into abject horror, a dark fog that drowned her mind.

Every breath of time passed at an incomparably slow pace. The sound of her heartbeat became increasingly clear in her ears. Mei Ruyu could feel the goosebumps rising up all over her skin.

Suddenly, her eyes fiercely widened and she spat out a mouthful of blood. It was like an iron bar had been stabbed into her head and was being ruthlessly stirred around. She screamed in pain.

The contract runes between her and Lord Frostfire had broken apart and faded away at this moment. There was no need to guess why this had happened.

Frostfire had died...he had unexpectedly died!

Although she already had an ill premonition, once this matter truly occurred, great waves of shock still rose up in her mind. For a time, even the pain she felt was overwhelmed.



Frozensky Frostfire...he was an illustrious character whose name echoed in the highest heavens. He was absolutely a formidable character who was known by everyone in the Sealed Stone World.

But today, that towering mountain had collapsed without any warning.

Endless fear gushed out of Mei Ruyu's eyes. In particular, she thought back to how she, Song Zhongyi, and some others had tried to surround and kill that man...

Flee!

There was no other thought. The only idea in her mind was to run away as far as possible and hide as well as she could.

But just as she turned back around, Mei Ruyu fiercely stiffened. Looking at her wide eyes and the cold sweat that covered her forehead, this clearly wasn't what she intended.

Pa –

A small bloody hole appeared between Mei Ruyu's eyebrows. Her eyes began to gloss over as her aura rapidly faded.

Qin Yu stepped forward. "Fellow daoist Wen Congong seemed to have some interest in you. Then, I invite you to keep him company on the road to the yellow springs."

On this day, the entire Sealed Stone World fell into chaos!

Frozensky Frostfire had died. All cultivators who had a contract with him had suffered heavy losses from the backlash. This news instantly spread out.

Information about the mysterious black-robed cultivator spread through the Sealed Stone World in the shortest time possible. As people spoke about him, their voices were filled with praise and awe.

But this resounding event didn't have any follow-up. This was because after the mysterious black-robed cultivator killed Frostfire, he didn't make any moves to fill the power vacuum left behind. Rather, as news spread, this mysterious figure vanished from sight.

Numerous people discussed the situation and finally came to a conclusion: Even if this mysterious black-robed figure had managed to kill Frostfire, he had still been severely wounded and had hidden away to heal...there was even a chance that they both perished together!

After all, whether this was true or false, it was a fact that the mysterious black-robed cultivator hadn't made an appearance. After waiting for some time, all those other great beings began to make their moves, dividing up Frostfire's remnants between themselves.

This process clearly wasn't peaceful. A wave of blood and death was set off within the Sealed Stone World.

And amidst this chaos, Qin Yu appeared at a lively trading market.

This was an area where they sealed stones were relatively close to each other. There was a sealed stone every several dozen feet and each sealed stone had a few places for stalls atop them.

Where there were cultivators there were sure to be demands. And, demands would drive the appearance of transactions. This was a trading market necessary for all living beings in the Sealed Stone World.

Throughout the long years, the Sealed Stone World had already evolved and produced its own laws for survival.

Some cultivators realized that continuing down their road of cultivation and making progress was hopeless. In order to survive, they had no choice but to adapt themselves.

For instance, farmers who specialized in spirit plants.

For instance, refining masters who crafted tools.

For instance, doctors who treated and healed others.

Of course, there were also women who were willing to sell their bodies in exchange for income to survive.

As a result, this trading market was extremely lively and prosperous. It wasn't dry or boring as one would imagine.

Throughout all of this, the most welcomed and received currency remained stone beads.

For those living within the Sealed Stone World, if there was a key point for them to rejoice about that allowed them to live relatively calm and stable lives, it was that the eruption frequency of the 'destruction of will' events was low.

Qin Yu swatted away a woman who nearly pasted herself onto his body. He looked around and found his target.

Atop a hundred foot tall sealed stone, there was a three level wooden building. It couldn't be called grand or exquisite, but in this Sealed Stone World where there was a lack of building materials and other common commodities, this was already a great show of wealth. Cultivators often flew out from the front doors, indicating that business was good.

Qin Yu stepped forward and soon arrived outside the wooden building. He looked up and then walked in.

A maid immediately came forward to welcome him; she was a young and shy-looking girl. She glanced at Qin Yu and hurriedly lowered her head, softly saying, "Dear guest, I welcome your arrival. Is there anything you need?"

Qin Yu lightly said, "I want to exchange for stone beads."

That's right, he was here for stone beads.

This was something that happened back on the day that Qin Yu killed Frostfire. When he picked up the stone beads that Frostfire and Mei Ruyun left behind, he inadvertently discovered a secret.

The stone beads contained a will that was more formidable than those within the sealed stones.

Of course, the strength referred to here was not quantity, but quality.

To draw a comparison, Qin Yu would 'become full' after absorbing the strength of three sealed stones. After that, he would need to wait to digest them before he could continue.

But, if he were to absorb the strength from the stone beads, it wouldn't be a problem even if he were to absorb ten. And each one would provide him with even more power than three sealed stones.

The most important reason was that absorbing the strength of the stone beads wouldn't leave behind any hidden dangers. This was the most attractive point to Qin Yu.

Although he had killed Frostfire and it hadn't been too difficult, it was exactly because of this that Qin Yu didn't dare to be complacent or blinded by arrogance.

He didn't believe that he could reach the peak of the Sealed Stone World so easily. Moreover, before Frostfire died, he had said that the ice spear was prepared to help him rush into the sequence.

Although he had no idea what this so-called 'sequence' was, it was clear that there was another level within the Sealed Stone World that Qin Yu had yet to touch upon...and, the beings that existed on that level were absolutely terrifying!

All of this was to explain a single point. If there was a better way to enhance his will, Qin Yu would rather give up on the sealed stones. It was simply far too dangerous for him. The smallest mistake might lead to total destruction.

Since the stone beads were the best way for him to cultivate his will, Qin Yu decided to use them instead. Without too much effort, he learned some information from another cultivator.

Thus, he arrived here.

The young maid hurriedly said, "Dear guest, please follow me."

She turned and walked away. After several steps, her face flushed red and she said, "Sorry, sorry...I...I...went the wrong way..."

She had an appearance as if she was about to cry.

Qin Yu had a surprised expression. He had already noticed the smell of fatigue and weariness from the other maids. Was his luck so good that he encountered the legendary brainless little bird? Or was this merely her way of attracting attention?

He thought for a moment before tossing it to the side. No matter what the truth was, he didn't care at all. He directly stated, "It doesn't matter. Guide me."

The immature maid nodded in gratitude and walked in the opposite direction.

Soon, Qin Yu was brought to another floor. There was a long divided counter that separated the area. Once a cultivator stood up and left, the young maid brought him over to sit down.

"My lord, this guest would like to exchange for stone beads." As the young maid finished speaking she bowed and walked to the side.

Although this was a semi-open floor plan, there were clearly special arrangements made. Once one entered, all outside sounds were isolated and the images within were blurred so that one couldn't see inside.

The middle-aged cultivator behind the counter had a pale complexion. He greedily glanced at the animated young girl standing to the side and then smiled as he asked, "How would you like to exchange?"

Qin Yu calmly said, "What is the exchange rate?"

The middle-aged cultivator said, "Ten low-grade beads for one medium-grade bead. Ten medium-grade beads for one high-grade bead. Of course, the market price for high-grade beads has always been high. If dear guest wishes for them, we can at most exchange them for 12 medium-grade beads."

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows, "Is that so..."

The middle-aged cultivator's smile faded. "If dear guest still needs to make further considerations, you can come back after some time."

Qin Yu looked at him. "I heard there are some other ways to exchange for stone beads at half price. I wonder if this is true?"

The middle-aged cultivator's eyes brightened. "Of course it is true. Dear guest, every once in a while, our trade association will send a ship into the Sea of Bewildering Fog. As long as dear guest voluntarily boards the ship and helps the trade association with some simple matters, not only will you obtain the favorable condition of exchanging for half price, but the trade association will freely bestow upon you five medium-grade stone beads."

Qin Yu wavered for a moment. "Is it dangerous?"

The middle-aged cultivators hesitated. "Of course it is dangerous, otherwise we wouldn't offer such rich rewards. But, our trade association has a wealth of experience for entering the Sea of Bewildering Fog. As long as you are a bit cautious, there shouldn't be any problems. There just happens to be a ship that will be departing soon and there aren't many spots remaining. If dear guest intends on joining, then you should decide as soon as possible."

Qin Yu took a deep breath, "Good, then I'll go!"

### **Chapter 630A - The Young Maid**

The middle-aged cultivator flashed a blinding smile, "You absolutely will not regret your decision. I will call someone to bring you somewhere to rest."

With a sly wink and an ambiguous tone he said, "In addition, the trade association has prepared additional amenities for the fellow daoists boarding the ship. If you take a liking to any of the maids here, then simply tell me beforehand and she will be your...personal...maid until you board."

Qin Yu shook his head. "No need. The cultivation method I practice isn't suitable for me to be overly intimate with women."

The middle-aged cultivator had a strange expression. Then, his face filled with sympathy. In his opinion if a person couldn't be close with women, then that was a fate worse than death!

Soon, more cultivators arrived and Qin Yu was politely shooed away. The young maid was left helpless for some time before she continued to entertain other guests.

On the building's third floor, there was a long corridor that extended down both sides with rows of rooms.

Just as Qin Yu came up the last step, a door not too far away suddenly opened and an almost completely naked woman ran out. Her snow-white skin was covered in mottled blue and purple. As she saw Qin Yu and the guiding cultivator, she yelled at them and threw herself over.

"Save me! Please save me! There's a madman inside!"

Her screams were filled with fear.

Whoosh –

A rope flew out from the door and wrapped around the woman's neck. It immediately knocked her to the ground and pulled her back.

The woman's face filled with even greater horror and panic. Her hands stubbornly dug into the rug and her nails broke. The smell of blood filled the air.

"Save me...save me..."

The guiding trade association cultivator had a calm expression as if he didn't see anything at all. When the door slammed shut, he gestured a hand and said, "Dear guest, please follow me."

Stepping over the broken nails and allowing the blood to dye the bottom of his boots red, he placed his hand on a door and pushed it open. "You will be living here temporarily. If you have need for anything please ring the small bell in the room. Unless there's an essential reason, please don't go out randomly.

"I won't disturb your rest. Oh, that's right, my name is Bai Lu. Before you board, I am the one that will be handling your matters."

He bowed and turned to leave.

Qin Yu entered the room and closed the door behind him. Silence filled the air.

He closed his eyes. His divine sense quietly trickled out like a stream, sweeping through every corner of the room.

After several breaths of time, Qin Yu's eyes flashed. Without batting an eye, he silently glanced at a potted plant placed behind a door.

"I hope my luck is good and I can return alive. Once I pay off this debt, I will never gamble again!" He whispered between clenched teeth. Then he fell back onto the bed, his breaths becoming longer and longer.

He really did fall asleep.

Tempering the will was a truly arduous and tough grind. In addition to the backlash from the devil mark, Qin Yu hadn't truly rested for a long time.

When he woke up, the weather had turned dark. There was no explicit division of day and night within the Sealed Stone World. The darker weather represented night.

Qin Yu stood up from his bed. He drank a cup of tea and rang a small bell. Bai Lu soon knocked on the door. He asked with a smile, "Does guest have need of anything?"

"Bring me something to eat and drink. And when will the ship leave? I can't just wait here aimlessly until then." Qin Yu said with furrowed eyebrows.

Bai Lu said, "The ship will leave in two days. I ask dear guest to please wait. If there are no other problems, then I will go to prepare a meal for you."

Qin Yu nodded, "I'll have to trouble you."

Bai Lu smiled, "It's good as long as you are satisfied."

He turned and left.

Just as Qin Yu sat at a table, there was a loud crash from outside the room. When he opened the door to see what was happening, he couldn't help but frown.

The young maid from this morning was struggling on the ground in horror. A middle-aged cultivator with a blood-coated face was grabbing onto her ankles and pulling her away.

"You filthy whore, I give you face and yet you don't value me, you even dare to hit my head!? Today I will definitely punish you!"

The sound of an opening door caused the young maid to look over. Her despairing eyes immediately lit up as she shouted, "Guest, guest, please help me!"

The middle-aged cultivator was startled for a moment before he sneered in annoyance, "My apologies. I have disturbed your rest. I will immediately bring her away."

At this time, Bai Lu arrived carrying a box tray of food. His complexion changed as he saw what was happening, "Tong Yin, what are you doing?"

The middle-aged cultivator waved his hand, his expression tense as he said, "It's nothing. We're about to leave."

Qin Yu suddenly said, "I should be able to choose a maid to serve me, right?"

Tong Yin looked up, his eyes filled with hatred. He had offered this person to Qin Yu and Qin Yu had refused; now this person actually wanted to meddle in his business!

Bai Lu said, "Of course you can. This is your right."

Qin Yu pointed a finger, "Then I'll take her."

Bai Lu smiled. "From this point on, she is for your personal use. There is a portion for two people in this food box. If it isn't enough I will bring more."

He looked at Tong Yin, "Why haven't you left yet? Do you want me to bring you away personally?"

Tong Yin coldly snorted in indignation before leaving.

Bai Lu eyed the young maid, "Go fix yourself up..."

Qin Yu interrupted him, "No need. Come in with me."

Bai Lu nodded and passed the food box over. When he did, he gave her a look before bowing and leaving.

Qin Yu glanced at the young maid, "Come in."

Raising the food box, the pale young maid bit her lips. The creaking sound of the closing door caused her body to shake.

"Put down the food box and sit down." Qin Yu lightly said, "You can rest at ease. Due to the cultivation method I practice I cannot be intimate with women. You will be safe here."

The young maid relaxed. Qin Yu revealed a helpless expression. After eating a meal, he sat down cross-legged on the bed.

"If you think it isn't safe then you can leave on your own. There is no need to say anything to me."

When Qin Yu opened his eyes once more, she was still sitting in the room. After looking at her, he sat up and rang the small bell.

Bai Lu came after a moment, carrying a second food box. According to Qin Yu's requests, the amount had been increased.

The young maid wolfed it all down. Her capacity for food was astonishing. As she ate she burped before blushing and slowing down. After eating for a long time she laid down her utensils, carefully cleaned up after herself, and placed everything to the side.

Looking at Qin Yu close his eyes and begin cultivating again, the young maid revealed a hesitant look. After a long time she bit her lips and started to take off her clothes.

Light rustling sounds echoed through the room. Qin Yu sighed and said, "I have no interest in you. If that's what you want to do, then leave."

The young maid stammered, "I...I am...clean..."

Qin Yu shook his head, "That has nothing to do with this." He reached out and rang the small bell. "I will have Bai Lu take you away. He will ensure you are safe."

Bai Lu soon knocked on the door. Qin Yu directly said, "If I return alive, I will have five medium-grade beads as a reward. I will give you two if you can guarantee her safety. If I die, then the agreement will no longer be valid. Is that fine?"

Bai Lu nodded. "Of course. I agree to your conditions."

Two medium-grade beads had an immense purchasing power in the Sealed Stone World.

Qin Yu said, "Now bring her away. Before I leave I must adjust myself to my peak condition."

The young maid bowed, an ashamed look on her face. "Thank you guest...I...I will wait for you to return..."

The young maid followed behind Bai Lu. After leaving the third level, her uneasy expression disappeared.

Bai Lu paused. He bowed and said, "Greetings, Lord Mantuo."

The young maid said, "He's a good man. Don't investigate him anymore."

"Yes." Bai Lu hesitated for a moment, "But if it's like this then the plan will be ruined. How will you go to the Sea of Bewildering Fog?"

The young maid said, "Didn't a maid die? I can just replace her."

Bai Lu said, "But what about the man just now?"

The young maid's lips curled up in a sneer, "Isn't it better like this? If they have issues between them then that will save me a great deal of effort. Then, it's decided."

She walked away.

Bai Lu bowed. After he left, he looked up towards the third floor, a mocking look in his eyes.

Third floor room.

Qin Yu sat back against the door, his eyes calm. It was good if others believed he was a foolish idiot. At the very least he would be able to avoid many unnecessary troubles.

All he wanted was to use the ship to enter the Sea of Bewildering Fog and find where stone beads were 'born'. As for what happened afterwards, he would figure it out then. There would no more need to waste his energy acting.

A young and pitiful maid?...Haha, hahahaha...

After that, Qin Yu remained in his room. When Bai Lu next came to call upon him, it was time to board the ship. When he pushed open the door he could hear loud laughs as another door was pushed open and a large fellow walked out, holding onto a petite young woman.

Seeing Qin Yu, the petite woman stiffened and quickly lowered her head.

Qin Yu sneered inwardly but he couldn't help but continue the act and put on a stiff expression.

Bai Lu revealed an awkward expression, "I apologize, but this is the decision of the trade association so there is nothing I can do."

Qin Yu nodded without expression.

"Are you the one that expelled little Yunyun from your room? It really doesn't make sense. But if it weren't for that, how could she belong to me?" The large fellow had a fierce expression, "Because you



were smart enough, I'll forgive you for seeing that cheap whore's naked body before. From here on out keep your distance from me and don't look for trouble!"

He laughed and walked away.

Bai Lu said with a soft tone, "Yunyun will embark together with you."

Qin Yu coldly snorted and walked away. He thought that once he boarded the ship he would stay in his room and not come out. He had no intention to join these people in their pathetic theater play.

Outside the trading market, a wooden boat had already come to a stop. Qin Yu was in a group of 17 people that boarded.

As this happened, many eyes fell upon their bodies. There was pity in their cold gazes as if they were watching dead people.

### **Chapter 630B - The Young Maid**

Hum –

The boat was covered in brilliant ripples as a barrier shield was raised around it. It immediately began to move forward. Its speed was quick and it left the trading market behind it in several breaths of time.

Bai Lu stood at the ship's bow, his gaze calm. "It will be around two hours until we reach the great ship. During this period of time, I hope that you can only look through the jade slip that is placed near your seats. There is information recorded within related to the Sea of Bewildering Fog that you should know.

"This venture might be dangerous, but as long as you all remain sufficiently careful I believe everyone will return alive."

"Humph I hope so!"

It was unknown who sneered but the atmosphere on the boat suddenly turned tense.

Bai Lu faintly smiled. He turned and sat down. His mission would be completed soon...moreover, there was no need to argue with people that were destined to die.

Qin Yu picked up the jade slip. Once he didn't sense anything wrong, he searched it with his divine sense. After several breaths of time he opened his eyes, his expression calm once more.

There was scant information related to the Sea of Bewildering Fog. But as long as he had the mind to look, he could obtain some harvests.

For instance, the fog within the Sea of Bewildering Fog could confuse the minds of cultivators. Once they were lost they would remain there forever, turning into brain dead people that wandered there until they died.

For instance, special sea tides might carry out stone beads.

When he combined all of this information together and synthesized it, although he didn't have absolute assurance, it was likely that the Sea of Bewildering Fog was the source of all stone beads in the Sealed Stone World.

The reason Qin Yu was entering the Sea of Bewildering Fog was to find the birthplace of these stone beads.

The wooden boat continued to fly out from the 'nebula' of sealed stones. Qin Yu thought of the emptiness behind him when he first arrived.

Could that have been the Sea of Bewildering Fog?

There wasn't much information in the outside world concerning the Sealed Stone World. Even the Demonic Path's information had many missing holes in it.

Soon, two hours passed. The boat smoothly flew out from the scope of the sealed stone 'nebula'.

There was a giant ship anchored in the void. Its flat surface was covered in bumps, as if it were made of scales.

Once Qin Yu approached, his heart chilled and he looked at the ship with a dignified expression. This ship had actually been directly refined from some sort of living being!

This was a ship but it was also a corpse. Even though it had already died, the aura of a living creature had yet to fully dissipate.

It was as heavy and grand as a mountain, pressing down upon one's chest and making it hard to breathe!

Bai Lu stood up and clapped his hands. "Everyone, we have arrived. Please board the ship according to the described directions. Once you are onboard, there will be others ready to guide you."

Qin Yu suddenly furrowed his eyebrows. He glanced around, his eyes faint.

In front of him, the pale young maid had eyes filled with pain and guilt. Her lips moved as she muttered, "I'm sorry."

Qin Yu said, "Whatever choice you make, that is your freedom. There is no need to apologize to me." Looking at the young maid's pained and plaintive expression, he couldn't help but acknowledge that her acting skills were superb. This was something beyond the level of 'acting queen'.

"Humph!" With a cold cough, the large fellow glared at her, "Yunyun, what are you doing?"

He grabbed onto her shoulders and pulled her into his chest. Then, he looked at Qin Yu, his ugly face twisting together.

"Boy, let me warn you, I won't say the same words again. Do you understand?"

Qin Yu said, "Don't worry. I am obsessive about cleanliness so I won't touch things that have been used."

The young maid stiffened.

Qin Yu walked away. Since he didn't want to be bothered with such things he could only use the strongest move in his repertoire.

Although he had no idea what this woman's goal was, he thought that as long as he said these words he should be at peace for some time.

The large fellow roared out loud, "You bastard, just who do you think you are to insult my woman!"

He fiercely walked forward but was stopped by the young maid. "Don't. The trade association will not permit private battles. I...I just wanted to express my thanks to him. If he doesn't want me to approach him then I will stay further away...don't be angry!"

The large fellow clenched his teeth, "He can consider himself lucky!"

The young maid glanced at Qin Yu's back, a cold chill in her eyes.

You bastard, just wait for this old lady!

.....

Qin Yu and his group were the last batch of people to board. On this ship that was refined from a giant life form, there were already a hundred people waiting. These people all had the same status as Qin Yu; they were cultivators brought to guard the ship.

That's right, the explanation that the Three United Trade Association had given them was that these people were needed to protect the 'treasure box' inside the ship's cabin.

"All of the fellow daoists have arrived. The ship sent out by the Three United Trade Association will soon head towards the Sea of Bewildering Fog. I ask that everyone not move around casually." The one who spoke had a gentle smile that drew good impressions from everyone.

Buzz –

The large ship began to tremble as it moved forwards. It started to accelerate, leaving behind a series of afterimages as it howled in the direction opposite of the sealed stone 'nebula'.

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. His guess had been correct; this really was where the Sea of Bewildering Fog was!

Moments later, the ship stopped accelerating as it cruised forward at a steady speed. The cultivator who spoke up before stood up and bowed. "Please allow me to officially introduce myself. I am the Three United Trade Association's Shu He. I am responsible for presiding over this voyage. For the next half month, I hope that we can all rely on each other."

He straightened himself, continuing to say, "I'm sure that many of you fellow daoists are confused about what you are responsible for on this ship, and just what mission you are being given to be paid such rich rewards. The truth is actually quite simple. There is a treasure box in the ship that has some stone beads placed within. The goal of entering the Sea of Bewildering Fog is to draw upon its strength to enhance the quality of the stone beads.

"At that time, fellow daoists will need to help and deliver the treasure box to the assigned position. Although there are some threats in the bewildering fog, we will try to move as close as possible to our destination as possible. As long as everyone is quick in their movements, there shouldn't be any problems.

“Of course, I want to remind you all of something. The Sea of Bewildering Fog is extremely dangerous. While we can assure your relative safety if you are on the ship, once you leave its shelter...haha, come to think of it, everyone should know that some great figures tried to unravel the truth behind the Sea of Bewildering Fog, but in the end no one managed to come out.

“This final point is the most important. We will give you the treasure chest to handle, so you had best all be honest and have no other thoughts in your mind.”

Following that, Shu He gave some more information related to taboos in the Sea of Bewildering Fog. During this process, Qin Yu looked at him with an earnest expression.

The warm smile, the calm bearing, the naturally commanding atmosphere...all of this indicated that Shu He's status in the Three United Trade Association wasn't low.

But when Qin Yu looked at him, his eyes were filled with a hint of sympathy and pity. Although he had no idea what the final outcome for his fellow colleagues on the ship would be, he guessed that Shu He's ending would be worse.

After leaving the sealed stone 'nebula', there was only emptiness all around. The ship quietly soared forward.

At some unknown time, faint traces of fog appeared. It was like gauze fluttering in the wind, making it difficult to see through.

Shu He's complexion changed. “Everyone, we will immediately be entering the Sea of Bewildering Fog. I hope that you all remember my words just now and don't make any mistakes in order to prevent further troubles.”

The fog rapidly thickened. It was like a cloud of turbid water had swallowed up the ship. Everywhere one looked, there was only endless fog.

The atmosphere on the ship suddenly turned tense and constrained. Shu He smiled, “Everyone, please do not worry. This is only the outer edges of the Sea of Bewildering Mist; there is basically no —”

Before he finished speaking his expression changed and he quickly spun around.

Everyone was startled. They quickly followed his line of sight. Within the fog, a blurry figure began to appear.

As the figure walked forward it became increasingly clear. It was a young female cultivator carrying a sword. She wore a white dress and her face was as beautiful as a moon. But, her eyes were flat gray, the same color as the fog all around them. She quietly headed towards the ship in a straight line.

Suddenly, this female cultivator paused. She looked up at the ship, as if she sensed the fluctuations in the fog around her.

Shu He took a step forward. On the head of the ship, two masses of blood red light began to shine. Looking at their general position, this was where the eyes of the giant being that had been refined into the ship originally were.

A formidable oppressive will erupted from the ship. The female cultivator in the fog trembled and revealed a look of dread.

After several breaths of time, she turned around and continued forward, soon crossing paths with the shape and vanishing from sight.

“It’s fine.” Shu He turned around, his complexion dark. “Everyone, these are the corpses I described to you before that wander through the fog. They are people who have entered the Sea of Bewildering Fog throughout the countless years for their own reasons. They finally died here and remain forever imprisoned.

“These corpses are the greatest threat within the Sea of Bewildering Fog. Before they died, their hate and unwillingness produced an unsolvable obsession. They want to drag others down into the fog to join them. So, do not expose your aura. Once you are discovered by these corpses, it will be difficult to rid yourselves of them.”

The people on the ship revealed a dignified expression. Although it was only a minor brush and the female cultivator in the fog hadn’t attacked them, they could still feel an intense threat coming from her.

Qin Yu lowered his head, hiding the sharp light in his pupils. The ‘eyes’ of the ship had shined just now, causing the female cultivator corpse to retreat in fear. The origin of this was likely due to the suppression of will. If so, then the greatest threat within the so-called Sea of Bewildering Fog wasn’t anything to him at all.

No, he shouldn’t be in a hurry. He could wait for a little bit longer before confirming this and then carrying out the next step.