

## Refining 991

### Chapter 991 - On Purpose

Grandmaster Zhou was urgently summoned to a meeting to give an explanation to the high-level figures of the Leng Family. He stood at the center of the meeting hall and swept his eyes across everyone's serious expressions. He slowly said, "Stranded God Canyon's consciousness has already awakened. It no longer simply refers to the predefined rules, but now has its own judgment and ability to choose...the current situation is that due to some unknown reason, it is not willing to tear apart the contract."

"If it doesn't want to, then should our Leng Family just let this blood-sucking ghost drain us dry?" A Leng Family senior shouted out loud. "Zhou Cheng, you should understand what sort of price we've had to pay in order to maintain the revolution of the array formation. Do you want us to just watch helplessly as this continues?"

Grandmaster Zhou took a deep breath and slowly said, "Patriarch, elders, and everyone else, my suggestion is that you don't try to forcefully tear the contract apart, otherwise Stranded God Canyon's consciousness will never forget about this. It will likely provoke great trouble."

"Very well! This is just a land of inheritance. It might be extremely mystical but it has no influence on the real world. I don't believe it can exert any influence on my Leng Family! The contract must be torn up. The Leng Family cannot endure such terrifying losses again!"

As this Leng Family senior finished speaking, he suddenly discovered that everyone was looking at him with eyes full of shock and horror, as if something terrifying was happening to him.

His heart shivered and fear flooded his mind. He opened his mouth, but no sounds came out. Then, he froze in place. Red lines began to appear all over his skin. They tightened like fishing lines and ruthlessly contracted inwards, sinking into his flesh and blood like sharp knives.

Pa –

There was a light sound, as if a bubble burst apart. The man's body was cut into countless blocks. As the pieces fell they started to melt into thick red goo that piled up on the ground. A horrid stench filled the air.

The meeting hall fell deathly silent. Everyone's eyes flew wide open. They stared at the red goo on the ground, a cold chill racing up their spines and into their foreheads.

It had to be known that this was the Leng Family's official meeting hall and represented the highest authority of the family. The future of the Leng Family was decided in this place, so it was natural for its defenses to be equally exceptional. No one could even hope to approach without permission, much less intrude inside.

But now, Leng Jie had died. His body had been torn apart and melted into red slime in front of everyone. Even his soul had been annihilated. And in the senses of everyone present, no one knew who did it or where the strength came from.

However, the truth was that the Leng Family elders who were all shivering with fear and shock were all well aware of where this strength came from.

“Stranded God Canyon...this is the will of Stranded God Canyon...the current situation can no longer be judged according to what has happened in the past!” Grandmaster Zhou took a deep breath and spoke out loud, “Everyone, you all saw what just happened. If you plan on forcefully tearing up the contract with Stranded God Canyon, the Leng Family will suffer great misfortune!”

The Leng Family had just lost an elder, and it wasn't that they weren't furious; some of them even had thoughts of revenge. But they soon discovered that in the face of the mysterious and powerful will of Stranded God Canyon, they had no effective way of dealing with it. If they recklessly offended it, the consequences weren't something they could endure.

For the survival of the family, even if they had to endure shame, they had to lower their heads and accept whatever fate awaited them as they searched for other opportunities in the future...to put it simply and crudely, the Leng Family admitted their loss.

Although this sounded somewhat disgraceful, it was essentially based upon the family's wisdom to survive. Facing unknown dangers, they wouldn't be reckless or impulsive, even if they had to debase themselves or pay a steep price. As long as they continued surviving, there would always be another opportunity.

Zhou Cheng returned to the underground palace with the highest level authority of the Leng Family. The storehouse of resources that was originally prepared for establishing their fifth world was now opened up to fully satisfy the needs of Stranded God Canyon.

The Leng Family had to pay an enormous price for their actions. But the greater the price, the less easily they would give up.

Facing Stranded God Valley, they had no choice but to lower their heads after careful consideration. But if the target were different, they might expose their sharp fangs instead.

In other words, without Qin Yu knowing about it, a powerful force that controlled four worlds and was still rising, had now targeted him.

But the world was like this. Between gains and losses, there was always some sense of fairness. One couldn't take all the benefits by themselves without at least some trouble.

...

In the eternal darkness where the pitiful-looking, cut-covered stone pagoda was, roars echoed through the air. But now, there was also a weariness that could not be concealed.

It hadn't truly woken up yet. It had forcibly made a move and as a result the little bit of power it saved up had been exhausted. The light that covered it also dimmed down.

“Tear the contract? You actually want to tear the contract? Let me tell you, all of you, there is no chance, not even the tiniest hope! If you really did succeed, where am I supposed to find this boy again!?”

“Qin Yu, hurry up and come out! If you keep messing around in there, there won't be any candy left! All there will be is a big club waiting for you! Think about this clearly!”

...

The students in this year's class of Stranded God Canyon felt as if they passed the last few days in a muddled haze. They moved around like mechanical puppets. They hoped that they could behave normally, but Qin Yu's actions had been too strong and striking. With their emotions rising up and down so much, this wasn't something they could easily accept.

He was solving problems. He was still solving problems. It was the same speed as before and the same flavor as before. He was doing so with unstoppable momentum.

It seemed that besides the failure of that day, any problem of the rules quickly fell before Qin Yu.

Many people that dared to become one of Easy Zhou Duly's followers and also compete for the spot, had been dragged into Stranded God Canyon. They could be called powerhouses in their own right. Naturally, they weren't stupid. Although they felt that this matter was preposterous, everything they witnessed with their own eyes was pointing towards an unbelievable truth.

Qin Yu had failed on purpose.

On purpose.

It had all been on purpose!

Although they had no idea why he did this, this was the truth. So, no matter how they roared inside or how they felt that Qin Yu wasn't dependable in following the script, they never revealed any of their anger or frustration. Rather, the awe in their hearts only grew heavier.

Breaking out of Stranded God Canyon in itself was a glorious matter. But to choose to fail on purpose and refuse the chance to make one's name known throughout the world, that was even more terrifying.

And most importantly, looking at how things were, it wasn't difficult for Qin Yu to break out of Stranded God Canyon at all. He could do it as long as he wanted to by spending a bit of time.

While they had accepted this fact, when they occasionally thought back to it they couldn't suppress the roars in their hearts – hey, why are you so fierce? How can the disparity from person to person be so large!

On the fourth day of Qin Yu solving the problems of the rules for a second time, Zhou Pei came to visit once again. He was all smiles as he spoke with Snowside, and both sides were very happy.

It was unknown what he said. But, just before Zhou Pei left, someone saw his smile freeze and his figure stagger a little. Snowside reached out a hand to help him and stood near the entrance to watch him leave.

For the next several days, Zhou Pei stayed at his dwelling and didn't leave. Some cultivators who were on good terms with him visited. He didn't say much, and after a few dry glares he stated that he was feeling ill from the wind and cold and anyone that came was sent away.

You are a Beast Control Clan powerhouse and a solemn God boundary expert, yet you say that you are suffering from the wind and cold? What a joke!

Perhaps his heartache was too heavy and it harmed his intelligence, thus leading to him coming up with such a ridiculous reason.

So in the camp, rumors began to spread that Zhou Pei had been struck on the head by a bamboo stick, and the bamboo stick was said to be larger than a tree.

Many people expressed their sympathies. At the same time, they glanced towards the direction of Qin Yu's dwelling, dread in their eyes.

This sort of vicious person that had a formidable background and also thick skin wasn't good to provoke. But luckily for them, Qin Yu was a relatively quiet and peaceful person. As long as no one provoked him he wouldn't cause trouble on his own initiative. Besides Zhou Pei from that first day, no one had cause for him to mess with them.

"I asked for this thing from Zhou Pei. It hasn't hatched yet but its aura and everything else seems alright. Put a drop of blood on it so that it recognizes you as master; perhaps it might be a good helper later." Snowside had a sullen expression as she stretched out her hands without a smile. She placed an egg covered with gray markings right in front of him.

Qin Yu glanced at her and then at the egg in her hands. He said, "You're really giving it to me? Then I'll take it."

Snowside's fingers unconsciously retracted. She said without expression, "It's something given to you by others to begin with, so take it."

Qin Yu smiled and shook his head, "Stop being so obstinate. If you really wanted to give it to me then you wouldn't show me an expression. Since someone gave it to you, you can keep it. I don't want to be constantly poked and prodded and called cheap in the future."

Snowside's eyes brightened and her entire expression suddenly came to life. She smiled and hugged the egg to her chest. "You're the one who said this. I didn't force you to do anything...hum hum, Qin Yu, I guess you do have a conscience after all!"

The ice fox stood on her shoulder with a skeptical look on its face, as if wondering why its dear master's emotions shifted so quickly from one extreme to another. It feared that its future wouldn't be any better off.

"That Zhou Pei really has been played around with by you. This is the last time. Let him off from here on out." Qin Yu slapped Snowside's shoulder and returned to his room.

His time was precious!

### **Chapter 992 - Stupid! Stupid! Stupid!**

Snowside curled her lips. She dared to bet that Zhou Pei's performance when he left today was partly due to the genuine heartache he felt, but also because he was acting. This fellow was deliberately trying to garner attention and elicit sympathy while exerting pressure on her side.

How can you be forgiven for using such petty methods against me? But since Qin Yu spoke on your behalf, hum hum, I'll let you go this time.

Snowside was in an excellent mood and decided to forgive him this one time. She looked at the door and a satisfied smile crossed her face. She thought that even if Qin Yu was the one who told her to stop, everyone would think that he was the one who was bullying others for benefits.

After all, she was just a little maid who accompanied Qin Yu at his side. Without her master's permission, how could she act so unreasonably?

This was a burden that Qin Yu had to shoulder!

In the blink of an eye, several more days passed. The tenth day of Qin Yu's second attempt at solving the problems of the rules arrived.

He walked in front of the red cliff. A crowd of people was already waiting there, all of them with complex looks in their eyes.

A follower spot was already in Qin Yu's pocket. This was without a doubt.

You said that he hadn't broken out of Stranded God Canyon yet?

Haha, you think he can't break out? It's clearly because he doesn't want to!

The East Zhou Family weren't idiots. They would naturally realize this and there was no way they would let go of such a powerful potential helper.

However, you have a transcendent background and such formidable talent, so why did you come here to compete for a follower spot with us?

People woefully sighed inwardly.

Qin Yu stood in front of the red cliff. With a thought, he began to solve the rules.

This time, both inside and outside Stranded God Canyon, more attention had gathered on him.

The East Zhou Family, the Leng Family, and also that stone pagoda that had been lying in the endless darkness for countless years...

Piki paka –

Everything proceeded as smoothly as flowing water...

This approximately described the speed at which Qin Yu solved problems...

So half a day later, he once again reached the 99th problem. Just one more step and he would succeed.

Everyone waited with bated breath, wanting to see what he would do.

He had already given up on a chance one time. He wouldn't do this a second time...right?

Hey, we all know that out of the three spots for followers, one of them is yours, and we've extinguished any thought of competing with you.

So please hurry up and leave this place. We don't want you to stay here and continue attacking our confidence!

But their prayers were clearly useless. If they wanted Qin Yu to give up now, that was impossible.

This was only the second wave. Why should he stop here?

So with a 'pa' sound, everyone's faces stiffened at the same time.

It's here, it's here again!

Qin Yu shrugged his shoulders. He turned towards the crowd and said, "Aiya, what a pity, I failed the last problem again."

With a 'heavy' face, he waved his hand as if he didn't want to speak any further. Then he started walking towards the camp. But for some unknown reason, no one could sense any sorrow or sadness from his fading back. Rather, they felt joy emanating from him.

Qi Lianshan's lips twitched. He thought that this fellow daoist Qin Yu's irresponsible acting was truly lacking in sincerity. Shouldn't he have already guessed by now that everyone knew he was doing this on purpose?

He looked at Qin Yu's back. He had already determined that the reason he failed twice in a row was because he wanted to use Stranded God Canyon as the strongest prop to improve himself.

To solve ten problems a day, just how astonishing was this speed of improvement? If it was him, he wouldn't want to easily leave either.

Moreover, what caused Qi Lianshan to sigh with emotion was that countless shockingly talented cultivators had been caught in Stranded God Canyon throughout the years, but no matter how much they dominated their peers, they eventually lowered their heads and had to have sacrifices offered to Stranded God Canyon in order to escape. Yet in front of Qin Yu, they had all become jokes.

And disregarding the differences between people, even if one looked at it from the angle of Stranded God Canyon, this really was a lamentable matter. If Stranded God Canyon had a spirit of its own and could sense what was happening, it would likely hop around in a fit of anger...

What Qi Lianshan didn't know was that he had guessed the truth of the matter. Because at this moment, a stone pagoda really was jumping in a fit of anger...

"Stupid! Stupid! Stupid!"

With thunderous roars, the air surged and tumbled as the stone pagoda jumped around.

"You're actually using such a method to cultivate? Don't you know that as long as you pass the test, you can become the candidate approved by me? At that time, I have hundreds of far superior ways so that you can grow even faster than you are now!"

"I take back my previous assessment of you! You are just a shortsighted idiot without any intelligence at all! You really disappoint me!"

"Ahhh! I'm going to die of anger! I'm really going to die of anger! Just wait for me, this matter won't end here!"

...

That person in Stranded God Canyon had failed on purpose.

This was the conclusion the East Zhou Family came to and their attention towards this matter rose to the highest level.

“No matter the cost, find him as soon as possible. As long as he wants a follower spot, then he has one!”

This was the will of the family that was transmitted to East Zhou Duly. She temporarily suspended her cultivation to learn of this matter.

If she could find a sufficiently formidable follower, it would greatly help her after she entered the Path of 10,000 Souls.

So wasting some of her cultivation time was worth it.

But what a pity, even now, the East Zhou Family wasn't able to confirm the identity of the person in Stranded God Canyon who was crazily solving the problems of the rules.

“Miss, rest assured and continue cultivating. I will follow up with this matter. Once anything has been learned, I will notify you as soon as possible.” Doctor Ye said in a low voice, his expression respectful.

He certainly knew that there were factions within the family who opposed the miss and didn't hope for her to obtain such a formidable follower.

There were bound to be twists and turns in this matter. What he could do now was to try everything in his power to find this person for the miss and have him agree to help her.

East Zhou Duly nodded. “Old Ye, then I'll trouble you with this matter. No matter what, I need this person. He is important to me.”

“Yes!”

...

Stranded God Canyon could not be provoked...and that person who was solving problems inside...also could not be provoked.

This was the conclusion that the Leng Family elders came to. It was like a heavy stone placed atop their chests, leaving them gasping for breath.

To be able to easily solve problems all the way to the 99th problem two times, even an idiot knew that this person wasn't easy to deal with.

Could such a character be ordinary? Could they afford to mess with such a person?

Alright. Even if they took a step back and assumed this person was ordinary, after this matter was over, would this person still be ordinary? Don't even joke around.

When this person left Stranded God Canyon, that would be the time when their name was known throughout the world. Countless influences would be extending their hands towards him.

Compared to these influences, the Leng Family wasn't sufficient enough to look at!

So no matter how much anger was in their chests, they could only forcefully swallow it back down.

...

In the eternal darkness, the light of the scar-covered and pitiful-looking pagoda had become incredibly dim. It gave off a breathless feeling, as if it would be extinguished at any time.

If anger could be expressed in numbers, then there would definitely be a long 9999 above its head...it was just a step away from blowing up with rage.

But now, the stone pagoda had come to recognize the reality of the situation. Even if it really did blow itself up, nothing would change.

That boy had made up his mind that the assessment process was his best choice for cultivation.

This was the darkest road possible.

If it allowed him to keep messing around, then once its strength was exhausted it would fall into a deep slumber once again. Who knew how many more years would pass before it would wake up again?

Or maybe...it would never wake up again...

As this thought appeared, the light on the stone pagoda suddenly flashed several times, exuding a sense of terror and fear.

It had never concealed its fear of death. So starting from many years ago, it had tried its best to improve its ability to survive.

And reality proved that its choice had been correct. Because of the catastrophe in the past, it was the only one still alive.

The more it lived, the more it understood how horrifying death was. The stone pagoda didn't want to die. It wanted to live. Even if it lived until the end of time it wouldn't feel tired at all.

So after feeling the breath of destruction, the stone pagoda could no longer calm down. But if it lowered its head on its own initiative, the nature of the situation would change – that boy would no longer be a candidate for being one of its subordinates after passing the examination. Rather, the situation would switch around and he would become its master instead.

The stone pagoda found this result difficult to accept. But as it said before, it was a fellow who feared death the most. In front of death, there was nothing it couldn't accept. Everything was up for discussion.

Do I have to lower my head? Do I really have to lower my head? Do I really need to lower my head to such a little thing? Ahhhh! I'm not willing!

Moreover, even if I lower my head, can he do it? If he fails...hoho, then I really am done for!

...

During the fourth round of farming benefits...cough, well, saying it like that was going too far. This was Qin Yu's fourth time solving the problems of the rules.

The camp was peaceful. This was because besides him and Snowside, everyone here had sent distress signals to the outside world using various methods, and sacrifices were offered that allowed them to be transmitted out.



They really couldn't stay in this place any longer. Otherwise they feared that their hearts wouldn't be able to withstand it and they would blow up.

Even so, Qin Yu's name would become a nightmare that hovered over them for the rest of their lives. They would never be able to free themselves.

"I'm going out." After giving a greeting, Qin Yu pushed open the door and walked towards the red cliff.

He furrowed his eyebrows, a dignified look in his eyes.

This was his fourth time solving the problems of the rules. He could feel that the difficulty of the problems had risen dramatically, as if some unknown existence was unhappy with his actions and thus raised the difficulty level.

Now, 14 days had passed and he had only solved 73 of the problems.

It was clear that farming advantages wouldn't be simple from here on out.

And Qin Yu also started to feel a sense of urgency. This was because everyone had left. If he was still in Stranded God Canyon and the East Zhou Family assigned all of their follower spots, what would he do?

So he started to consider whether or not he should leave. But once he left this place, he feared there wouldn't be another chance for him to find such a cultivation treasure trove again.

Thinking of this, Qin Yu felt aggrieved.

Snowside watched as Qin Yu walked into the distance. She smiled. Right now, only she and Qin Yu were here. If she could continue living such a life, it didn't actually seem that bad.

But she knew it would be impossible for Qin Yu to stay here.

And she had no idea how many more days of such a life were left...

Snowside took a deep breath and suppressed the bitterness in her heart. A person shouldn't consider so many things in their life. If she could enjoy life, why allow herself to be bothered by the possibilities of the future?

Five days later, Qin Yu solved the 90th problem.

Another five days later, he solved the 98th problem.

He took a deep breath and slowly opened his eyes. They were covered in blood vessels and he had an exhausted expression.

He shook his head, casting away the weariness in his mind. He returned to his dwelling. This time, he didn't cultivate but fell into bed, falling asleep at almost the instant he touched the sheets.

Snowside covered him with a blanket. She stood at his bedside and looked at him. After hesitating for a long time, she finally gave up on the troubling urges in her heart.

Whatever. There would always be chances in the future. Since he was so tired right now, she wouldn't squeeze out his seed, lest she cause an accident.

In his deep sleep, Qin Yu had no idea that he somehow managed to escape a sexual calamity.

This time he slept for three days and three nights. When he opened his eyes, a sharp light flashed through them. He had been restored to his best condition.

Mind, body, and soul were all in peak condition!

He tossed aside the blanket and stood up, stretching his waist. After loud popping sounds, he let out a deep breath, his spirits even more invigorated.

Now was the time!

### **Chapter 993A - Venting Anger**

He reached out a hand and pushed open the door, but he didn't expect that Snowside would be sitting outside. When she saw him come out as well as the happy expression on his face, she curled her lips and said, "You slept well for three days. Was your zodiac sign a pig?"

Qin Yu shook his head. Would it kill this rude and obstinate woman to treat him with a better attitude? However, he had something important to do right now so he wouldn't care about this for the time being.

"I'm going." When he finished speaking, he paused for a moment and said, "If something strange occurs in a while, don't be afraid."

Snowside's complexion changed. She thought for a moment and then stood up and followed him.

Qin Yu stood before the stone cliff. He looked back at Snowside. Without ordering her to leave, he waved his hand and said, "Draw back a little."

After she unwillingly stepped back, his thoughts stirred and he triggered the 99th problem on the red cliff.

Several days ago, when Qin Yu solved the 90th problem again, he had a sudden intuition – this time was different.

But he couldn't state just how it was different. After solving 98 problems, he became extremely worn out and slept for three entire days. When he woke up, his intuition hadn't disappeared but instead became increasingly intense.

It looked like his behavior of endless harvesting had triggered some unknown change. He had no idea whether it was good or bad.

He looked at the chaotic lines on the red cliff and his pupils shrank. If Qin Yu thought that the 98th problem was ridiculously difficult already...then this last problem, in terms of foundation, was at least ten times harder!

Qin Yu subconsciously took several steps back. He looked at the red wall which seemed to be spewing out red lines all over. There were so many that they even appeared to be stacking up atop of each other.

Gradually, the giant red cliff that soared into the skies became covered by the red lines.

In terms of number, there were over a million!

It was like an extremely precise building block game. He needed to use these million lines to build a complete rule. Even a single mistake would lead to catastrophic failure.

If it was like before where he could choose to give up and start solving problems from the start again, then the choice would have been easy.

He didn't care about the difficulty nor did he want to pass. It would have been fine if he failed.

But now, Qin Yu thought that if he carelessly chose to fail again, a problem would certainly occur...and it would be a big problem!

As this thought appeared, a weak voice that barely managed to restrain its anger directly resounded in his mind. "Brat, you're right. If you cannot solve this problem today then prepare yourself to stay here forever. Don't ask who I am or why I sound so resentful. All you need to know is that since I said it, I can do it!

"Remember, you only have one day, so hurry up and start...if you fail, then you can experience my bad luck with me! If I cannot run away, you won't be any better off you little bastard! This is your choice that you forced me to make!"

The voice vanished.

Qin Yu frowned. He had no idea who this other party was, but he could feel a strong sense of enmity rolling off of it, so thick that it nearly condensed into essence.

As the voice fell, Qin Yu's mind shook. Waves appeared in the sun and moon force field.

Then, Qin Yu became aware of something...everything that voice said was true.

If he couldn't solve this incomparably complex problem of the rules that flooded the entire red cliff, then he would be in grave trouble.

Buzz –

With a shaking cry, an invisible strength arrived. It covered the region around the red cliff and isolated Qin Yu from the outside.

But this time, the invisible strength didn't purely shelter Qin Yu from outside disturbances. It clearly contained a trace of sealing aura. As if once Qin Yu failed, this strength would immediately thrust him into the abyss, imprisoning him forever so that he would never escape.

Snowside's complexion changed, "Qin Yu!"

She felt that something wasn't right.

Qin Yu stood in front of the red cliff and took a deep breath. He turned around and slowly said, "Don't worry. I can deal with it."

But, he was actually bitterly smiling inside. Even now, he had no idea what had happened.

Still, it seemed that everything that happened today was because of him.

Could this mean he only had himself to blame?

After suppressing all his thoughts, a dark golden light appeared in Qin Yu's eyes. No matter what happened, he couldn't be sealed here...this problem of the rules could not trap him!

...

In the hidden underground temple, the array diagram in the void began to shake. An unimaginably powerful aura was released. It was like an endless mountain and an infinite sea, suppressing everyone within.

The Leng Family cultivators that maintained the revolution of the array formation all froze where they stood. They were like fish stuck in solid blocks of ice, unable to move anymore.

Only their wide eyes and the surging emotions of shock in them indicated that they were still alive and not statues.

A phantom of the stone pagoda, one that was flooded with the breath of ancient times, slowly appeared in the shaking void. A low and dignified voice echoed in the air, "Now, I need you all to provide me with the support of even greater strength."

...

One day later, Stranded God Canyon vanished. No one knew exactly what happened.

Even the Leng Family who managed all of this had no clue, nor did they harvest any useful information.

This caused all the eyes that were paying attention to this incident to reveal looks of disappointment. But, they didn't give up there. They mobilized all their intelligence networks to find that mysterious cultivator called Qin Yu.

That's right. As the cultivators in Stranded God Canyon left using the offering method, Qin Yu's name had spread throughout the world.

He had reached the 99th problem of the rules in Stranded God Valley at least three continuous times and deliberately chose to fail on each occasion...this alone was enough to attract the gazes of countless people.

Numerous undercurrents surged below the calm lake. And Qin Yu, who these undercurrents flowed toward, had been sleeping for a long, long time.

The old horse and lame horse pulled the carriage. Snowside often turned back and looked at the still unconscious Qin Yu within, worry in her eyes.

This was already the 16th day since Qin Yu fell into a deep sleep. She had no idea what happened, but it clearly involved the last problem of the rules that had flooded the entire red cliff.

After Qin Yu solved it, it turned into a rune. But this rune didn't shatter and disappear like before. Rather, it flew out and fused into his body.

Then the red cliff broke apart. She, Qin Yu, as well as the two horses, were wrapped up by an invisible strength and transmitted away.

Since that day, Qin Yu hadn't woken up. Even if his aura was vibrant and his soul fluctuations were stable, he had slept for 16 days. Snowside was worried the entire time.

If something really happened to Qin Yu, she had no idea what she should do in this strange and unknown world. As she was lost in thought, her mind drifted away. It was only when she heard a cry that she realized some cultivators had appeared in front of her.

"What a beautiful ice fox. Looking at how clean and sleek its fur is, its bloodline must be pure."

The one who spoke was a petite woman. But because her proportions were too good, legs still slender, and her chest large, she was still an eye-catching sight.

Snowside frowned and her heart sank. Her intuition told her that these people represented trouble.

"Miss Junjun has wonderful eyesight. That is indeed an ice fox with a pure bloodline; I'm afraid there are few left of them in this world. Encountering one today is Miss Junjun's good luck and the ice fox's good fortune. I will take it and gift it to you."

A man to the side spoke. As he looked at Snowside he paused for a moment and his eyes started to light up.

While he had hidden himself well, he still couldn't avoid Miss Junjun's look. A chill circulated in her stare.

Humph!

Men...they really were trash!

A carriage-driving maid actually had such a cute and beautiful appearance; it really was displeasing to the eyes. It would be best if her face was scratched and scarred.

Shang Junjun turned her gaze. She regretfully said, "I still don't want it. Such an attractive ice fox must be the cherished pet of others. How could I seize what others love by force?"

Another man coldly sneered, "To offer the ice fox to Miss Junjun is her good fortune. Could she not be satisfied with this?"

He waved a hand, "Go, bring the ice fox over and deliver it to Miss Junjun."

Whoosh –

With the sound of piercing air, a cultivator with a cold and sharp expression landed in front of the carriage. He swept his eyes over the old horse and lame horse and frowned slightly. He said, "Give me the ice fox and you may leave."

Snowside took the ice fox down from her shoulder and placed it on the ground. "I'll give it to you."

The cold-faced cultivator didn't think that things would end so simply. He looked at her for a moment before taking the ice fox and walking away.

Snowside picked up the whip and knocked the carriage seat. The old horse and lame horse made a circle and were about to cross the people in front.

Shang Junjun hugged the ice fox, a bright smile on her face. "Thank you Brother Yun Shi. I really like this ice fox and can't wait to get closer to it. I don't even want to continue walking."

After having Yun Zhan make the first move, Fan Bo was feeling annoyed. Now that he heard this he immediately said, "Miss Junjun, there is no need for you to walk, you may ride a carriage. Stop the carriage and hand it over!"

Snowside frowned. "You just said that once I handed over the ice fox, you would let us leave."

Fan Bo impatiently said, "You can still leave now, but if you say anything else, that might not be true anymore."

Snowside pursed her lips. "Alright..."

But just as she spoke up she was interrupted by a helpless and somewhat happy voice coming from inside the carriage. "Since when did you become someone who was so easily bullied? This is my first time seeing it."

Snowside's tense body loosened. She clenched her jaws and turned her head, saying, "If you weren't born like a pig, sleeping all the way until now, do you think I would be in such a wretched situation?"

Her words were still wicked but the joy on her face warmed Qin Yu's heart. He never thought that the losses after solving the last problem of the rules would be so serious. After enduring until the end, he immediately lost consciousness.

If it hadn't been for Snowside supporting him during this time when he had no strength to resist, who knew what sort of fate he would have ended up in.

With a smile, Qin Yu pushed open the door and jumped out of the carriage. "Don't worry, I'll let you vent your anger now."

#### **Chapter 994 - Hard to Find**

"Miss Junjun?"

"My name is Shang Junjun."

"You seem to have a great amount of support."

"My family background is like that. I can't help it."

Qin Yu smiled. "May I ask what background you come from?"

"Shangyang, Shang Family." Shang Junjun said in a soft voice. She had a natural expression, as if saying 'I am so fierce, do you fear me now?'

Although she was trying her best to remain calm, she was a little girl who couldn't conceal everything.

But what a pity, perhaps this Shang Family that had an entire city named after it really was fierce, but to Qin Yu and Snowside, it didn't serve as any deterrence.

Because they had no idea where this Shangyang City was, and thus they didn't know who this Shang Family was.

Shang Junjun's expression stagnated. She discovered that this hatefully smiling man and the woman with the beguiling face both had serene expressions, as if they weren't affected by the Shang Family name at all.

This...didn't seem to be an act. Could it be that they came from far away and hadn't heard about the Shang Family?

Shang Junjun furrowed her eyebrows. This sort of person who came from the sticks and had no experience was relatively more difficult to deal with.

Because they were ignorant, they had no fear of anything, and as a result they were even more unscrupulous in their actions.

It seemed that she could only bring forth her cousin's name. With her cousin's status, no matter how far away these people came from, they must have heard of him.

Taking a deep breath, she straightened herself, seeming even more indifferent than before. "My big brother's name is Shang Lingyu, and he has entered Peach Blossom Spring as the disciple of an Elder. Right now he is an honored guest of the East Zhou Family. The reason I am out here is that I am under orders from my father to pay respects to my cousin. Before I set out, I already contacted my brother. If I am late I fear that my brother will come to find me. At that time, I'm not sure you will be able to explain what has happened."

You might not know Shangyang City and you might not know of the Shang Family, but looking at the entire world, there were few cultivators that didn't know of Peach Blossom Spring.

You want me to lower my head and be like those pieces of trash Yun Zhan and Fan Bo? Keep on dreaming! Right now, I think it's your turn to grovel in front of me!

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows. He slowly said, "Your big brother is a disciple of Peach Blossom Spring?"

Shang Junjun lifted her neck. It was fair and clear like a swan. She looked down and gently nodded, "Yes, that's exactly right."

Qin Yu looked at her with an earnest expression. His eyes were especially bright. Logical reasoning told him that he shouldn't get entangled in grievances with Peach Blossom Spring over this little girl. Moreover, if he didn't handle things properly, it might lead to trouble...

But if a person's actions were always controlled by logic, then a great deal of chaos wouldn't appear in the world.

Qin Yu was sure that he wasn't a random person who haphazardly did things. But that didn't mean he could completely control his actions.

"So it was like that. That really is a coincidence." Qin Yu said in a soft voice.

Snowside was in discussion with Yun Zhan and Fan Bo when she suddenly frowned. She had never heard of Peach Blossom Spring before, but her intuition told her that Qin Yu seemed a bit abnormal after hearing this name.

Before she could think further, Qin Yu resumed speaking in a leisurely tone, "Of course I've heard of Peach Blossom Spring's prestige, and I feel nothing but the deepest awe. Since you're related in such a way, I won't embarrass you any further.

"First, give back the ice fox.

"Second, earnestly apologize to my maid."

Shang Junjun reacted with shocked anger, "That's impossible!"

Qin Yu ignored her. He continued to say, "And there's a third condition. Once those two have paid my maid for what they did, you have to hand over three times what they did."

He raised three fingers, his eyes calm. "Remember this. Out of these three conditions, none of them can be missing. Otherwise I assure you that you will be incomparably uncomfortable with what will happen. Do not doubt me. When it comes to a girl like you whose inner nature contrasts so greatly with her appearance, I won't show any mercy at all."

Shang Junjun felt that she was going to explode with rage. Of course, she certainly didn't know that not too long ago, Qin Yu had almost managed to make a stone pagoda blow up with anger. Even he had no idea that he had such a talent to enrage others.

But at this time, Shang Junjun didn't dare to throw a tantrum. For some reason, she thought that this seemingly calm man with a moderate expression wasn't just trying to frighten her.

What was his background? What was his origin? How could someone who didn't even know of the Shang Family treat her like this? In particular, he even knew that she had an amazing cousin who the entire Shang Family was bragging about.

Although she couldn't figure it out, the situation wasn't something she could control. Shang Junjun took a deep breath, her chest rising and falling. The magnitude of this movement was worrying, so great that it seemed the buttons on her front would break off.

But lowering her head like this was too shameful! In particular, with Yun Zhan, Fan Bo, and those vixens that glared at her all day long, it made this even more unacceptable.

Shang Junjun's face tensed up and she coldly said, "I can agree to your conditions, but you will become someone who is not welcomed by me. If there is a chance in the future, I will do my best to make you return everything that you take from me today."

Qin Yu smiled. "Of course. You have that right. If there really is a chance, I will be looking forward to that."

The group of young men and women quickly left after getting permission. Although their backs seemed a bit hurried, only a few of them were truly panicked.

Come to think about it, this shocking matter would soon spread out through their circles and become a topic of conversation among many people.

Relatively speaking, Yun Zhan and Fan Bo were better. As men that were able to adapt to the situation, others might even see them in a more positive light.



But Shang Junjun...tsk tsk, did you all hear? That Shang Family's miss, she bluffed and blustered because she had a good relationship with her cousin, but in the end she just ended up embarrassing herself and being ruthlessly kicked into the ground.

After all, the intrigue between women was more intense in many ways, and Shang Junjun had indeed offended many people during this period of time.

When those people left, Qin Yu turned around, his smile reaching from ear to ear. He looked at Snowside who was hugging the ice fox and laughed, "Are you satisfied with this way of venting anger?"

"Satisfied, I'm satisfied." Snowside smiled with joy, showing her shiny white teeth. "You're pretty smart. Rather than all that bloody fighting and killing, isn't it much better to rip people off?"

"However, I think that Shang girl really has some background. Since you swept her face across the ground today, she will retaliate. And most importantly, you will be going to the East Zhou Family so it's obvious you will meet again."

Qin Yu nodded, "I understand."

Snowside curled her lips together. "If you knew she wasn't good to provoke, why did you still do it? Was your ego inflated too much or is there something I don't know about?"

Qin Yu noticed the seriousness in her eyes. He thought for a moment and said, "There is a little. You even said that I have a transcendent teacher, and those people that were trapped in Stranded God Canyon should have believed me and spread a reputation for me. If I had to retreat when facing the little sister of some unknown disciple of Peach Blossom Spring, others wouldn't believe me anymore."

"Do you have a grudge against Peach Blossom Spring?" Snowside suddenly asked. One couldn't help but acknowledge that a woman's intuition was frighteningly correct at times.

Qin Yu thought that he shouldn't tell her of this matter right now. Besides needless worrying, it wouldn't help the situation at all. Moreover, if she exposed any flaws in the future and someone sensed something wasn't right, that would lead to genuine trouble.

So he laughed and shook his head, "No."

Snowside rolled her eyes. Who was he trying to fool? But if Qin Yu didn't want to speak of it, she wouldn't badger him about it.

She only secretly decided to pay extra attention to any news about Peach Blossom Spring. At the very least, she needed to find out just who this other party was first.

Tsk tsk, this boy Qin Yu messed around even more than she thought he did. She had no idea what happened but a formidable opponent had popped out of nowhere. If it wasn't for him being strong enough and lucky enough, she feared he would have been killed already.

Qin Yu knocked her forehead, "If you understood at a glance, it's probably not as good as I think it is. You already know the coordinates of the East Zhou Family so let's hurry along. We're already among the last groups of people, so let's not miss out."

The lame horse and old horse neighed, welcoming Qin Yu's return. Then, they moved forward, pulling the carriage away.

...

The opening of the Path of 10,000 Souls was approaching. East Zhou Duly had no choice but to exit seclusion and accept the advice of seniors who her family had hired with a great deal of money.

Although these people hadn't smoothly obtained the inheritance of the Path of 10,000 Souls, they had once personally experienced it themselves. And this experience itself was incomparably precious to East Zhou Duly.

After several hours of conversation, East Zhou Duly stood up and watched as the cultivators left. She rubbed her eyebrows.

There was far too much to remember and she also had to start screening it out. The Path of 10,000 Souls was known to be ever-changing, and who knew if any of these people were lying?

After all, disregarding the opposing factions within the family, the East Zhou Family's rivals also didn't hope to see her smoothly obtain the inheritance of the Path of 10,000 Souls. It was an ever-present possibility that their hands could be meddling in things.

Doctor Ye pushed open the door and walked in. He cupped his hands together, "Miss."

East Zhou Duly glanced over, "How is it?"

Doctor Ye shook his head.

East Zhou Duly sighed and let out a breath. "It seems that my luck isn't good. I wasn't able to obtain the help of that mister."

Doctor Ye comforted her, "You have already completed your preparations. Even if you cannot find Qin Yu...ah, even though I know it's impossible for it to be the same person, I still find it strange for it to be the same name...in short, miss will surely succeed."

East Zhou Duly smiled, "I hope so."

The first time she heard this name she felt disbelief. But soon, she suppressed these unlikely thoughts.

The name was the same, but it was impossible for them to be the same person.

After all, while Qin Yu's performance had been startling, even moving her heart to take him in as a subordinate, how could he be placed on the same level as that person from Stranded God Canyon?

Whatever. If the East Zhou Family couldn't find him, the other competitors likely couldn't either. Everyone would have to rely on their own methods.

And she didn't necessarily have no advantage.

"Old Ye, I heard that Brother Shang's beloved little sister has arrived. I will be holding a banquet today and personally welcoming her."

Old Ye cupped his hands together, "Yes, miss."

But at this time, the person that East Zhou Duly and everyone else was doing their best to find was comfortably riding a carriage as he arrived at the East Zhou Family's residence.

It wasn't a city in front of them, but an endless complex of buildings that stretched out as far as the eye could see. Its scale was magnificent and glorious!

There were no walls because there was no need for them – because this entire world was under the control of the East Zhou Family. As the colossus that ruled over a hundred worlds, if they couldn't even manage their headquarters and were easily invaded by others, then they might as well buy a block of tofu and smash their heads in with it.

### **Chapter 995 - Small Enmities and Great Enmities Are Still Enmities**

Looking at the endless complex of buildings, several invisible auras shot into the heavens. They were like towering mountains that supported the skies, releasing endless oppression.

This was the strength that the East Zhou Family outwardly exposed to deter and frighten any possible enemies. And Qin Yu didn't doubt that they had even more strength hidden below the surface.

They were truly worthy of being known as a colossus that ruled a hundred worlds. Their strength and heritage were terrifying beyond imagination!

Snowside shook the reins, causing the old horse and lame horse to come to a stop. She turned and asked, "We've arrived. What should we do now?"

Qin Yu smiled. "Of course we have to look for a place to stay first."

"Like this?"

"Like this."

Snowside curled her lips. "When did you learn to play with such mysterious and secretive methods? You obviously want to run right up to them and expose yourself."

Qin Yu thought that if she was so straightforward, wasn't she afraid that he would become angry out of shame? He snorted and said, "You don't understand."

In fact, everything Snowside said was right; he was indeed feeling impatient. But that was another situation altogether. He couldn't go up and reveal himself on his own initiative, otherwise why would he cause such a stir in Stranded God Canyon?

Qin Yu had to guarantee that the East Zhou Family would invite him on their own initiative. This would reduce any unnecessary troubles to the lowest level possible and allow him to occupy a relatively active position.

As the carriage continued forward, a banquet was being carried out somewhere in the core region of the East Zhou Family.

East Zhou Duly personally accompanied a man who was drinking wine across from her. She occasionally turned and spoke to a petite and beautiful woman beside him so that she didn't feel left out.

The atmosphere of the banquet was excellent. It continued for four hours. After the guests and host finished conversing with each other, they departed.

East Zhou Duly stood up and led the two people away. The man stood straight and there was a calm look in his eyes. He occasionally glanced at her with appreciation and acclaim.

The woman beside him tried her best to appear tranquil, but there was some caution in her eyes that she couldn't conceal.

After all, she had always been proud about her family background. But if her family background were compared to that of East Zhou Duly, the difference was as great as clouds and mud. If it weren't for her cousin, she might never have had a chance in her lifetime to be invited to a banquet by such a person. Moreover, this person had been kind and warm to her the entire time, leaving behind a favorable impression as warm as the spring breeze.

After bidding his farewells, the man walked away. She followed close behind. All of her claws and fangs were retracted and she became incomparably gentle.

At this time, the man spoke up, "Little sister, I heard that you encountered some trouble two days ago?"

He finally asked me!

Shang Junjun took a deep breath and refreshed her spirits. After she arrived at the Shang Family, she never mentioned it once because she believed her big brother would inevitably learn of this from other channels.

Hum hum, for my cousin to ask me about this so quickly, I must thank those loose-tongued bitches.

But on the surface, her face flushed red and she revealed an awkward and shameful appearance. "No...it's nothing..."

Shang Lingyu glanced at her. "You have been causing trouble these past years, so it's good if you are taught a lesson. Your temper needs to be smoothed out and it's for the best if you learn that there is no limit in this universe, and there is always someone higher. This will help you not get into trouble in the future."

He paused and then continued to say, "Starting from today, Shadow Three will temporarily follow at your side and help you handle any trivial matters so others don't disturb your mood. Go out and take a walk around. There are many fun and interesting places to visit in the East Zhou Family's dwelling."

Shang Junjun respectfully bowed, "Yes, big brother."

A happy look flashed in her eyes.

Although it seemed that Shang Lingyu had scolded her, her cousin really did care about her. Otherwise how could he arrange Shadow Three to be by her side?

It had to be known that a close guard was something that only disciples of Peach Blossom Spring were qualified to have, and their strength was extremely formidable. If Shadow Three had accompanied her from the start, she never would have been humiliated by that boy.

You, and that cheap slut with you, I had best never encounter you two again, otherwise I will teach you what fear and regret are!

Shadow Three wore a mask, making it impossible to see his appearance. Only his cold and indifferent eyes were exposed to the outside world, looking like they had been hewn from ice. There were no fluctuations of mood within them. Just from him standing there unmoving, one could feel a cold chill rise up in their heart.

He was like a bloodthirsty beast that was lying dormant. When he bared his fangs and claws, everything would be destroyed.

Shang Junjun held a meeting in the name of getting to know people better. Because of Shadow Three's existence, she made a big splash.

In particular, it was unknown who at this meeting pointed out Shadow Three's background, but after it was learned that he came from the lofty Peach Blossom Spring, everyone looked at Shang Junjun with envy and awe.

So the rumors were true. A peerless genius had appeared in the Shang Family who had entered Peach Blossom Spring. And, this genius was Shang Junjun's older cousin. Both sides had been close with each other since they were children and he doted on her.

Now it seemed that this was the truth. Otherwise why would he dispatch his own guard to follow Shang Junjun?

This was obviously to support Shang Junjun. After today, the undercurrents of rumors that had swirled about would soon disappear.

Shang Junjun's injured feelings were immediately patched up and satisfied. With a faint smile, she accepted everyone's compliments, whether they were direct or cryptic.

But even if she harvested the awe of all these people, there was still some regret in her heart.

Since the boy from that day knew her big brother was a guest at the East Zhou Family, he wouldn't dare to approach again. She feared he had likely run off to some distant land. If she wanted to encounter him once more, the chances were almost nonexistent. When would she be able to vent this anger in her heart?

Perhaps she should try and figure out a way to have her cousin ask the East Zhou Family to help find the boy? With the East Zhou Family's strength, as long as they took action, they would cast a net that covered the heavens and earth. No matter where that boy was, there would be nowhere he could run off to.

Mm, once I return, I will find an opportunity to seek help from my cousin. Just what sort of status do I, Shang Junjun, have? How could I be humiliated by you and not retaliate!

As she thought of this, she felt that today's meeting was meaningless. Of course, she had already shown what she was supposed to show, and let these people know the disparity between them. If she left now, there wouldn't be any losses.

As Shang Junjun was about to announce that she was leaving first, she suddenly froze where she was. She watched with wide eyes as a carriage turned onto the street ahead.

Several young men that surrounded and constantly flattered her immediately sensed the change in her expression. When they followed her eyes, their complexions also changed.

As the center of the banquet, the actions of Shang Junjun and those beside her were soon seen by everyone else. The lively and bustling banquet quickly fell silent.

Everyone looked at the carriage on the street which was steadily approaching. Although they kept warning themselves that they had to remain calm, their twisted faces indicated just how wildly their emotions were surging.

Some people watched Shang Junjun. Many women raised their hands and covered their mouths, whispering to each other as their eyes brightened.

Although it hadn't been long, news of Shang Junjun being maliciously humiliated by others and losing all face had spread out far and wide.

Everyone wanted to know just who this person was that didn't fear the name of Peach Blossom Spring and where he came from.

But unfortunately, no one had been able to trace the depths of that person and his identity remained unknown.

So perhaps it was out of curiosity, but countless versions of this story circulated around, all of them with varying descriptions of that person's appearance.

This was an ordinary carriage that had a light layer of dust covering it. It was clear that it had travelled a long distance, traveling over mountains and crossing rivers to come this far. The two horses that pulled the carriage had well-defined characteristics.

One horse was very old with hair that had lost its luster and eyelids that drooped down. Even so, it put on a vigorous and energetic appearance as it tried to tease the lame horse beside it.

It was unknown what happened to the lame horse, but its left hoof had been left disabled from some past accident. Even though it was lame, its gait was steady and it was incomparably arrogant. It paid no attention to the flattering of the old horse, and whenever the old horse approached it would give it a little nip.

The one driving the carriage was a maid. She had a beautiful and charming face. Just looking at her, one couldn't help but feel heat begin to rise in their heart...

Although there were many versions of this story, everyone had heard the above contents numerous times already.

So, when the people saw the carriage driving down the street and contrasted it to their memories, their expressions became even more excited.

The carriage was ordinary, with a light layer of dust.

Two horses pulled the carriage, one old and one lame.

It was a woman driving the carriage. Although she was still far away and her appearance was a little blurry, that couldn't conceal her charming looks.

Of course, what was even more important were the wild fluctuations of emotions revealed on Shang Junjun's face.

These people weren't blind. Could they not see her grim and dark expression and her teeth that were being gnashed together?

Ah...could it really just be a coincidence?

No way!

Shang Junjun had borrowed her cousin's formidable guard to put on an act in front of everyone to regain her face. What did it mean for this person to appear here now?

Coincidences existed, but not to such an extent!

Compared with this, slaps to the face were just children's games. This was the same as directly lifting up a foot and jumping on a person's face.

But no matter what, there was one point they were all sure of.

There was going to be something fun to watch.

This was not just because all private fights were strictly forbidden in the East Zhou Family's dwelling, but also because...if there was a person that didn't give Shang Junjun face and instead ruthlessly rubbed her face into the ground, could such a person have no background?

It couldn't be forgotten that when Shang Junjun spoke before, she clearly indicated that her cousin Shang Lingyu would be here. Yet, this person had come. What did that mean? It meant that he was an absolutely strong person who didn't place her cousin in his heart!

A great show! A great show was incoming!

Shang Junjun took a deep breath. She kept her chest tall and proud, revealing an astonishing curve. She swept her eyes around and smiled. "It looks like everyone already knows about my bitter experience from a few days ago. Then, that saves me the time of having to explain things.

"They say that when enemies meet, their eyes blaze with rage. There is no great enmity between me and this person, but little enmities and great enmities are all still enmities. Since we meet again, it is impossible for us to pretend that we haven't seen each other, so I must do my best to take back what was taken from me."

She looked at Shadow Three who was standing behind her, so quiet and still that he really did resemble a shadow. She said in a soft voice, "I remember big brother mentioning to me that due to the Zhou Family's respect towards his status, they gave you the privilege of taking action when faced with unexpected situations, right?"

Shadow Three's cold voice resounded from beneath his mask, "Yes."

Shang Junjun smiled. "Very good. Then what are you waiting for? Go and bring those two people in the carriage to me."

Shadow Three cupped his hands together. He turned around and stepped away. A blocking array formation had been built outside the restaurant to prevent wind, sand, and sound from entering. This was to provide the guests with a better and more enjoyable dining experience. It also had excellent defensive capabilities.

After all, this was a restaurant for cultivators. If it really was 'weak and delicate', wouldn't it be necessary for things to be repaired all the time?

But this blocking array formation lit up for a brief moment before being torn apart like a bubble. Runes flashed and faded away.

As a sharp siren filled the air, Shadow Three had already crossed the street. He appeared in the skies above the carriage and pressed his hands downwards.

### **Chapter 996A – Adapt to the Situation**

My name is Shadow Three and I come from the Peach Blossom Spring Holy Land. I was ordered to follow disciple Shang Lingyu and become his shadow, obeying his will and treating him as my eternal master.

In truth, many years ago I also had a chance to become a disciple of Peach Blossom Spring, but I failed by a hair's breadth. In order to be able to stay at Peach Blossom Spring, I willingly became a Shadow Guard.

My name is 'Shadow Three'. 'Three' represents my strength, meaning that in the entire Shadow Guard system, I am ranked third.

This isn't just empty boasting. A third place ranking is considerably fierce.

So at the start, I never placed Shang Lingyu in my eyes. Although I was respectful to him, that was only because the system of order within Peach Blossom Spring could not be defied.

It was afterwards that I discovered the true potential and ambition hidden beneath Shang Lingyu's surface. When I was moved to true admiration, that was when I finally regarded him as my master.

While I was confused about why he valued a cousin from his family who wasn't even a close relative, out of respect for him I still obeyed his will and followed his orders.

So when she explicitly revealed her stance, I attacked without hesitation.

At that moment, I leapt out, instantly breaking the array formation that covered the restaurant.

I arrived in the skies above the carriage in the blink of an eye. When I looked down, my eyes were surely very, very cold.

It was because the cultivator in the carriage insulted not just Shang Junjun, but also provoked the honor of Peach Blossom Spring.

He clearly knew that Shang Lingyu was here and yet he still dared to swagger in. He obviously didn't care about him at all.



No matter how strong this person is and regardless of whether he knows the immensity of the heavens and earth, since I am Shang Lingyu's Shadow Guard, there is no chance I will hold back.

I believed that even if this person had a great background, there was no way they could compare with the Peach Blossom Spring Holy Land behind me.

But what happened next proved that I was mistaken. I was very, very mistaken.

The carriage and the person it represented weren't easy to mess with.

And in truth, the moment I attacked I could already feel this.

Because as I attacked with all my strength, the feeling was like a fist crashing into a mountain. The counter-shaking force was like a river bursting free from a dam, surging endlessly!

So I was sent flying backwards, blood gushing out of my nose and mouth.

....

Inside and outside the restaurant, the long street suddenly fell into silence.

The cultivators who didn't know what happened had their jaws drop down. What sort of rhythm was this? You took the initiative to jump out and deal with the carriage, but in the blink of an eye you were sent flying away and were even vomiting blood as if it was free?

Although it can be considered fun and exciting to watch you vomit blood, can you at least tell us what happened?

And inside the restaurant, the people who heard Shang Junjun speak up earlier received an even greater impact.

This might be the first time they had seen Shadow Three, but with his status he had to be tyrannically strong...it had to be known that he came from Peach Blossom Spring!

But with just a single strike he had fallen into such a distressed state...no, that wasn't right. To be more precise, before that person even revealed himself, Shadow Three was slammed away while crazily spurting blood.

This was clearly even more terrifying!

Shua –

Shua –

Eyes fell onto the carriage that came to a stop on the street and awe shined within them. Then, these eyes shifted to Shang Junjun, and there was an unusual light in them.

The general meaning was – you wanted to put on a brave front but now your face was pressed into the ground and ruthlessly rubbed again.

Shang Junjun's face didn't actually touch the ground, but now it was thoroughly distorted.

This was it. Yes, this was it!

At the beginning, Yun Zhan's guard had been blasted away with a single strike. Now Shadow Three suffered the same fate.

Is your nickname the Guard Terminator?

But Shadow Three came from Peach Blossom Spring so he naturally had his own strengths. He wasn't someone that Yun Dapeng could compare with. So although he had blood gushing from his nose and mouth, he tried his best to not seem distraught.

Bang –

Shadow Three landed on both feet with a loud crash. The ground shattered and he was sent careening backwards, each step leaving behind deep ravines.

He finally managed to come to a stop. His chest tumbled and only after spitting out several mouthfuls of blood did he feel a bit more comfortable.

Shadow Three looked up at the carriage, his gaze shaken.

Powerful!

He took a deep breath and suppressed the shaking in his chest. He slowly said, "Miss, please leave."

He was a Shadow Guard. He had been ordered to follow Shang Junjun, and ensuring her safety was his top priority.

Now, he no longer believed he could completely protect her.

But Shadow Three was a Shadow Guard of Peach Blossom Spring. To a degree, he represented a part of Peach Blossom Spring.

So it was impossible to leave like this just after he was heavily wounded by someone.

Even if he wasn't a match, he would rather die here than take a single step backwards.

Shang Junjun screamed out, "I'm staying here! I'm not going anywhere!"

Shadow Three furrowed his eyebrows together. But as he thought about how this was the East Zhou Family's dwelling, he no longer said anything. His battle with the person in the carriage had likely been discovered by now. No matter what the situation was, the East Zhou Family wouldn't watch on as something happened to Shang Junjun.

When he spoke up and asked her to leave, he had already done his duty as a guard. Now, he had to fight for the honor of Peach Blossom Spring...even if he had to die.

He took a deep breath and straightened himself. Without any movement, crackling sounds started to emit from his body. At a speed visible to the naked eye, his pale face flushed red with blood and his aura rapidly rose. He broke past his limits but his aura showed no sign of slowing down.

Peach Blossom Spring's Shadow Guards were the shadows of their masters. In crucial moments, they could sacrifice themselves to die for their masters.

Since they had to die for their masters in dangerous times, how could they not have methods to erupt with strength?

Shadow Three had gone all-out!

Bang –

Bang –

The air currents around him exploded, causing space to distort. A vast and endless peach tree forest appeared around him.

Within this peach tree forest, pink peach blossom flowers were in full bloom. The entire street was filled with the fresh fragrance of peach blossoms.

“Hoh!”

With a deep roar, a wild breeze flew through the peach tree forest that appeared in the space distortion. Countless flower petals were swept up, tumbling forward and gathering in layers upon layers that surrounded the carriage.

It was rumored that Peach Blossom Spring was covered in countless peach trees. They bloomed all year round, representing some sort of supreme Great Dao.

It was naturally impossible for Shadow Three to display this sort of Great Dao, but his secret art that stimulated all of his strength contained a trace of it.

Even if it was only an extremely small portion, it was sufficiently terrifying. No one in the God boundary could match it, and even a common Origin God would have to yield and withdraw.

In a room, the meditating Shang Lingyu opened his eyes, a sharp light exploding within them.

Peach garden!

Shua –

He stood up without hesitation. Taking a step forward, he disappeared from sight.

A moment later he appeared beside Shang Junjun. The jade pendant at her waist emitted a bright light.

“Big brother!”

Shang Junjun was overjoyed. Her eyes immediately turned red.

Seeing that she was fine, Shang Lingyu relaxed. He looked up at the carriage which was surrounded with countless peach blossoms and he frowned.

He was well aware of how strong Shadow Three was. Yet, he was forced into a situation where he had no choice but to go all-out. It was easy to see that this other party was incredibly strong.

“Big brother, the person inside the carriage is the one who humiliated me, so I asked Shadow Three to attack. But, I never thought things would be like this...it was my mistake, I hope big brother forgives me...” Shang Junjun sobbed, a guilty look on her face.

Shang Lingyu said in a soft and comforting voice, "It's fine, I'm here." Just as his voice fell, his complexion changed and he looked towards the street.

At almost the same time, the countless peach blossoms that surrounded the carriage suddenly collapsed and tumbled away into nothingness.

Shadow Three looked as if his spine had been removed. His aura and vitality dispersed and he collapsed to the ground.

Shua –

Shang Lingyu's figure flickered and he appeared beside Shadow Three. He took out a pill that was covered in scales and placed it in his mouth.

Shadow Three's aura immediately stabilized. Although he had taken heavy losses, his life had been preserved.

Shadow Three's eyes were full of gratitude and guilt. "This lowly one was incompetent. I am not worth wasting such a precious pill on..."

Shang Lingyu clapped his shoulder. "If you are alive, you can help me more. Don't think about such things and continue resting."

He flicked his sleeves and an invisible strength rushed out, wrapping around Shadow Three and sending him somewhere safe. Shang Lingyu stood up and looked at the quiet carriage.

"You injured my person, so don't you plan on revealing yourself and giving an explanation?"

This voice was calm, but it was filled with an undeniable momentum.

Snowside leapt down from the carriage. She looked at Shang Lingyu. This man's aura couldn't be considered too strong, but he gave off a feeling of extreme danger.

But she didn't feel any worry. Right now, the current Qin Yu was unfathomably mystical and even she couldn't sense his depths. He shouldn't suffer a loss here.

Creak –

The carriage door was pushed open from inside. Qin Yu stepped out, immediately attracting everyone's eyes.

His expression was calm as he said, "An explanation is needed, but I think it should be you giving me one."

Whoosh –

There were countless loud gasps in the restaurant. The moment Shang Lingyu appeared, they subconsciously stopped breathing.

It had to be known that he was a disciple of Peach Blossom Spring! That legendary Peach Blossom Spring!

Because of this, when they heard Qin Yu's tough and strong words, the impact they felt was even greater.

Shang Junjun sneered, "You have no idea of death or danger!"

Although no one else spoke up, looking at their expressions, their innermost thoughts were about the same.

Shang Lingyu calmly said, "Before, you came into conflict with my little sister. I have no idea what the reason for that was, so I will not mention it for the time being. But today, I saw with my own eyes as you nearly killed my Shadow Guard."

"He attacked me first and I cannot fight back?"

"Fighting back doesn't necessitate killing."

"It's only because his skills are inferior."

Shang Lingyu narrowed his eyes. "Are you saying that if I have enough strength, I can also try to kill you?"

Qin Yu said without expression, "You can try."

It was true that he didn't dare to provoke the strength of Peach Blossom Spring, but this was a mere disciple. Was he supposed to lower his head here?

"Very good." Shang Lingyu slowly nodded, "Then allow me to experience your strength."

### **Chapter 996B – Adapt to the Situation**

At this time, there was the sound of breaking air, followed by a loud shout, "Brother Shang, stay your hand!"

Qin Yu's eyes flashed. He looked up and met the eyes of the woman who just spoke. He didn't think there would be such a coincidence as meeting her on the first day here.

Shua –

Shua –

With East Zhou Duly at the front, several figures fell down. She looked deeply at Qin Yu before arriving at Shang Lingyu's side. "Brother Shang, this person is a friend of mine. He must not know of your status, thus leading to this misunderstanding. I ask that senior-apprentice brother be merciful and forgive him."

As she spoke, she turned her head and glared at Qin Yu. "Qin Yu, why don't you come here and apologize to Brother Shang?"

Qin Yu lightly coughed and rubbed his nose. He seemed to be underestimated here. But it was clear that from East Zhou Duly's perspective, she was doing this for Qin Yu's good.

After all, he was just a native cultivator who came from a small world that hadn't even given birth to a true Origin God yet. Although she had no idea how he managed to get here, much less become enemies with Shang Lingyu.

Even if he had fantastic talent...sometimes one's family background was even more important than talent!

Shang Lingyu furrowed his eyebrows, "Miss East Zhou, is he really your friend?"

East Zhou Duly nodded. "I haven't known him for long, but I owe him a great favor."

And it was indeed a great favor.

If it weren't for Qin Yu, she feared she would have been defeated in the competition already. It would have been impossible for her to obtain the qualifications to enter the Path of 10,000 Souls.

Shang Lingyu hesitated for a moment. He slowly said, "Since that's the case, then as long as this person apologizes to my little sister and Shadow Three, I will forget about this."

It was unknown when Shang Junjun arrived by his side, but when she heard these words her lips twisted together. However, she knew that since East Zhou Duly was speaking up for Qin Yu and she even said she owed him a great favor, then Shang Lingyu would have no choice but to give up.

After all, the status of the East Zhou Family's daughter was no less than that of Shang Lingyu.

Ugh!

Even if I cannot teach you a lesson, you still have to lower your head in front of me. I want to see just how you will remain so arrogant!

On the street, the cultivators watching this battle from inside and outside the restaurant all felt disappointed.

They thought that they were about to reach the true climax, but the play had been completely deflated with East Zhou Duly's appearance.

As for whether or not Qin Yu would lower his head?

What else was there to say? Unless he was an idiot, he would understand that East Zhou Duly was doing her best to protect him.

There were impenetrably thickheaded and arrogantly stupid people, but few people remained foolish in the face of death.

It seemed that things were going to end like this...

What a pity. They originally thought that the cultivator in the carriage had a great background that could compete with a disciple of Peach Blossom Spring, which would lead to a hot-blooded fight where two stars collided.

But it was clear that the disparity between them was far greater than they imagined.

The quiet street gradually fell silent. Many eyes fell on Qin Yu, mockery and disdain within them.

Just before, he had put on an epic performance as if no one could stop him. Now, he was going to lower his head in defeat. It was indeed a bit humiliating.

But when it came to getting slapped or pretending to be stupid, it was nice to see as long as it didn't happen to them.

East Zhou Duly furrowed her eyebrows together. She hadn't spent much time with Qin Yu, but she had been able to sense that this boy was a prideful person.

With everyone watching, forcing him to bow his head and apologize might be too difficult...but even if it was shameful, it was better than losing his life.

She knew how strong Shang Lingyu was. If it weren't for that reason, her family wouldn't value him so much.

Seeing Qin Yu still not moving, East Zhou Duly took a breath and said, "Qin Yu!"

Honor or whatever else was not worth mentioning in the face of life and death. If he couldn't even adapt to such a situation, he might as well be trash.

Qin Yu revealed a helpless expression. He wanted to become a follower of East Zhou Duly. In the end, it was seeking help from her.

If he was to refuse her good intentions here and cause her to lose face, it would be inappropriate no matter how he looked at it.

But Qin Yu wasn't left in an awkward position for long, because someone soon gave an explanation for him.

"Qin Yu?" A cultivator standing on the side of the street furrowed his eyebrows, as if he was recalling something he nearly forgot.

Because of the excitement he felt that stopped abruptly, his thoughts were still running slow.

So after a brief pause, he finally recalled this name and why it sounded so familiar.

His eyes flew open. Qin Yu was standing beside the carriage with a calm and helpless expression. The cultivator stared at him in a daze as a violent storm raged in his heart.

That's right, it was helpless, it was indeed a helpless expression!

If this cultivator hadn't realized Qin Yu's identity, he might have thought that he seemed bitter and hesitant. But now, he was sure that Qin Yu really was feeling helpless about what was happening in front of him.

It was no wonder that he was still fearless even after discovering Shang Lingyu's background. If he was Qin Yu, everything could be explained.

"Qin Yu!" Someone suddenly shouted out loud.

The cultivator whose thoughts were turning suddenly felt annoyed. He regretted thinking so much and having his moment of fame taken from him.

I can't wait any longer; I have to speak out now otherwise it will be too late!

"Qin Yu, he is that Qin Yu!"

With two loud shouts in a row, the long street suddenly fell silent.

Countless cultivators widened their eyes. They looked at the black-robed man standing near the carriage and their hearts shook as if they were struck by thunder.

During this recent period of time, if one had to choose what the most shocking and eye-catching event was, it definitely wasn't the young Saintess of the Illusory World creating something known as the Heavenly Demon Dance that could enchant the soul and mesmerize the senses.

Alright. This dance was indeed attractive and anyone who was qualified to view the portrait of it would act like idiots for the next few days as they were lost in a haze.

But what was even more incredible was the crazy cultivator at Stranded God Canyon who had continuously solved problems of the rules like a madman, going all the way to the 99th problem before giving up, and doing this at least three times.

Moreover, the most important point was that Stranded God Canyon had suddenly vanished...everyone had their own guesses about what this meant, but they knew it was related to that crazy problem-solving cultivator.

And that cultivator's name was Qin Yu.

Shang Junjun's eyes widened. When she looked at Qin Yu, she couldn't put him together with that incomparably formidable and mysterious cultivator.

He was Qin Yu? He was that Qin Yu? This was impossible!

Shang Lingyu furrowed his eyebrows together, a dignified look in his eyes. No matter how arrogant he was or how high his self-esteem was, he couldn't be placed in a position as high as that person from Stranded God Canyon who had caused such waves.

He took a deep breath and suppressed his shaking heart. He turned to East Zhou Duly and slowly said, "Miss East Zhou, he is Qin Yu?"

This was not just purely asking about a person's name.

East Zhou Duly wryly smiled. As she thought, once this name was exposed it would have the effect of frightening the hearts and minds of people. But what a pity, he wasn't that person, otherwise why would he need to come here and trouble himself with explaining his actions?

"My friend is indeed called Qin Yu, but he should only share the name with that one from Stranded God Canyon. There shouldn't be any connection between them."

Shang Lingyu relaxed his eyebrows. He nodded, not saying anything else.

Shang Junjun took a deep breath, her field of vision flashing blank. Only then did she realize that she stopped breathing for a moment due to her nervousness.

But this didn't matter. Everything was fine as long as Qin Yu wasn't that Qin Yu!

I knew that someone like you could not be that person who's rumored to be extremely formidable!



At this time, a closed shop on the quiet street suddenly opened up from the inside. Several cultivators smiled and watched as a few people walked out. Looking at their shop sign, it seemed that this was a business related to spirit pets and combat beasts.

It was clear that this shop possessed considerable defenses. When the doors were shut, an isolating array formation cut off contact with the outside world, so no one inside had noticed the fight between Qin Yu and Shadow Three just now.

As the group of people arrived in the unexpectedly quiet street, they were given a fright. What sort of situation was this?

Before they could figure out what happened or ask around, the smiling cultivators hurried forward and bowed, "We greet the Fourth Young Miss!"

Amongst the juniors of the family, East Zhou Duly was fourth in line. They were all servants of the East Zhou Family and now that they saw East Zhou Duly who was likely to become an important decision maker of the family in the future, it was already a surprise that they didn't fall to their knees.

East Zhou Duly was just thinking about how to relax the atmosphere. As she saw these people her eyes flashed and she said, "What are you all doing?"

A cultivator respectfully said, "Reporting to Fourth Young Miss, some time ago, a group of precious spirit beast cubs were brought into the store. They were in poor condition so we asked the Beast Control Clan's Mister Zhou Pei to help us. We were just about to send Mister Zhou away."

Beast Control Clan's Zhou Pei...East Zhou Duly had heard this name before. Or to be exact, he was one of the people competing for the final spot as one of her followers. For anyone that had considerable strength, she had already looked over and memorized information about them and thus she knew them fairly well.

This Zhou Pei was one of the more noticeable ones. His cultivation base wasn't weak and he had various spirit beasts to help him. His overall strength was quite good.

East Zhou Duly nodded at him and said, "So it's the Beast Control Clan's Zhou Pei. Well met."

With her status, this was already a courteous reception towards Zhou Pei.

But what caused East Zhou Duly to furrow her eyebrows together was that Zhou Pei didn't respond to her words at all.

The several cultivators of the spirit pet shop all changed their complexions. One of them lowered their voice and quickly said, "Mister Zhou Pei, the Fourth Young Miss..."

But before he could finish speaking he was interrupted. Zhou Pei walked forward and bowed to Qin Yu with a pleasantly surprised expression. Joy and happiness surged on his face, as if he were more excited to see Qin Yu than his own parents.

"Fellow daoist Qin Yu, it hasn't been that long since we last met in Stranded God Canyon and yet your elegant demeanor is even more vibrant and graceful than before. You must have had immense harvests. I feel nothing but envy!"

He looked around and saw Snowside. His smile became even more exaggerated, “Miss Snowside, you are more beautiful than ever. I recently obtained a bottle of excellent snow clam paste. When it was refined the snow clam was 10,000 years old and it works marvels in improving one’s appearance. I would like to gift this to Miss Snowside. Only someone like you, who is as enchanting as a flower, can match such a treasure.”

As he spoke, he flipped his hand and took out a sapphire bottle that had a valuable appearance. He presented it with both hands, an expression of utter sincerity on his face, as if he would be saddened if she didn’t accept.

Of course, this only proved that Zhou Pei’s acting skills were first-class. As for the sadness, that was because another treasure was leaving him.

This was priceless 10,000 year old snow clam paste. He had obtained it with great effort and wanted to use it as a gift to flatter East Zhou Duly, but now all his efforts were for nothing.

Even with East Zhou Duly’s tough will, she still felt a buzz in her mind as a bout of dizziness overcame her.

As mentioned before, she had looked through Zhou Pei’s information ahead of time. Naturally, she knew that he left Stranded God Canyon not too long ago through an offering.

Moreover, the information contained a few records about how Zhou Pei had offended Qin Yu and had suffered as a result.

In other words, Zhou Pei knew that Qin Yu from Stranded God Canyon and felt nothing but awe towards him...looking at this current sight, as long as one wasn’t an idiot, they could draw the only possible conclusion, no matter how unbelievable it was.

This Qin Yu was that Qin Yu. They didn’t just share names, but were the same person!

### **Chapter 997A - Problem of Status**

East Zhou Duly took a deep breath. She couldn’t help but roll her eyes at Qin Yu. After this, she realized that it was the wrong reaction so her face flushed red for a moment before she concealed it.

There was of course some anger in her chest. While this had all been her guess and had nothing to do with Qin Yu, women always had the privilege of causing trouble without reason.

But more than that, there was joy.

Qin Yu was Qin Yu, so he would naturally help himself and become one of her followers. East Zhou Duly was absolutely confident in this.

Even after today when news of his appearance leaked out, no one would be able to ‘poach’ him.

But how did he accomplish what he did in Stranded God Canyon? He had at least solved up to the 99th problem of the rules three times, and in the end Stranded God Canyon even vanished.

This Qin Yu...she thought that there was something extraordinary about him in the beginning, but she never imagined that she had still underestimated him.

Qin Yu certainly noticed East Zhou Duly roll her eyes as well as her slightly irritated expression and even her joy. Sure enough, his previous efforts weren't for nothing. He was at least ninety percent sure he had this follower spot.

His mood lifted. When he looked at Zhou Pei, he even thought his rough face was much more pleasing to the eyes.

Qin Yu patted his shoulder and said, "Let the matters of the past disperse with the wind."

Zhou Pei's smile froze. He thought that since his acting skills were so exquisite, how had Qin Yu seen through him?

Or had he been targeted from the start, and every action and movement he made was being tracked?

With this thought in mind, Zhou Pei stiffened like a piece of wood. A cold chill sped up his back.

What do you want...Qin Yu, just what do you want...I've already done so much and yet you are still like this? Even a rabbit that is pushed far enough into a corner will bite back and even a pig will crawl up a tree. If you go too far, I will have no choice but to fight back!

Zhou Pei clenched his teeth inwardly, feeling himself reach the edge of eruption. When he looked up and saw Qin Yu's warm smile, he trembled.

No, I cannot be impulsive. Living is wonderful. As long as there is even the slightest chance, I cannot seek death on my own initiative.

Giving two dry laughs, Zhou Pei took out another entirely identical jade bottle. "Ah, I almost forgot. That 10,000 year old snow clam was just too fat and plump, it was just barely enough to make two bottles of snow clam cream. Today, I would like to gift it to Miss Snowside. If you use it sparingly, it will be enough for many, many years."

Sorry, my friend. It's not that I'm not strong but that the opponent is far too strong. I can only endure this humiliation.

Qin Yu looked at the Zhou Pei who was forcing out a smile even as his heart bled. In truth, he felt a bit awkward. He wondered if he had gone too far. He thought about saying that he was being earnest and didn't plan on knocking on him for more benefits.

But seeing Zhou Pei's twitching eyebrows, he suspected that if he continued to refuse, Zhou Pei might overthink things even more and take out more things to try and survive.

Qin Yu lightly coughed and restrained his expression. He thought that if Zhou Pei was willing, it had nothing to do with him. He turned and said, "Since fellow daoist Zhou Pei is being so sincere, accept it."

Snowside beamed with joy. No matter how old a woman was, they had no resistance when it came to beautifying products.

She took both bottles of snow clam paste in hand and sweetly smiled at Zhou Pei. "Then I must thank Mister Zhou."

Zhou Pei nodded, "Of course, of course." He moved to the side and dodged her bow.

This woman was not easy to deal with. If he were negligent enough to receive her bow, she would definitely bear a grudge.

Qin Yu didn't pay attention to him any longer. He stepped forward and cupped his hands together, "Miss East Zhou, it's been awhile since we last met. How have you been?"

East Zhou Duly looked deeply at him, "The Path of 10,000 Souls is about to open soon and I was fortunate enough to be able to participate and compete with the numerous other proud children of heaven. I've been feeling restless recently."

Qin Yu smiled. "Oh. If that's the case, is there a way I can lend Miss East Zhou a helping hand...I also have some interest in the Path of 10,000 Souls."

East Zhou Duly's eyes brightened. "Of course you're welcome to!"

She could no longer conceal her happiness. She smiled and said, "Qin Yu, you have agreed. You cannot go back on your word."

"A gentleman always stays true to his word!"

East Zhou Duly turned and said, "Brother Shang, Qin Yu and you will become fellow companions that enter the Path of 10,000 Souls with me. On my behalf, can you forget everything that happened before?"

Shang Lingyu's eyes darkened. He looked at Qin Yu for a time and slowly said, "Since Miss East Zhou has asked, I will forgive all previous entanglements."

He cupped his hands together and said, "Fellow daoist Qin Yu, my name is Shang Lingyu. I hope that we can work together and help Miss East Zhou obtain a harvest."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together, "I will do my best."

The disturbance was extinguished with this.

It was a bit abrupt but also how it should be. Although it damaged Shang Lingyu's face a little, no one laughed at him. Instead, they gave him a thumbs up.

He came from an honored background and his strength was formidable, yet he was able to abandon unnecessary face. If he picked something up, he could afford to put it down...he was actually quite a character.

After all, even though no one knew of Qin Yu's true origins, it was basically confirmed that he had some great background. Form enmity with such a character just because of some minor squabbles would clearly be the wrong choice.

East Zhou Duly smiled with satisfaction. "Today, I will hold another banquet to congratulate the two of you for repairing your relationship and also as a reception for Qin Yu."

Things proceeded even smoother than Qin Yu planned. He boarded his carriage and headed deeper into the East Zhou Family.

And by this time, news of his appearance had spread out far and wide.

The East Zhou Family immediately activated their intelligence network. They first confirmed Qin Yu's identity, determining that he was indeed the same one who caused such a stir in Stranded God Canyon.

This was obviously a good thing!

With the family's preparations and Qin Yu joining, the chances of East Zhou Duly succeeding were much higher. However, their investigation into Qin Yu's background still remained unclear; it became the only point of question in the hearts of the East Zhou Family's high-level figures.

The Path of 10,000 Souls was a matter of vital importance. No accidents could be allowed. No amount of cautiousness would be considered excessive.

Moreover, in their opinion, the appearance of Qin Yu and his maid was too coincidental, as if they specifically came here for East Zhou Duly.

But according to the rumors, this master and servant had no reason to do this.

Sometimes boasting too much and being too successful in doing so wasn't a good thing.

"Inform the Fourth Miss to come here after the banquet ends."

"Yes."

The banquet proceeded smoothly. Even Shang Junjun had no choice but to squeeze out a smile, even if her smile was worse to look at than a crying face.

Even now she couldn't accept that Qin Yu was that Qin Yu. When she saw his calm and carefree expression in the hall, she hated him so much that her teeth itched. But she had no choice but to patiently endure it.

This was someone that even her big brother wouldn't rashly become enemies with, so what could she do?

While Shang Lingyu doted on her, she also had to be smart about it. If she tried to fan the flames of between her big brother and Qin Yu, that would be above and beyond stupid.

Doctor Ye was invited to the hall. When he saw Qin Yu, his eyes filled with surprise.

This boy...he originally thought that he had placed him in sufficiently high regards, but now he knew he was mistaken.

He still couldn't imagine that the person he tried so hard to find was that junior who was once so weak and small.

But there was one thing he was sure of. If the miss could obtain Qin Yu's help, her chances of success would be much higher!

This boy was simply the miss's lucky star. It was like that in the past, just as it was now.

Mm...thinking about it carefully, with Qin Yu's current status and in addition to his strong and mysterious background, he could indeed be considered a match for the young miss.

If he succeeded and obtained Qin Yu's ardent support, the young miss' status in the family would be as stable as a mountain.

Doctor Ye's eyes gradually lit up as these thoughts swirled in his mind.

The host and guests all had a wonderful time.

Shang Lingyu and Qin Yu smiled and nodded at each other. After drinking their cups of wine, they bid their farewells.

East Zhou Duly didn't give Doctor Ye a chance to talk about life-long events. After listening to the whispers of a nearby maid, she stood up and left.

The East Zhou Family was in charge of a hundred worlds. They had been a powerful and mighty family since long ago, and their inheritance had continued for hundreds of thousands of years.

The family had spread and multiplied, and there was an incalculable number of clansmen. Only those with the most excellent degree of talent would be recognized by the main clan and obtain the resources of the family.

East Zhou Duly was fourth in line. This meant that in her generation, she was the fourth one that was chosen by the family. There were three people before her, and dozens of people after.

Any one of them had a chance of blooming in the spotlight. East Zhou Duly had her father Mengyin and her talent in itself was outstanding. But for her to have her current status, she had gone through countless twists and turns.

Even if she obtained the qualifications to enter the Path of 10,000 Souls, there were still countless people waiting for her to trip and fall so they could replace her.

### **Chapter 997B - Problem of Status**

"Duly greets the family and all the Elders." She stood in a vast grand hall, her attitude respectful.

"Fourth Miss, I'm sure you know why you were summoned here today. This Qin Yu, how did you meet him?" An Elder spoke from a high seat.

East Zhou Duly said, "I became acquainted with Qin Yu not too long ago during the competition for a spot in the Path of 10,000 Souls..." Without hesitation, she explained everything that happened without covering anything up.

She understood the family's strength more clearly than everyone, so she naturally understood that trying to lie about anything was an extremely foolish action.

The grand hall fell silent. These people that controlled the colossus known as the East Zhou Family listened attentively, all of them with their own thoughts.

"That is what happened. When I saw Qin Yu today I was also shocked. I never thought he would be the same Qin Yu that was in Stranded God Canyon."

When her voice fell, a cold and gloomy voice spoke up, "Fourth Miss, are you saying that not too long ago in the competition for a spot in the Path of 10,000 Souls, Qin Yu was ordinary?"

East Zhou Duly nodded, "Yes."

"Do you think there is a chance that he purposefully hid his strength?"

East Zhou Duly hesitated for a moment. "I don't think so...at the time, Old Ye was with me. His eyesight shouldn't be wrong."

The cold and gloomy voice continued, "In other words, in a short period of time, Qin Yu seemed to become an entirely different person and his strength has risen to a point where even you are shocked."

East Zhou Duly nodded. Her heart sank.

"Everyone, I believe that something is wrong with this matter." The cold and gloomy voice said. The master of the voice was East Zhou Buho, an extremely powerful Elder. His words naturally held a heavy weight to them.

"If Qin Yu's strength suddenly rose so much, there are two possibilities. The first is that he encountered an inconceivable bout of good fortune and profited from it. But the chances of this happening are nearly negligible. At the very least, I don't believe that a lucky chance exists in this world that can in essence cause a cultivator to be entirely reborn in such a short period of time...unless the Qin Yu of today is no longer the same person that East Zhou Duly knew from the past."

The hall fell silent. Many Elders frowned, a dignified look in their eyes.

Because this was a possibility.

Seizing bodies and whatnot might be a mysterious phenomenon to others, but with their field of vision, such an act couldn't be considered anything at all. If Qin Yu really had his body seized by someone else and he chose to come to the East Zhou Family now, then his motives were surely not pure.

East Zhou Duly took a deep breath. "I acknowledge that might be a possibility, but I firmly believe that the Qin Yu I met today is the same as the one I met before."

"Humph! How much do you understand about seizing bodies? How many times have you seen it before? It is normal if they are disguised exactly the same and even their soul auras can be the same." East Zhou Buho coldly sneered. "The Path of 10,000 Souls is not just your personal matter. The family spent a great deal of resources to obtain this spot, so how can we allow such an accident to occur?"

He cupped his hands together, "Patriarch, in my opinion we must confirm Qin Yu's identity without a doubt, otherwise he cannot be allowed to join."

"Elder Buho speaks reasonably."

"Being careful is correct."

"This master and servant have mysterious origins and there are points of doubt everywhere. They must be clearly investigated."

"As things should be."

East Zhou Duly's heart sank. She looked up at several Elders who were on good terms with her father, hoping to gain their support.

An Elder coughed lightly and said, "Although Elder Buho makes sense, we cannot forget that Qin Yu isn't an ordinary cultivator who is trying to obtain a follower post."

He swept his eyes around, "If I must be blunt about it, then compared to other cultivators that would crazily chase the position of follower and not hesitate to pay any price...that is nothing to Qin Yu. As long as he wishes to, he can casually leak a rumor about his location and immediately harvest olive branches from countless other influences. In addition, they would likely give him rich rewards.

"If Qin Yu becomes a follower of another competitor in the Path of 10,000 Souls due to our suspicions, and even vents his anger on the Fourth Miss, how many harvests do you all think our East Zhou Family will have this time?"

"Everyone, do not forget that he solved the problems of the rules to the 99th problem not just once, but several times, and it is likely that he is directly responsible for the disappearance of Stranded God Canyon. If such an opponent were to enter the Path of 10,000 Souls, his destructive power and deterring strength would be terrifying beyond imagination!"

The hall fell silent again. The people who supported East Zhou Buho furrowed their eyebrows together and kept quiet. The Path of 10,000 Souls was of vital importance. They could shout out their support but they had to avoid the charge. If they truly did stir up trouble, the consequences would be difficult to withstand.

East Zhou Buho coldly sneered. "Elder Sigan, are you saying that our East Zhou Family can only freely allow this to happen and do nothing at all?"

East Zhou Sigan lightly said, "I don't mean that. I'm simply saying that we should be discreet when dealing with Qin Yu so that no hatred forms between us."

Both sides stuck to their own interpretation, and each one had their own reasoning.

Finally, the Patriarch made a ruling. Qin Yu's status had to be determined, but it needed to be done so using gentle and soft methods so that he didn't feel disgusted.

This was a result both sides reluctantly accepted. With that, the problem became how to determine Qin Yu's status.

That night, East Zhou Duly knocked on the doors of Qin Yu's large courtyard. As Snowside watched with a respectful yet strange look, she entered his room to privately speak.

Snowside closed the doors and curled her lips, feeling a bit of a headache. This boy Qin Yu's ability to attract butterflies was far too strong.

The initially incomparably formidable East Zhou Duly who was like a goddess in her eyes, had knocked on their courtyard doors in the middle of the night to visit. This would inevitably greatly increase the difficulty and risks of her 'borrowing the seed' plan.

Regardless of what nonsensical thoughts Snowside was thinking, East Zhou Duly entered Qin Yu's room and took a seat. After a brief hesitation she directly said, "Qin Yu, what I am about to say might make you feel anger or shame, but I have no other choice. I hope you can understand it."

Qin Yu looked at her, "Is it because of my origin?"



East Zhou Duly's eyes brightened. As expected, with his intelligence he grasped the key point. "Yes. The Elders of my family are unable to feel completely assured about your status."

Qin Yu wryly smiled. When he had Snowside draw up an imaginary background for him, one that was great and unfathomable, that was all in order to deal with any test that might come from the East Zhou Family. He never thought that things would develop in the direction they did today.

Now, almost everyone believed he had a great background. But East Zhou Duly knew his true origins. It hadn't been that long since they last saw each other, and yet his change in status was far too much. It wasn't strange for the East Zhou Family to suspect him.

But even if bragging about a fake origin caused difficulties, he still had to do it, otherwise he could only find another way to enter the Path of 10,000 Souls.

Undoubtedly, East Zhou Duly was his best choice. It was unknown whether he had enough time to become a follower of someone else, but even if he did find someone, would they not investigate his background either? Would they not investigate why he left the East Zhou Family? It was clear all sorts of problems would occur.

In essence, he couldn't tell the truth. Otherwise East Zhou Duly might not join hands with him to deceive her family.

Qin Yu apologized in his heart and bitterly smiled. "I'm sorry, but for certain reasons I cannot publicly declare my status without my teacher's permission."

East Zhou Duly furrowed her eyebrows together, "You really can't tell me?"

"I can't!" Qin Yu decisively stated. Of course he knew that he couldn't reveal any hesitation at such a time. "East Zhou Duly, I will honestly tell you that I have some personal reasons for wanting to enter the Path of 10,000 Souls, but I also have no malicious intent towards you."

East Zhou Duly lightly sighed. "I believe you, but the family isn't willing to take any risks." She paused. After hesitating a little she stood up and said, "The East Zhou Family will definitely use other methods to verify your origins. If there is any place where you are offended, I hope that you can forgive us. But, I ask that you rest assured. I will do my best so that the family agrees with you becoming one of my followers."

Qin Yu delivered her out the door.

When Snowside closed the courtyard doors, she blinked her eyes and said, "What is it? Your complexion looks a bit heavy."

Qin Yu rubbed his eyebrows, "It's nothing."

Snowside had only been acting according to his will. Now that something went wrong, he couldn't blame her for anything.

Telling her would only make her feel pressure, so why do it?

Qin Yu looked down at his palm with a thoughtful look. Could the status of an Origin God's disciple be considered transcendent enough?

Cough cough. This could only be considered a type of self-ridiculing at a time when he was feeling helpless.

To the East Zhou Family that controlled a hundred worlds, while an Origin God was precious, they weren't some kind of heavyweight existence or anything.

It was impossible for them to be like dogs running around, but casually pulling out a hundred of them was easy.

It seemed that his chances of using Xue Zheng to overcome this trial were nearly zero.

Qin Yu felt a bit irritated. He really didn't like this state of being powerless and only being able to drift around according to the will of others.

But he didn't have a better plan...where was he supposed to find a transcendent teacher now? He didn't even have time!

As Qin Yu felt restless, the colossus known as the East Zhou Family started to move. With their amount of resources and skill, they could easily burst out with unimaginable energy.

They needed to determine Qin Yu's origin in a situation where he was unwilling to speak about it and where they couldn't find any other information. Just what way was there?

To the average person, this was a deadlocked situation. But the East Zhou Family was not average, so they naturally had their own ways.

The Great Revelation Art was an extremely mystical and esoteric skill. This was a supernatural technique that utilized the dark flow of karmic cause and effect of the world to deduce the future and past.

To call it a supernatural technique wasn't appropriate. Because its operating principles, even in the eyes of an almighty cultivator, were nonsensical babblings that made no sense at all.

When it came to accurately predicting the past and future, it was simply utterly unreliable. But, if it was only used to determine the origin of a person, the credibility was actually extremely high.

After all, anyone that had a great background or astonishing origins had to be entangled in layers upon layers of auras. They were filled with an honored atmosphere that could not be touched at will, otherwise a backlash was certain to occur.

In simpler terms, even if the person they were probing wasn't terrifying themselves, the backer behind them, as well as their relatives, teachers, friends, and so forth, had their auras mixed in with their own. Once the two sides were close enough and a certain limit had been reached, if someone were to then touch this invisible aura, it would definitely be sensed and the prober would have to endure their anger.

So this in itself was an extremely risky matter.

The East Zhou Family found an extremely formidable Grandmaster. To call him Grandmaster wasn't a joke either. He had become famous a long time ago and had continued standing until now. For his reputation to spread out so far away, he had a record that was full of effusive praise.

This sort of Grandmaster had a lofty status. Even the East Zhou Family with their strength wouldn't dare to easily make such a request. This time, if it weren't for the fact that this Grandmaster needed the help of the East Zhou Family, he would never have agreed to use the Great Revelation Art to trace Qin Yu's origin.

After all, Qin Yu solving the problems of the rules to the 99th problem several times and even causing Stranded God Canyon itself to vanish in the end was all public knowledge. And according to the rumors, this Qin Yu had an extremely terrifying background and his teacher was a transcendent existence.

If a person could be described as 'transcendent', could they be ordinary? If he was unlucky, he might even lose his life because of this.

### **Chapter 998 – Great Revelation Art**

Grandmaster Zhou Buyi's complexion was pale and his eyes sprayed fire, "This is profiting from misfortune, your East Zhou Family is profiting from misfortune!"

Looking at his extremely angry appearance, it seemed as if he would leave and slam the door behind him at any moment. But after hesitating a few times, he remained.

"I will try to help in this matter, but I will only attempt the most superficial of revelations. As soon as something wrong occurs I will immediately stop. If you all agree, you still need to give me extra payment. It needs to be a satisfactory reward. And don't think I'm trying to rip you off – this is what I deserve for risking my life!"

Across from him, an East Zhou Family Elder was all smiles. "Of course, everything will be as you say. Moreover, I would like to ask Grandmaster Zhou to rest assured. Our East Zhou Family's reward will definitely satisfy you."

He gestured with a hand, "Thinking about it, Grandmaster Zhou also knows the reason for why we are doing this. So if you have no other objections, let us begin as soon as possible...and, concerning this matter, no matter what the final outcome is, I ask that you keep it a secret."

Zhou Buyi flicked his sleeves and coldly humphed, "Don't worry. I still have my professional integrity, otherwise I wouldn't have lived until today."

Although the East Zhou Family had completely agreed to all of his requests and would certainly give him rewards that left him fully satisfied, Grandmaster Zhou still had no smile on his face. Rather, his expression turned even uglier.

He truly felt restless about this matter...in the past he had done similar things. His targets had mostly had some origin, and one of them was even concealed in a hidden land of inheritance.

Grandmaster Zhou had received some injuries but he still managed to draw back safely...however this time, he felt things weren't right.

As someone who grasped the mysterious and unreliable Great Revelation Art, he fully trusted his intuition.

This Qin Yu was absolutely not ordinary. If he didn't handle things well today, he feared he might perish here today.

As Grandmaster Zhou followed behind the East Zhou Elder, the restlessness in his heart grew increasingly heavy. He even wanted to turn around and leave several times. But, he really did have a matter where he had to ask for help from the East Zhou Family, so he could only endure it.

Moments later, they arrived at a hidden hall. The East Zhou Family's high-level figures had gathered here. In the center of the hall was an altar. The altar was made of some sort of black jade that was completely free of impurities. Just by glancing at it, one felt it was black and fathomless, as if their eyes would be drawn inside.

When Zhou Buyi saw the altar his tense heart relaxed a little. As expected, the East Zhou Family was worthy of being a colossal influence. When they decided to do something, they went all in.

With this starsea black jade as the material used to construct the revelation altar, he could feel more at ease.

Even if some kind of accident occurred, he would have this altar to resist it. It would be relatively easier and simpler to withdraw.

Taking a deep breath, Grandmaster Zhou stood firm. He cupped his hands together and said, "Zhou Buyi greets the East Zhou Family Patriarch."

With his status, even when facing an Elder of the East Zhou Family he could stand as an equal. In fact, his status was even a little bit higher. The only one he needed to bow to was the highest wielder of authority within the East Zhou Family.

After all, according to the rumors, this person had lived for many, many years, and hadn't appeared publically for a long time. It was said that his strength had reached an inconceivable boundary.

If he could transform and rise higher, then the strength of the East Zhou Family would experience a qualitative leap upwards.

Standing in front of the Patriarch and feeling his murky and chaotic aura that could not be detected, Grandmaster Zhou was increasingly sure of his guess.

The East Zhou Patriarch slightly bowed. "Mm, I must trouble Mister Zhou." As he spoke, the space around him was in a distorted state. It enveloped him, making it impossible to see his true appearance.

Even his eyes were twisted and strange. They were right in front but also seemed to come from an endless distance away.

Zhou Buyi could feel an undeniable firmness in these words. His heart sank and filled with bitterness.

He took a deep breath and said, "I will do my best."

Facing the East Zhou Elder, he still dared to negotiate terms and stand proud. But facing this person...whatever, he wouldn't necessarily die if he did this. But if he disobeyed this person's will, his soul would surely turn to ash. Grandmaster Zhou had no doubts about this.

Zhou Buyi's figure flickered and he landed in front of the altar. After a brief pause, light surged into his hands, condensing into a turtle shell.

This turtle shell was the size of an adult's hand and was covered in deep veins. Its textures were flooded with the endless passing of the years. It was unknown how many years this item had existed for.

With a thought, the turtle shell flew upwards and floated above Zhou Buyi's head. The textures on its surface began to shine. Then, light fell downwards. They wove together into a formation, forming a projection of a turtle shell that covered him.

From afar, it looked like a person wearing a giant turtle shell, or perhaps a giant turtle that had cultivated a human body...but right now in this hidden hall, no one thought of laughing.

Because this Luo River divine turtle shell was a treasure that Zhou Buyi had used only a few times ever since he became famous. Now, before he even displayed the Great Revelation Art he had summoned the turtle shell. How seriously he was taking this was evident.

After a brief pause, Zhou Buyi's calm and steady voice filled the silent hall, its meaning indecipherable. At the same time his body started to undulate. He was like certain tribesmen recorded in the ancient texts. They lived in the wilderness and performed strange dances around giant bonfires at night.

However, these strange syllables and weird dance gave off a constrained feeling when performed together. It was like the air within this hall had become sticky under the influence of some invisible strength, almost turning solid.

Every breath taken used up an enormous amount of strength. Moreover, one could feel the thick air passing down their throat and into their lungs. It produced a rubbing feeling that left behind a hot and stinging sensation.

The starsea black jade altar was like an infinite abyss. And within this abyss, motes of light began to shine.

Their light wasn't intense, but their numbers were astonishing. They appeared one after another, as if they wanted to fully replicate the countless stars in the skies above, displaying all of them in this altar.

Thus, the altar began to release a vast and powerful aura, one that was nearly tangible with the endless passing of the years.

As Zhou Buyi spoke the last syllable, he just happened to perform the last step in his dance. They perfectly joined together.

Hum –

The turtle shell above his head trembled. As it did, the countless rays of light that fell down started to sway like weeds in water. They were chaotic and random, yet gave off an extremely mysterious feeling.

As if these fluctuating rays of light contained an enormous secret of the world. It made one feel as if they could truly see the world if one could unravel their mysteries.

Zhou Buyi looked up. Radiant galaxies shined in his eyes, as if when the altar began to duplicate the stars in the skies, it also reflected itself in his pupils.

So at this moment, his eyes were no longer ordinary. They were an incarnation of the stars in the heavens, covering the infinite world. Naturally, they could find all traces of the past and future.

This time, his goal was to track down the root of Qin Yu's aura and determine just where he came from!  
It began.

In a corner of the hall, East Zhou Duly stood quietly, wringing her hands together. Because this matter involved her, an exception was made where she was allowed to observe. But for the entire process she had no ability to intervene. She could only silently wait for the final outcome.

Qin Yu, don't disappoint me!

On the starsea black jade altar, the countless motes of light started to slowly spin. As they did, so did the projection of the starry skies in Zhou Buyi's eyes.

The Great Revelation Art began to revolve. He had locked onto the line of karmic cause and effect in the darkness that represented Qin Yu and was now tracing it back to its source.

At almost the same time, in the East Zhou Family's living quarters, in a courtyard, Qin Yu opened his eyes and frowned.

Within his soul space, the blue sun and purple moon revolved. The sun and moon force field they produced began to violently shake, like an invisible strength was trying to pass through their barrier.

Qin Yu immediately realized what was happening. The East Zhou Family had begun to determine his status.

With the sun and moon force field wrapping around him, he had leapt beyond the material world. He no longer existed within the confines of the five elements, of yin and yang. Unless the other party was strong enough that they similarly surpassed the level of the world, it was impossible to continue peeping at him.

Qin Yu's mind raced and a thought suddenly popped up. Would the jade embryo egg fused into his body be sensed? Perhaps by relying on this, he could win the trust of the East Zhou Family. Otherwise, if he kept them out, he would only arouse more suspicion.

The jade embryo egg was one of Qin Yu's greatest secrets that could not be known by anyone. As long as it was discovered, it would raise a storm of blood and death...so this matter in itself was extremely risky. If he wasn't careful then a great calamity could occur.

However, Qin Yu had underestimated the cultivators of this world in the end. Or perhaps he didn't know that there were reasons why even mighty beings were mystified and perplexed by the Great Revelation Art.

The sun and moon force field was indeed able to block out peeping eyes from the outside world. But, it didn't disappear because of this and instead merged together with the sun and moon force field. Of course, this was just a way of describing it. To be exact, the fluctuations of strength started to synchronize with the sun and moon force field.

As a result, even though it was still blocked outside, in Qin Yu's senses, the sun and moon force field's defenses had failed because the feeling of peeping became even stronger.

The sensation was like faint traces of cold and gloomy aura were constantly seeping through his skin and flesh, spreading deeper into his body.

As expected, the East Zhou Family was known as being a colossal family; they actually managed to find such a mysterious and marvelous method. At this moment, just as he thought of the jade embryo egg in his body, it seemed to sense something and started to gently tremble.

Qin Yu's complexion changed. It was too late to stop it even if he wanted to. He subconsciously tensed up, not knowing whether this change was good or bad.

But it was meaningless to consider this. He could only suppress his thoughts and calmly watch as things proceeded.

As Qin Yu was feeling nervous, he didn't know what sort of astonishing changes occurred because of the jade embryo egg trembling.

In the hidden hall, standing above the altar with an ethereal aura and two pupils that seemed to reflect the starry skies, Zhou Buyi's eyes flew open. The sea of stars within his pupils began to spin even faster. His body shivered as if he was withstanding tremendous pressure.

Kacha –

Kacha –

The surface of the starsea black jade altar began to crack like ice. The cracks wove together in dense and thick patterns like a web.

Loud gasps filled the hall. While everyone had their own guesses, if the rumors were true then Qin Yu had a great background.

But now it seemed that his background was far more terrifying than they imagined!

The Great Revelation Art was mysterious and unpredictable, but those present had heard of it before and had a general understanding of it.

Right now, the Great Revelation Art had just begun. In other words, it only detected the shallowest and most superficial information about Qin Yu. Even then, it unexpectedly triggered a backlash that the starsea black jade altar was unable to withstand.

Everyone knew just what this meant. Qin Yu's origin and status was likely far more horrifying than described in the rumors.

In fact, with things having reached this step, there was no longer anything to doubt about Qin Yu's background. Someone with such a background had no need to personally take risks to target East Zhou Duly or even the East Zhou Family.

Zhou Buyi took a deep breath. He was about to stop the Great Revelation Art, when at this moment the silent East Zhou Patriarch spoke up, "Continue."

## **Chapter 999 – A Ruler's Disciple**

His voice was calm but one could feel the cruel resolve in his words. He was like a towering divine mountain, unshakeable by anyone.

Zhou Buyi revealed a trace of hesitation. But, time wouldn't stand still. After a moment he continued to revolve the Great Revelation Art. As a result, he withstood the oppression and dove deeper into the source of Qin Yu's aura.

Beyond the infinite distance, in a towering grand palace, a man sat on a throne with closed eyes. He suddenly opened his eyes and thunder sparked within them. They contained a horrifying prestige capable of extinguishing the world.

"Insolence!"

The shout was like a thunderclap. As the voice billowed and shook, an invisible aura fused into the heavens and earth.

It was like a raging sea, immediately setting off turbulent waves. Like hundreds of millions of gallons of seawater being poured into a river, they rumbled and roared upstream.

Bang –

The starsea black jade altar suffered a heavy strike. The cracks on its surface grew by over a hundred times.

Zhou Buyi spat out a mouthful of blood. The projection of the starry skies in his pupils fell into chaos. They wavered as if they would break apart at any moment.

This aura...

The East Zhou Patriarch's eyes lit up. He took a step forward and appeared above the altar. He lifted his hands and pressed down.

Bang –

Boundless and majestic power surged out from nothingness in an instant. It spread out in all directions, suppressing and confining everything within.

Strongest beneath a Ruler!

He wouldn't misread this aura, because he himself was already infinitely close to this boundary.

If he had a lucky chance and could take a single step forward, he could reach this level.

At that time, the East Zhou Family would be able to take a step forward too and transform, becoming a super existence comparable to a Holy Land.

Zhou Buyi was deathly pale. "I thank the Patriarch for saving me."

He was sure that if the Patriarch didn't meddle, even if he didn't die he would have lost several dozen layers of skin.

The East Zhou Patriarch was without expression. "Don't thank me, because I want you to continue."



Zhou Buyi shivered and his eyes became as wide as full moons. The gratitude that just appeared in his heart immediately vanished. If he didn't already know that cursing out loud would lead to his own death, he would surely jump a thousand feet up and curse out loud until the skies turned black.

Things had already reached this step and it was clear that Qin Yu's background was so large that it left one feeling desperate. He had just perceived a little bit of it without any ill intent and he ended up in such a state.

If he continued, how was that different from courting death?

The East Zhou Patriarch lightly said, "I know what you are thinking, but a difference still exists. For instance, if you continue then you will have my protection and you won't necessarily die. But if you refuse, I guarantee you that you will die here. If you don't believe me, you can try."

Zhou Buyi gulped. With the status of the East Zhou Patriarch, his words were undoubtable.

He clenched his teeth and suddenly shouted out loud. Cracking sounds came from the turtle shell above his head. Then, it shattered into countless pieces.

A moment later, an incomparably vast aura crashed down from above, pouring into Zhou Buyi's body. It caused his eyes to violently vibrate. At the same time, the nearly collapsed projection of the starry skies also stabilized.

Rumble rumble –

Driven by this force, his eyes continued to move forward to explore deeper into Qin Yu's secrets.

Suddenly, the entire hall fell silent. All sounds vanished as everyone was caught in their previous movement.

As if the air had frozen.

A vague figure appeared in the projection of the starry skies above the broken starsea black jade altar. Perhaps because the altar had shattered, her figure was blurry.

Then, the figure opened her eyes. No one could describe the beauty of these eyes, because it seemed to represent the vast and boundless world.

"Ruler!" The East Zhou Patriarch shouted out loud. Without any hesitation, the aura inside him erupted like a volcano. Images of rolling mountains and rivers appeared from nothingness and wrapped around him, making him seem like the master of this vast world.

But a moment later, the world phantom trembled. A terrifying crack silently appeared in it. Starting from one end and going to the other, it penetrated through the entire world phantom, carrying with it a cold and uncontestable will that split it in half.

The flesh and blood between the East Zhou Patriarch's eyebrows cracked open and blood flowed out. The blood dripped into his eyes, turning them red. Soon his entire face was drenched in blood, giving him a distressed appearance.

The East Zhou Patriarch's cultivation was infinitely close to the strongest below a Ruler and as a result his physical vitality was incomparably terrifying. Not to mention a wound, but even if his entire body was cut in half he could immediately regenerate and join back together. To be more extreme, even if half of his body was burnt to ashes, he would soon be able to restore the full integrity of his mortal body.

But the wound between his eyebrows right now was different. Even with his cultivation he still couldn't repair it! Because of his shaking heart, the East Zhou Patriarch blurted out the identity of this phantom above the shattered altar.

"Ruler..."

This was a simple word but it seemed to contain an impossible weight that pressed down on everyone's hearts, making them subconsciously hold their breath, even causing their heartbeats to stop.

The heavens and earth were vast and beyond understanding. Within the endless realms and myriad worlds scattered in all directions, there were countless billions of lives that composed this majestic and wonderful world. Among them, there were those that stepped onto the road of cultivation and continuously transformed themselves as they climbed up the Great Dao. And only those who reached the highest point were qualified to be called Rulers.

Why Ruler?

Simply put, they dominated a part of the heavens and earth and were the belief of innumerable lives. With a thought they could change the color of the world, and if their killing intent was stirred then rivers of blood would flow...

By raising their hand they could cover yin and yang, by lowering their foot they could destroy the world!

This was a Ruler!

This was an existence that surpassed a Holy Land and could use the endless realms and myriad worlds as a chessboard.

Compared to a Ruler, the trivial East Zhou Family was nothing but a large ant. Even if it was a relatively strong ant, a single finger was still enough to grind them to dust.

This was a disparity of strength that surpassed any description!

The hall was deathly silent. Everyone froze like metal statues. Their backs streamed with sweat as horror and fear overcame their minds.

A Ruler! It was actually a Ruler!

Even if the rumors said that Qin Yu had a transcendent teacher behind him, no one ever considered anything in the realm of a Ruler.

Because this was no longer transcendent, but standing above the heavens and looking down at everything else.

In other words, when Qin Yu expressed his position before, he was still being very humble. It was just that no one realized it.

But now, what everyone wanted to say was that if you possessed such a background, why did you have to be so modest? Did you want us all to die?

To be straightforward, if even the slightest rumor of the truth had been revealed, none of them would have dared to try this.

Ruler, this was an unsurpassed Ruler...perhaps today's events might seem minor and not worth mentioning, but it could actually cause the total annihilation of the East Zhou Family!

Because the dignity of a Ruler allowed no provocation.

This was the cruelty and cold indifference of the world. Everyone needed to pay a corresponding price for their mistakes.

East Zhou Duly was one of those extremely shocked people. The Patriarch's blurted word kept ringing in her ears.

Ruler...Ruler...

With the Patriarch's cultivation, there was no way he would be mistaken. In other words, because of the East Zhou Family's attempts to trace back the source of Qin Yu's origin, they had alarmed a terrifying existence that dominated the endless realms and myriad worlds.

Just from that existence opening her eyes and doing nothing else, the Patriarch had been severely wounded. If she really did do something, then perhaps just a wave of her hand would be enough to extinguish everyone in this hall.

In just one day, the entire East Zhou Family would survive in name only. They would be doomed to complete ruin with all their resources carved up by others.

It was no wonder that Qin Yu said he couldn't explain his teacher's status without permission.

East Zhou Duly had once heard about this. It was said that the status of a Ruler involved the karmic ties of the world. Once someone became their disciple, that person would also become a part of this cause and effect.

However, these karmic ties were far too great. If one didn't have enough strength and was recklessly fused within, this would only cause them harm and reduce their luck. They might even perish because of it.

So every Ruler's disciple had to overcome many tests and trials. Only after obtaining permission could they publicly reveal themselves.

So Qin Yu had already given me a vague reminder. But how could I have known that this was in the territory of a Ruler?

Moreover, she had only heard some vague information that came from the high-level figures of the family. She was never sure about it.

But no matter what she thought, it was far too late. A Ruler had been alarmed and the East Zhou Family's fate was just a thought away.

If medicine for regret truly existed in this world, East Zhou Duly believed that all the high-level figures of the family here today would buy pots of them and scarf them down.

Everything was going great, so why commit suicide? East Zhou Duly bitterly smiled. She was helpless to do anything about this.

As for regret, if there was anyone feeling the most regret, it was certainly the East Zhou Patriarch. He was a super powerhouse who had lived for countless years.

That's right, this super powerhouse deserved to be called that. There was no ridicule or taunting to this title.

But enormous disparities still existed in the level of a super powerhouse. For instance, the strongest below a Ruler. Even though there was just a single thread separating him from this level, if he were to fight someone of that boundary then he could at most exchange a few moves before having to flee.

But facing a Ruler...hoho, the distance was like the starry skies to hell. Let alone fighting, just a single glance was enough to kill him.

This was not an exaggeration. Because the level of a Ruler exceeded the limit of what could be seen by the common people. They were in harmony with the heavens and earth, or to be more precise, had become a part of the world. By raising their hands they could pluck down the stars!

Zhou Buyi had tried to stop again and again, but he forcibly made him continue, leading to this current situation. If the East Zhou Family's destruction came about because of his actions, then he would be condemned by the family as a sinner for all of time.

But who knew that he also had his own reason for doing this? Because just as Zhou Buyi peered into Qin Yu's aura and the altar shivered, he felt a different sensation.

It was incredibly thin but it caused the East Zhou Patriarch's heart to beat vigorously, as if he was going to burn up.

While he had no idea what the source of this aura was, there was one thing he was sure of. This was the turning point that he had waited for through the countless years.

As long as he could obtain a part of this aura, he was confident he could take another step further and ascend into the level of the strongest below a Ruler. At that time, the entire East Zhou Family would experience a monumental change. Their strength would rise by a hundred times over!

Everything I did was for myself but also for the family.

However, just like East Zhou Duly, everything he thought now was meaningless.

The East Zhou Patriarch's thoughts raced. Then, in the darkness of despair, he seemed to grasp a singular bright light. With the strength of a Ruler, since she had been alarmed and had opened her honored eyes, just a single look would have been enough to kill him.

In comparison, the flesh between his eyebrows had cracked open and his soul had been fiercely shaken. This couldn't even be considered an injury in relation to what could have happened.

What did this mean?

Although he wasn't sure, even if there was only the slightest thread of hope, he couldn't let go of it.

He crawled onto the ground and revealed his most respectful manner. "Oh respected and unsurpassed Ruler, because of our ignorance, the East Zhou Family has angered your will. We are willing to offer a high enough price to calm the flames of your anger. We hope that the great Ruler can forgive our ignorance."

Above the altar, the phantom had been silent ever since she opened her eyes. When she heard this, she had no expression. Then, just like how she appeared, she faded away into nothingness.

The terrifying pressure that flooded the hall was extinguished, as if everything that happened just now was an illusion.

Hu –

The East Zhou Family decision makers let out deep breaths. When they exhaled together, it formed an astonishing wave of air.

One person might see illusions in the daytime, but for dozens of them to experience it together...it was clearly impossible.

### **Chapter 1000A – Cultivation Limit**

The East Zhou Patriarch stood up. He wiped away the blood on his face. The wound between his eyebrows barely managed to regenerate, but a red line remained as if it was a third eye that had temporarily closed.

Rumble rumble –

The entire altar had collapsed. The seastar black jade was known for being an incredibly hard and durable substance, but during the process of the revelation it had been turned into powder, because in this world there was no object that could withstand the terrifying invasion of aura produced when a Ruler arrived.

It was destroyed with just a touch!

Zhou Buyi had already fainted. He lay unconscious on the ground, wheezing for breath. But since he hadn't died, the East Zhou Family would surely be able to keep him alive with their methods.

"Take Mister Zhou away and give him the best treatment."

The East Zhou Patriarch looked up and swept his eyes around. "What happened today shall be the greatest secret of my East Zhou Family. No one is allowed to speak even half a word of it. Otherwise, I swear by my bloodline that I will strip them of their status and thrust them into the dust so that they never have any chance of standing up!"

Numerous Elders felt a chill seep into their hearts. They stood up and bowed, "Yes, Patriarch!"

No one doubted the veracity of the East Zhou Patriarch's words, because this matter involved the existence of a Ruler.

Ruler! That was a Ruler!

If they were fortunate enough to form relations with a Ruler, that would be an unfathomable help to the entire East Zhou Family. If this were known by the outside world they would definitely do everything within their power, paying any price to flatter Qin Yu and take the place of the East Zhou Family.

When the East Zhou Patriarch ordered Zhou Buyi be taken away for treatment, that was also to place him under house arrest.

After this, Grandmaster Zhou wouldn't appear in public for a long, long time.

"I will go into seclusion to cultivate. For this period of time, matters of the family shall be handled by the Council of Elders. But, there is one exception. Anything that involves Qin Yu shall be primarily decided by East Zhou Duly. No one is to interfere."

The East Zhou Patriarch looked over. "This is your lucky chance and also the family's turning point. I hope that you take hold of it and don't disappoint me."

His words were full of a profound meaning.

East Zhou Duly respectfully bowed, "I obey the orders of the Patriarch. I also wish for the Patriarch to have harvests during this period of seclusion and pray for you to soon break through your boundary."

The East Zhou Patriarch smiled, "You've done well."

He turned around. With a step, he vanished from sight.

This time when he directly faced a Ruler and suffered an injury due to her aura, the East Zhou Patriarch had actually managed to turn this misfortune into a blessing. He has grasped where a key turning point might be.

Relying on this, he truly might obtain harvests, having his cultivation take another step forward. It was because of this that the East Zhou Patriarch put Qin Yu down and left everything to the Council of Elders while he hastened into seclusion.

A cultivation turning point was like the flowers in the mirror and the moon on the water. Although it seemed close at hand, it could vanish forever at any moment.

He had painstakingly waited countless years for this turning point, so how could he allow it to run away from him like this?

East Zhou Duly stood up, excitement in her eyes. She had been correct. By leaving a good impression on the Patriarch now, she would be rewarded many points in the future.

Of course, the crucial point was that she was old acquaintances with Qin Yu. In the Patriarch's opinion, this was of the utmost importance.

This was the reason she was given the highest authority to deal with Qin Yu. Looking at the complexions of the Elders, one could see how envious they were.

She bowed deeply and said, "From now on, I must ask the Elders to give me some room." She saw East Zhou Buho from the edge of her vision and felt joy in her heart. This old ghost had likely never imagined things would develop to this step.

With this, it was settled that Qin Yu had become her follower. Moreover, he had become an incomparably formidable boost to her.

A Ruler's disciple...

Just this title alone was enough to deter all factions, giving her an overwhelming advantage when she faced her family as well as the other competitors.

But all of this was based on the premise that she could completely tie up all her interests with Qin Yu, becoming an inseparable whole.

If a man and a woman wished to combine into an inseparable body of interests, then the simplest way was to become dao companions.

East Zhou Duly subconsciously thought back to when Old Ye mentioned this matter. Her face flushed red and she immediately suppressed these thoughts.

In Qin Yu's courtyard, everything was quiet and uneventful. His tense body relaxed. Such a long time had passed but nothing stirred within the East Zhou Family. It seemed that they hadn't discovered the jade embryo egg.

If so, the worst result was that the East Zhou Family wouldn't allow him to become East Zhou Duly's follower. There shouldn't be any dangers.

However, if he really was rejected by the East Zhou Family, how could he enter the Path of 10,000 Souls?

Qin Yu's eyebrows furrowed back together. His thoughts began to race.

At this time, there was a knock on his courtyard doors. Snowside went out to open them. Moments later, she returned with a strange expression. She placed a pitch black ring that seemed ordinary but was absolutely precious in front of Qin Yu.

"Inside this are gifts given to you by the East Zhou Family. They only ask that you take it as the reward for becoming East Zhou Duly's follower."

Speaking to here, Snowside subconsciously gulped. Her voice lowered by several notes, "There is no spell on the ring. I looked through it a moment ago...there seems to be a bit too much inside."

In fact, so-called rewards in the ring were not only mind-boggling in amount but also quality.

This couldn't be described as just a 'reward' anymore. It was more like a generous gift.

The East Zhou Family clearly hoped that Qin Yu could feel the sincerity of their apology through this gift.

Qin Yu put down the ring and a strange look crossed his face. He rubbed his chin. Just how had he passed this trial?

Moreover, looking at how they were treating him now, it seemed that even the East Zhou Family was frightened by his 'background'. Otherwise, why would they send over this mountain of treasures to him as a 'reward'?

As he was left puzzled, Qin Yu suddenly noticed something was wrong. When he looked up he saw Snowside's wide eyes. She was earnestly looking at him with a questioning look.

"What do you want?"

Snowside honestly said, "I'm just trying to see how many secrets are hidden under that face of yours." Then she tutted several times before saying, "I already know what Stranded God Canyon is and how extraordinary your achievements were. I originally thought you had hidden yourself enough, but compared to the present, what can Stranded God Canyon be considered as?"

"Hehe, the solemn East Zhou Family, a super influence that controls a hundred worlds and has hundreds of Origin God subordinates, is now expressing their apologies to you. Although I'm not sure what happened, none of that matters. What matters is that they lowered their heads to you."

She took a deep breath and fixed her eyes on Qin Yu. "Can you tell me how much you have left hidden? How many secrets do I still not know? For instance, do you really have some transcendent teacher?"

Qin Yu forced a smile, "What nonsense are you talking about. My mind is still a mess so don't try to confuse me."

Transcendent teacher?

Hoho, if he really had such a background then why did he have to work so hard? He would have already taken this backer out and gone to Peach Blossom Spring to order that peach tree planting woman to release Ning Ling.

Uh...if he thought about it this way, having a transcendent teacher would surely be wonderful. But what a pity he didn't have one, so he could only daydream about it.

Qin Yu rubbed his forehead. He looked at the ring on his finger and started to sort out what kind of situation he was facing.

It was obvious that his earlier worries about any resistance he might face from the East Zhou Family had been resolved due to unknown circumstances. In other words, he had now been determined as one of East Zhou Duly's followers.

This is what mattered the most!

Qin Yu smiled. As long as he entered the Path of 10,000 Souls he would have a chance to understand its essence and figure out a way to undo it.

No matter how difficult it was, he had to rescue Ning Ling from this doomed destiny.

However, before followers entered the Path of 10,000 Souls they needed to sign some sort of contract. Only after obtaining permission could they act on their own. Perhaps before entering, he needed to have a chat with East Zhou Duly where she would give him the ability to act independently.



But soon, Qin Yu discovered that his worries were for nothing. Because the East Zhou Family's attitude towards him had undergone an earth-shaking change.

A Ruler's disciple...with such a status, if he was willing to become East Zhou Duly's follower, that was the honor of the entire East Zhou Family.

You still want him to sign the contract of an ordinary follower? What kind of joke was that? That wasn't funny at all. Our East Zhou Family would never do something so untrustworthy!

The contract needed to be revised and great changes needed to be made. With Qin Yu as the priority, they had to revise it until he was satisfied.

When East Zhou Duly visited for a second time, she brought with her the follower's contract that Qin Yu needed to sign. After he swept through it with his divine sense, he subconsciously furrowed his eyebrows together and said, "Miss East Zhou, are you sure that this is a contract I need to sign?"

East Zhou Duly's heart chilled. She slowly said, "Qin Yu, if there is any place where you are dissatisfied, you can tell me. I will do my best to adjust it to your liking."

Qin Yu looked at an East Zhou Family Elder who was sitting on another side. This person was all smiles as he said, "That's right, fellow daoist Qin Yu, please feel free to speak. My East Zhou Family will inevitably do our best to satisfy all your requests."

This attitude...it was too good to be true.

Qin Yu silently thought to himself. Could it be that an error occurred during the East Zhou Family's investigation into his status, and they decided he was some kind of fierce figure? Or why were they frightened so much? But no matter what the reason was, this was a good thing for him.

The contract in the jade slip...hm, he really didn't know how to describe it. If someone who didn't know the circumstances were to look at it, they wouldn't know who was the follower between Qin Yu and East Zhou Duly.

He lifted a hand and placed a divine sense mark on it. The jade slip flashed with light, indicating that the contract was signed.

East Zhou Duly was overjoyed. She stood up and earnestly said, "Qin Yu, thank you for fulfilling my wish and becoming my follower. After entering the Path of 10,000 Souls, I'll leave everything to you."

### **Chapter 1000B – Cultivation Limit**

News of Qin Yu being confirmed as East Zhou Duly's follower spread out through various channels at the fastest speed possible.

As the only cultivator from ancient times until now who had managed to escape Stranded God Canyon through his own power, and with this just happening to coincide with the opening of the Path of 10,000 Souls, it was natural for it to attract more attention.

Everything seemed tranquil on the surface, but that was merely the surface. Mighty undercurrent surged below, waiting for the right time to erupt.

After all, if they could obtain Qin Yu's approval and pull him to their side, then once they entered the Path of 10,000 Souls, their chances of success would greatly improve.

This point was enough for the East Zhou Family to take some risks and play dirty.

However, after this news became known to other influences, they were left confused. Why was the normally cautious East Zhou Family being so decisive at this time?

Qin Yu's status and origin was only just a rumor. No one actually knew who he was.

Or, did they already know the truth behind Qin Yu's background?

No matter what, the East Zhou Family's actions were a clear signal – this Qin Yu person could be used!

The signing of the contract could only be considered as the East Zhou Family having taken the lead. As long as they didn't enter the Path of 10,000 Souls, if one was willing to pay a price they could naturally tear apart the contract.

The competition was not over yet.

...

East Zhou Duly replaced all servants that might come into contact with Qin Yu with the most trusted subordinates of the East Zhou Family. Without permission, no one could contact him.

Of course, all of this was carried out in private so that he wouldn't realize it.

The reason for doing this was to avoid the possibility of Qin Yu being won over by others.

After all, there were no absolutes in this world. As long as the dust hadn't yet settled, all things were possible.

East Zhou Duly believed in Qin Yu, but also didn't want any more waves to occur.

After several careful inspections, East Zhou Duly confirmed that all channels to the outside world through which others might try to reach Qin Yu were closed as much as possible. Then, following some brief preparation, East Zhou Duly invited the five followers together.

The Path of 10,000 Souls was about to open soon and they needed to familiarize themselves with each other. At the very least, they should know each other's respective strengths and what they excelled at.

By doing so, a team could display their most formidable strength.

Because she didn't want others to discover that the East Zhou Family was treating Qin Yu with extra attention and allowed him to sign a revised contract, he enjoyed the same treatment as the other followers.

East Zhou Duly stood at the entrance of the courtyard. She nodded at Qin Yu as he came jogging in behind a servant and said, "You are the only one left."

Qin Yu nodded. "I was cultivating just now so I was a little delayed. My apologies."

East Zhou Duly smiled. "The timing is just right. Let's go." She led the way and the servant stood to the side. What was about to happen was not something that the servant had the rights to participate in.

Shua –

In a quiet garden, several pairs of eyes beneath a pavilion looked at him. They were greeting him and also sizing him up.

East Zhou Duly said, "Everyone, this is fellow daoist Qin Yu. Because his cultivation was interrupted, he came a little late." She gave an explanation because she didn't hope for any disharmony to occur on the team.

"It's fine. I also just arrived." Shang Lingyu was the first one to speak.

Qin Yu nodded at him and cupped his hands together at everyone, "Greetings, fellow daoists."

Everyone bowed in return.

Following that, there was a brief introduction.

Besides Qin Yu and Shang Lingyu, the remaining three were one man and two women. Looking at their appearances, they weren't too old.

Of course, when it came to cultivators, outside appearances had no reference value at all.

At the very least, in Qin Yu's opinion, the woman who was closer to him had a delicate appearance with a trace of innocent ignorance. She was definitely pretending to be naive.

Tsk tsk, the smell of the years was so thick that just taking a breath of it almost blocked his throat. She could be called one of the longest lived cultivators Qin Yu had ever seen.

In ordinary situations, the longer a person had lived, the more formidable their strength was.

The man had a warm and gentle appearance. His name was Pure Summer.

The name of the woman that was pretending to be young was also fresh and interesting, it was Fairylike.

As for the last woman...she should be a woman, because she didn't have a bump on her throat. However, her chest was really too smooth.

She was just like her name, Peaceful Nun.

That's right, she wore yellow Taoist robes and carried a whisk in her hands.

No matter what their appearances were, it was fine just to take a look. If they could be approved by the East Zhou Family to become East Zhou Duly's followers, then their strength was no trifling matter.

After a few simple exchanges they could be regarded as mutual acquaintances. Because once it was determined that they were all followers of East Zhou Duly, they would have to cooperate to overcome the various crises and dangers that might arise in the Path of 10,000 Souls. After lowering their guards a little, their conversations were relatively smooth.

East Zhou Duly said, "The five of you will enter the Path of 10,000 Souls with me to compete for the inherited lucky chances. It would be best if we all had an understanding of our respective strengths so we can be prepared ahead of time."

She swept her eyes around and paused for a moment before saying, "My cultivation is at the seventh level of the God boundary. I have my family's secret arts and a card that allows me to erupt with strength. If I use all my strength, I can just about contend with a peak God boundary expert for a short period of time. Besides that, I have other life-maintaining items in my hands. After this I will pass out a detailed list so that everyone has an approximate understanding."

Before coming here, everyone understood what today's meeting was for so they were all prepared.

When East Zhou Duly finished speaking, Shang Lingyu smiled and said, "My cultivation is at the fifth level of the God boundary; I study the cultivation methods of Peach Blossom Island. If I go all-out I can fight with a peak God boundary. Moreover, I have done some studies of spells."

Pure Summer, Fairylike, and Peaceful Nun each introduced themselves. Among the three of them, the most surprising fact was that the oldest and most tender-looking Fairylike was actually a beast-controlling cultivator. She seemed to possess a considerably fierce monster beast.

Then it was Qin Yu's turn.

He paused and said, "My name is Qin Yu. My cultivation has yet to enter the God boundary. If I fight with all my strength...I might be able to fight with a peak God boundary. Besides that, the intensity of my mortal body is slightly higher than usual and I am sensitive to the fluctuations of the world's rules."

Within the garden, the little pavilion fell silent.

Everyone subconsciously widened their eyes, looking at Qin Yu with shaken expressions.

There were two reasons for this.

You are so strong and yet you aren't at the God boundary yet? Once you break through in the future, won't your strength rise to a whole new level?

Relatively speaking, while this first point was shocking and envious enough, the second point was more important...you aren't even at the God boundary yet, so how do you plan on entering the Path of 10,000 Souls?

East Zhou Duly took a deep breath. She seemed to have forgotten something. She asked, "Qin Yu, you haven't entered the God boundary yet?"

Qin Yu nodded.

Her heart sank and she bitterly smiled. It was unexpectedly true!

But you are so strong, strong enough that you can rely on yourself to break out of Stranded God Canyon and also be an existence that not even Shang Lingyu dared to provoke. Yet, you haven't even broken through to the God boundary...if you didn't tell us, how were we to know of this?

And I thought your ability to conceal your aura was formidable and you were deliberately hiding your cultivation.

With this, things were much more troublesome!

East Zhou Duly looked at Qin Yu and her smile became even bitterer. "Qin Yu, you might not be able to enter the Path of 10,000 Souls with us."

Qin Yu frowned. His eyes flashed, "Is there a cultivation limit for entering the Path of 10,000 Souls?"

Shang Lingyu looked deeply at him, "The condition for entering the Path of 10,000 Souls is to be above the God boundary and below the Origin God realm."

His eyes flashed with doubt. With Qin Yu's status, he should know of this.

But it was clear that Qin Yu had never heard of this before.

This really was strange.

East Zhou Duly grimaced inwardly. With him, she was much more confident entering the Path of 10,000 Souls, but who could have imagined things would be like this?

Qin Yu wasn't at the God boundary...could it be that...he wanted to take that path...

But even if he wanted to take that path, it shouldn't be in this situation.

Qin Yu mulled things over and slowly said, "Since that's the case, I will break through to the God boundary before the Path of 10,000 Souls opens." With his current accumulations, it would be easy for him to knock open the World's Dragon Gate and condense his God Mark.

But it was clear that the others didn't believe in this. As his voice fell, they started to look at him strangely.

Breaking through to the God boundary?

Originally, with Qin Yu's talent, it should be easy for him to accomplish this. None of them doubted that.

But now...the accumulations you gathered before the God boundary seemed to be too much.

It had to be known that sometimes, having too many accumulations wasn't a good thing...this was especially true for cultivators who hadn't yet broken through to the God boundary!