

Refining 741

Chapter 741A – Great Storms

Flesh withered away, turning into flying ash. The light layer of blood that flowed across the surface of the statue seemed as if it would dissipate in the next moment, meaning that all of his efforts tonight would be for naught. The medium for using witchcraft had a limit to its numbers of uses; it couldn't last forever.

But witchcraft powers were secretive and terrifying. While they could kill others invisibly, there were also great hidden dangers present within them. For instance, if someone used witchcraft against someone and was unable to harm them, it would create a massive backlash instead.

Although there were methods to reduce the backlash, the losses this would cause to the Witchcraft Sect Master were far too heavy. So since he had started tonight, he couldn't give up halfway.

He took a deep breath and suppressed the tumbling anger and rage in his chest. The Witchcraft Sect Master turned to Little Ancestor and said, "Continue to offer the sacrificial blood!"

Little Ancestor trembled and horror appeared in his eyes, but he didn't dare to refuse. He nodded and stood up with difficulty.

The Witchcraft Sect Master coldly coughed. With a wave of his sleeve, boundless strength gushed out from the void and drew him over. The wound that had just healed on his palm was torn open once more.

The palm fell down and the wound stuck to the statue. A horrifying swallowing sound was immediately heard. Little Ancestor shivered and his face distorted with pain. He lowered his head, concealing the hatred that surged deep in his eyes.

In the back, the Witchcraft Sect Master's expression darkened. After today, even if he managed to supplement it, Little Ancestor's source vitality would forever be lacking, and it would likely affect his lifespan. If this was the case then his subsequent plans would be affected; he would need to adjust them.

How hateful!

When this witchcraft was used, it had always gone smoothly. He had tested it several times before on immensely talented individuals and each time he had easily killed the target. He never thought that this person he met today would repeatedly ruin his plans. The Witchcraft Sect Master felt some regret, but he felt even more brutality and anger. He vowed to himself that once this witchcraft was complete he would have this person suffering the worst torment in existence, so much so that his soul would wither away in howling sorrow.

Gulp –

Gulp –

The statue's terrifying swallowing sound echoed through the underground chamber. Compared to the first time it was much quieter and there was a minor interval between each noise. It was clear that the rate of blood flow was insufficient.

The Witchcraft Sect Master thrust out a head. Little Ancestor stuffily coughed. His worn out and tired heart suddenly began to beat rapidly as his face flushed red.

The statue's swallowing sounds immediately turned violent. The blood red light that had faintly dissipated on its surface stabilized.

Little Ancestor bore all of this in silence, with no show of resistance. However, the hatred in his eyes grew increasingly thick!

When the statue stopped swallowing blood, Little Ancestor slumped to the ground and his body spasmed and twitched. He had turned thin and emaciated with little wrinkles covering his face. He seemed to have aged dozens of years.

The Witchcraft Sect Master swept him to the side. When he stood in front of the statue his eyes were dark and profound. Light surged in his pupils like waves in the dark night, capable of swallowing and submerging all.

Regardless of what it was, he wouldn't allow himself to be defeated three times in a row. No matter who you are, no matter what methods you have, in just a few moments I will make sure you fall into a life or death crisis!

He lifted a hand and placed a finger between the statue's eyebrows. The Witchcraft Sect Master directly connected to the statue, using himself to supply it strength.

With this, he would succeed no matter what!

Hum –

The statue faintly trembled as if it were cheering out. A formidable plundering strength erupted from it, as heavy as a collapsing mountain. The strength in the Witchcraft Sect Master's body burst forth like a broken dam, crazily rushing out.

But his expression remained calm and steady. When the witchcraft drew out enough power it would naturally slow down and stop.

However, the strength that the witchcraft extracted was far more than the Witchcraft Sect Master expected. After several breaths of time, the wild plundering strength still showed no signs of slowing down.

As the Witchcraft Sect Master furrowed his eyebrows in surprise, the swallowing strength coming from the statue finally started to weaken and die down.

He relaxed, overjoyed. As he thought, he had provided too little strength before. The Witchcraft Sect Master glanced over. He could see flesh and blood wildly growing over the surface of the statue's face, rapidly condensing into a man's appearance.

But when the skin began to grow, an indication that the witchcraft was almost complete, a mask suddenly appeared and covered the statue's face.

This mask was pure black in color as if it were formed of the darkest night. Although one could see the facial features beneath, it actually gave off an unclear feeling. At this time, the mask's eyes were closed, completely blocking all outside spying methods!

The Witchcraft Sect Master was stunned. Then, he cursed out loud, all sorts of vulgar and coarse words spilling out from between his lips. All of the previous cool he showed as a Sect Master had disappeared.

You bastard, since you had a treasure that could shield your aura, why didn't you activate it before? Just when I saw the dawn of victory, you decided to slap me with a big stick!

This was unrelated to how deeply one could hide their emotions. No matter who was put in his position, they would find this completely unbearable!

If Qin Yu stood in front of the Witchcraft Sect Master at this moment he would definitely be torn to pieces and then smashed to bits. Unfortunately, the Witchcraft Sect Master had no such opportunity. So, no matter how unbearable he found this he could only clench his teeth and recognize reality.

Looking at the black mask and its closed eyes, the Witchcraft Sect Master's face turned red. So what if you have a treasure to protect yourself? Let's see how long it will last!

The terror of witchcraft wasn't something that could be blocked with a mere treasure. If this person thought he could stop him with just this, he was too naive!

The Witchcraft Sect Master stimulated his inner strength, blasting it all into the statue. He wanted to raise a wave so high and deadly that it would crush all resistance before it.

...

The black fog in Qin Yu's laboratory wildly tumbled about. Figures were often outlined in the darkness, from heavily armored devils, to fierce and horrifying malicious ghosts, to skeletons that flew around everything; they all recklessly rushed about as they howled.

Ding –

Ding –

The clear sound of a bell constantly rang out. It came from the little worn out bell that floated above Qin Yu's head. It constantly produced sounds as it was struck by the wild strength all around it.

Suddenly, cool purple moonlight sprinkled down and a crescent purple moon quietly appeared, hanging to the left of the small bell. Then, the phantom of a blue sun arrived on the opposite side. The rays of light came from a sun but they had no temperature at all. All that came from them was an endless chill.

The sun and moon reflected and enhanced each other. The terrifying impact that came from the outside was immediately counterbalanced. Faint traces of black fog continuously melted away and flowed into the sun and moon phantoms at a speed visible to the naked eye.

"Big sisters, I can still endure it, there is no need for you two to help!" Meimei almost cried out loud.

Although she had followed by Qin Yu's side and experienced the good luck of sitting in her seat and having good food delivered to her, who knew if there would be a third time?

Seeing the largest wave of food arrive, Meimei wanted to capture this opportunity to 'line her bags' with as much food as she could. Then, she could slowly enjoy it later...

But as a result, these two big sisters had made their move, giving her no chance to do anything. Their eyesight was truly vicious; they had grasped the prime opportunity!

Luckily for her, she was the one who had manifested the 'mask'. As the one who did this, she would be able to capture an extra portion. Even if Purple Moon and Blue Sun ate faster than she did, she shouldn't suffer too great a loss.

...

Kacha –

A small cracking sound spread to the Witchcraft Sect Master's ears. His eyes brightened as a fierce smile lit up his face.

As expected, in the face of witchcraft, any treasure that concealed one's aura was simply trash.

The first had already appeared. Would the second one be far away?

When a great dam collapsed, although it might begin with a small hole, it would break down faster and faster as time went on! This was something he had learned throughout his long years of cultivating.

But what happened afterwards proved that not only would our ears and eyes deceive us sometimes, but so too would our experiences. The Witchcraft Sect Master's complexion paled and he gently shivered. Even if his body was made from steel he still couldn't withstand such an extraction of power.

As for the black mask on the statue's face, there was still only a single crack. It was on the cheek of the left side, small and utterly common-looking.

The expected second crack still hadn't appeared. It was like the wild plundering strength coming from the statue was completely wasted.

This shocked and angered the Witchcraft Sect Master. To his amazement, he discovered that he was losing control of the situation. If this continued then who knew how much strength he would need to use up before this damned mask broke apart? But if he chose to give up now, he would have to pay a steep price.

Moreover, with things having reached this point, if he gave up now he would have to pay an especially great price on top of what he had already lost!

Caught in this dilemma, the Witchcraft Sect Master was at a loss for what to do. But then, he heard a cracking sound. This sound was like heavenly music to his ears.

He looked up. A crack had appeared on the right cheek of the mask. Its position just happened to be on the exact opposite side of the first crack.

The Witchcraft Sect Master's eyes brightened. He absolutely did not believe this was a coincidence. There had to be a profound meaning behind the positions of these cracks.

He had seen similar magic tools before. These tools had several key nodes, and although they appeared indestructible when attacked, they still suffered from damage. Once the nodes were broken, the magic tool would soon be destroyed.

At this time perhaps he had broken a second node. As long as he lasted a bit long, he might see the light of victory.

This sort of understanding greatly strengthened the Witchcraft Sect Master's confidence. It gradually calmed down and settled his anxious heart.

The position the third crack appeared in would be critical. If it appeared where he thought it would, then that meant his hypothesis was correct. Otherwise, he would immediately give up. He would rather withstand the backlash from the failed witchcraft than continue like this.

Chapter 741B – Great Storms

Time slowly passed. The rumbling sounds in the underground chamber continued to billow like rushing rivers. Behind the Witchcraft Sect Master, the unconscious Little Ancestor quietly opened his eyes, burning heat flashing in them.

Perhaps the chance he had bitterly waited for during all these years was going to arrive soon. If this was true, then it wouldn't be long before he could realize his dream!

He looked at the black mask and roared in his heart, "Don't break apart! Use up more of his strength and force him to interrupt his witchcraft!"

The Witchcraft Sect Master would not be able to passively withstand the terrifying backlash of witchcraft. Once the Witchcraft Sect Master used his trump card, his turning point would appear.

Kacha –

Little Ancestor's prayers didn't seem to have any effect. The third crack appeared, exactly between the mask's eyebrows. It was like a saber passing through space and time, ruthlessly slashing down on the mask!

When the crack appeared, it seemed to release the essence, energy, and will of the mask. The mask's calm face suddenly twisted as if it was suffering from some great pain.

Then there was a fourth crack, fifth crack, sixth crack...

Faint cracking sounds constantly rang out. Soon, the entire mask was covered in them. It looked like a piece of porcelain that had been broken and glued together, about to disintegrate at any time.

Little Ancestor closed his eyes, disappointment and unwillingness on his pale face. It seemed that the wish he waited for all this time had become distant and uncertain once more.

"Ah!" Just as the Witchcraft Sect Master was overjoyed, he cried out in alarm once more. The swallowing strength that came from the statue suddenly rose up, becoming more intense than the first time.

The speed at which strength passed from his body reached a terrifying rate. The Witchcraft Sect Master instinctively wanted to cut off his contact with the statue, but he relied on his formidable will to forcefully stop himself.

This was the mask's final struggle before breaking apart. As long as he could persist through this, the witchcraft would be complete!

The Witchcraft Sect Master sneered inwardly. He had experienced countless storms and waves in his life. To force him to retreat in fear using such a minor method? Keep on dreaming!

Just obediently die!

Thinking about it, the person enveloped by the aura of the witchcraft must have sensed something by now. Facing this unknown attacker, fear and worry had to be eroding their mind.

Hahahaha! Trust me, this is merely the beginning. There are still countless 'surprises' waiting for you.

Three breaths of time passed.

The Witchcraft Sect Master coldly sneered. This person's final struggle before death was fierce, but so what?

Another three breaths of time passed.

The Witchcraft Sect Master sneered again.

Three more breaths of time passed.

The Witchcraft Sect Master found that he couldn't laugh anymore.

Three breaths of time passed by again.

With a roar of anger, the Witchcraft Sect Master decided to pull back his hand. He didn't know where something had gone wrong, but it was clear things were different from what he expected.

But at this time, the crack-covered black mask suddenly opened its eyes. A pair of impish and playful eyes looked at the Witchcraft Sect Master, unable to conceal their ridicule.

Then, the mask opened its mouth and bit down on the Witchcraft Sect Master's finger. No matter what he tried he couldn't free himself.

At the same time, an even wilder swallowing strength erupted. The statue seemed to have become an endless vortex, spinning and rumbling as if it wanted to eat him up whole.

Humph! You want to leave? It's not that simple. Leave another piece of meat behind at least!

This person was a big idiot; he actually didn't react until now. But, the two big sisters' ideas were truly ruthless and dark. They perfectly calculated his thoughts from beginning to end, and were playing with him in the palms of their hands the entire time.

This type of ability to control the hearts and minds of others was too terrifying. No matter what, she couldn't offend these two big sisters in the future!

As such thoughts were running through the mind of the 'mask', the Witchcraft Sect Master was left startled and angered. With his wisdom and experience as a veteran, he knew that he had fallen into a trap. Perhaps this other party had discovered him right at the moment when the witchcraft began. However, because they had a certain goal in mind, they tempted him and lured him in to continue completing the witchcraft.

To the Witchcraft Sect Master, this kind of blow where he was completely outmaneuvered in terms of intelligence and planning actually caused him to suffer more than the damage he had received. It made him even angrier.

A severe light flashed in his eyes. The Witchcraft Sect Master lifted his hand without hesitation and tore off his entire arm from the shoulder down. He spat out a mouthful of blood and his pale face became even paler.

From this action it could be seen how decisive and ruthless he was. Then, without stopping at all, he stormed backwards.

The arm that was stuck to the statue instantly withered away. It lost all moisture, becoming like a dead log that fell to the ground.

Then, the flesh and blood that covered the statue rapidly turned to ash. The cracked mask grinned once before vanishing from sight.

Bang –

The statue fell over, shattering into several pieces.

Seeing this, the Witchcraft Sect Master's anger rushed into his mind. He blew out another mouthful of blood that splattered onto the ground and sizzled.

"Damn it..." Before he could finish speaking, his eyes flew open. He could feel something extremely terrifying approaching. His complexion changed and he lifted his remaining hand to slap the point between his eyebrows.

A light 'pa' sound spread out from within the Sect Master's body. Then, a blood red line appeared between his eyebrows. It continued up and down, as if someone had drawn a straight line with a brush. Then, starting from that red line, his body split into two and poured to the ground. From where the two sections were divided, one could see a thin layer of film covering it. Beneath that film, organs slowly wriggled about, but no blood flowed out.

Soon the flesh and blood of the two sections multiplied and grew. Skeletons, organs, and even hair and skin were molded into existence, forming two separate and whole bodies.

The two Witchcraft Sect Masters stood across from each other. The one on the left cupped his hands and said, "Thank you fellow daoist for withstanding this disaster for me!"

The one on the right nodded, "As it should be."

When his voice fell, great black spots began to appear on his exposed skin, as if he were a corpse that had been buried underground for many years. In a short several breaths of time, the right Witchcraft Sect Master quickly rotted away, turning into a puddle of goo on the ground.

The backlash of the witchcraft had arrived – if one couldn't kill their target, then they themselves would perish!

The Witchcraft Sect Master's eyes turned gloomy. This dummy body that had died in his place was almost identical to the original. He would need several decades to cultivate one again.

And for a following period of time, his cultivation would be greatly weakened. He wouldn't be able to do this again.

All of this was something he never once imagined would occur when he decided to use witchcraft. When he thought back to how he was so confident at the beginning, his face turned burning hot.

Hidden Fog Sect, black-robed man!

No matter who you are, things haven't ended here! Everything that I have withstood tonight, I will make sure to pay you back double tomorrow!

Bang –

A loud explosion sounded out from behind. The Hidden Fog Sect Master's heart skipped a beat. He turned to see Little Ancestor rushing towards him, having turned into a mass of bloody fog.

"You traitor, you dare!?"

With a roar, the Witchcraft Sect Master raised hand and shattered a talisman. But, no sounds came from outside the chamber.

In the next moment, the bloody fog covered him. Roars of shocked anger rang out, soon turning into calls of pain and despair. Then, these cries were mixed in with chewing sounds.

Gradually, the cries subsided. All that was left were clear chewing sounds that echoed in the underground chamber.

...

In the laboratory, the tumbling black fog that was imperceptible to the naked eye and divine sense had been divided into three and cleanly swallowed up.

Hu –

Hu –

The purple moon and blue sun phantoms submerged into the small bell. They returned to their original positions as if nothing had happened.

Qin Yu remained immersed in his cultivation. His consciousness was fully focused on controlling the strength of the dragon soul and dragon blood to restore his injuries.

Time quietly passed.

...

In a courtyard of Dragon City, a middle-aged man who had changed to a completely new and extravagant tea set was leisurely sipping his tea. Steam rose into the air and fragrance flowed out. He lifted a cup and enjoyed a sip, closing his eyes as he savored it. He had an intoxicated expression. In order to fully digest the charm of tea, one had to have the correct artistic conception and mood in mind.

After drinking the tea, the middle-aged man laid down the tea cup. His mind was clear and bright as a light smile crossed his face.

The Hidden Fog Sect had obtained the bye for the first day by breaking through ten rings and taking first place. This was indeed unexpected. This Mister Ning Qin was truly experienced and mysterious. It was no wonder he was held in such high regard by the Dark Parliament.

But his plan wouldn't be ruined because of this. After making some small modifications, it would display the same effects.

It was also time.

He poured out the teapot and poured in more hot water, soaking the tea leaves for a second time. It was only now that the full flavor would come out.

Doing anything was no different from tasting tea; one needed a certain level of patience to be able to drink the best flavor and to receive the greatest satisfaction.

Chapter 742 – Unexpected

Three days after the first round of battles occurred, the defeated Witchcraft Sect, Blue Origin Sect, and Typhoon Mountain met up once more to compete for first place in the loser bracket in order to regain the qualifications to enter the finals.

There was a crowd of spectators. Besides the camps of the three sects, the supporters of other sects also came to watch.

In addition, the four other sects temporarily led by the Hidden Fog Sect also came. They were paying attention to this event in order to avoid any accidents.

In the long span of years that the Beast King War had been conducted for, there had been examples where the final leader was the victor of the losers' bracket. Everything in this world was possible so it was best to show as much caution as possible to avoid any upsets.

The chosen method was a three-way tangled melee battle. The winner would have the chance to challenge one of the four original victors. Perhaps this process wasn't fair, but as losers they had no other choice.

So the battle of the losers would often be incredible and amazing. It was because of this that a massive number of cultivators were drawn to watch the battle.

After a fierce fight, the Blue Origin Sect's blue ape won the bloodbath. As for the Witchcraft Sect, they disappointed once again. Those that supported them cursed out loud, knowing that their trip to Dragon City had ended ahead of time.

The Witchcraft Sect didn't stay in Dragon City. They embarked on their flying ship and directly left. The rumors said that they needed to return to their sect as soon as possible to deal with some sort of turbulent change in their ranks.

All of their high spirits and confidence that they came in with had completely vanished. When the Witchcraft Sect left, while they still flew away on their flying ship, the atmosphere was dark and dreary.

This topic was on the tips of everyone's tongues for a day before it was replaced by speculation of which sect the Blue Origin Sect would choose to challenge. Because they were the losing party, they didn't have the qualifications to be the focus of attention.

The next day, news spread out from the Blue Origin Sect. It instantly swept through Dragon City, causing an uproar.

Tomorrow, the blue ape would enter the arena and challenge the first place Hidden Fog Sect's spirit beast – the dark star ice serpent!

This matter was completely beyond everyone's expectations. They all had their own theories as to why this happened.

The carefree and happy atmosphere in the Hidden Fog Sect had dulled down a little because of this.

Hu Fu convened an emergency meeting of the sect's high level figures. The dark star ice serpent had broken through ten rings to win, so why would the Blue Origin Sect choose them?

When things occurred that were beyond expectation, there had to be a reason for it. Some Elders guessed that this might be because of Radiance Temple, but this thought was soon overruled.

Even if the Blue Origin Sect and Radiance Temple were on good terms, they wouldn't take their sect's spirit beast as the price to flatter them.

Moreover, weren't they afraid of thoroughly angering the Hidden Fog Sect?

After all, in this current situation they were the most powerful competitor for leader!

Four hours later, the meeting disbanded. In the end no one was able to figure out why the Blue Origin Sect chose the dark star ice serpent.

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At the Blue Origin Sect's station, the crowd of high level figures all had dark complexions. The atmosphere was constrained and tight, so cold that it could almost freeze over.

"Sect Master, what is the problem? Challenging the Hidden Fog Sect is not a wise move!"

"The dark star ice serpent can break through ten rings in the arena. Its strength is unimaginable. Even if the blue ape is tyrannically strong, how can it fight it?"

"I ask Sect Master to rescind your order!"

When it came to challenging the Hidden Fog Sect, every high level figure within the Blue Origin Sect, besides an Elder who was close with Radiance Temple, utterly opposed this position.

The Blue Origin Sect Master had a calm expression. He lightly said, "I have my own reasons for this. The challenge target has been selected and no further changes are allowed."

Seeing that everyone still wanted to speak, he waved his hand and interrupted them. "Since I see that so many of you still refuse to accept this, then after we leave Dragon City you all may propose to impeach me. I will not speak about this matter anymore!"

He had a firm attitude.

The high level figures of the Blue Origin Sect had increasingly cloudy expressions. After this stalemate, several Elders walked away in a huff and the negotiations ended on bad terms.

"Teacher, what are you trying to do?" A disciple to the side asked with a wry smile.

The Blue Origin Sect Master shook his head, "You don't understand, none of you understand."

He no longer spoke. He stood up and walked away. When he avoided everyone's eyes, his calm face distorted.

If he had a choice, why would he be willing to provoke the Hidden Fog Sect while they were at the peak of their power? But things were beyond his control.

Even if he knew tomorrow was bound to cause an uproar, he could only remain silent and endure it.

...

The next day, Dragon City's arena.

The Blue Origin Sect challenged the Hidden Fog Sect. Because of how strange a choice this was, it attracted attention from almost the entirety of Dragon City.

There was still a period of time until the challenge would begin, yet the giant stone chairs in the arena were already packed full of cultivators.

They were all curious. Why would the Blue Origin Sect choose the Hidden Fog Sect? Where did their confidence come from?

Did they not fear that their sect's spirit beast would be slaughtered on the spot by the dark star ice serpent?

"Look! Those are Radiance Temple cultivators!"

"The Limitless Sword Sect and Moonkeep Tower also sent people."

"Those from Typhoon Mountain have already arrived!"

"This war has attracted a great deal of attention from everyone. Well, to them this battle is incredibly good news."

"The dark star ice serpent will reveal its true strength in today's battle. Moreover, even if they win their strength will suffer."

“Tsk tsk, I really can’t figure out why the Blue Origin Sect would sacrifice themselves for others. What is the reason for this?”

Loud discussions could be heard from all around. The five sects remained quiet, but in truth they also couldn’t figure out what today’s battle was about.

It was said that there was an internal conflict within the Blue Origin Sect yesterday. The Blue Origin Sect Master had maintained a tough attitude and suppressed the opposition of the Elders.

But before coming to Dragon City, no one had heard that there was any enmity between the Blue Origin Sect Master and the Hidden Fog Sect. According to what they knew, they had always gotten along.

Moments later, along with a flurry of restlessness, today’s two main characters appeared. Cultivators from the Blue Origin Sect and Hidden Fog Sect walked up and met each other.

The Hidden Fog Sect people had calm expressions. In contrast, the Blue Origin Sect cultivators all had worried and heavyhearted appearances.

Hu Fu lightly said, “Sect Master Wei Han, my sect has come to accept your challenge. But, I have some questions in my mind and I wonder whether or not you can dispel them for me?”

Wei Han shook his head, “With things having reached this point, why bother chatting? Let’s begin!” He flicked his sleeves. With a flash of light, a great ape landed on the arena ground, causing the earth to shake and thunder.

Hou –

The blue ape reared back its head and roared.

Hu Fu furrowed his eyebrows before calming down. Since the Blue Origin Sect had chosen to reject his final good intentions, there was no need to hold back...with the dark star ice serpent’s strength, the result of this battle was doomed before it even began.

Pitch black scales with a lone silver-white horn that aimed towards the heavens, the dark star ice serpent’s massive figure condensed from nothingness into reality.

Silver white lines crossed around between its eyes. It locked onto the blue ape, its gaze faint and cold.

Hum –

The ground shook. A sphere of light appeared and with the arena as the center, it isolated the outside from inside.

The seal had been activated. When one side won the battle, the seal would naturally open up.

The blue ape stepped forward. It shot into the skies, soaring towards the dark star ice serpent like a falling mountain. Before it arrived it released a terrifying aura that caused cracks to appear in the ground.

The dark star ice serpent looked up. The temperature in the world began to rapidly fall, and the air became thick and viscous. Like an invisible net, it covered the blue ape. Then a faint white layer of frost

appeared on the blue ape's large and tyrannical body, soon turning into a layer of ice. Although it seemed frail and thin, it was harder than iron and stone!

When this sight fell into the eyes of the audience, they all felt awe and respect.

This dark star ice serpent was truly worthy of being a spirit beast capable of breaking through ten rings. Before it had truly attacked, it had already managed to suppress the blue ape.

With the way things were going, the blue ape would be frozen into a giant ice statue before it could even approach. Was this the Blue Origin Sect's challenge? If there was no backup plan then this was simply laughable.

Unless the Blue Origin Sect Master Wei Han had gone insane, he wouldn't do something like this that would lead to zero harvests. There was a follow up, there had to be a follow up!

The Hidden Fog Sect Master Hu Fu also believed this. So even though the dark star ice serpent seemed to occupy an absolute superiority from the very start, the truth was that he didn't relax at all.

The unknown often meant danger. Although he was confident that the dark star ice serpent could overcome the Blue Origin Sect's challenge, he always felt that there was something a bit inappropriate happening.

But this blue ape...or to be more exact, the Blue Origin Sect's backup plan...just what was it?

Kacha –

Kacha –

The layer of ice rapidly thickened on the surface of the blue ape and released an increasingly strong imprisoning and killing strength. But, it still hadn't done anything. It only retained its initial posture of crashing down on the dark star ice serpent, but it seemed to have lost all ability to do anything.

Was it over?

Hey, could this even be considered as a strong start and weak end?

What in the world was Wei Han planning!?

Was there an advantage to using their Blue Origin Sect's spirit beast to play jokes on everyone here?

Chapter 743 - A Tragic Farce

"Hahahaha!" Elder Si laughed out loud, "With this level of strength you dare to challenge my sect's dark star ice serpent? You simply have no idea of death or danger!"

From the moment the Blue Origin Sect chose to challenge the Hidden Fog Sect, they had completely torn apart any pretense of face. So, there was no need to have any scruples either.

"That's right. Besides bringing trouble upon themselves with their own actions, I have no idea what harvests they were hoping for."

"Perhaps the Blue Origin Sect wants to deliver us a lucky charm before the finals begin. Then, my Hidden Fog Sect will accept their good intentions!"

“If that is true, then I must thank the Blue Origin Sect for sending us such an amazing prize!”

Numerous high level figures of the sect began to speak in mocking tones.

In their opinion, this challenge was already over.

Hu Fu furrowed his eyebrows together. He locked his eyes onto the blue ape that had already become a block of ice, and the restlessness in his heart grew heavier.

He glanced over at the calm Blue Origin Sect Master. Then, he immediately stood up and roared, “Dark star ice serpent, immediately kill that beast!”

He couldn’t delay any further.

On the ground, the black-scaled dark star ice serpent seemed to sense something unusual. It opened its mouth and spat out a breath of air. It was rich and pale white, causing the temperature between the heavens and earth to fall even faster. The piercing cold penetrated into one’s marrow.

The blue ape that was sealed in the block of ice instantly turned deep blue. Beneath the sunlight, the ice block reflected a dazzling halo of light.

It was an incomparably beautiful sight, yet it contained a terrifyingly cold aura. If just a single strand of this energy was sent out, it would be enough to freeze rivers and lakes!

The Blue Origin Sect’s blue ape was finished...

But just as this thought appeared in everyone’s minds, small sounds suddenly came from the deep blue block of ice.

In the next moment, countless cracks appeared. They spread over the entire ice block like a spider web!

Bang –

As countless people watched with shock, the deep blue ice block split into countless pieces. It was wrapped within a terrifying power as it blasted into the ground. The eruption was so sudden and without any warning that it completely covered the area where the dark star ice serpent stood.

The fine textures on its silver-white horn suddenly shimmered into being, creating a protective halo that defended the dark star ice serpent.

In the next moment, the hail of deep blue ice fragments arrived. The expected collision did not occur. Rather, the instant both sides came into contact with each other, black light appeared on the surface of each piece of ice. The pieces of ice they wrapped around pierced through the halo of light and ruthlessly struck the dark star ice serpent.

Bang –

Bang –

Bang –

The entire arena violently trembled. The explosion shook the heavens and earth, causing countless pieces of stone and rubble to fly into the air and obscure what was happening within.

Shua –

Shua –

After a brief silence, countless cultivators stood up. Their faces were filled with shock and disbelief as they stared into the place covered in stone pieces and powder.

The dark star ice serpent appeared. Its massive body still stood high, but countless bloody holes had been torn open in it. And each one spewed out pungent black blood that irritated one's senses.

As for that blue ape, it had vanished from existence along with the pieces of shattered blue ice.

In that moment, victory and defeat had been decided. The seal blocking the arena was also lifted.

“Blue Origin Sect!”

Hu Fu roared in a rage. He flicked his sleeve and took out the dark star ice serpent, howling into the distance. This was not the time to get angry and retaliate. He needed to immediately look for mister and pray for help!

But Hu Fu's heart was cold. How could such a severe injury be healed in a short several days? The position of leader that had seemed so close at hand now seemed incomparably far away. Did the Hidden Fog Sect still have any chances of success?

Wei Han was expressionless. Without caring about the dumbfounded and enraged looks of the Sect Elders behind him, he turned and left.

He had fulfilled his promise. What would the consequences of this be? Wei Han was well aware of what sort of turbulence would come from this, but he didn't care. He only hoped those people would keep their word.

This challenge had begun as a farce and ended in tragedy. Some people were left shaken and confused, but others had gone crazy with joy.

This position of leader had become uncertain once more!

....

The Hidden Fog Sect Master Hu Fu had an anxious expression. “Miss Yun Die, mister is busy in the laboratory so I shouldn't be disturbing him, but the dark star ice serpent is in a critical situation right now and urgently needs treatment. Only mister has any chance of being able to save it!” He cupped his hands across his chest, “I hope that Miss Yun Die can pass on a message. I will undertake any consequence and will ensure you aren't implicated in anything!”

Elder Si and the other nodded, asking for Yun Die to help them. The Hidden Fog Sect would engrave this upon their memories and would never forget her graciousness.

Yun Die hesitated for a moment. She clenched her teeth and nodded, “Alright, I will immediately request teacher!” As the Hidden Fog Sect people watched with anticipation, she walked towards the laboratory.

Of course, this didn't have much relation to the Hidden Fog Sect's request. Rather, the dark star ice serpent's condition was linked to the final outcome of the arena. Teacher had made a bet with those people who were trying to seize the Chaotic Sky Chronicle. If they lost...

Standing outside the door of the laboratory that was sealed with an array formation, Yun Die took a deep breath and pressed the internal communication device. After a few busy sounds, the phone on the other side was picked up. "What is it?"

This calm voice carried with it a bit of weariness. Yun Die's heart skipped a beat. She could sense that her teacher wasn't in a good mood.

She composed her heart and tried to explain as succinctly as possible, "Teacher, the dark star ice serpent has been severely wounded. Sect Master Hu Fu and the others are waiting outside."

"I understand."

The call was hung up. A few breaths later, the array formation runes started to extinguish as Qin Yu pushed open the door.

Yun Die lowered her head and stood to the side.

Qin Yu asked, "What are the specifics of what happened?"

Yun Die said, "Teacher, on the first day of the Beast King War, the Witchcraft Sect, Blue Origin Sect, and Typhoon Mountain were defeated. The losers competed against each other a few days ago and the winner earned the right to challenge one of the four finalists. The Blue Origin Sect won so they chose to challenge the Hidden Fog Sect. In the arena today, the Blue Origin Sect's blue ape spirit beast self-detonated and died. As a result, the dark star ice serpent was severely wounded and it is in an extremely poor state right now."

She wanted to say something but stopped. While others watched that scene play out as some weird and terrible farce, she actually sensed something different about it.

Qin Yu was silent for several breaths of time. "I was negligent. I never thought that they could control one of the seven great sects."

After obtaining the dragon blood and dragon soul, he had been in a hurry to heal his injuries. And with the dark star ice serpent breaking ten rings of light and the Hidden Fog Sect obtaining a bye for the first day, he had subconsciously lowered his guard.

Yun Die tensed. It was indeed those people. "Teacher..."

Qin Yu said, "Speaking any more is useless. I must see the dark star ice serpent's condition first."

The laboratory doors opened. Hu Fu and others were waiting on the other side. They hurriedly looked up, and when they saw that familiar black-robed figure, their faces lit up with joy.

"Greetings, Mister Ning Qin!"

Qin Yu waved his hand, "Don't delay. Summon the dark star ice serpent."

Hu Fu respectfully nodded. There was a flash of light in the void and the dark star ice serpent's massive figure appeared. The temperature started to rapidly fall.

Kacha –

Kacha –

A layer of dark blue ice appeared. With the dark star ice serpent at the center, it rapidly spread in all directions. In that moment the lush and verdant flowers and plants outside the laboratory were covered by a layer of ice, instantly turning into lifelike ice sculptures.

Various halos of light emerged around those present as they resisted the terrifying chill in the air. After seeing the dark star ice serpent's situation at this moment, they couldn't help but suck in a breath of cold air.

On the surface of its body, the wounds opened up by the shards of ice were beginning to rot. Foul-smelling pus dripped to the ground, causing dark blue smoke to rise up as it struck the stone tiles.

The dark star ice serpent's formidable self-recovery abilities weren't able to do anything at all. One could peer into some of the terrifying wounds and see the organs that were starting to rot inside.

The sudden eruption of cold wasn't because the dark star ice serpent still possessed a great deal of strength right now. On the contrary, it was incomparably weak, so weak that it couldn't maintain and control its strength, leading to the current signs of collapse.

It was unknown whether it would be able to survive these injuries. Moreover, the arena would open up again in three days.

The Hidden Fog Sect people, including Hu Fu, all had gloomy expressions. Even if a Grand Expert could create species and possessed methods to reverse life and death, these things still required time.

It was only a mere three days. Was that even enough to stabilize such grievous injuries? What else could be done? Everyone felt bitterness and helplessness surge out in their hearts.

The position of leader had been so close at hand, but now it was nothing but an illusion. They feared that Hidden Fog Sect's trip to Dragon City might have ended here.

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He was the only one present who could resist the cold in the air with his body alone.

Not paying attention to the pained and unwilling expressions of the Hidden Fog Sect people, he gripped Yun Die's hand. A flow of heat rushed into her, scattering the chill in her body.

"Examine it."

Chapter 744 – Resurrection Lily

Holding Yun Die's hand, Qin Yu pulled her forward. Wherever he passed, the ice on the ground melted away as if he were a living human torch.

Yun Die bowed, expressing that she understood what he wanted. She stood near the side of the dark star ice serpent and with a deep breath, placed her hand slowly on its surface.

This sight caused the eyes of the despairing Hidden Fog Sect people to light up. A trace of hope appeared in their constrained minds.

But, what they couldn't understand was why Mister Ning Qin didn't perform the examination himself, and instead had his disciple do it.

This was however a minor matter. After a brief thought, they placed this to the side and waited for mister to give his final evaluation.

Several breaths of time later, Yun Die took her hand away. She opened her eyes, her face pale.

Her body shivered. A trace of hesitation flashed in her eyes and she slowly nodded.

Beneath his black robes, Qin Yu relaxed. He felt even more admiration towards the Chaotic Sky Chronicle's abilities.

But this wasn't the time to be overcome with emotion. He turned and said, "It can be saved. Keep the dark star ice serpent here and I and Yun Die will prepare the treatment plan."

The Hidden Fog Sect people were overjoyed. Hu Fu tentatively asked, "The saving that mister refers to..."

"If everything goes smoothly, the dark star ice serpent will be able to participate in the arena battle three days from now."

Hu –

With mister's status, since he said it he was surely confident in himself. This caused everyone to more clearly understand the great strength of a Grand Expert. Their faces filled with shock and ecstatic joy.

Hu Fu deeply bowed, "No matter what price is required, the Hidden Fog Sect is willing to withstand it. I ask Mister Ning Qin to do your best!"

Qin Yu nodded. He pulled Yun Die into the laboratory and went straight to the place where he cultivated.

The hard ground was covered with broken cracks. Traces of the surrounding array formation had been torn to pieces. The clean testing platform and the precious tools and appliances there were in a hazardous mess.

Shock flashed in Yun Die's eyes. This was because this was the place where teacher conducted his experiments and also where he cultivated. Due to that, the Hidden Fog Sect added extra reinforcements, making the originally tough and sturdy laboratory even more so.

Just what had teacher done here...and more importantly, what sort of formidable strength was required to create this catastrophic sight in front of them.

Qin Yu had a calm expression, as if he didn't realize the surprise on his disciple's face. He directly said, "Yun Die, what needs to be done? Just say it."

Yun Die said, "Teacher, the Chaotic Sky Chronicle has given a treatment plan." She took out a jade slip and began to store information within. For a moment she was flustered as she forgot her teacher's habits. "I will tell you."

Qin Yu waved his hand, "Time is of the essence. Record the information."

Yun Die was surprised. She nodded, not saying much. She pressed the jade slip against her forehead and gave it to Qin Yu after several breaths of time.

Searching it with his divine sense, Qin Yu subconsciously furrowed his eyebrows. It took him some time before he removed his divine sense. Generally speaking, the treatment plan provided by the Chaotic Sky Chronicle wasn't too complex. But, the materials needed were actually quite precious.

Resurrection lily. In the rumors, this was said to be a flower that only existed in the world that the dead walked and was incompatible with the living world. Once it was exposed to the outside it would suffer the invisible destruction of laws, causing it to soon wane and wither.

And in the treatment plan provided by the Chaotic Sky Chronicle, this just happened to be the most essential ingredient. Moreover, the requirements for the quality were extremely high; it needed to be able to condense the phantom of the Yama Palace before it was effective.

Yun Die bit her lips. "Teacher, looking at the historical records, a Yama level resurrection lily simply hasn't appeared in the world before. This treatment plan might be useful but we do not have the means to collect the required materials..."

Resolve shined in her eyes. She stepped forward and said, "Teacher, if the dark star ice serpent cannot be healed in the end, then hand me over. But, I will never let them obtain the Chaotic Sky Chronicle!" How could she allow the thousands of members of her Ying Family to have died in vain?

In truth, there were still some words that she couldn't find the courage to say. Rather than dying together with the treasure, wouldn't it be better to give it to teacher?

Maybe she should try again...what if her teacher had changed his mind?

Qin Yu seemed to sense something wrong with his disciple's thoughts. He directly said, "This doesn't necessarily mean there won't be a favorable turn." He turned and walked out.

The dark star ice serpent was sent into the laboratory. Hu Fu and the others respectfully waited to the side. When Qin Yu walked out he said, "I need a resurrection lily to treat the dark star ice serpent. The more mature and high quality it is the better. Can you find it?"

Resurrection lily?

The Hidden Fog Sect people all revealed dignified expressions. They glanced at each other and fell into a deep silence. Mister Ning Qin had a treatment plan but they actually weren't able to put forth the materials. This thought left them feeling somber.

Elder Si clenched his teeth and said, "I know that the Western Tomb's Divine Church has a secret area where they grow a resurrection lily."

After saying this, no matter what he was asked, he didn't say anything else.

But even so, just these words had the potential to bring about great trouble. Elder Si wryly smiled. If this wasn't his last resort, he wouldn't have said anything at all.

Hu Fu looked at him. He turned and cupped his hands, saying, "Mister, please rest assured. Within a day I will surely deliver the resurrection lily to you!"

It was now that Qin Yu handed over the jade slip that Yun Die gave to him. If there were no clues about where to find a resurrection lily, anything else wouldn't have mattered. "These are the materials needed to coordinate with the resurrection lily. The finals are right in front of us, so the faster you prepare this the better."

Hu Fu received the jade slip. "We will have everything ready by tomorrow at the latest. It will all be sent to the laboratory!" He bowed and walked away. His eyes were calm and filled with tenacity.

The person beside the Shadow Clan's Saintess was the young master of the Western Tomb Divine Church. Perhaps this person was someone sent by the hidden flow of destiny as the only chance to save the dark star ice serpent.

This time, he would bet it all. He wanted the Hidden Fog Sect to release its shackles and obtain a new life.

So in order to accomplish this, Hu Fu was willing to pay any price!

Yun Die looked at her teacher's profile. Her gloomy heart was suddenly revitalized. She thought back to the dense numbers of high quality shadow trees she saw in the laboratory before the Shadow Clan auction.

Perhaps her teacher really could achieve this.

...

Shadow Clan dwelling.

In the newly built Saintess Palace, Zhou Li personally received the visiting Hidden Fog Sect Master Hu Fu. After exchanging simple pleasantries, they took a seat across from each other.

Hu Fu was anxious. But to be the master of a sect, his bargaining abilities and his intelligence both had to be extremely high. Of course, he knew the key point for how to obtain the resurrection lily. Although that man was the young master of the Western Tomb Ji Family, the Saintess in front of him was where he could make a real breakthrough.

But for a time, he couldn't find a way to approach the topic. As Hu Fu was deep in consideration, he didn't know that Zhou Li was also feeling nervous.

In the arena battle, the Blue Origin Sect's blue ape had self-detonated, causing heavy losses to the dark star ice serpent. And Qin Yu was in the Hidden Fog Sect where he was pretending to be someone else and stirring up trouble. Was it possible that his identity had been given away? If this was true, Ning Qin absolutely wouldn't care whether he lived or died. With the status and dignity of the seven great sects, how could they tolerate this? She feared that he would immediately be sent beyond redemption.

Who knew what the Hidden Fog Sect Master had come for? The more she thought about it the more anxious she became. So after a brief silence, Zhou Li pursed her lips and said, "Sect Master Hu Fu, if there is anything you need please speak openly. I have other things I must attend to today."

If the Hidden Fog Sect has really discovered something, they would reveal it.

Across from her, Hu Fu took a deep breath. He cupped his hands together and said, "Your Highness Saintess, I came here today to ask you for your help. If the Hidden Fog Sect can achieve our goal, then we will owe you a great favor. If you have need of anything in the future, the Hidden Fog Sect will never decline!"

This was a heavy promise.

Zhou Li relaxed. It was fine that Qin Yu hadn't gotten into trouble. Then, she started thinking more about what he said. From the words of the Hidden Fog Sect Master, it seemed that they had encountered some great problem. Although she was the Shadow Clan's Saintess, the truth was that her influence in the clan was limited. How could she help the Hidden Fog Sect?

Chapter 745 – Zhou Li's Help

Her thoughts turned and Zhou Li said, "Since Sect Master Hu Fu is so sincere, please state your request. However, I cannot guarantee that I can provide help."

Hu Fu nodded. "The dark star ice serpent's wounds are heavy. In order to save its life, a rare treasure called a resurrection lily must be used. According to what I know this flower is almost never seen in the world. However, the Western Tomb Divine Church has a mystic realm where such a flower exists."

Zhou Li furrowed her eyebrows. "Sect Master Hu Fu seems to have come to the wrong place. If you need the resurrection lily to save the dark star ice serpent, you should be looking for Ji Yun."

Hu Fu nodded. "I indeed need to ask Young Master Ji Yun for help. But, there is no one in the Hidden Fog Sect who has much connection to the Western Tomb Ji Family. So, I came here in hopes that Your Highness can assist us by referring us."

This was only a superficial explanation. The true meaning behind his words was that he wanted to ask Zhou Li to convince Ji Yun to give them the resurrection lily.

Zhou Li was able to guess this point, but she didn't want to influence Ji Yun's own judgment by herself. This would make her feel as if she was seeking benefits by manipulating the emotions of others. It wasn't something that was in line with her conscience.

Just as she was about to refuse him, a thought flashed in Zhou Li's heart. "Just where did you learn that the resurrection lily can heal the dark star ice serpent?"

Hu Fu had an awkward expression, "This is..."

Zhou Li looked at him. "If Sect Master Hu Fu feels awkward about this, then I can make my own guesses. You simply need to nod or shake your head.

"This matter, is it related to the black-robed figure who mobilized the dark star ice serpent to capture the first place position on the first day?"

Hu Fu thought for a moment and slowly nodded. Even an idiot could guess this, so this couldn't be considered as revealing any information about that mister.

It had to be known that helping the Hidden Fog Sect suppress all sides and capturing the position of leader was something that would greatly offend many people.

It really was him!

A cloudy look flashed in Zhou Li's eyes. But in her opinion, with Qin Yu's status, how could he know about the existence of the resurrection lily? It had to be Ning Qin using him to raise this request.

It seemed that Yun Die had already reported her words to Ning Qin. But, Ning Qin not only didn't care about her threat, but instead used this information against her to try and force her to help the Hidden Fog Sect.

This bastard, wasn't he afraid that she would reveal what happened in the Shadow Clan auction to the public?

At that time, no matter how mysterious and formidable he was, he would still be placed in a difficult position facing the wrath of the seven great sects.

Her chest heaved up and down. Zhou Li suppressed her anger with difficulty. She knew that if she really did this, the first one to die would be Qin Yu.

This fellow, why couldn't he live an honest and ordinary life? All sorts of complaints rose up in her heart but faded away in the next moment...because she knew that everything Qin Yu faced now was likely because of her.

After several breaths of silence, Zhou Li took a deep breath. "Sect Master Hu Fu, please come with me." No matter what, she couldn't stand by and do nothing as Qin Yu fell into desperate straits.

Hu Fu was overjoyed, "Thank you, Saintess!"

With Zhou Li's assistance, the chances of success were much higher.

They left the Saintess Palace and arrived at Ji Yun's dwelling. This was a gorgeous and extravagant white palace that occupied an enormous tract of land. Beneath the sunlight, it radiated with a shimmering halo of light. As the Western Tomb Divine Church's young master, he had the qualifications to receive the respectful and courteous reception of the Shadow Clan.

When Zhou Li came to visit, Ji Yun quickly came out to greet her. He had a warm smile on his face. After seeing Hu Fu, he was left a bit stunned. "Zhou Li, Sect Master Hu Fu, please come in."

In a small hall within the reception area, they seated themselves on soft sofas. A maid from the Shadow Clan offered fragrant tea before turning and leaving.

Ji Yun looked at Zhou Li's dignified and hesitant expression. He smiled and said, "Sect Master Hu Fu, are you here to visit me today?"

He didn't need anyone to say anything to understand some matters.

Hu Fu went straight to the point. "That is true. I asked the Saintess to recommend me today in hopes to make an exchange with the Western Tomb Divine Church for a rare treasure. I hope that Young Master Ji Yun can help."

Ji Yun looked at Zhou Li. Her face flushed red and she said, "Ji Yun, if it isn't too excessive, I hope that you can help Sect Master Hu Fu."

"Alright."

Zhou Li's eyes widened. She looked at Ji Yun's smiling face and her heart rippled. She bit her lips and said, "Thank you."

Ji Yu waved his hand. "There is no need to say such words between us." He turned back around, "Sect Master Hu Fu, please speak frankly!"

Although he was a bit unhappy that Hu Fu had made use of Zhou Li to meet him, this was undoubtedly something that would increase the space he occupied in her heart. So, Ji Yun agreed. But agreeing was one thing. If they wanted to exchange for an item then they needed to pay a sufficient price.

In this aspect, he wouldn't concern himself with anyone's feelings.

Hu Fu looked gratefully at Zhou Li. He cupped his hands together and said, "I heard that the Western Tomb Divine Church has a mystic realm somewhere where they grow a resurrection lily. The Hidden Fog Sect is willing to show enough sincerity for this transaction."

Ji Yun's complexion changed and his eyes turned cold and sullen. In the deep silence, the air gradually thickened. After a long time he slowly opened his mouth and said, "May I ask where Sect Master Hu Fu learned the news about the resurrection lily?"

Hu Fu's heart skipped a beat. When he thought about Elder Si's bitter and awkward expression, he said, "This..."

Ji Yun coldly sneered. "I'll be honest with Sect Master Hu Fu. This matter involves a case within the Western Tomb that has been unresolved for many years. If you can inform me of your source then I can represent the Divine Church to agree to this exchange with the Hidden Fog Sect. Otherwise, I will have to ask Sect Master Hu Fu to leave and seek the resurrection lily somewhere else!"

He also said, "Zhou Li, it's not that I don't care about your face, but this matter involves significant events. If I conceal it, I will surely be punished afterwards, so I ask you not to blame me."

Some words needed to be said as soon as possible, otherwise it would be too late afterwards.

Zhou Li nodded. She already felt guilty for helping the Hidden Fog Sect, so what else could she say? She had done what she could. As for what happened afterwards, that would depend on the Hidden Fog Sect themselves.

Hu Fu sighed and apologized inwardly. Treating the dark star ice serpent as soon as possible was the most important task of the entire Hidden Fog Sect right now.

Elder Si, I'm sorry!

“Hidden Fog Sect, Situ...”

Ji Yun quietly remembered these words. The cold look on his face remained undiminished. “I am a man of my word. I ask Sect Master Hu Fu to put forth an offer. I shouldn’t need to explain how precious the resurrection lily is.”

Hu Fu took out a jade slip. When Ji Yun received it, he scanned it with his divine sense. Several breaths of time later, his complexion relaxed a little and he said, “Very well, this offer will be fine.”

“Young Master Ji Yun, I hope that I can obtain the resurrection lily today. Of course, the Hidden Fog Sect is willing to pay an extra fee for this.”

Ji Yun nodded, “Of course.”

The ancient god worshipped by the Western Tomb Divine Church had yet to perish. The ones blessed by god were able to borrow the power of god to form a transmission array across the world.

This was a fact well known throughout the world. As the Western Tomb’s young master, he was one of the highest ranked blessed ones and had the qualifications to open the transmission.

Hu Fu cupped his hands together, “Thank you!”

Ji Yun stood up. “I must begin preparations. Zhou Li, bring Sect Master Hu Fu to wait outside the hall. Do not let anyone disturb me.”

The Divine Church’s ceremonies were solemn and pious. No one was allowed to blaspheme them.

Zhou Li nodded and left the hall with Hu Fu.

“Saintess, the Hidden Fog Sect will give you a gift later. I hope that you will accept it.”

If it weren’t for Zhou Li speaking up for him today, Hu Fu knew that he wouldn’t be able to obtain the resurrection lily.

Even though he had already made a promise, this extra gratitude was still justified.

Zhou Li shook her head, “I have no need for a gift. If Sect Master Hu Fu wants to, please help me pass on some words to Miss Yun Die. I want to see my old acquaintance as soon as possible. She will understand what I mean.”

Hu Fu already knew that Zhou Li once visited Yun Die. He wasn’t surprised that the two of them knew each other. “Good, I will certainly pass on this message.”

An hour later, Ji Yun emerged from the white hall. He wore pure white clothes and had a jade white crown on his head, making him seem even more handsome and ephemeral.

Hu Fu hurried forward, “Young Master Ji Yun?”

Ji Yun said, “Something has changed. My father has agreed to the trade with the Hidden Fog Sect. But, the place where the resurrection lily grows is too strange and dangerous. The Divine Church temporarily doesn’t have a suitable person to go and pick it. If Sect Master Hu Fu wishes to obtain it today, then you must go and pick it yourself. The Divine Church will prepare the necessary transmission portal to enter.”

Hu Fu's heart sank. When he heard these words, a cold sweat appeared on his back. "That will be no problem. I am willing to personally go!"

Ji Yun looked at him. "Alright. The transmission portal will be complete in two hours. Sect Master Hu Fu can make preparations in advance."

Hu Fu cupped his hands together and left in a hurry.

With the Western Tomb Divine Church's strength, they still described the place where the resurrection lily grew as 'strange and dangerous'. From this alone, one could imagine that it was an extremely horrifying location. How could he underestimate it? Since he had two hours, he needed to prepare himself as much as he could.

Although he was willing to die for his sect, he needed this life of his to display its greatest value in doing so.

Chapter 746A – Explosive Anger

The Western Tomb Divine Church agreed to trade the resurrection lily. News of this sudden event caused the entire Hidden Fog Sect to be roused to action. Soon after, the several other precious spiritual treasures needed for the treatment plan were confirmed as having been obtained one after another.

As long as they obtained the resurrection lily the treatment plan could begin. With Mister Ning Qin's help, they might be able to escape from this deathtrap and reverse the situation.

As for the so-called dangers that the Western Tomb Divine Church referred to, this seemed like a normal matter to the high-level figures of the Hidden Fog Sect. If one wished to obtain something, they needed to pay an equivalent price. How could such a meat pie just fall from the skies?

Hu Fu said, "Mister, after some preparations I will pass through the transmission array and go to the Western Tomb Divine Church's mystic realm to bring back the resurrection lily."

When Qin Yu was about to nod, a drowsy voice sounded out from within his soul space, "Resurrection lily?"

As if she had just been awoken but wasn't fully awake, she repeated, "Resurrection lily?"

Although these were the same two words, they had an entirely different meaning.

The Cosmic Seacross Bell flashed and Meimei appeared. Her large eyes were perfectly round and flames seemed to burn in them.

"Qin Yu, Qin Yu, I heard someone mention the resurrection lily just now. Is that the type that only grows among the dead?"

His soul opened its eyes and he just happened to hear this. His lips twitched and he said, "...If I'm not wrong, it should be that type."

Meimei placed her hands on her hips and laughed, the epitome of a fiery young girl. "Hahaha! I knew that the heavens would find some way to make things up to me for being so mean in my earlier years!"

“Tsk tsk, resurrection lily, the resurrection lily of the world of the dead. To think I can encounter something like this in the living world, my luck is too heaven-defying!”

Her expression changed and she wickedly glared at Qin Yu. “Where is it? Where is it? Hurry and give me the resurrection lily, it’s mine!”

Qin Yu had a strange expression. Looking at her manic and almost crazed appearance, he hesitated on whether or not he should tell her the truth.

As if sensing his thoughts, purple moonlight flashed and the unparalleled beauty Purple Moon stepped out in full court apparel. Her slender legs were faintly visible beneath her purple dress, and just by standing there she made one’s heart instinctively beat faster and their mouth become parched.

“Little girl, don’t think too much about it. This resurrection lily isn’t being prepared for you.” Her expression eased up but still showed some regret. The resurrection lily gathered the extreme yin aura of the world and would be extremely helpful to her.

“Why?” Meimei pouted, her face twisting together. If they couldn’t give her a satisfactory explanation, she would stomp her feet and go mad!

Qin Yu helplessly said, “Meimei, I really can’t give it to you.”

He immediately explained the situation to her.

Meimei’s distressed face turned paper white. “What do you care about that idiotic dark star ice serpent for? It was injured by someone so if it wants to die just let it go...”

“Humph!” There was a sudden cold humph. Meimei was interrupted midway in her complaints and she shrunk her neck backwards, revealing a scared expression.

A blue sun phantom appeared. Beneath the light, a slender physique was barely visible, her expression icy cold without any warmth to it. “I must go to the place where the resurrection lily grows.”

This wasn’t a request but a straightforward demand. As if the words she said were bound to become reality.

Purple Moon smiled. “That’s right, I’m also thinking that.”

There was only one resurrection lily and it was indeed a pity that they couldn’t obtain it. But, the place where it was bred was also a lucky chance. Although this lucky chance required one to make a bet on their own luck, this fellow Qin Yu had never been the unlucky type...if there really was a harvest there, it might be even more astonishing than the resurrection lily itself.

“I have to go!” Meimei firmly said.

Purple Moon smiled. “You are still young. If you eat and drink too much then it’s easy to harm yourself. How about resting for some time and digesting what you have so you can further firm your foundation?”

“I thank Big Sister Purple Moon for caring about me. While I am small, my appetite is healthy and great. Even if I eat ten times more I still won’t feel full.”

Blue Sun said in a cold tone, “If it’s there, I want half.”

Purple Moon narrowed her eyes. After a brief silence she nodded and said, "Of course."

Shua –

Blue Sun vanished from sight.

Purple Moon looked down, her smile gentle and beautiful. "Little Meimei, let's discuss things."

Qin Yu drew back his consciousness. He was speechless beneath his black robes. These three women, weren't they too disrespectful to him?

They were too excessive!

Could it be that just because you want to go you are certain I will go? How laughable!

Hu Fu had a hesitant look. "Mister, is there a problem?" After he finished speaking just now, Qin Yu had fallen silent. This sort of quiet was undoubtedly disturbing.

"Cough!" Qin Yu regained his composure. "There are unknown dangers in the place where the resurrection lily grows. I fear it isn't right for you to go alone, so I will come with you."

As a man, how could he lower himself to argue with those women? He had to take the larger picture into account!

The entire Hidden Fog Sect was filled with awe. Even with mister's status he was actually willing to take such a risk and place himself in danger. It was truly touching.

Hu Fu bowed, overjoyed. "Thank you mister. With your help, we will complete our task with absolute safety!" As he spoke, the Hidden Fog Sect people drew back to make some essential preparations.

Yun Die guided everyone out in place of her teacher. Hu Fu took several steps out and then suddenly turned around, "I almost forgot something. Miss Yun Die, please wait a moment. I saw the Shadow Clan's Saintess Zhou Li not too long ago and she asked me to pass on a message. She said she hopes to see her old friend as soon as possible.

"This time, Zhou Li was greatly helpful in persuading Ji Yun. If things aren't awkward, I hope that Miss Yun Die can help."

He cupped his hands together and then walked away.

Looking at his back, Yun Die was stunned. All sorts of random thoughts raced through her mind.

Within Dragon City, news that the Western Tomb Divine Church's young master was pursuing the Shadow Clan's Saintess was known by everyone. Judging from Hu Fu's words, it seemed that this was true. Zhou Li really did help the Hidden Fog Sect.

But was this all there was to it?

Zhou Li didn't know Qin Yu was Ning Qin. So if Hu Fu went forward to ask for help, he might have misinterpreted other signals. For instance, threats.

Now, Zhou Li had asked to see Qin Yu...Yun Die smiled bitterly. Things were most likely like this. Hey teacher, how come you don't just explain things clearly!?

She hurried back to the laboratory and conveyed Zhou Li's words. She also vaguely raised her own guesses.

Sitting back against a sofa, Qin Yu rubbed his forehead, feeling troubled. He didn't expect that he would have to meet Zhou Li. Ji Yun was in the Shadow Clan's dwelling. If he wanted to enter the Western Tomb Divine Church's mystic realm, he would need to pass through her.

Qin Yu took a deep breath, "I understand." The reason he concealed his status from Zhou Li at the start was because he didn't want to cause unnecessary issues. Moreover, when he entered Sky Declaring Pavilion, his only purpose there was to heal his injuries as soon as possible without being bothered by anything else.

Qin Yu wasn't sure if this goal would provoke further troubles in the future. If his connection with Zhou Li was exposed, she would likely be implicated.

And now that the factor of the Dark Parliament had been added to the mix, Qin Yu was even surer that he couldn't reveal that he was Ning Qin. Otherwise, with the way the Dark Parliament acted, they might capture Zhou Li and try to threaten him into lowering his head in the Beast King War.

Even the solemn Blue Origin Sect, one of the seven great sects, was being played with in the palm of their hand. Qin Yu didn't doubt that the Dark Parliament had the ability to achieve this.

How would he explain things to Zhou Li? This was indeed a difficult problem! Qin Yu couldn't think of a solution for the time being, so he decided to act as things came.

Two hours soon passed. Led by Shadow Clan cultivators, Hu Fu and Qin Yu arrived at Ji Yun's dwelling.

A tall young woman was already waiting outside the hall. She slowly turned around. Her fine and exquisite dress contrasted against her graceful figure, accentuating her charming curves. Her sharp eyes fell on Qin Yu.

By cultivating, her body and temperament had both changed.

Today's Zhou Li was the Saintess of Dragon City and she had dragon energy within her body. This gave her an air of nobility and beauty. Although she had an appearance that was similar to how she was in the past, the way she acted was completely different. At this time she took a step forward. The scale between her eyebrows was filled with dignity. Every action and movement she made showed off her innate momentum. She said, "Fellow daoists, please come with me."

She turned and walked to the side.

Hu Fu was shocked. He instantly understood that the old friend Zhou Li referred to was most likely Qin Yu. No wonder she was able to gain the approval of Dragon City and become the Shadow Clan's Saintess. And as for the rumors that she was only a lucky and ordinary woman?

Hoho, to recognize mister and also have a significant relationship with him, how could she be an average person?

What a joke!

Knowing that he couldn't avoid this, Qin Yu had already prepared himself for this. He lightly said, "I will return soon." Since there was no way to explain it, he wouldn't say anything at all.

Hu Fu respectfully bowed, "Yes, mister."

Zhou Li paused for a moment and her eyebrows subconsciously pressed together. Even if today's situation was caused by her, did Qin Yu still not know his station?

Did he feel good and refreshed to have the solemn Hidden Fog Sect Master be so respectful to him? Did he never think that once his status was exposed, the suffering he experienced in the future would be ten times, a hundred times greater than the glory he saw now?

What was the point of pretending to be a tiger? Besides hollow vanity and satisfaction, there was nothing! In the end, people could only rely on their own strength. Yet even now, Qin Yu wasn't able to understand this truth.

Disappointment and agitation burst out of Zhou Li's heart and her complexion became even fainter. She flicked her sleeves and a layer of light covered her and Qin Yu.

Chapter 746B – Explosive Anger

The sound of footsteps came to a stop behind her and the air fell deathly silent.

"Is there nothing you need to say to me?" Zhou Li turned around and coldly asked.

Beneath his black robes, Qin Yu thought for a moment. "I never thought I would run into you in Dragon City."

Zhou Li tore through him. "Is it because you never thought about it or because you didn't want to? Don't think I don't know what happened at the Shadow Clan auction!"

Well, this was awkward...

Qin Yu hadn't expected that his actions on that day had been discovered by Zhou Li. No wonder she had such an ill expression right now. He was originally confused about how to explain things, but now it was even worse.

His silence caused Zhou Li to frown. She took a deep breath and said, "Hu Fu is going to take the resurrection lily so why are you going with him? Did Yun Die pass you my message so you wanted to take this chance to see me?"

Qin Yu coughed. "No...I am going with Hu Fu to the Western Tomb Divine Church's mystic realm."

The atmosphere fell silent. Zhou Li's eyes flew open. After a long period of shock, she was enraged.

"Go with Hu Fu? Are you not afraid of death?" The anger in her heart was thoroughly ignited by Qin Yu and now it erupted outwards. "Qin Yu, do you really think you've become some great person that deserves awe and respect? You might be good at acting, but if you enter that role too deeply the only one to be harmed in the end will be you!"

“At the Shadow Clan auction, if it wasn’t for me asking Elder One Eye to help you escape using the transmission array, the Witchcraft Sect might not have given you the chance to leave! And if I didn’t help today, it would have been impossible for Hu Fu to have the chance to exchange for the resurrection lily!

“Ning Qin doesn’t care whether you live or die. Since he’s controlling you from behind, he must have his own reasons for doing so. If you continue to indulge in this smug vanity of yours, sooner or later you will lose your life!”

Zhou Li clenched her teeth and said, “After today, if you stay in the Shadow Clan, then I promise you I will guarantee your safety.”

She couldn’t allow Qin Yu to kill himself.

Seeing Zhou Li’s angry expression, Qin Yu felt awkward. Still, a faint trace of warmth flowed through him. Although she had an ill expression, she couldn’t conceal just how much she cared.

Otherwise, why would she waste her time arguing with him about this?

But even if Zhou Li had good intentions, Qin Yu could only apologize and refuse. The Western Tomb Divine Church’s mystic realm was a place he needed to go no matter what. The cultivation level of this world was much higher than the Land of Divinity and Demons. Even if he managed to restore himself to his peak condition he still wouldn’t be a peak figure here. The stronger Purple Moon and his other residents became, the more protection he would have!

“No need. I believe that teacher won’t harm me.”

Zhou Li’s breath caught in her chest, “What did you say?”

...

The white palace bathed beneath the sunlight opened up, and the dashing and heroic Ji Yun, clad in pure white robes, stepped out. He swept his eyes around, looking at the two blurry figures beneath a curtain of light. While he couldn’t see their appearances, he immediately recognized that one of them was Zhou Li.

Hu Fu explained, “Young Master Ji Yun, Saintess Zhou Li is occupied. If time is tight, I can remind her.”

Ji Yun shook his head. “No need. Just wait for some time.” He looked towards the curtain of light, his eyes quiet. How could a man who needed the secret protection of a woman possibly be qualified to compete with him?

Even if that person still had some traces in Zhou Li’s heart, Ji Yun believed that it wouldn’t be long before they became nothing but a memory of the past. He was fully confident in this.

Of course, if he had information about this person, this process might proceed quicker. Ji Yu thought for a moment and asked, “Sect Master Hu Fu, is it possible for you to tell me about that black-robed person?”

Hu Fu shook his head without hesitation. “I apologize, but concerning that person’s matters, I vowed that I would never disclose anything. I ask that young master forgives me.”

Ji Yun had a calm expression. "It's fine." People who hid their heads and tails must have dark reasons for doing so. With Zhou Li's disposition, she absolutely wouldn't like this behavior.

So, even if he couldn't obtain information about this person, none of that mattered.

At this time, the distant curtain of light shattered. Zhou Li turned around without hesitation and walked towards him.

Ji Yun moved forward to welcome her. Seeing the anger that had yet to fade away on her face, he smiled and said, "Zhou Li, who annoyed you so much?" He glanced behind her, a cold light in his eyes.

If Zhou Li expressed her unhappiness, he wouldn't mind teaching this person a lesson so that he understood the difference between them.

Zhou Li shook her head, "I'm fine. If the portal is complete, send them through."

"Them?" Ji Yun was surprised. He glanced at Qin Yu and said, "This fellow daoist is also going?"

Zhou Li nodded without expression.

Ji Yun thought for a moment. "Zhou Li, I told you before about how incomparably dangerous the mystic realm is. I wasn't saying those things just to try and frighten you. If a person enters and they don't possess sufficient strength, I fear they will be more unfortunate than fortunate."

He furrowed his eyebrows together, a warning expression on his face. "Fellow daoist, I urge you to reconsider things. Don't lose your life in vain."

Qin Yu looked at Ji Yun. This was indeed a dashing young man with a righteous aura and good manners. Of course, he did have the arrogance and condescending manner befitting the young master of the Western Tomb Divine Church. Still, this was a status entrusted to him, and he had the qualifications to be arrogant, which in itself couldn't be considered a moral defect.

In general, Qin Yu had a good first impression of Ji Yun. He wasn't a person with dark and dangerous thoughts. If Zhou Li could be with him, it would be a good marriage for the both of them.

"I have already made up my mind. I thank Young Master Ji Yun for the reminder."

His tone was calm and indifferent.

Besides the restlessness he felt when facing Zhou Li due to his guilt, Qin Yu was able to calmly deal with anyone else. But, when this calm appearance fell in Ji Yun's eyes, it seemed thoroughly fake. Did this person want to conceal his weakness and cowardice from Zhou Li?

Ji Yun smiled as bright as the sun, his appraisal of Qin Yu rapidly dropping. For face alone, this person was actually placing himself into a dangerous situation. It was utterly stupid.

Zhou Li angrily said, "Some people don't know how to write the word 'death', so why waste time on them? Ji Yun, let them go in!"

"Okay." Ji Yun smiled. He certainly didn't care whether Qin Yu lived or died. The reason he spoke up just now was because he didn't hope for this person to die and leave behind traces in Zhou Li's heart forever.

But now, it seemed that during that chat just before, Qin Yu had thoroughly enraged Zhou Li. As for himself, he had no reason to stop him.

After all, even an extremely unimportant and lowly person still had the right to decide their own life.

“Fellow daoists, please follow me.”

Hu Fu nodded and followed behind Ji Yun. But, when he looked at this Western Tomb young master, there was ridicule and disdain in his eyes. This person was nothing but a lucky boy who had a strong sect backing him. Even if he appeared calm and collected, it was nothing but an appearance.

This Ji Yun had eyes but couldn't see the forest for the trees. If it weren't for mister seemingly having no interest in Zhou Li, then what qualifications would he have to compete against him? He might as well go back home early and play in the mud!

Zhou Li had a cold look on her face as she watched Ji Yun bring Hu Fu and Qin Yu away. But when the three of them stepped into the hall, her heart skipped a beat as if it was suddenly missing a piece. She was at a loss for what to do.

Like that, he had gone to the extremely perilous mystic realm of the Western Tomb Divine Church. It was highly likely that he wouldn't return from there, and he would forever vanish from her life.

Bitterness swelled forth from her heart. Zhou Li subconsciously bit her lips, so hard that a bright red color appeared. However, her pride didn't allow her to lower her head again. She had already done everything she could do. What could possibly be done when Qin Yu didn't appreciate her kindness? He could do as he wished!

She turned and left. Zhou Li lifted her head and looked into the bright sun above. Her lips moved as she muttered, “Qin Yu, you bastard!”

Chapter 747 – Western Tomb's Secret

No one in the group of three spoke; only the sound of their footsteps reverberated through the great temple. Qin Yu finally revealed a forced smile beneath his black robes.

It seemed that this time he had ruthlessly offended Zhou Li. But perhaps this was a chance to completely separate himself from her.

The further away Zhou Li was from him, the safer she would be. Looking at things from this angle, it could actually be a good deed.

However, as he thought about the gaze that continued watching him as he entered the temple, he still couldn't help but feel a trace of melancholy.

Whatever. It was fine as long as he didn't do anything that brought shame to him in his heart. As for everything else, he would just go with the flow.

The temple that Ji Yun lived in could be ranked among the top five largest within the Shadow Clan. After a moment they arrived at a sealed hall.

A milky white halo of light radiated from the hall, spreading to every corner like flowing water. It was calm, gentle, and yet extremely powerful, as if it were able to contain everything in the world. A vast and noble aura emanated from him, causing one to feel awe and submission in their heart.

After taking several steps forward and entering the hall, the light in front of them cleared up. A 40-50 foot high portal stood quietly in the center of the hall.

Fine and exquisite textures were interwoven on its surface. The pale white light that flooded the hall was being emitted from these textures.

Behind the portal, space fiercely twisted, almost producing a mass of chaos. It silently fluctuated, as if it connected to a far and remote land.

Ji Yun came to a stop. His expression was solemn and respectful. He said, "Sect Master Hu Fu, this is the portal which leads to the mystic realm where the resurrection lily is. It can only be maintained for 24 hours at most. In other words, the two of you must return by this time tomorrow."

As for Qin Yu, he was someone destined to die, so why should he care about him?

Hu Fu nodded. "Thank you for the reminder, Young Master Ji Yun." He glanced at Qin Yu and walked forward. After several steps, he walked right into the portal.

Qin Yu followed behind. As he was about to enter the portal, Ji Yun's calm voice echoed out from behind, "I will take care of Zhou Li in the future. She will live a good life."

Qin Yu paused for a brief moment. He glanced back and said, "I hope so, otherwise I won't be happy."

Shua –

He stepped forward and vanished into the portal.

In the hall, Ji Yun furrowed his eyebrows. He thought about the words Qin Yu calmly said as well as his profound gaze. At that moment, Qin Yu gave off a very unusual feeling. Was he really just a normal person as Zhou Li described?

His thoughts turned and he suppressed it. He had a good understanding of Zhou Li's personality and knew she wasn't someone who would lie.

Moreover, with the mystic realm's current hellish state, not even the Hidden Fog Sect Master would necessarily be able to withdraw alive. Even if that person had some skills, what could he do?

Ji Yun shook his head and turned around to leave, his heart calm and serene. He hadn't violated his beliefs. He had agreed to the transaction with the Hidden Fog Sect and had even warned them about how dangerous the trip would be. If an accident were to happen, that was their problem and had nothing to do with him.

...

The First Moon Mountain Range stretched out for hundreds of millions of miles. To the east of the mountain range was a vast plain. The seven great sects had dominated this land for a long time and each one ruled their own respective region.

But if one went to the west, then after passing through an area of low hills and valleys, they would see that the landscape suddenly rose up, culminating in a vast plateau that hung high in the thin air.

The green grass touched the skies and countless white tents dotted the land. These were the herdsmen of the plateau. They drove the herds of cattle, sheep, and other animals along while moving with the migration of water and vegetation.

This was the Western Tomb, the greatest religion in the world. They ruled over an inexhaustible land and all lives in the Western Tomb believed in the unsurpassed Dao Monarch. To them, he was their final home, the place their souls would return to when they died.

In the middle of this vast plateau was a majestic Divine Palace that sprawled across the earth. Even if one looked up from up high, they could still clearly see this Divine Palace.

The Divine Palace was colored in white and red, and it released a boundless dignified aura. Endless sunlight was gathered from the skies, forming 109 pillars of light. Each pillar of light was connected to a shrine within the Divine Palace, resulting in a miraculous sight.

At the center of the Divine palace was a shrine. This was a holy temple that housed a statue of the exalted Dao Monarch. It stood between 108 other shrines. The beam of light here was the thickest, nearly covering the entire temple.

Beneath the bright sunlight, the temple seemed to be burning as it released infinite light and heat that shined down upon the world. Outside the Divine Palace, countless devout believers knelt down on both sides of the shrine. They chanted prayers from between their lips as they prostrated themselves upon the ground, hoping to obtain the protection of the Dao Monarch.

At the holy temple, at the base of the glorious statue of the Dao Monarch, there was the throne of the Divine Church's Divine Seat. He was a dignified-looking middle-aged man. His face was covered in little wrinkles, but not only did this not destroy his image it instead enhanced it, giving him a sense of time and wisdom, as if he were a motionless mountain.

Space within the temple suddenly rippled like water. A figure bathed in darkness slowly appeared.

Her figure was tall, surpassing most ordinary men. Her body was covered in liquid darkness and one could only sense the arrogance in her poise.

The woman in the darkness knelt to the floor. She hoarsely said, "I greet your excellency the Divine Seat!"

On the throne, the current Divine Seat Ji Xiangtian said, "What is it?"

The woman said, "The portal opened a moment ago. The people from the Hidden Fog Sect have entered the Hell Mystic Realm."

Ji Xiangtian nodded. "Very good. I do not hope for any of them to come out alive."

"Yes, Divine Seat."

The woman stood up and drew back one step. Her body vanished into the fluctuations of space once more, vanishing from sight.

Ji Xiangtian was without expression. There was indifference in his eyes. The common people knew that the Western Tomb revered the Dao Monarch, but who understood the power they controlled?

As long as they could obtain the medium, they could use dao arts to kill others. Their lives would be extinguished invisibly, making it so that no one could detect it or find out.

“Si Tu...”

He muttered in a low voice, killing intent flowing out.

There was no way that anyone could be allowed to peep into the Western Tomb’s greatest secret. Even if the chances were infinitesimal, any possibility had to be obliterated!

Of course, this matter needed to be dealt with in secrecy and no one could know about it. Because of this, the Divine Church needed to make some circles.

...

At the Hidden Fog Sect’s station, Elder Si ordered people to summon his daughter Si Jia. After ordering everyone to leave, the father and daughter spoke privately for a long time. It was unknown what they said, but when they were finished Si Jia’s eyes were red as if she had been crying.

“Aiya, I regret the past!” Si Tu sighed, his face full of bitterness.

Many years ago before he was married, he travelled the world, adventuring in his youth and making several good friends. At that time he was involved in an accidental murder, and the band of several high-spirited youths obtained a white finger bone.

And after inadvertently discovering the secret contained within this finger bone, a tragic and brutal treasure hunt began.

The group of youths entered a mystic realm. They made many horrifying discoveries but also obtained harvests beyond their imagination. As time passed, the minds of the youths were gradually eroded away. They became violent and bloodthirsty, finally leading to a slaughterfest.

Because the finger bone had been kept by Elder Si the entire time, he was the only one who managed to escape from the mystic realm.

After that, Elder Si returned to the Hidden Fog Sect. Beginning from that time, he lost his sense of wanderlust and adventure and chose to stay where he was. This lasted until the present. As for the dangers of that time and all of his friends that had died, Elder Si never spoke about it and instead chose to completely bury these memories in his heart.

But currently, the dark star ice serpent was in danger and its safety concerned the benefits of the entire Hidden Fog Sect. After hesitating over and over, he decided to speak up. Yet as he said, just as he spoke he regretted it. He couldn’t help but complain to his father who had perished so many years ago. Why had his father poured such a heavy faith into him that he should always prioritize the sect first?

Otherwise, why would he be in such a scared and terrifying state right now? Afraid that a great disaster would arrive upon his head at any moment?

This was why he said that he 'regretted' the past. He regretted the fact that he was a free-spirited youth who didn't know what fear was. He also regretted that he was a foolish sop who didn't know when to keep his mouth shut.

But with things having come this far, regret was useless. He called his daughter here in order to clarify the situation with her. He honestly told her that if anything were to happen to him, she needed to immediately return to the Hidden Fog Sect and not try to investigate anything.

Of course, this was only a worst case situation. He didn't hope that things would reach this point!

Chapter 748 – Legend of Hell

Stepping into the portal, an invisible power wrapped around their bodies. It was neutral, peaceful, and vast, counterbalancing the immense tearing strength that wore away at their bodies. The entire process was incomparably smooth, with almost no turbulence at all.

Looking around, one could see colorful lights flashing everywhere, as well as some dark regions that gave off an extremely dangerous feeling. Looking down, one vaguely felt as if their soul would be sucked out of their body.

If the strength that wrapped around Qin Yu's body were to disappear at this moment, he knew that wouldn't feel great. But, he didn't worry over this.

It wasn't that he believed in the reputation of the Western Tomb Divine Church. Rather, as believers of their god, their religious doctrine clearly stipulated that believers needed to abide by their promises as they walked through the heavens and earth, always keeping their word.

Since the Hidden Fog Sect had completed the transaction with the Western Tomb Divine Church, there would be no problem with the transmission process. Otherwise, how could they face their billions of believers? As for the mystic realm where the resurrection lily grew, since they referred to that place as 'dangerous', it absolutely wasn't simple.

After a long time, the strength that wrapped around his body started to shake a little. Qin Yu's eyes brightened; it seemed that the transmission would end soon!

As expected, as this thought appeared, the colorful lights all around him disappeared. Then, what flooded his field of vision were crimson colors. The air was flooded with a terrifyingly higher temperature. One could hear countless sorrowful and maddening cries echoing all around, enough to shake the mind.

Qin Yu came down, still hanging in the air. He lowered his head and looked around and his pupils shrank. The place where he was now was in the skies above a huge lake of lava. It was incomparably vast, so large that he couldn't see where it ended. The skies were colored red because they reflected this lake.

At this time, this lava lake had countless figures floating in it and struggling, howling and crying. They reached their hands up into the air but couldn't escape. Their flesh and blood was constantly melted away by the lava, turning into pieces of rotten and cooked meat that fell off. But then, all of that flesh and blood regrew in the next moment and the scene repeated itself.

Without end, without any way to die, they were to live in pain forever!

“Soul Refining Lake!” Hu Fu said with shocked disbelief. His eyes widened as he looked at the tumbling lava lake beneath him.

Qin Yu said, “Is Sect Master sure?” He was a ‘Grand Expert’ level existence with a formidable and mysterious background, so he certainly couldn’t say anything that didn’t match his status. Even if he knew nothing about this so-called Soul Refining Lake, he still had to pretend he was well aware of it.

Hu Fu hesitated. “In the legends, the Soul Refining Lake exists on the plane of hell. It is a cruel punishment of torturing souls. If one committed crimes in the world of the living, they would be entangled by their karma and thrown into the Soul Refining Lake, imprisoned here for different lengths of time depending on how great their sins were.

“When a soul enters the Soul Refining Lake, it is no different than someone personally being plunged into lava. Their strength from when they were alive is sealed away, and all they can do is experience excruciating pain again and again. Moreover, their consciousness of this pain would become increasingly clear. Even if they wanted to die it would be impossible.

“But the plane of hell has only ever existed in legends and no living being has ever entered or truly determined that it existed. This is the Western Tomb Divine Church’s mystic realm. They believe in the Dao Monarch and are said to control some strange abilities. Perhaps this is a projection of the Soul Refining Lake or some imitation they created.”

The legend of Hell also existed in the Land of Divinity and Demons. It seemed that any world that had conscious life forms occupying it shared similar fables.

It was impossible for baseless rumors to appear all over like this. So Qin Yu really believed that the plane of Hell existed somewhere.

As for what Hu Fu said about the living never entering, that shouldn’t be true. It was likely that the living went in, but they were never able to come out.

At this time, Qin Yu’s heart shrank. A great warning alarm rang out in his heart, and the source of this alarm was actually the ‘Soul Refining Lake’ below him!

“Be careful!” Before he could finish shouting, a loud roar came from the peaceful lava lake. Red lava violently tumbled around, forming immense waves.

The waves collided with each other, constantly breaking and condensing. Gradually, they formed a huge vortex. The punished souls that were sucked into the vortex were smashed apart but immediately reformed in the next moment.

These souls seemed to sense that the prime culprit of this were the two living beings in the skies. They were the ones who caused this vortex to appear.

“Ahh!”

The souls reared their heads back and roared into the skies. They stretched out arms that were dripping with blood and arms that only had white bones, grasping at the two distant people.

“Die, you should both die!”

“There’s no leaving! There’s no escape!”

“Come down! Join us!”

Sad and shrill screams carried with them a sharp penetrating strength. The voices drilled into Qin Yu and Hu Fu’s ears, blasting into their souls again and again.

At the same time, a formidable swallowing strength erupted from the lava vortex. It didn’t target their bodies but directly acted on their souls.

“Humph!”

Hu Fu coughed as his body gently shivered. His face paled and beads of sweat covered his forehead. The strength of this ‘Soul Refining Lake’ was truly terrifying. Even with his cultivation he found it difficult to deal with.

He hurriedly glanced to the side. Qin Yu’s black robes tumbled in the steam, but his breath was calm and steady, as if he weren’t affected at all.

Hu Fu relaxed and felt even more admiration. Mister was indeed mister. Besides his achievements as a beast trainer, his cultivation was also unfathomably deep.

“Mister, we must leave immediately!”

Qin Yu nodded, “Alright.”

He paused for a moment before speaking, as if he were distracted. Since Hu Fu was sighing with admiration, he didn’t sense this.

In fact, Qin Yu was indeed distracted. This was because at this time, his soul space suddenly became lively.

Purple Moon appeared, dressed in elegant purple court attire. She stood tall and proud, her long legs partly visible beneath her dress. She naturally exuded a breathtaking aura. In particular, because she was excited at this time, her breathing had deepened causing her face to flush red a little, making her appear even more irresistible.

She looked up at the blue sun hanging in the air. A heated look flashed in her eyes as she waited for it to give its final determination.

Several breaths of time later, Blue Sun’s slender figure appeared. She said, “Not wrong.” Her expression was still as cold as before, but the feeling she gave off was like a volcano beneath a glacier, ready to erupt at any moment.

“That’s too wonderful!” With Purple Moon’s personality even she couldn’t help but display her joy and almost jump in excitement. Although she had never paid much attention to Meimei’s rants about Qin Yu being a human-shaped food detector...the reality was placed right in front of her.

But after the happiness, Purple Moon revealed a solemn and respectful expression. She said, “Concerning the previous distribution plan, there needs to be some revision.”

Blue Sun was silent for a moment, “40%!”

This was her bottom line. She could go no lower.

Purple Moon hesitated. In truth, she was satisfied with this division. But as she thought about what was hidden here, she couldn't help but feel heartache.

But she knew Blue Sun wouldn't take another step backwards. She nodded and said, "Very well!"

Purple Moon turned around and revealed a smile as beautiful as a flower. "Meimei, at your age you cannot eat too much. How about giving that 10% to big sister? Don't worry. The next time there is good food I will divide it in half with you. You won't suffer a loss."

Meimei shook her head. "Big Sister Purple Moon, I'm small but I'm not stupid. Big Sister Blue Sun gave us 10% more, so we'll split that in half. If you don't agree, then take out our previous agreement and we'll discuss it again."

Purple Moon's smile vanished. She looked at Meimei expressionlessly for a long time before slowly nodding. "Fine. We'll go with what you said."

After a brief and tense 'battle', the two big and one small women had decided how to divide this cake. Qin Yu's soul finally opened its eyes. He helplessly said, "Before the three of you finish carving things up, the least you can do is tell me what is happening, right? Moreover, from start to finish I was left out of the distribution of harvests. Isn't this going too far?"

Moments later, Qin Yu's consciousness returned to the outside world. A sharp light flashed in his eyes.

He never thought that this mystic realm where the resurrection lily grew would be hiding such a great secret. Then why did the Western Tomb Divine Church agree to the transaction and allow him and Hu Fu to come here? Weren't they afraid the two of them would discover the secret here?

Or, perhaps the Western Tomb Divine Church didn't have any fear of the two of them spreading any news concerning this place – the dead were best at keeping secrets.

Bang –

With an explosion, the 'Soul Refining Lake' broke apart. A terrifying bone arm reached out, grasping at the two of them!

Chapter 749 – The Old Master's Attendant

Qin Yu's heart skipped a beat. By the time the bone hand broke through the lava lake he had already confirmed his own guess – the Western Tomb Divine Church wanted to kill them. Although he had no idea why they wanted to murder them, this clearly wasn't the time to consider such things.

Looking down at the bone hand howling toward him and the tyrannical aura it released, Qin Yu's heart chilled. He felt something familiar, as if he had seen this before.

Hu Fu was enraged. He bellowed, "The Western Tomb has harmed me!" The horror of this bone hand left his mind shaking as if he was thrust into the depths of the sea. It was a feeling that was difficult to deal with.

This was the so-called 'dangers'? This was clearly a hopelessly desperate deathtrap! From this alone he could easily make out the evil intentions of the Western Tomb. But, the Hidden Fog Sect had never had any grudges with the Western Tomb Divine Church, so why would they do this? Hu Fu took a deep breath and stepped forward, keeping himself in front of Qin Yu. "Mister, run away! I will block it!"

Today was the time for him to sacrifice himself for his sect. Even if the Hidden Fog Sect suffered total defeat in Dragon City, he could throw himself away here as a life-saving graciousness. With Mister Ning Qin looking after the Hidden Fog Sect, it would be easy for them to overcome any tribulations that arrived in the future.

However, his plans to break the shackles that surrounded his sect would be shattered here today. Hu Fu pursed his lips, pain and unwillingness in his eyes. But in the next moment, all of that hesitation was replaced with a cold resolve.

If he couldn't accomplish what he wanted to, he would need to settle for the next best thing. At the very least, he needed to contribute his life to the sect in some way. When he went to the underworld, he would be able to greet the older generations of the sect without any regrets.

Shua –

The sound of howling wind rose up and a black figure flashed past him. Hu Fu's eyes widened as he watched Qin Yu race towards the bone hand.

After a moment of stunned shock, he roared out loud, "Mister, no!" He shot forwards, his figure exploding ahead like an arrow.

An arrow that was released could not turn around. Hu Fu had already embarked on the road of no return. No matter what the result in Dragon City was, he wouldn't live for much longer. In that case, he certainly had to use this life that was soon going to fade away to seek out a better future for the Hidden Fog Sect.

But although he was fast, Qin Yu was similarly quick. No matter how Hu Fu rushed forward with all his strength, he could only watch helplessly as Qin Yu clashed with the bone hand.

"No!" Hu Fu roared out loud, a pained look on his face. But then, he was frozen in place, as if he were caught in a trance.

On top of the 'Soul Refining Lake', Qin Yu raised a fist and punched out at the bone hand. To others this scene was like an ant running into a mountain.

But the final result was different from his expectations. Hu Fu's eyes widened and a clear image reflected in his pupils.

From the point of collision where Qin Yu's fist met with the terrifying giant bone hand that reached out from the lava lake, countless cracks began to spread outwards. Then, with unstoppable force, they surged through the bone hand. The hand was like a clay sculpture as it started to tremble and break apart. It rapidly decomposed into countless blocks that smashed into the Soul Refining Lake below. Shriill and sorrowful screams filled the air as the souls struck by the blocks were grinded into nothing. As for the souls that were grinded away, they no longer reformed.

Waves tumbled up and down. The Soul Refining Lake that released a formidable swallowing strength began to rapidly calm down. Even the crying souls within had widened their eyes in horror and shut their mouths tight. When they looked at the black-robed figure floating in the skies, they no longer made any sounds.

“We’re leaving!”

Qin Yu flew away. Hu Fu’s body shook and only then did he regain his composure, hurriedly following behind. Hu Fu looked at Qin Yu’s back. Although Qin Yu’s back wasn’t too tall, to Hu Fu, it resembled a great mountain, one so high that it pierced through the clouds and into the heavens!

Mister Ning Qin was not just a Grand Expert beast trainer but also someone who possessed a terrifying cultivation. He was absolutely someone who stood at the peak of the world, and it was extremely likely he was a Divine Dao existence! At this time, Hu Fu’s awe and reverence towards Qin Yu reached an unprecedented state.

A long time later, they flew out from the scope of the Soul Refining Lake. Qin Yu landed first. He stood on sloping ground and glanced back.

At this time strong winds swirled around his body, lifting his robes. His aura was tranquil and restrained, like a mighty mountain that had stood there for time eternal.

Of course, this was only an illusion in Hu Fu’s eyes. In truth, Qin Yu was both afraid of what had happened and rejoicing that he had escaped. Fortunately he had made the right bet, otherwise he feared he would have been buried in that Soul Refining Lake.

With the aura that the bone hand emitted, even if Hu Fu risked his life he could only block it momentarily. Qin Yu simply wouldn’t have any chance to flee. So, his only chance was to go on the offensive, leading to the scene that had just occurred.

Of course, Qin Yu wasn’t being impulsive. The reason he dared to touch that bone hand on his own initiative was because he remembered why it gave off such a familiar feeling.

The day he entered Dragon City, his mind had separated from his body and he had borne witness to an amazing series of scenes. He saw a formidable Ancient suppress the dragon race and construct Dragon City. As for that bone hand, it gave off a similar feeling to that Ancient.

But even so, he had still been taking a gamble with his life on the line. If he failed he would have died on the spot with not even his bones left over!

Within his soul space, the three unyielding women who had been fighting over the distribution ratios had all fallen silent at the same time. They clearly didn’t expect that this mystic realm would be so dangerous. For instance, when facing that bone hand just now, they weren’t able to provide Qin Yu any help.

This made them feel a little awkward. They couldn’t help but wonder...when they were assigning the distributions and left Qin Yu out of it, had they been too excessive?

Hu Fu bowed, “Thank you for saving me life!”

He knew that without Qin Yu’s help, he would have died just then.

There was a brief silence and then a dignified voice came from beneath the black robes. "Sect Master Hu Fu, this place is more dangerous than I expected. That bone hand is not the greatest crisis here. If you continue following by my side, I cannot guarantee your safety."

Hu Fu bitterly smiled. "Mister's meaning is...?" His original intention was to guarantee mister's safety no matter the cost when they entered this mystic realm. He never thought that he would actually become a burden instead.

Qin Yu directly said, "In my opinion, you should stay here. I will go and pick the resurrection lily myself."

He lifted a hand and a stone that emitted a faint blood red light appeared in his palm. "Hold onto this stone and don't casually walk around. It should be able to keep you safe. If anything happens, leave through the portal."

Hu Fu didn't hesitate. He received the stone with both hands and said, "I shall obey mister's orders!"

"There isn't much time remaining. I will leave first."

As his voice fell he took a step forward and shot into the skies. Soon after, he vanished from sight.

...

Soul Refining Lake.

In the place where Qin Yu smashed apart the bone hand, the quiet souls on the surface of the lake started to pitifully scream out in unison. They dove down into the lava without hesitation, not caring about the painful and agonizing burning feeling that enveloped them.

In the next moment, faint traces of darkness appeared. They were like threads of silk that were soaked in ink. They twined together to form a thick black screen.

A tall and haughty woman appeared from the darkness. Although her appearance was blurry, one could still see the shock that shined in her bright eyes.

Looking at the direction that Qin Yu and Hu Fu left in, the woman was silent for a time before releasing a long breath.

"Impossible. How is this possible...?"

Her voice was hoarse and low, carrying with it a strange and different charm.

...

Leaving Hu Fu behind was an agreement that Qin Yu made with the three women in his soul space. Only like this could they conveniently act without tying up their hands and feet.

After flying for some time, Qin Yu said, "You can begin now! Point out the path for me!"

After a brief pause, Purple Moon said, "From the position you are currently facing, turn ten degrees to the right and continue forward."

"Good!" Qin Yu turned and howled ahead.

At this time his thoughts were solemn as he tried to imagine what kinds of scenarios he would encounter next. He didn't notice the slight unnaturalness in Purple Moon's voice.

"Stop. Wait here a moment."

Purple Moon's voice rang out once more. What lay beneath him was a mountain range. The stone was pitch black in color and gave off an extremely eerie feeling.

Qin Yu's concentration was fully focused. His body was tensed up and he was ready to erupt with his full power at any moment.

Luckily, no dangers came from the black mountain range. Purple Moon and the other two rapidly completed their measurements, and Qin Yu soon raced away.

What he didn't know was that soon after he left, the entire black mountain range stood up from the ground. A pair of massive eyes looked in the direction where Qin Yu went. With a deep roar, the earth rumbled as the mountain began to move.

But the 'black mountain range' wasn't able to go far before it stopped. It looked up into the air where a woman bathed in darkness floated about.

"I know that you don't like to be troubled so I won't bother you for long. As long as you tell me what feeling that person gives you then I will let you leave." The woman's hoarse voice echoed through the heavens and earth. Invisible bowstrings seemed to flicker in the air.

This was clearly a choice. You may either leave, or you will stay.

Chapter 750 – The Buried Bones

The 'black mountain range' was silent for a long time. Then, it roared out loud as if excited. The black stones that covered its body were pierced through from beneath by thick bone spikes. In the blink of an eye, this seemingly harmless mountain range had transformed into a truly hideous and horrifying sight.

The woman bathed in darkness had no change in expression. "If you want to fight a little, I can satisfy your wish."

It was clear she wasn't willing to take a single step back.

The 'black mountain range' covered in bone spikes was silent for some time before finally choosing to compromise. It roared out loud and then the woman moved out of the way.

The bone spikes were hidden away. The 'black mountain range' rumbled into the distance.

"After waiting for countless years, has master's clansman finally come?" The woman muttered. Faint fluctuations of light passed between her eyebrows. But because she was covered in darkness, no one could see it clearly.

At this time, she suddenly coughed out loud. Her figure that was taller than the average man suddenly slumped to the ground as she curled up a little. A bit of light appeared in the void above her head. As it shined against the darkness, the darkness melted away like snow beneath the summer sun.

Sss –

The sounds of corrosion made one's scalp tingle with dread!

After a long time, the light vanished from sight. The fluctuations of darkness around the woman gradually calmed down. She gasped for breath and stood up with great difficulty. Her eyes were faint once more, all of her previous excitement and joy gone.

"Anyone that enters the Divine Church's sacred lands without authorization shall die!"

Her tone was chilling, each word dripping with killing intent and filled with a cruelty that rushed into the heart!

The woman turned and walked away. Her body was like a piece of gravel falling into a lake. After some ripples, she disappeared.

Since there was still a use for the old master's attendant, how could there be no method of restriction? The true dangers were just beginning!

...

Although Purple Moon and Blue Sun had confirmed their earlier thoughts, the place where the bones were was extremely secretive and was concealed behind numerous layers of mechanisms by the Western Tomb Divine Church. If they truly wanted to determine its position, it would be extremely troublesome. But in this world, there were no gains without labor. Qin Yu didn't feel bothered or bored at all. Instead, as time passed, his anticipation grew increasingly heavy.

It was an Ancient who had suppressed the dragon race and constructed Dragon City. With the formidable strength that Ancient displayed, it was easy for him to dominate the world. But what the Western Tomb Divine Church publicly declared to the outside world was that their religious sect had existed since ancient times and had an inheritance of hundreds of thousands of years. They said they were the source of all dao arts in the world.

Then thinking about it, in the era when this formidable Ancient suppressed the dragon race and constructed Dragon City, did the Western Tomb Divine Church exist?

If the Divine Church existed, then with the overbearing and tyrannical personality that the Ancient displayed by suppressing the entire dragon race, would he allow such a formidable religious sect to rule alongside him in the world and believe in other gods? Even an idiot could tell that this was impossible!

Since the Western Tomb Divine Church's inheritance had lasted until now, it was clear that there was another story behind all of this. If he pondered more about the relationship between the Western Tomb Divine Church and the Ancient, a frightening conclusion could be drawn. Moreover, in that 'Soul Refining Lake', Qin Yu could feel the aura of that Ancient.

But what the Western Tomb Divine Church believed in was the Dao Monarch that surpassed all in existence and who had not yet fallen. This being was able to help the believers of the Western Tomb utilize all sorts of inconceivable abilities. Before, Qin Yu didn't feel any of that Ancient's aura from the portal constructed by the power of god. This left him reconsidering the situation.

He took a deep breath and suppressed these thoughts. His expression returned to serenity. As long as he found the place where the bones were buried, every riddle could be solved.

...

Western Tomb Divine Church, Holy Temple.

Beneath the sanctified and dignified statue of the Dao Monarch, the Western Tomb Divine Seat suddenly opened his eyes. His eyebrows furrowed together as the air congealed around him, flooded with an invisible oppression.

The spell within that sinner attendant's body had unexpectedly activated again after all these years. Was she trying to voluntarily restore her memories or had another problem occurred? And at this moment, the two Hidden Fog Sect cultivators just happened to be in the Hell Mystic Realm!

A light flashed in his eyes. If the problem really originated from those two people, then it was extremely likely that their proposition to exchange for the resurrection lily was a plot to begin with. If so, he needed to face this matter himself and extinguish every possible hidden danger.

As the Western Tomb Divine Seat was deep in thought, the sound of a great bell suddenly resounded through the magnificent red and white Divine Palace. The sound waves shook through the heavens and earth, causing the pillars of light that fell down from the skies to ripple.

Hu –

Ji Xiangtian suddenly stood up. As he did, a deep and low sigh, one filled with infinite grief, came from the Dao Monarch statue behind him. A dreadful aura rushed out from the Holy Temple and impacted into the skies. Then, the sunlight outside actually turned to fire, burning without end.

Countless believers kneeling outside saw this scene. Heated excitement and zealousness shined on their faces as they bowed again and again, knocking their heads into the ground while they prayed at the top of their lungs. This was a true miracle. In the teachings of the Western Tomb, only the most devout followers were qualified to see this and it was the greatest affirmation of their faith.

As the believers prostrated themselves, the sunlight that burned outside the temple grew increasingly hot and brilliant. Space twisted, making the originally solemn and noble Holy Temple look even more ethereal, as if it would disappear into space at any moment.

108 great priests gathered outside the temple. They watched as two Saints, the Right and Left Messengers of the Light, and six Cardinals respectfully stepped through the temple gates. Their expressions were sober but envy flashed in their eyes. While they were considered high level figures of the Divine Church, they had no idea how many years it would be before they could truly enter the highest echelons of authority within the church.

“Divine Seat!”

With the Saints at the front, everyone bowed. The shrine's warning hadn't appeared for almost 10,000 years and their hearts were shaken. Of course, they remained calm on the surface without revealing any panic at all.

Ji Xiangtian said without expression, “There has been a change within the holy site. Someone has discovered the secret of the Western Tomb.” These words caused the hall to fall deathly silent.

As the highest level figures of the Divine Church, they shared authority with the Divine Seat and helped govern an inexhaustible territory. Within the hall, these ten people had the qualifications to know the existence of the sacred site, and naturally understood the significance behind these words. In serious terms, this was related to the inherited orthodoxy of the Western Tomb Divine Church. If they didn't handle this well, it would cause irreversible consequences.

Wearing white robes, the calm First Saint walked forward. He bowed and said, "Divine Seat, I am willing to go to the holy site and purify all sinners who dared to blaspheme the sacred lands of our religion."

The Divine Seat thought for a moment. Then he nodded, "Very well, then I will exhaust the Saint with making a trip."

The First Saint had a solemn expression. "I will not disappoint the expectations of the Divine Seat."

In his heart, a thought that had been hidden away for countless years began to slowly rise.

...

Qin Yu gasped for breath, a burning heat scalding his chest. Two long wounds ran across him, almost opening up his belly and pouring his intestines out. The flesh and blood around the wounds had turned gray and acrid. The cold and burning feeling made it difficult for him to restore his injuries.

Not too far away in front of him was the corpse of a human-shaped monster. It had three heads and the middle one was similar to that of a human. The left head was that of a dog and the right head was that of a black snake.

Right now, the human head had its forehead pierced through by an invisible strength and red and white goo was flowing out. The left dog side was half broken and drooped to the side. This monster was already dead, but the intact snake head still glared tightly at Qin Yu, the ice cold hatred in its eyes causing his hairs to stand on end.

Qin Yu gasped for breath. After absorbing all the poison gas spreading through his body, he walked over to the monster's corpse and slashed down with a sword.

Puff –

The snake head rolled away and the venom it spat out uselessly poured to the ground. In the next moment it broke apart into countless pieces.

The closer Qin Yu approached to where the bones were buried, the more troubles he came across. In some encounters, Purple Moon and the other two were able to help. For instance, the formidable ghost he met before. However, there were some dangers he needed to face alone.

The blood energy of the Ancients was completely ineffective against the monsters here. Rather, it would make them fall into a wild rage. This was the reason Qin Yu had obtained his current injuries.

"Found it!"

Within his soul space, Purple Moon's tired yet excited voice rang out.

Qin Yu relaxed inwardly. He had really been worried that if things continued like this, he wouldn't be able to last much longer before dying.

Hu –

Letting out a long breath of relief, Qin Yu asked, "Where is it?"

Purple Moon hesitated for a moment. "Perhaps you should rest first."

Qin Yu shook his head, "There's no time."

With how important this mystic realm was, it was impossible that the Western Tomb Divine Church didn't make any further contingency plans. There was no way they would allow him to continue forward and strip away their greatest secret.

If things happened as he anticipated, his actions should have been discovered already. He just didn't know why even now, no one had come yet.

Qin Yu didn't want to base all of his hopes on the Western Tomb Divine Church's slow reaction. The faster he found the bone burial place the greater his advantage would be.

Purple Moon understood his intent. She said, "Move forward according to our guidance. No matter what you see, no matter what you feel, do not look back or lose focus."

As she finished speaking, light gathered in front of Qin Yu, condensing into the phantoms of a crescent purple moon and blue sun.

Like twin fish, the sun and moon constantly circled around each other. Although they seemed to be rotating around and around, the truth was that they were slowly drifting off into the distance.

This was clearly the guidance that Purple Moon spoke of.

Qin Yu hurtled forward, following the moon and sun phantoms closely.