

The Gods 1651

[Chapter 1651 - Tentative Contact](#)

Clap! Clap! Clap!

Chi Wuyao slow-clapped the Eternal Heaven God Emperor. "As expected, my children couldn't hide themselves from you."

Chi Wuyao wasn't surprised that Zhou Xuzi would notice Jie Xin and Jie Ling. They were only a few steps away, and they weren't trying to conceal themselves.

But she was a little surprised by how quickly he had discovered them. After Jie Xin and Jie Ling's compatibility with darkness profound energy was improved, their power had become much greater than before. For starters, they were now much better at concealing themselves, not to mention that they were currently in an environment of darkness.

"If this queen didn't care to conceal her tracks and prevent others from stealing a share of her pie, she would've moved half of the Soul Stealing Realm over before meeting you. After all, you are the holiest person of the three Divine Regions, and this queen is the wicked monarch of devil people. It took all the energy in me just to keep myself calm and not suffer a heart attack."

Zhou Xuzi didn't look bothered by Chi Wuyao's taunts at all. His expression looked as stiff as it was imposing. "You know I wouldn't be able to share this with you alone if the Burning Moon God Emperor or the Yama Emperor shows up, so why must you wag your tongue like this? Is one moment of pleasure really that important to you?"

He was speaking to Chi Wuyao, but his gaze kept being attracted to the young man beside Chi Wuyao's feet like a magnet. Yun Che hadn't stopped struggling since the beginning of the meeting, and every time the young man looked up and met his eyes... he looked like he couldn't wait to split into a million blades of blood and cut his body into a million pieces.

"Alright." Chi Wuyao withdrew her smile as if she accepted the Eternal Heaven God Emperor's admonishment. A pressure belonging to god emperors alone dyed her words as she asked, "This queen has brought the person you're looking for. Have you brought mine?"

Zhou Xuzi extended an arm solemn and opened his palm. A purple light immediately appeared before everyone's eyes.

The purple light wasn't particularly strong or blinding, but it was purer than even the most brilliant stars. Its glow even penetrated the thick darkness around it and dyed the distant space in faint purple.

Mixed within the purple light was a great, ancient aura that seemed capable of accommodating the entire world in itself.

It was primordial energy!

Had Qianye Ying'er been here, she would've been shocked.

It was because Zhou Xuzi had brought an Untamed Divine Marrow with him!

According to the records of the Eastern Divine Region, the Untamed Divine Marrow was a sacred object that had gone extinct a long time ago.

She was already pretty shocked when she discovered that the Northern Divine Region had an Untamed Divine Marrow.

It took a lot to shock the Brahma Monarch Goddess. Naturally, no one in the entire Eastern Divine Region, in all three divine regions knew that the Eternal Heaven God Realm was hiding such a thing.

In retrospect, it probably wasn't that surprising. Of course the Eternal Heaven God Realm would do their utmost to keep this a secret from everyone.

Transfixed by the purple light, Chi Wuyao didn't look away from the Untamed Divine Marrow for quite some time. Her greed and excitement were palpable even through the black fog that was covering her face.

"So beautiful. Even the prettiest darkness seems dull before its light." Chi Wuyao sighed with emotion. She was still staring at the Untamed Divine Marrow as if her gaze had melted into the sacred object. She didn't want to be separated from it for even a moment.

Suddenly, the purple light winked out of existence. The Untamed Divine Marrow had somehow vanished from Zhou Xuzi's hands.

There was nothing more tempting than a bait so close one could almost feel its breath on their skin, and Zhou Xuzi knew this better than anyone. Ten months ago, when he sent Tai Yin and Zhu Liu to slip into the God Realm of Absolute Beginning—affording them even the Great Void Cauldron to maximize their chance of success—it was to steal the Divine Fruit of Absolute Beginning from the Dragons of Absolute Beginning and fuse it with the Untamed Divine Marrow he hid from the entire world. He was hoping to recreate the mythical Untamed World Pellet again.

There was truly nothing he wouldn't spend on Zhou Qingchen.

But not only did Tai Yin and Zhu Liu fail to retrieve the Divine Fruit of Absolute Beginning, they had lost their lives and the Great Void Cauldron as well. According to Honorable Qu Hui, both items had likely fallen into Yun Che's hands, meaning that the Untamed Divine Marrow had mostly lost its worth.

But not today. Today, it was the best bargaining chip he had to save Zhou Qingchen.

There was no one in the world who could resist the Untamed Divine Marrow. No one. Especially since it might be the last one in the entire Primal Chaos.

"You told me that Yun Che has the power to eliminate the dark energy inside my son," Zhou Xuzi said. He would never have taken such a huge risk and come here otherwise. "I hope... you're not playing a trick on me."

"Eternal Heaven God Emperor, haven't you had a personal taste of my Soul Stealing powers many years ago? Are you looking down on me?"

Chi Wuyao suddenly grabbed Yun Che's head and sent a terrifying amount of black energy into his body. The latter's struggles and screams ceased instantly.

Chi Wuyao lifted Yun Che into the air like a doll. He slowly straightened himself, but his arms were hanging limply on his sides. The black energy covering his head earlier was dissipating quickly, but his eyes were missing their pupils and usual light.

“Yun Che, tell me,” Chi Wuyao asked, “who deserves to die more than anyone else in this world?”

Yun Che answered stiffly and robotically, “Old... dog... Eternal... Heaven...”

Zhou Xuzi’s expression didn’t change, but he withdrew his fingers slightly.

“Are you the one who changed Zhou Qingchen into a devil person?” Chi Wuyao asked again.

“Yes,” Yun Che answered.

“Does that also mean you know how to remove it and return him to normal?”

“Yes.”

Yun Che’s answer was hoarse and robotic, but it was the answer Zhou Xuzi wanted to hear even in his dreams.

Surprisingly, Zhou Qingchen—the victim who should be more excited about this than anyone—barely reacted to the revelation at all, as if he hadn’t woken up from the Devil Queen’s bewitching words yet.

The last of his doubts gone, Zhou Xuzi relaxed as if a billion tons were removed from his shoulders. Every pore on his body was shivering with joy.

The Devil Queen’s aura covered every inch of Yun Che’s body, so he had no doubt that the young man was currently under the effects of her “Soul Stealing” technique, meaning that everything he said during the duration of the spell could only be the truth.

He and Qianye Fantian had fought Chi Wuyao together tens of thousands of years ago. “Scary” didn’t even begin to describe how terrible her power was.

Everyone knew that Yun Che had a powerful dragon soul, but he was still affected by Qianye Ying’er’s Brahma Soul Death-Wishing Mark until Shen Xi removed it.

Moreover, Qianye Fantian himself said that Chi Wuyao’s soul power was far greater than his, and it was strange in a way that was impossible to comprehend.

Not even the Clear Sky God Emperor was able to escape a “sudden death” tens of thousands of years ago. It was far too easy for this Devil Queen to control someone at Yun Che’s level.

“So? Is this clear enough for you?” Chi Wuyao asked.

Right now, Yun Che was definitely being controlled by Chi Wuyao’s power. It was not an act.

It would be impossible to fool someone at Zhou Xuzi’s level otherwise.

However... that didn’t mean that Chi Wuyao had all the power.

Ninety-nine percent of Yun Che's soul was "stolen" by Chi Wuyao, but there was still one percent that belonged to him and him alone. In fact, one percent was all he needed to break the spell if he wished... because he had the Eternal Calamity of Darkness!

The Eternal Calamity of Darkness could control any body of darkness. Naturally, that included dark, devilish souls as well!

Since it was a power that exceeded even the recognition of True Gods, it was impossible for Zhou Xuzi to see through this.

The Untamed Divine Marrow appeared in Zhou Xuzi's hand again, dyeing the darkness in mysterious purple once more. Zhou Xuzi said solemnly, "Order Yun Che to remove the darkness inhabiting my son's body. I will give you the last Untamed Divine Marrow in the world once the process is complete!"

Chi Wuyao narrowed her eyes before giggling seductively. "Do you think I'm a naive three-year-old, Eternal Heaven God Emperor? Will you really give me the Untamed Divine Marrow if after your son is cured!?"

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor declared with unquestionable solemnity. "This old one is the Eternal Heaven God Emperor, and my word will be as solid as a mandate of heaven! With the heavens as my witness, I swear never to go back on my promise even if you are the Northern Region Devil Queen herself!"

It wasn't a boastful claim. In the three Divine Regions, no one would question the Eternal Heaven God Emperor's ability to hold a promise.

But Chi Wuyao suddenly guffawed—not the giggle or chuckle she usually employed, but the uncontrollable laughter when someone heard a funny joke—loudly. "Your word is as solid as a mandate of heaven? Hahahaha! Eternal Heaven God Emperor, are you sure you're still trustworthy?"

"Look behind me. Look at him, and tell me again how trustworthy you are." Zhou Xuzi's act of righteousness, composure, and pride shattered into a million pieces the moment he heard this. He couldn't say a thing for a very long time.

Yun Che fell into Chi Wuyao's hands. She would've figured out all of his secrets, and him breaking his promise to Yun Che had to be his deepest and most hateful memory of them all. There was no way Chi Wuyao would miss this.

His reputation as the most moral god emperor in the world, the praise that his promise was worth its weight in heaven... was nothing but a joke in front of Chi Wuyao.

"What's wrong? Cat got your tongue?" Chi Wuyao sneered at him before continuing. "Yun Che saved all of you back then, and I'm not just talking about your lives. Without him, you would've lost even the roots beneath your feet."

"But the moment he revealed his darkness profound energy, you immediately turned against him and pretended as if he had never saved your sorry hides. I bet you clamped down on the news of him saving the world tighter than your own fly, haven't you? That's not all. You are the one who encouraged the three divine regions into hunting him all over the world, and you are the reason not even a speck of his home planet was left!"

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor's face changed again and again... but he wasn't surprised. Chi Wuyao had Yun Che's soul, so it was only natural that she would know this much.

"Your son is also a bearer of darkness profound energy, but instead of killing him and cleansing the world of his filth like the devil-hating saint you are, you hid the truth like your life depends on it, ran all the way to the Northern Divine Region and brought the one and only Untamed Divine Marrow the Eastern Divine Region has to me to make a deal. Me, an emperor of devils... Aiya, aiya."

"On one hand, we have a literal messiah who not only saved your lives, but the very fate of the God Realm itself. On the other, we have vermin who consumed countless resources and contributed nothing to the world. But this discrimination... Are you sure you didn't make a mistake? Maybe you've gotten them mixed up or something? You couldn't have though, because one of them is your son... Your son! Hahahaha! Eternal Heaven God Emperor, to call you a shameless hypocrite would be too kind, and you want me to believe your so-called 'word'?"

"The Eastern Divine Region must be a horrible place if they would worship a loathsome god emperor like you as their saint."

Zhou Xuzy knew that Chi Wuyao was trying to drive him into a disadvantageous corner, but her words still pierced through his heart like needles. It took several mouthfuls of air before he finally calmed down a bit. "What do you want, Devil Queen?"

He didn't want to bother with that. He didn't even want to defend himself. All he wanted was to never hear a single word about that again.

"Oh, it's very simple," Chi Wuyao said. "This may be the Northern Divine Region, but this queen shan't take advantage of you. We'll both put the items into our respective barriers. Then, we'll merge the barriers together. Finally, we'll withdraw our energy at the same time and claim what we desire."

This way, the barrier will hold even if one of us is scheming something and 'accidentally' withdraws their power later than expected. No one will get what they want unless we unlock the barrier together. It is a fair exchange, don't you think?"

"No... no!" Zhou Xuzy rejected her suggestion immediately. "The Untamed Divine Marrow is an inanimate object, but not Yun Che! Once the Untamed Divine Marrow enters your possession, it is yours and yours alone. But if Yun Che enters my possession, he would still be affected by your spell!"

"You must be joking." Chi Wuyao sneered faintly. "If I release my spell now, do you think Yun Che will save your son? He would rather die a million times first."

"But if you didn't give the order, my son wouldn't be saved, and this old one would still lose the Untamed Divine Marrow. This is not fair," Zhou Xuzy said. "You can distrust me, but there's no reason for this old one to trust you either."

"Then we can wait. I can do this all day." Chi Wuyao wasn't worried in the slightest. Turning around to face Yun Che, she curled her lips slightly and touched his face with her fingertips. Then, she started caressing him flirtatiously.

"Such a good boy," she said in a melting, loving voice. "If I can extract his Heretic God origin power for myself, this queen wouldn't mind losing even a million Untamed Divine Marrows."

"In fact, this queen is quite worried that that old man over there would hurt you or even kill you once I gave you to him. It would be a most pitiful outcome, don't you think?"

She exhaled quietly as her voice grew softer and slower. She then moved closer to Yun Che, parted her lips, revealed her pearly teeth and pink tongue... and licked him on the neck.

[Chapter 1652 - Falling into Devilish Hands](#)

"..." Of course Yun Che, whose soul had been seized, did not make any response.

Zhou Xuzi's eyebrows violently twitched. He had long heard that the Northern Region's Devil Queen was so beautiful and alluring she seemed like a succubus in the flesh. Her bewitching seductiveness seemed ingrained in her very bones and her ability to manipulate men was unrivaled under the heavens. However, he was still left completely flustered when he witnessed this scene.

If she dared to behave in such a flagrant manner towards a junior whose soul she had seized in public, then one could well imagine just how debauched her behaviour normally was.

It was this shallow and simple action of hers which made the mouth of the Eternal Heaven God Emperor, who had been buffeted by thousands of life's storms, go dry. He started to feel a burning sensation that had died out long ago rise up in his body. But this feeling soon turned intense as it swiftly spread throughout his body, dyeing it in an abnormal blush.

His heart was violently shaken... but at the same time, to his incredulous shock, a burning lust had been birthed inside of it. It was the sort of lust that a person wanted to simply sink into, a lust which made you want to abandon everything and drown in its pleasures forever.

Bzzz!

Zhou Xuzi fiercely bit down on his tongue as profound energy circulated throughout his entire body and swiftly suppressed that terrifying agitation. His expression did not change at all and his voice remained low and imperious. "Devil Queen, a mere bewitching technique like that isn't enough to shake this old one's heart. There's no need for you to waste any energy."

"The longer we drag this out, the more likely it is for something unforeseen to happen. You've made such a long journey here, so I don't think you want to return empty-handed, right!?"

Chi Wuyao seemed to pay no mind to his words and her gaze no longer flickered towards the Untamed Divine Marrow in Zhou Xuzi's hands. "Oh my! Are you starting to feel anxious? It is of no matter, this queen has lots of time. Even if I return home empty-handed, I'll just take it that I went out for a breath of fresh air. It's not like I'm losing anything."

She calmly turned her head and looked towards the blank-faced Yun Che. Her voice grew softer and gentler as she said, "Isn't that right, my good Che'er~?"

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor's brow deeply furrowed but he did not say anything.

The moment he had taken out the Untamed Divine Marrow, he had clearly sensed Chi Wuyao's rapacious greed ooze out of her.

He had suffered a complete loss in their duel of words and the pressure exerted by their soul.

Many things had changed over the last ten millennia. He had grown old while the Devil Queen had only grown more terrifying.

However, no matter how much of a disadvantage he was at, even if his heart was so anxious that it had burned to cinders, he definitely could not back down here.

He was convinced that Chi Wuyao's anxiety was no less than his. Because if this meeting dragged and the other two king realms managed to sniff it out, she could forget about keeping this Untamed Divine Marrow for herself.

Zhou Xuzy remained silent, while Chi Wuyao did not even spare him a single glance. She had even moved her aura away from his body. Underneath that hazy black mist, her body seemed to be tightly pressed against the enthralled Yun Che's body.

There were several female god emperors in the other three divine regions. Even the grand ancestor of his Eternal Heaven God Realm was a woman. If he had not witnessed it personally, he would truly find it hard to believe that any woman who had ascended to the seat of god emperor would actually behave so scandalously in front of other people.

"Che'er." Her voice was both gentle and alluring as she called his name. It sounded so seductive that it nearly melted half of Zhou Xuzy's bones in that very instant. "Answer this queen. Who was your very first woman?"

Yun Che moved his lips. "Ling... er..."

"Oh hoh~" Chi Wuyao said as a look of realization flashed across her head. Her smile grew even more seductive. "Then, who do you think is the most beautiful woman that you've ever come across?"

"Shen... Xi..." He replied with the exact same blank and guileless expression

When Chi Wuyao asked Yun Che, whose soul had been seized, these questions, they ignored his will and directly drew those answers out from his soul.

"Aiyah." Chi Wuyao let out a small but exaggerated cry before she started giggling. "To think that you'd still think of the 'Dragon Queen' even though you already have the 'Goddess' by your side. Ah, how truly greedy you are."

"~ ! @# ¥%..." For a moment, the Eternal Heaven God Emperor found it hard to breathe and his vision had even started to go black.

Every occasion he had ever been a part of in his life was either grand, solemn or dignified. As long as he was there, no one had ever dared to overstep their bounds or behave in an undignified manner.

But this Northern Region Devil Queen... Her behavior was simply far too frivolous and debauched. This should have been a meeting filled with mutual hostility, where both sides stood across from each other with swords drawn. Yet, she was actually whispering seductively to a person whose soul she had dominated!

Such corrupt and scandalous behavior!

What frivolous and humiliating behavior!

"I heard that your master's name was Mu Xuanyin." It was as if Chi Wuyao had completely forgotten about Zhou Xuzi's existence. In fact, she continued to ask Yun Che those questions in an utterly disgraceful manner, "Did you ever do that..."

"That's enough!" Zhou Xuzi could not take it any longer. He let out a low roar and he extended the hand that held the Untamed Divine Marrow. "Devil Queen, hand Yun Che over to me. Before you give him the order, this old one will even pass the Untamed Divine Marrow to you. This is the last concession I will make!"

"Concession?" Chi Wuyao finally turned to look at him. "What a great concession. If the Eternal Heaven God Emperor pulls a muscle because of this, this queen won't be able to answer for it."

Zhou Xuzi pushed down his anger as he said, "Even if Yun Che is in this old one's hands, if you, the Devil Queen, do not give the command, he will not purge the darkness from my son's body. However, once you have the Untamed Divine Marrow in your hands, you will already have gained the absolute advantage."

"This old one is not your equal when it comes to a duel of words but both you and I have come to this place because we want something from each other. Since this old one has already made so many concessions, you should also know when to quit!"

"The absolute advantage?" Chi Wuyao said with a dry chuckle. "Is there anyone in this universe who is unaware that Yun Che is the one you want to kill the most? If I hand him over to you first, you can kill him with a single strike of your palm. At that point, wouldn't this queen be left with nothing!?"

"In fact, this queen even suspects that this whole deal about wanting to save your son is a sham. And that your true goal is to use this excuse to kill Yun Che."

"..." A dark light that no one sensed flashed in the depths of Zhou Xuzi's eyes. His brows heavily sank as he said, "The deal is taking place in your Northern Region and you even have your two strongest Witches by your side. But this old one has come by himself."

"If all of you attack me together, it wouldn't be too hard for any of you to kill this old one's son."

"With such a threat hanging over this old one's head, how would I dare to have any funny ideas!?"

"Aiya," Chi Wuyao cried in a bewitching voice. "Not only is your son handsome, he's even become one of us devils. This queen has truly taken a fancy to him, so how could I bear to kill him?"

Just as she finished speaking, the already dim sky turned even darker.

Both Chi Wuyao and Zhou Xuzi raised their heads at the same time.

This was the southernmost part of the Northern Divine Region, so one could see the blurry figure of a dusky gray moon.

When the moon moved into the middle of the sky, it would signify that this day had ended.

Chi Wuyao's aura subtly changed and when she opened her mouth again, her voice had lost all of its previous indolence and seductiveness. It was now shockingly cold and calm. "Forget it. Since it's already this late, this queen no longer has the inclination to drag this out any further."

She suddenly pushed her hand out and Yun Che, who had been standing beside her, flew toward Zhou Xuzi like a wooden stump.

Zhou Xuzi casually waved his arm in the air and Yun Che simply floated down gently in front of him.

Yun Che was right in front of him and his eyes were devoid of light... As he stared at him from such a close distance, Zhou Xuzi started recalling things of the past. He recalled Yun Che's stubborn pride during the Profound God Convention, the incredible respect Yun Che had shown him when they had spoken with each other, the kindness and compassion Yun Che showed him when he had helped him get rid of the devilish poison, and his eyes, which seemed to contain all of the stars in the universe, as he faced the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor alone...

All of these things seemed to have happened just yesterday, yet everything had drastically changed.

After he let out a sigh, Zhou Xuzi unconsciously averted his eyes from Yun Che's lifeless gaze. As he grabbed Yun Che's shoulder with one hand, he gently pushed the other one forward.

Purple light flashed through the air and the precious treasure that the Eternal Heaven God Realm had hidden for dozens of millennia, what was very likely the last remaining Untamed Divine Marrow in the entire Primal Chaos Dimension, flew toward the Devil Queen of the North.

Chi Wuyao extended a hand to grab it. She spared it a brief glance before she stored it away. A faint smile appeared on her face. "Very good. It looks like you have lived up to your word this once."

Even though he had made this decision long ago, for him to so easily hand over the precious treasure left behind by his grand ancestor... to the devils of the north was something that pierced him to the core.

But, he would not regret his decision.

"Devil Queen, give the order." Zhou Xuzi stared straight ahead, his voice solemn and steady... But his heart was still filled with extreme anxiety.

Before today, he had only ever had one interaction with Chi Wuyao and it had left behind a dark shadow in his heart that had lasted a full ten millennia.

To him, Chi Wuyao was absolutely the most dreadful and cunning woman in the entire universe. Every second he spent facing off against her was fraught with tension and all of his nerves were stretched taut.

Because Chi Wuyao had been the one who had suggested this method of trade, he certainly would not simply agree to it, no matter how fair it sounded. He definitely had to change it or have the final say.

Even now, when Yun Che had already fallen into his hands, Zhou Xuzi, who had already passed the Untamed Divine Marrow over to Chi Wuyao, was still on his guard and vigilantly looking out for any possible accidents... He was especially afraid that Chi Wuyao would simply flee with the Untamed Divine Marrow at this point.

After all, she had definitely pried all of Yun Che's secrets out of his body and if she could steal the Heretic God's legacy or the Sky Poison Pearl, she would have done so long ago... It was definitely possible that Chi Wuyao would throw the already useless Yun Che away at this point.

However, he had been forced all the way back from his initial position by Chi Wuyao's repeated blows and constant pressure, so he had been left with no other choice.

"Yun Che." The thing that Zhou Xuzi was most worried about did not come to pass as Chi Wuyao calmly started to speak. "This queen commands you. Immediately purge the darkness that you planted in Zhou Qingchen from his body."

Zhou Xuzi felt some tension bleed out of him.

Furthermore, after he had received the command, Yun Che started to woodenly move forward. He came to a stop in front of Zhou Qingchen before he slowly raised a hand towards him.

He still could not feel any vitality or soul energy coming from Yun Che's body.

Whether it was his power or his soul, all of it had been completely suppressed and seized by Chi Wuyao. This was something that Zhou Xuzi had been convinced of from the start and he did not find anything abnormal about it.

But even so, even up to this point, his energy was still connected to Zhou Qingchen and the protective barrier that surrounded him. He had not withdrawn it for even a fraction of a second.

An imperceptible ripple appeared in Chi Wuyao's eyes for a single instant...

Back then, outside the destroyed Blue Pole Star, Mu Xuanyin had used most of her power to protect Yun Che even when she faced off against a gaggle of god emperors by herself.

Now, Zhou Xuzi, who was facing off against the Devil Queen and her two Great Witches in a dark and dangerous place, had also used most of his energy to protect Zhou Qingchen. If anything unexpected happened, he would not hesitate to sacrifice his own life to see Zhou Qingchen to safety.

Heh... Chi Wuyao gave a soft chuckle, but it was a rather cold one.

Yun Che's hand was being blocked by the barrier so there was no way for him to touch Zhou Qingchen.

Zhou Xuzi moved and made a gesture with his hand. The energy of the barrier instantly started flowing like running water as it covered Yun Che's hand and brought half of his arm inside of it. But at the same time, it also stuck to Yun Che's body and power.

As such, if there was any abnormality in Yun Che's actions or aura, he would be the first to know.

"Aiyah, the Eternal Heaven God Emperor is truly being cautious. But Yun Che happens to be the most obedient child by this queen's side, he won't eat your son," Chi Wuyao said with a seductive laugh.

Zhou Xuzi stared at Yun Che's palm as he said in a low voice, "I'll have to trouble the Devil Queen to release the shackles on his power."

Chi Wuyao tapped a finger gently in the air. The black mist curling around Yun Che instantly started to dissipate, clearly allowing the aura of Yun Che's power to leak through.

When a person was released from someone else's suppression, it would take a rather long time for them to wake up and recover, no matter whether it was their power or soul that had been suppressed.

This was especially true when it came to the suppression of one's soul. It would make that person feel like they had suddenly woken up from a nightmare. It would take a very long time for their mind to clear up once they had been completely released from the other person's control.

However... even before the black mist had fully dissipated from Yun Che's body, a bizarre, blood-red light suddenly flashed in his originally dull and blank eyes.

This bizarre scene that did not conform to any of the usual rules was instantly noticed by Zhou Xuzi, whose nerves were already stretched taut. Yet before he could even do anything, a pair of dark dragon eyes suddenly appeared in front of him. The furious roar of a dragon instantly exploded within his heart and soul. It sounded like it was simultaneously coming from the farthest reaches of the universe and the deepest abyss of despair.

ROAAAAAARRR—

Countless blood vessels instantly popped out in Zhou Xuzi's eyes. He felt as if the world in front of him had explosively shattered into tiny fragments, turning into a chaotic blend of inky darkness and blinding light.

Chi Wuyao's arm also shot out in that same instant. An energy star that was as black as dusk blazed through the air, leaving a trail of darkness in its wake. It instantly punched through the energy tether connecting Zhou Xuzi to Zhou Qingchen.

Bang!!

The barrier shattered.

Zhou Xuzi's body violently swayed, but he forced himself to stay on his feet. Dozens of millennia of wisdom and his enormous will allowed him to recover at an unfathomable speed as his murky eyes quickly regained their focus.

He felt a splitting pain in his head, feeling as if thousands of waves were crashing about in his brain... But this pain was a tiny fraction of the shock he was feeling right now.

Because he saw a pair of blood-red eyes glaring at him through his blurred vision. The very first thought that occurred to his disoriented brain was that he had seen a real devil.

As for Zhou Qingchen... That devil's hand was wrapped around his neck.

[Chapter 1653 - A Tooth For A Tooth](#)

"Qing... Qingchen!"

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor's eyes widened so much that they looked like they might tear themselves apart. He looked like he might faint at any moment.

Yun Che's eyes were glowing with devilish power. His black hair floated behind him, and his aura churned like a violent black flame.

The hatred in his eyes felt like a pair of devilish blades that had been submerged in the blood pools of hell. He looked like he couldn't wait to tear the Eternal Heaven God Emperor into the smallest, lowliest particles using the most painful and cruelest methods he could think of.

Black energy was rising from the hand Yun Che used to clamp around Zhou Qingchen's neck. In fact, half of Zhou Qingchen's neck had already turned to charred flesh.

Lifted into the air, the prince's eyes were rolling in their sockets, and his body was trembling violently in pain. However, the iron grip around his neck prevented him from making any sound at all.

"Yun Che, you..." Zhou Xuzi took a step forward, but he quickly stopped dead in his tracks. His mouth was agape, and his voice sounded impossibly hoarse.

Chi Wuyao had strolled next to Yun Che and fused her energy into Yun Che's aura. An invisible, dark forcefield was pressing down on Zhou Xuzi's chest and keeping him from getting any closer to Yun Che.

The shock and confusion churning in Zhou Xuzi's heart was like a giant tsunami that threatened to overwhelm the sky itself. However, there was no mistaking Chi Wuyao's action. He understood what had happened almost immediately.

"You... you..." Zhou Xuzi stuttered. He couldn't imagine how ugly his expression was right now.

Crack!!

The sound of bones snapping suddenly pierced through everyone's ear drums like an arrow. Yun Che had tightened his grip around Zhou Qingchen's neck, breaking it and causing the latter to turn stiff, a disgusting screech forcing itself out of his windpipe like escaped air from a crushed pipe.

"Stop!" Zhou Xuzi felt as if his eyes were being stabbed by a pair of poisoned needles. Whatever he was attempting to say all dissolved into a fearful shout. He extended his arms as if the gesture would somehow save him, but his legs knew better than to take even a single step forward. "Don't... don't kill him... don't kill him!"

People usually said that monarchs were cold-hearted, but to Zhou Qingchen was more important to Zhou Xuzi than his own life.

Qianye Ying'er wasn't kidding when she said that Zhou Qingchen might be Zhou Xuzi's biggest and only weakness.

He had broken his own principles and beliefs to keep Zhou Qingchen from the world. He had stepped into the Northern Divine Region to make a deal with the Devil Queen. He had offered her a valuable treasure that was second only to the Eternal Heaven Pearl in the Eternal Heaven God Realm.

Zhou Xuzi looked like he would fall apart if anything were to happen to his son. No one would believe that he was a God Emperor if they saw him right now.

Most people would be moved by his deep love for his son.

Unfortunately for him, all Yun Che and Chi Wuyao felt was a deep sense of irony.

“Your love for your son is truly touching, Eternal Heaven God Emperor. Even this queen is almost moved to tears.”

Chi Wuyao said with a smile before shooting a glance to her side... it took a lot of beating around the bush, but things were finally happening as he wanted.

Technically, Chi Wuyao’s plan was a success the moment Zhou Xuzi had brought Zhou Qingchen to her. After that, everything she did—the carrot, the stick, the verbal assaults and so on—was in preparation for this one moment.

The moment where Yun Che kidnapped Zhou Qingchen right before Zhou Xuzi eyes!

Getting the Untamed Divine Marrow was great, but it was at most a decent bonus.

Zhou Xuzi couldn’t possibly imagine that Chi Wuyao was aiming for his son, the child who had absolutely zero connections to her, and not the Untamed Divine Marrow.

Zhou Xuzi gritted his teeth until they felt like they would break from the sheer amount of force that was being applied to them. He dug his nails into his palm and forced himself to calm down with all his might.

But no matter how hard he tried, he just couldn’t imagine how or why the Devil Queen had joined forces with Yun Che.

The Devil Queen was a cunning and cruel woman who hated the three divine regions above all else. Yun Che was a devil person born in the Eastern Divine Region and a bag of mysteries and secrets. Finally, he was told that Yun Che had offended both the Soul Stealing Realm and the Yama Realm.

No matter how he looked at it, Yun Che was prey to Chi Wuyao at best. Things should never have turned out like this!

Even more puzzling was how Yun Che had regained himself immediately and snatched Zhou Qingchen from him. His power and his soul should’ve been under the Devil Queen’s complete control...

Zhou Qingchen’s life was at stake here, so he had treated everything with maximum caution. He would’ve spotted an act immediately if that was the case.

But none of this was important anymore. He had given up the Untamed Divine Marrow, but not only was Zhou Qingchen still tainted by darkness, his life was in Yun Che’s hands right now.

“Devil Queen, what... what is the meaning of this!? How... how dare you go back on your word when this old one has surrendered the Untamed Divine Marrow! Do you have no shame at all!?”

Zhou Xuzi’s voice sounded relatively calm, but his eyes betrayed his true emotions. He was deathly afraid that Yun Che would kill Zhou Qingchen on a whim.

“Oh? This queen doesn’t understand what the Eternal Heaven God Emperor is saying at all.”

Chi Wuyao explained herself slowly and lazily, “This queen surrendered Yun Che to you first, and you the Untamed Divine Marrow to me later as agreed upon. This queen then ordered Yun Che to cure Zhou Qingchen of his ‘affliction’ immediately.”

“This queen has followed the agreement to the letter, hasn’t she? So why are you angry? I should be the one who was angry! How dare you accuse me of going against my word! Is this how a God Emperor of the Eastern Divine Region usually conducts himself?”

If the first half of Chi Wuyao’s words were indignant, the latter half were clearly laden with righteous anger. It was almost as if the Eternal Heaven God Emperor had slandered her with the worst crime in the world.

“You!!” Zhou Xuzi’s calm was shattered before it could hold together for three breaths.

“Again, this queen has executed our agreement to the letter. What Yun Che does during this time is none of my business, and frankly, why would I even care in the first place? His limbs are on his body, not mine.”

“~ ! @# ¥%...” The Eternal Heaven God Emperor felt like blacking out again. This time, even his internal organs were shaking with fury.

It had been a long time since he became the great and respected Eternal Heaven God Emperor. He had never been bullied this badly before!

And he just could do nothing about it because Zhou Qingchen’s life was in their hands.

“Good... very good! You truly deserve your title as the Northern Region Devil Queen!” Zhou Xuzi nodded slowly. “This old one... will admit that he has lost this time!”

“The Untamed Divine Marrow is yours. This old one promises that he will... never take another step into the Northern Divine Region after he returns to the Eastern Divine Region with Qingchen.”

He wasn’t stupid enough to think that he could take back the Untamed Divine Marrow at this point. Knowing how much Yun Che hated him, Zhou Qingchen would most likely be killed the moment he made the request.

Zhou Xuzi had two goals in his mind when he came to the Northern Divine Region. The first was to cure Zhou Qingchen of darkness.

The second, was to kill Yun Che.

In his imagination, the second Yun Che cured Zhou Qingchen of darkness, he would gather all of his power and attack Yun Che... at this range, there was no way Yun Che would be alive.

The prophecy that a “devil god” would bring carnage to the world hadn’t left Zhou Xuzi’s mind since the day he had heard it. Yun Che himself had proven himself to be a great threat when he killed two of his Guardians, Tai Yin and Zhu Liu, and transformed his son into a devil person.

So when he contacted the Devil Queen, he was already planning to kill two birds with one stone!

Once he killed Yun Che, he would pass the cured Zhou Qingchen to the waiting arms of Tai Yu and do his utmost to stop the Devil Queen and her Witches.

He would then make his own retreat after Honorable Tai Yu and his son had left the borders completely.

If he could kill the devil person Yun Che, it didn't matter even if the news of him visiting the Northern Divine Region was exposed.

The Untamed Divine Marrow was incredibly precious, but if he could kill two birds with one stone, the return was worth as much as an Untamed World Pellet.

When Chi Wuyao had given him a bewitched Yun Che and made the order, he had thought that everything was proceeding as planned. But it took only a second for his imagination to be shattered entirely.

Now he knew that he was the one who was being played from the start... worse, the best case scenario available to him now was him leaving with Zhou Qingchen safely.

What a sorrowful outcome that was.

"Return to the Eastern Divine Region with Qingchen?" Yun Che finally spoke up, and every word was infused with impossible hatred. "You must still be dreaming, old dog Eternal Heaven!"

"Because in my dreams... I spend my time drinking your blood and killing every last member of your filthy family!"

Zhou Xuzi's fingertips had sunk so deep into his palm that he was literally touching the bones. It was all to remain calm in an impossible situation. Quieting his aura so that he presented himself as no threat at all, he did his best to speak in a collected tone. "Yun Che, I know you hate me, but Qingchen has nothing to do with it—"

"Then what about my daughter!? What about my family!?"

The angry roar of a beast of despair tore the Eternal Heaven God Emperor's words to shreds. His fingers kept digging deeper and deeper into Zhou Qingchen's neck, dyeing half the man's clothes in reddish black blood.

"Old dog Eternal Heaven... do you know how close my daughter came to dying when she was still in her mother's womb? Did you know that I wasn't there when she was born? Did you know that I only found her when she was eleven... meaning that I hadn't performed my duties as a father for eleven years straight?"

He stared at Zhou Xuzi with bottomless anger and pain. "And before I was able to make up even a shred of my failings to her... She gave up her greatest talent for me! A talent that can never be replicated again, all just to save my worthless, useless life!"

"..." Chi Wuyao turned away and closed her eyes.

"Heh... hehehe..." Yun Che was laughing, but it sounded more horrible than a ghost's wail. "She is... a debt I can never repay in full... she is... far more important to me than my life! But you... you!!"

He started trembling uncontrollably. His aura was so chaotic that it was a miracle that it hadn't fallen to shambles yet. "It was because of you, my daughter... my family... my home... everything!!"

Crack!

Several of Zhou Qingchen's neck bones snapped again. If Yun Che continued to lose control, the man was dead for sure.

"St... stop! Stop!" Zhou Xuzi begged. "I'm not the one who destroyed Blue Pole Star and killed your family and daughter... it was the Moon God Emperor! Nothing that happened afterward was what I wanted to happen!"

"She will die! You all deserve to die as well!" Yun Che shouted at the top of his lungs, his eyes as red as the blood of the abyss.

Suddenly, a soul voice entered everyone's mind. "I... will... pay... my... father's... debt..."

"Kill... me..."

Zhou Xuzi's eyes widened. He shouted, "What nonsense are you spouting, Qingchen!? Your father isn't dead yet! It's not your turn to pay any debt I owe!"

"..." Icy, bloody tears flowed down Zhou Qingchen's cheeks.

"Yun Che, please... please let him go." Zhou Xuzi begged. He hadn't begged this pitifully even when he was facing the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor herself. "The sin is all mine. He didn't know anything, didn't do anything. He... he only had admiration and respect for you, and... you were once friends, weren't you?"

He didn't say stupid things like offering up his own life in exchange for Zhou Qingchen's. If he killed himself, Zhou Qingchen's death was all but certain.

You do not cut the weed and leave the roots intact.

"Ai." Suddenly, Chi Wuyao sighed quietly and said, "Yun Che, that's enough. It's time to return Zhou Qingchen to him. If we stay here any longer, we'll be noticed by the Burning Moon Realm and Yama Realm."

Zhou Xuzi was completely caught off guard by the Devil Queen's words. He felt like he was in a dream.

Chi Wuyao turned toward him and smiled with ridicule. "If Yun Che really wanted to kill your son, he would've annihilated him into nothing the moment he got his hands on him. You wouldn't even have had the time to kneel and beg."

"He may possess darkness profound energy now, but you should know his character better than most! He doesn't kill innocent people. It would only pollute his integrity and dirty his hands!"

Tears appeared in Zhou Xuzi's eyes. He started shaking again, but not out of fear or anger, but because he had suddenly found a faint hope in the depths of the abyss.

That's right. He did know the old Yun Che. There was no other youngster he admired, valued, and appreciated more than him back then.

Before he fell into darkness, he once bore the holiest light in the world.

He might have joined the Northern Divine Region, he might still hate him to the very bone, but he would never kill an innocent person without good reason.

His eyes might be full of bloodthirst, his aura might have become fully corrupted, and the prophecy of the devil god was still looming over his head... but he needed to ignore all that right now. He needed to remember the boy he crowned the "God Child Messiah" himself before everything went to hell!

He needed to believe... had to believe... that Yun Che wouldn't kill Zhou Qingchen no matter what.

He wouldn't! He wouldn't!

"Right... right." Zhou Xuzi nodded repeatedly while shivering like a leaf. He gathered all the willpower he could muster into his eyes and begged. "I, Zhou Xuzi, made a terrible mistake... an unforgivable mistake... but Qingchen is innocent. I'm the one you hate, and I'm the one who made all those mistakes. I know you won't kill him... so please, let him go. If you do, I can promise you anything... anything."

Chi Wuyao looked at Yun Che and said, "It's only a matter of time before you grow strong enough to murder Zhou Xuzi with your own hands. You'll only dirty your hands and humiliate yourself by killing someone who has nothing to do with your grudge. Come on. If we don't leave now it'll be too late."

But Yun Che neither moved nor withdrew the bloodthirst in his eyes in the slightest. "Old dog Eternal Heaven, kneel and kowtow three times to me! I'll let him go if you do that!"

There were no true gods in this world. Therefore, there was no one in the world who deserved a kowtow from the Eternal Heaven God Emperor himself.

Zhou Xuzi's mouth opened and closed several times as he watched Yun Che's aura. The young man looked like he would erupt at any moment. In the end, he said in the most powerless voice he used in his life. "Pro... promise me."

"Heh." Yun Che sneered at him. "There's nothing more I hate in this world than a person who betrays his word. You think... I would break my word like you??"

Bang!

Zhou Xuzi's knees hit the floor powerlessly. The proud head that he had never bent once for the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor herself hit the dark soil beneath his feet loudly.

A cruel, ridiculing glint flashed across Chi Wuyao's eyes as she watched him.

Drip... drip... drip...

The blood and tears dripping from Zhou Qingchen's feet matched the sound of Zhou Xuzi's head hitting the ground with ironic synchrony.

Bang!

Zhou Xuzi's head hit the ground for the third time, and he looked up dazedly at Zhou Qingchen... he even forgot to get back to his feet.

"Good... very good."

Yun Che smiled and loosened his grip over Zhou Qingchen's neck.

Crunch!!

Zhou Xuzi's pupils dilated to their limit. Instead of putting Zhou Qingchen back on the ground, Yun Che had plunged an arm right through his son's chest.

BOOM.

Dark energy flashed from the bloody arm, and Zhou Qingchen exploded into a million pieces.

The only thing left in his vision beneath the shower of blood was Yun Che's cruel, devilish smile from hell.

[Chapter 1654 - Soul-crushing](#)

"..."

Zhou Xuzi didn't move a muscle. His mouth was open, but no voice came out. His environment was dark and eerie, but his eyes were shockingly white.

Right now, there was nothing more hopeless than the blood before his eyes.

True despair was without color or sound.

It was the same as when Blue Pole Star was destroyed right in front of Yun Che.

The only thing more dreadful than despair itself, was the despair created from the death of hope.

"Heh... hehe..."

The low chuckle sounded like the chant of the devil. After casting away the dirty blood clinging to his hand, Yun Che watched his crushed enemy and burned with absolute satisfaction for the first time since the day he overflowed with hatred. "So... how does it feel? Old dog Eternal Heaven?"

"Doesn't it feel great to watch the person you value the most die horribly right before your eyes? Doesn't it!?"

"I'm a bloodthirsty, cruel, sinful, inhuman devil person whose existence was denied by the world itself, and you chose to believe what I said!?"

"You believed ME, you stupid old dog!?"

"Hah... haha... hahahaha..."

"AHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!"

He laughed like he had gone completely mad. His black hair was swinging all over the place. However, it was impossible to miss the heart-wrenching pain and blood behind his mad laughter.

"..." Zhou Xuzi finally turned his head slowly toward Yun Che and Chi Wuyao. He possessed the body of a god emperor, but his movement was so slow and stiff it was as if he was a poorly made marionette. A tiny voice squeaked through his lips.

"You..."

"The Untamed Divine Marrow is a good thing to have," Chi Wuyao said. "But my desire to meet you was nothing compared to Yun Che's."

“How does it feel to bear Yun Che’s pain and despair? Oh, what am I saying...” Chi Wuyao shook her head. “You still have your home, your subordinates, your family, your children, your grandchildren... this?”

“This is just the appetizer.” Chi Wuyao stretched out her little finger. “You’ve only just begun to pay back everything you owe him.”

“But don’t worry, it is only a matter of time. One day, you’ll pay back everything you owe one time, ten times, a hundred times over!”

It was supposed to be Yun Che’s grudge, but for some reason Chi Wuyao’s eyes were deathly cold as well.

“...” Zhou Xuzi started trembling uncontrollably. Suddenly, blood started pouring out of his eyes, his ears, his nose, and his mouth.

“AAAAAAAH!”

Zhou Xuzi, the kindest and gentlest of all god emperors screamed like an animal as his profound energy exploded like shattering stars. All around him, the world started crumbling at an astonishing rate.

The power of a despairing god emperor was nothing to scoff at!

But Chi Wuyao was long ready for this. She hit Yun Che once in the chest and knocked him away. Then, she swung a strip of black fabric at Zhou Xuzi with her left hand.

The power of two god emperors clashed against one another. The dark world around them instantly suffered massive damage.

At this point, Zhou Xuzi had turned completely insane. He screamed again and again and threw his power all over the place like a child.

Rumble!!

Suddenly, the sound of an unnatural explosion cut through the space of destruction between the two god emperors, and Yun Che returned with blood red profound energy covering his entire body. Screaming even louder and crazier than Zhou Xuzi was, he charged toward the latter and swung his gigantic, vermillion-colored sword straight at his head.

“Old dog Eternal Heaven... die... DIE!!”

Yun Che’s maximum power was comparable to that of a level seven Divine Master after he activated Hell Monarch. Had Zhou Xuzi been clear-headed, he would’ve been shocked by Yun Che’s power.

The moment Zhou Xuzi sensed Yun Che’s aura, he ignored Chi Wuyao’s power completely and pounced toward Yun Che like a despairing wolf who had caught the scent of blood.

Rumble!

The earth turned upside down, and countless mountains crumbled from the impact. Although Chi Wuyao managed to leave a bloody wound at Zhou Xuzi’s waist, the latter’s power still hit Yun Che’s Heaven Smiting Sword directly.

Yun Che had been improving at an impossible rate, but there was no way he could fight against a rampaging god emperor right now.

The impact sounded like the sky itself was shattering, or two stars colliding into one another. Blood sprayed out of Yun Che's throat, and he was knocked back like a wilted branch in a hurricane. However, it took Yun Che only a moment to regain his bearings, swallow the blood in his mouth, hold up the sword he hadn't let go even after his bones were broken from the impact, and channel it with the red energy of hatred once more. Then, he pounced toward Zhou Xuzi again.

Chi Wuyao sighed inside her mind. She had foreseen this from the start. This was the main reason she had ordered Jie Xin and Jie Ling to follow her on this trip.

She rose into the air and made a devilish hand seal, gathering the darkness energy around her to drive back Zhou Xuzi. At the same time, she fired a black beam from her eyes straight at Zhou Xuzi's soul. It was the soul of the Nirvana Devil Emperor.

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor's soul trembled in fear when his ten-thousand-year-old trauma was brought back to life. As a result, Chi Wuyao successfully drove back both his power and his person. However, the god emperor was still rampaging and doing everything in his power to get at Yun Che.

A barrier appeared out of nowhere and knocked Yun Che away before he could reach Zhou Xuzi. Then, two white figures appeared from the darkness and immobilized Yun Che with their power.

It was Jie Xin and Jie Ling. The combined might of two level ten Divine Masters was so great that Yun Che couldn't even lift a finger, much less charge toward Zhou Xuzi again.

"UAAAH... I'LL KILL HIM... I'LL KILL HIM! AAAAAH!!!"

Yun Che screamed like a madman as he struggled to free himself. Every time he shouted, bloody spittle would fly out of his throat.

Jie Xin and Jie Ling were completely unmoved. Today, their only task was to keep Yun Che under control.

Chi Wuyao was in her element, and it barely took her any effort to damage Zhou Xuzi's soul because the latter was in a state of madness. However, the god emperor seemed to have gone completely mad, and despite the painful roars Chi Wuyao caused with her attacks he continued to charge toward Yun Che from every possible angle he could conceive of. The hatred in his eyes was as red as Yun Che's own.

It was at this moment that a new aura approached from the distance. Honorable Tai Yu quickly appeared in the black fog.

Zhou Xuzi hadn't messaged him, but the clash between two god emperors was impossible to miss.

A crazed Zhou Xuzi, a missing Zhou Qingchen...

Honorable Tai Yu understood what had happened immediately. The only thing that could drive his lord to insanity was Zhou Qingchen's death.

But this was the land of darkness, and the Devil Queen wasn't alone today. The two Witches who were keeping Yun Che under control were shockingly powerful. Besides that, another level eight Divine Master was heading their way...

“My lord, we need to go!”

Honorable Tai Yu tore apart the layers of darkness blocking his way and grabbed Zhou Xuzi’s arm. “We need to go, now!!”

Bang!

Zhou Xuzi knocked away both his arm and his person.

Honorable Tai Yu rushed back to his god emperor immediately and blocked his way. He stared straight into the hateful eyes of Zhou Xuzi and said, “My lord! Will you let Qingchen die for nothing!? We must leave! And take our revenge later!”

His son’s name pierced through Zhou Xuzi’s soul like a needle. The Eternal Heaven God Emperor finally regained a bit of clarity.

A bit of light suddenly shone through the all consuming darkness. Nearly ninety percent of the shining object was destroyed by the terrible, black storm around him, but what remained of it continued to shine a bright, white light into Zhou Xuzi’s eyes.

Zhou Xuzi froze for a second before holding the jade in his palm. He held it tightly, terrified of damaging the object any more than he already had.

It was the Longevity Jade he had personally forged for his son on his birthday.

The jade hadn’t left his son’s side until the very moment he died.

The madness faded away, and tears poured down his cheeks. He turned away and flew away with Honorable Tai Yu, his back looking as mournful as a fading sunset.

“Yun Che... Chi Wuyao...”

The hatred and sorrow behind Zhou Xuzi’s voice could fill up the whole sky. “I will gather everything the Eternal Heaven God Realm has... the Eastern Divine Region... and even the three divine regions themselves... to destroy the Northern Divine Region and grind both of you down to ash!”

“Guh... aaah!”

The sky abruptly darkened. Somehow, Yun Che was able to distort the combined power of Jie Xin and Jie Ling just a little using Eternal Calamity of Darkness and free himself before they could do anything. He charged straight toward Zhou Xuzi, but—

Rip!

A golden shadow cut through space and wrapped around Yun Che like a spirit snake, sealing all of his movements by force.

Then, Qianye Ying’er appeared in front of Yun Che and grabbed him by the shoulders. She said seriously, “Save your strength. You can’t kill him the way you are right now!”

In the distance, Zhou Xuzi and Honorable Tai Yu finally vanished completely from everyone’s sight and spiritual perception.

Yun Che trembled uncontrollably as his pupils shrank. A shower of blood burst through his lips, and his eyes turned still. He collapsed as if all of his energy and his soul were drained away from his body.

His consciousness sank into oblivion.

By killing Zhou Qingchen right in front of Zhou Xuzy, he was finally able to vent his anger. But that was all.

The inability to do anything to Zhou Xuzy even though he was right in front of him, the self-loathing that his powerlessness caused... that was the worst pain and torment of it all.

Chi Wuyao walked over and glanced once at the unconscious Yun Che. She sighed. "He acts like a child even though he's changed into a spirit of vengeance."

Qianye Ying'er carried Yun Che in her arms before saying quietly, "Maybe we've all forgotten that he's only thirty years old... he is a child."

Chi Wuyao: "..."

Qianye Ying'er turned away and walked back to the dark profound ark. She made sure to walk slowly and quietly. It took a while before their figures were swallowed by darkness.

"Ai." Chi Wuyao shook her head slightly. "I wonder if I did the right thing."

"Hua Jin."

Chi Wuyao called out, and the Witch appeared in front of her in a kneeling position.

"How is it?" she asked.

Hua Jin held up a black pearl and said, "Here. We have the Eternal Heaven God Emperor to 'thank' for everything going so smoothly."

Chi Wuyao accepted the black pearl and scanned it once with her consciousness. A smile appeared across her lips. "Well done."

Suddenly, her eyes changed without warning as she vanished before Hua Jin.

"...!?" Caught off guard, the Witch nearly said something before covering her own mouth. Then, she concealed her aura and vanished into nothing like a ghost.

Chi Wuyao passed through the space of darkness and reappeared outside. She spread her spiritual perception ten, a hundred, a thousand, ten thousand kilometers away in an instant, but a frown quickly appeared on her face.

"Show yourself!" She threatened, leaving a permanent sound ripple in space.

But she couldn't find any aura or signs that someone had been here a moment ago, much less get a response.

Chi Wuyao withdrew her spiritual perception and muttered to herself. "Did I make a mistake?"

She exhaled quietly before vanishing into thin air.

One breath... two breaths... three breaths!

Shred!

Chi Wuyao appeared from a rift in space and spread her consciousness to the max at the fastest possible speed.

She had absolute confidence in her own senses.

But still, she found nothing at all.

That tiny, fleeting aura had somehow escaped her spiritual perception in just a fraction of an instant.

But someone like that didn't exist in this world, not anymore.

So who could it be?...

[Chapter 1655 - His Hate, Her Thoughts](#)

The profound ark passed through many dark layers of space and returned to the Soul Stealing Realm. It was much faster than when it first came.

Qianye Ying'er was standing at the side of the ship, black wind whipping her golden hair into a beautiful frenzy. For some reason, the darkness in her eyes seemed a little different from before.

A black shadow appeared behind her without a sound. It was Chi Wuyao.

"Has he awakened?" Chi Wuyao walked up to Qianye Ying'er and asked.

"He has. Where were you?" Qianye Ying'er answered simply. It was almost as if she just noticed the former's arrival.

"I went to clean up some tracks that shouldn't be left behind," Chi Wuyao replied before frowning a little. Qianye Ying'er's unconscious question had made her recall that flash of an aura she couldn't find again no matter how she tried.

It was almost the strangest thing she had ever encountered in the Northern Divine Region.

It was one thing if the stranger had had such an amazing concealment ability that she never noticed them in the first place.

But the stranger had let themselves slip. She should've been able to catch them immediately. Not even a concealment technique as powerful as Moon Splitting Cascade could make someone vanish so quickly and so thoroughly upon detection.

At the very least, she didn't know anyone who could pull off such a thing.

"Is something bothering you?" Qianye Ying'er shot her a sideways glance.

"Of course." Chi Wuyao gave her a smile. "I am the Northern Region Devil Queen, the monarch of the Soul Stealing Realm, and the caretaker of many, many children. I'm almost always bothered by something."

Qianye Ying'er knew that she was dodging the question, but she didn't dig deeper besides letting out a snort... her mind was somewhere else anyway.

Chi Wuyao looked at the gray sky above their heads and said, "The day will be over in another fifteen minutes."

"I don't want to see him right now," Qianye Ying'er replied indifferently. "I've come to the conclusion that I need to think some things through."

"Does that mean you've acknowledged what I told you earlier?" Chi Wuyao asked with a lazy smile on her face. "Still, there are some things in this world that are best left unthought about. It'll only grow increasingly if you try. You should go about your life after you confirm that it exists, or not."

"What should I do if 'it' does exist?" Qianye Ying'er unconsciously looked down at her feet. "For someone of my standing..."

She was actually deferring to Chi Wuyao for guidance.

She finally understood where her strange hostility toward Chi Wuyao had come from, and even now she still disliked the woman deeply. But... she seemed to be the only one who was qualified to give her an answer right now.

"You either remove it completely, or you obey what your heart tells you to do," Chi Wuyao answered easily. "Either choice is better than ignorance, self-denial, and being stuck in limbo."

"That being said, if only it was that easy to remove..." Chi Wuyao shook her head and didn't continue further.

"Heh..." Qianye Ying'er snorted derisively at herself. "Once upon a time, I thought that all men in the world were low-born. I thought that none of them even had the right to enter my sight, much less touch a hair on my body. Who would've thought that I would fall this far... what a joke... what a joke..."

"Feel free to laugh at me if you wish, Chi Wuyao."

"And why would I do that?" There was actually a bit of self-derision in Chi Wuyao's voice. "If we're talking about walking jokes, then I'm an even bigger joke than you are."

Qianye Ying'er had been staring at nothing all this time, so she didn't notice Chi Wuyao's eyes or pay too much heed to her choice of words.

After all, Chi Wuyao was a woman who supposedly climbed her way to the top over the corpses of men by trampling on those feelings. She was perfectly within her rights to call herself a "joke".

"I don't understand. I hated him and found him disgusting. I planted the Brahma Soul Death-Wishing Mark in him that tortured him so much that he was on the verge of suicide, and he planted the slave imprint that destroyed my honor forever. The only thing we should ever have in common is a sea of hatred that could never be reconciled toward each other..."

"So how did this happen?"

“Is it really that difficult of a question for you?” Chi Wuyao asked. “Recall the moment your one wish was to see him dead, the moment you hated him more than anything in the world. Even then, you won’t deny that he’s the most special and mysterious man you’ve ever encountered in your life, am I right?”

“...” Qianye Ying’er didn’t deny it.

“There is nothing more dangerous in the world to a woman than a man’s secrets. From the moment you wish to know them, you are already one step away from crossing the point of no return. And... when you were still the Brahma Monarch Goddess, I doubt there was any other secret you wanted to know more than Yun Che’s.”

“...” Qianye Ying’er’s lips parted slightly. She was shocked to discover that those memories had taken on an entirely different shade before she realized it.

“He was the one that came to your mind when you were at the bottom of your despair. He was the one by your side at the most painful moment of your life. He was the only ray of light you had when there was only darkness around you, and he was the one who held your hand when you walked out of the abyss together.”

“Before you knew it, he began to occupy so much space in your heart that it exceeds even the hatred that you once thought to be everything in your life... perhaps you might even feel that your hatred doesn’t seem all that important anymore.”

“!!” Qianye Ying’er’s pupils trembled violently.

The moment the slave imprint was planted inside her and the days Yun Che called her “Slave Ying” should be a brand of humiliation she would never be able to wash away for the rest of her life.

But today, she realized that the sense of humiliation had actually faded somewhat.

Killing Qianye Fantian should’ve been the one obsession she still had in life after he betrayed her. It was certainly the one goal that brought her all the way to the Northern Divine Region. To that end, she could swear an oath to surrender everything, kneel before Yun Che and even beg him to plant the slave imprint inside her.

She still wanted revenge, but...

If it turned out to be a pipe dream, if the only future left for her was an eternity of solitude in the Northern Divine Region with Yun Che... she was shocked that she hadn’t rejected the thought immediately.

Shocked that she was actually looking forward to that future a bit.

“This... truly is the scariest thing in the world,” Qianye Ying’er muttered.

Once, Heavenly Wolf Xisu had risked literally everything for her. He even gave up his life as a result. At the time, the only thing she had to offer his devotion was scorn and ridicule.

Today... she understood him. She actually understood him for once.

"I know this all seems pretty unbelievable to you, but to me, this is a natural result. And let's not forget that he claimed every inch of your body even before you had fallen for him."

Chi Wuyao glanced at Qianye Ying'er before teasing her lightly. "The Brahma Monarch Goddess is beautiful beyond measure, and any man who caught you is sure to enjoy you day and night. I bet your body has molded itself to fit his shape perfectly, am I right? You'll never escape him for as long as you live."

"You... shut up." Qianye Ying'er looked away.

Chi Wuyao stared at the side view of Qianye Ying'er's face and felt the corner of her lips turn up a little. "If your old, heartless self could win the mindless infatuation of countless god children and princes even when you treated them like dirt, then I can only imagine how they would feel if they saw you right now."

"Chi Wuyao," Qianye Ying'er said suddenly. "You've experienced countless men in your life. You probably know men better than most, am I right?"

Chi Wuyao: "..."

"Anyway, I want to ask you something."

That was what she said, but she was staring in the opposite direction of Chi Wuyao's face, and she was mumbling unlike herself at all. "Do you think... do you think he..."

"You want to know if Yun Che has feelings for you?" Chi Wuyao said bluntly on her behalf.

Qianye Ying'er turned even further away and nodded almost imperceptibly.

"Of course not." If Chi Wuyao was blunt earlier, then it was nothing compared to her answer.

"..." Qianye Ying'er closed her eyes for a moment before smiling derisively at herself. "I thought so."

"The way he is right now, he would not feel such a thing for anyone. He wouldn't dare," Chi Wuyao explained. "Remember that he lost everything he ever left in a single moment. He wouldn't allow himself to be 'distracted' by anything until his revenge is fulfilled, and even then..."

"It's impossible to tell if he will ever walk out of that nightmare..."

"...or if he even wants to."

Chi Wuyao sighed quietly.

She was sure that Qianye Ying'er had noticed the death wish Yun Che hid behind his hatred.

Qianye Ying'er's eyes grew distant. So distracted was she that she didn't even notice that Chi Wuyao... knew Yun Che a little too well.

Qianye Ying'er started turning around and walking away. A heavy weight sat inside her mind.

"Aren't you going to say 'thank you'?" Chi Wuyao asked.

Qianye Ying'er paused for a second before answering in a cold tone, "I still despise you, you know."

Chi Wuyao smiled and paid no mind to her insult at all. Instead, she said something that puzzled Qianye Ying'er. "Well, I personally would like to thank you for all you did."

"??" Qianye Ying'er frowned, but she was distracted enough that she decided to keep walking and put her puzzlement to the back of her mind. She quickly vanished from Chi Wuyao's sight.

She was heading to where Yun Che was.

Chi Wuyao lifted her chin and looked at the sky. Not even the black fog covering her face could block the dark and charming gleam in her eyes. She said to herself, "So long as the Eternal Heaven God Emperor hasn't lost all reason, there's a ninety nine percent chance he would not risk everything and attack the Northern Divine Region by force."

"That being said, I should be ready for even the smallest possibilities."

The lowest room of the darkness profound ark was exceptionally quiet.

Yun Che had curled into a ball and sat at the narrowest corner of the room. He was holding the three Glazed Sound Stones Yun Wuxin gave him and rubbing his finger over them again and again... it was his way of spending time with his daughter on her eighteenth birthday.

.....

Wuxin, did you know that Su Zhizhan had asked for my permission to betroth his eighteen year old son, Su Hanlou, to you on grandpa's seventieth birthday?[1]

At the time, the only thought in my mind was to break his leg and throw him out of the house.

As your father, it isn't my right to interfere with your life after you became an adult.

But the moment I thought that someone might take you away from me, I just couldn't stop myself from the fear, the panic, the anger...

A long time ago, a fifteen year old girl just like you asked for my hand, and her father went absolutely ballistic. At the time, all I could think of was how unkingly he looked and how crazy he was acting.

That lasted until the day Su Zhizhan asked me that question, and I realized that even you would marry someone and leave me to lead your own life one day...

If that day were to pass by, I would... probably hide my sadness behind my smile just like her dad had.

But... but I...

I let even something that precious slip through my grasp, forever.

Wuxin, you are the best daughter in the world... you shouldn't have had the misfortune of being born to the most useless and undeserving father in the world.

Right now, my biggest wish is to reach the other side of the world and make it up to you... even if I have to walk through a sea of swords and swim through a sea of blood to do it.

Wait for me... I won't keep you waiting for too long.

.....

Bang!

Suddenly, the door was thrown open roughly. It was Qianye Ying'er.

Yun Che looked up from between his knees and tried to say something, but the carrier of the familiar scent suddenly grabbed him and pushed him to the ground.

Rip!

Qianye Ying'er's black clothes suddenly disappeared on their own to reveal the flawless skin beneath them.

"..." Yun Che froze for a second before he regained himself. "I don't feel like cultivating today!"

"I don't feel like it either."

Qianye Ying'er's mask fell off. An exquisite countenance that could outshine even the brightest light and color in the world revealed itself to him, and for the first time, he saw a misty look in her eyes that was so beautiful that it dazed even him. "I just suddenly feel like testing how it feels to be on top!"

Jie Xin and Jie Ling suddenly sensed something at the same time and glanced at one another.

"Master, there seems to be a strange noise somewhere," Jie Xin said.

"It's Yun Qianying's voice," Jie Ling added. "Is she hurt?"

"This voice is..." Hua Jin listened closely to the noise before an unnatural rosiness suddenly raced across her cheeks. "Wait... I think... I think it's..."

Chi Wuyao turned around to face her three Witches and smiled. "Not everyone gets to hear the sweet, immortal moans of the Brahma Monarch Goddess herself, my dears, so pay attention. You may regret this for life if you miss even an instant of it."

"..." Jie Xin, Jie Ling, and Hua Jin's lips fell open. It took them a while before they finally regained themselves and escaped like the wind.

[Chapter 1656 - Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness](#)

Eastern Divine Region, Moon God Realm.

A ray of gentle moonlight the color of snow shone into the hall.

As a cold breeze gently blew into the hall, the hazy and ephemeral figure of a woman could be glimpsed amidst the rippling layers of muslin.

She stood by the window, her beautiful eyes closed, her long hair and purple robe fluttered gently in the wind. However, an aloof and distant nobility was radiating from this calm and quiet woman, making it hard to even look at her directly, much less profane her with any untoward thoughts.

A young girl walked into the room quietly. Dressed in light yellow palace robes, her beauty was stunning. She was so beautiful that conflict and disaster would have stalked her footsteps in any star realm.

Her footsteps were light and full of reverence, her delicate head crooked in a slight bow. The bright and pure moonlight shone on the girl's face and svelte body, lighting up an exquisite face that reminded people of a freshly-bloomed lotus, a face that elicited feelings of endearment and tenderness in all who set their eyes upon it. Just a single glimpse at the exquisite curve of her jaw would pluck at the heartstrings of most people.

The girl came to a halt in the middle of the hall. She made a graceful curtsy and spoke in a soft voice, "Master, Jin Yue has something to report."

The Moon God Emperor opened her beautiful eyes. Profound purple light seemed to be flickering in the depths of her eyes. "What's the matter?"

"Reporting to Master. Lian Yue just sent us a piece of news. The Eternal Heaven God Emperor, who had left the Eternal Heaven Realm sixty hours ago while disguising his appearance and aura, has returned to his realm. However... it seems like he has sustained some pretty serious injuries. Lian Yue intentionally went to find some of the tracks he had left behind while he was returning to the realm and she found spots of blood in thirty-four different places in a short fifty kilometer radius. Furthermore... it seemed to be heart's blood.

Her voice sounded like the happy chirping of a nightingale but it still contained the same gentle refinement that radiated from her person.

"...I understand," the Moon God Emperor said. "His aura definitely must have been extremely agitated for him to vomit out so much blood. To the point where he even left such clear tracks. It looks like many other people have noticed this incident as well."

"There's one other thing," Jin Yue said as she raised a snowy hand. There was a purple crystal jade in her hand. "This is the item that Master instructed us to obtain."

The Moon God Emperor did not move to take the item. She swept her spiritual perception over it indifferently as she said, "Very good. Pass it over to Yao Yue and tell her to find an opportunity to pass it to 【Luo Changsheng】 within a year."

"Remember, it can only fall into Luo Changsheng's hands. No one else can know about it. We also mustn't let leave behind any clues that he would use to connect this to us."

"But the most important thing is... that this task must be completed within the year!"

"Yes, Jin Yue will do as instructed." Jin Yue gave a respectful bow as she gracefully straightened her body and prepared to leave.

"Jin Yue." The Moon God Emperor suddenly called out to her.

Jin Yue hurriedly turned around. "What instructions does Master have?"

"The item that I asked you to destroy a few days ago... Have you already confirmed its destruction?" The Moon God Emperor asked, her voice so indifferent that Jin Yue could not hear the slightest bit of emotion in it.

Jin Yue was slightly shocked by the question but she immediately bowed her head and replied, "How could Jin Yue dare to neglect Master's orders? I destroyed it long ago."

"That's good then." The Moon God Emperor slowly closed her eyes, hiding that purple light that seemed even more mysterious than the depths of the blue sea. "You may withdraw."

Jin Yue turned around and left the hall in an unhurried manner... She had vaguely sensed that the Moon God Emperor seemed exhausted.

After she returned to her own bedchambers, Jin Yue arrived in front of her couch and opened a barrier. After that, she gently retrieved a small and delicate bronze mirror from her personal spatial pocket.

It glowed with a rather dull golden sheen and it radiated the aura of normal metal. This was a bronze mirror that could not be any more ordinary, and this sort of trinket could only be freely found in the lower realms.

As she grasped the bronze mirror in her hand, moonlight faintly glimmered on her palm. Given her power, she only needed to tap the mirror with her aura to reduce it to dust.

However, the girl's clear eyes wavered and the moonlight in her hand started to slowly dissipate.

"If Master truly wanted to destroy it, she would do it herself instead of handing it to someone else."

"If Master has any regrets in the future..."

She opened her palm again and the glimmering moonlight reappeared. However, this time it took the form of a small protective barrier which glowed with a warm and gentle light.

She very carefully deposited the bronze mirror in her personal spatial pocket. Jin Yue, Yao Yue, and Lian Yue were the three maidservants who were closest to Xia Qingyue. However, Lian Yue, who controlled the Moon God Realm's intelligence network, and Yao Yue, who was one of the Moon Gods, were often abroad on missions. Hence, Jin Yue was the one who had spent the most time by Xia Qingyue's side so she was well aware that this mirror was something Xia Qingyue had kept by her side all this while.

Eastern Divine Region, Eternal Heaven God Realm.

"Ke... Keh, keh..."

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor held a hand against his chest as bloody foam continued to gush from his mouth. But his actions did not alleviate the intense pain in his heart at all.

All those years ago, his beloved wife had smiled at him with tears in her eyes as she used her very last breath... to personally place Zhou Qingchen in his arms. After that, she had left his side forever. Even though he was a god emperor, he threw aside all of the dignity of his role as he wept and wailed. The pain of losing her had pierced his heart and he had thought that there could be no greater pain than the pain he felt on the day he lost her.

However, the piercing pain in his heart right now far exceeded the pain he had experienced back then.

He could only watch helplessly as Zhou Qingchen died a miserable death, without even leaving a corpse behind... and he was the one who had brought him to the Northern Divine Region... The strike he had delivered to Jasmine all those years ago had been repaid against Zhou Qingchen.

He felt as if millions of poisoned knives were ripping at his heart and soul in the most cruel manner. The pain assaulting him at this moment could not be described with any words.

Unimaginable feelings of self-recrimination, pain, regret, hatred, and resentment rolled over him... making him feel as if he was being tormented by countless demons.

"My lord..." Tai Yu half-knelt by his side, his old eyes wet with tears.

Zhou Xuzi had normally been quite strict and severe with Zhou Qingchen, but the Guardians were well aware that he actually valued Zhou Qingchen more than his own life.

Zhou Xuzi shook his head and a long period of time passed before he finally managed to speak with much difficulty. "I am alright... alright... KEH!"

Yet another arrow of thick blood shot out of his mouth and formed a puddle on the floor. It was bright red and garish to the eye and actually resembled a beating heart that had just been ripped out of someone's chest.

Tai Yu gave a silent sigh before his eyes grew focused and he suddenly said, "My lord, should we..."

"No, no..." Zhou Xuzi's voice was weak and feeble but he still managed to wave his arm slowly. "We must not be rash. We can't act rashly any longer... I've already led Qingchen to his death, so how can I allow our Eternal Heaven Realm to suffer for my mistake?"

"Moreover... Qingchen is already gone, so how can I allow the fact that he had been transformed into a devil become known to the world... Let's at least allow him to pass on with a clean name."

"I understand." Honorable Tai Yu closed his eyes due to the pain. "But if my lord is not able to give vent to the knots in his heart, I'm afraid... Aiii."

"Qingchen won't have died in vain."

Zhou Xuzi's eyes were lifeless, but his tired voice now contained a sinister darkness and heaviness that it had never contained before.

"The prophecy was right, Yun Che... is indeed a devil who will bring calamity to the world."

"I still have about ten thousand years left to live, and I will devote my life... to a single purpose."

"I will personally avenge Qingchen, I will personally... purge this world of all devils!"

This was the fiercest, most resolute vow he had ever sworn in his life.

Even if he still felt some lingering guilt toward Yun Che in the past, the only thing that remained now was a hatred that was carved into his very bones.

A few days later, the news that Eternal Heaven Crown Prince Zhou Qingchen had passed away was announced in the Eastern Divine Region. His profound energy had backfired on him while he was in seclusion, resulting in his unfortunate death.

The Eternal Heaven God Realm was draped in white. All of the realms were left in shock and countless wild guesses flew in the air.

Northern Divine Region, Soul Stealing Realm.

Now that Yun Che had made all Nine Witches, twenty-seven Soul Spirits, and three thousand and six hundred Soul Attendants perfectly compatible with the darkness, the strength that formed the core of the Soul Stealing Realm had undergone an earth-shaking transformation.

The truly terrifying thing about this transformation was that it had happened without anyone noticing a thing. The only way anyone would find out was if they got into a full-blown conflict with the Soul Stealing Realm. Otherwise, there was basically no way for anyone to detect the changes from their auras alone.

As time went by, this rebirth would produce greater and greater results and allow them to far exceed the devil people who once had the same aptitude as them, who were once on the same level as them.

Yet there was no way they could use their newfound advantage to swallow up the Burning Moon Realm or the Yama Realm in the next few years.

The amount of time they needed... was at least one thousand years.

One thousand years was not a very long time in the God Realm. If it only took a thousand years for the Soul Stealing Realm to grow strong enough to suppress all the other king realms, it would already be considered a miracle.

Yun Che could not wait for such a long time.

The “three years” that he had set was not part of some grand plan, it was the limit of his patience!

After he had given vent to his hatred by mercilessly killing Zhou Qingchen in front of Zhou Xuzi, he had not obtained even a moment of relief. Instead, that act had caused him to feel new and persistent agitation.

Due to this, Yun Che had chosen to remain in quiet seclusion for the entire ten days since he had returned to the Soul Stealing Realm.

His hatred was too vast, too deep. Zhou Xuzi was only one of its targets.

The barrier placed over the door distorted and a figure draped in black mist entered the hall. It was Chi Wuyao.

After taking a single glance at Yun Che’s current state, Chi Wuyao said in a merry voice, “It looks like your recovery is going well. Let me tell you, this queen has been worried sick the last few days.”

Her voice was both bewitching and seductive, but one could still hear the lovable innocence of a young girl in that voice. It even caused Qianye Ying'er's heart to quiver rather violently. She swiftly rose to her feet and stood next to Yun Che before she asked in a cold voice, "Why have you come?"

"You'll have to ask the man who's beside you," Chi Wuyao said as her brows arched up. "He was the one who asked this queen to come."

"..." Qianye Ying'er was left momentarily speechless.

"What sort of place is the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness?" Yun Che said as he raised his head to look at Chi Wuyao.

This was a name that Qianye Ying'er had mentioned to him before they entered the Soul Stealing Realm and it was a name that had remained lodged in his mind.

"Oh?" Chi Wuyao's beautiful eyes calmly flickered towards Qianye Ying'er before she replied, "The Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness is located at the very center of the Northern Divine Region, at the bottom of the Yama Realm. Why are you suddenly asking about such a place?"

"I heard that it is the Northern Divine Region's darkness origin vein?" Yun Che asked... However, when Qianye Ying'er had told him about this rumor, he had dismissed it outright.

"Origin vein?" As expected, Chi Wuyao narrowed her eyes when she heard those words. She replied, "Other people might believe those words. But if you, the person who inherited the might of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor, heard such words, it should be nothing more than a joke to you, correct?"

"The Northern Divine Region is shrinking every year. It is shrinking with every breath! If there was truly such a thing as an origin vein, it should long ago have become a dead one."

Chi Wuyao continued, "That being said, even though it cannot be called an origin vein, it is indeed the place where darkness energy is the thickest and most concentrated in the Northern Divine Region. It is also the most important reason for the Yama Realm's continued supremacy."

"So where does its darkness energy come from?" Yun Che asked.

Chi Wuyao replied, "According to the primordial records, many devil gods would fall every year during the drawn-out war between the god and devil races. The devils of exalted position would have their own tombs erected for them... though those tombs have already long since been picked clean."

It was the same for the gods as well. Most of the legacies of divine power that the divine regions have obtained, besides the few spirit remnants, have all been "dug" up by the star realms.

In fact, there were still countless people digging around in the God Realm trying to discover an undiscovered "opportunity" in this very day and age.

"However, the low-ranking devils, the biggest casualties of this war, their devil corpses were all thrown together in one place.

"As the war between the gods and devils escalated, it grew much more terrible than anyone had ever imagined it would be. More and more devils started to die and in the end, this burial ground became a

huge sea of corpses and as the years flowed by, these devil corpses eventually turned into countless devil bones.”

“And that is the ‘Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness’ as we know it today.”

“It is also due to this reason that the Bone Sea is filled with incredibly dense yin energy, death energy, and resentment. The darkness energy in that place is far denser than in any other place in the Northern Divine Region.”

When she mentioned that last bit, Chi Wuyao saw a bizarre black light flash in Yun Che’s eyes.

[Chapter 1657 - Ancestors of the Yama Realm](#)

“It seems like you’re very interested in the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness,” Chi Wuyao said with a faint smile on her face.

“Just as I had expected.”

Yun Che slowly got to his feet. When he had first heard about the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness from Qianye Ying’er, he had more or less figured out what kind of place it was.

A sea of ancient devil corpses... He had been right on the money.

“We’ll conquer the Yama Realm first.” Yun Che’s eyes were dark and gloomy and he had said those six earth-shattering words without a single hint of emotion.

“When do you intend to do so?” Chi Wuyao asked.

“In sixteen months time.” Yun Che indifferently set another date. “At the latest.”

Even though the core strength of the Soul Stealing Realm had, for all intents and purposes, been reborn, swallowing up the Yama Realm was still an impossible task.

But since Yun Che dared to say such a thing, he had definitely made his own plans.

She had long since witnessed the strength of the Calamity and Misfortune Formation. Furthermore, it was possible that this was just the tip of the iceberg when it came to the Eternal Calamity of Darkness.

However, Chi Wuyao did not immediately agree with Yun Che. Instead, she replied in a slow and gentle manner, “Even though this is something that looks to be impossible under normal circumstances, it is something that this queen is willing to believe since those words came from your mouth.”

“However, if we can truly possess the power to suppress the Yama Realm at that time, why aren’t we swallowing up the Burning Moon Realm first?”

Chi Wuyao’s words caused Qianye Ying’er’s eyebrows to jump violently. She asked, “According to what I know, even though the Burning Moon Realm is weaker than the Yama Realm, there isn’t a huge gulf of power between them.”

“No, you’re only half-correct. There are some things you are unaware of.” Chi Wuyao glanced at Qianye Ying’er before asking, “Have you heard of these two words? ‘Yama Ancestor’?”

Qianye Ying’er’s gaze grew a little heavier, “What exactly is the Yama Ancestor!?”

When she had mentioned the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness to Yun Che, she had also mentioned Yan Zu, “Yama Ancestor”. But in the Eastern Divine Region, it had been nothing more than a blurry name in a record. In fact, she had not even known whether it was a title or a name.

The strangest thing about the words “Yama Ancestor”, was that they kept reappearing over time. This suggested that whatever it was had existed for a very long period of time.

Chi Wuyao glanced away from them. Even she felt her heart stir when she thought of the existences that were the Yama Ancestors. She replied in an unhurried manner, “Do you believe that immortals exist in this world?”

“...” Both Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er gave no reply, but the look in their eyes changed subtly.

“The Yama Ancestors are exactly that,” Chi Wuyao said. “Furthermore, there are three of them.”

The already intrigued Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er were startled once again. Neither of them responded to Chi Wuyao’s revelation and they waited for her to continue speaking.

“The words Yama Ancestor mean exactly what they say. They are the founding ancestors of the Yama Realm, so they’ve been living for at least seven to eight hundred thousand years... In fact, it’s even possible that they’ve reached a million years of age.”

Chi Wuyao began to slowly talk about the “Yama Ancestors”, existences that only the three king realms had any comprehensive information about. The other star realms in the Northern Region had only heard this name in passing.

"In the ancient past, these three Yama Ancestors obtained the devil blood and art left behind by the primordial Yama Devils. After that, they conquered the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness and created the Yama Realm."

"Later on, after they had cultivated the Yama Devil Art to its peak, they suddenly realized that they could tether their life force to the darkness energy within the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness using the Yama Devil Art. From then on... as long as the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness remained, they would live forever."

“In fact... no matter how badly hurt they got, even if their bodies were completely broken, they could swiftly recover from those wounds within the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness.”

“They are not only immortal, they could also be said to be indestructible!”

They were devils who had survived for nearly a million years... and they were even immortal and indestructible at that!

Just hearing these incredibly outrageous words felt weird.

“Since they’ve already cultivated the Yama Art to its pinnacle and they can borrow the energy of the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness to become immortal and indestructible, why are there only three Yama Ancestors?” But the answer had occurred to Qianye Ying’er just as she had asked the question. “Is it an issue with bloodlines?”

“That’s right.” Chi Wuyao nodded. “The only people who could obtain this ‘treatment’ were the three old Yama Ancestors who obtained the devil origin blood from the True Devils. From then on, the descendants who inherited their Yama Devil bloodline no longer possessed devil blood that was pure enough. Though they could still cultivate the Yama Art, there was no one else who could become ‘immortal and indestructible’.”

“What about the negative side-effects?” Yun Che suddenly asked.

It was very clear that if there were no drawbacks or limitations to this ability of theirs and they were truly immortal and indestructible, there would not be two other king realms in the Northern Divine Region.

Chi Wuyao turned her face toward Yun Che. When their eyes met, a seductive light flashed through her eyes and it was so radiant and enchanting that it caused Yun Che’s heart to stir. “The lifespans of the three ancestors of the Yama Realm withered away long ago, so right now, they are entirely reliant on the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness for their immortality. As a result of that, they are unable to leave the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness for more than an hour. Because they will die if they exceed that time limit.”

“Heh!” Suddenly, Qianye Ying’er, whose heart had been heavy and weighed down with many thoughts, spoke in a contemptuous manner, “Then how are they any different from beasts who have been raised in a cage?”

Chi Wuyao’s voice was still soft and cottony when she replied, “Beasts trapped in a cage have no freedom, but they can guard the house. And since these three have lived for nearly a million years in the best environment of darkness in the Northern Divine Region, why don’t you guess... what realm their darkness profound energy has reached?”

“Not a single one of them is inferior to the Yama Emperor.” Chi Wuyao simply gave them the answer.

Qianye Ying’er, “...”

When it came to cultivation, the three Yama Ancestors were three existences that equaled a god emperor of the northern region!

“Even though they cannot leave the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness for too long, if the Yama Realm were to meet with any serious danger, these three dreadful Yama Ancestors, who are at the very least equal to the Yama Emperor in terms of strength, have enough power to rout any enemy, and overturn any danger that threatens the Yama Realm in that single hour.”

“This is also why this queen has never dared to provoke the Yama Realm even though the Yama Realm is equally afraid of this queen. Because no one can overcome... the Yama Realm’s home field advantage.”

“Since this is the case, do you still think we should swallow up the Yama Realm first?” She directed this question toward Yun Che.

A god emperor who was bound by some restrictions was still a god emperor. If the Yama Emperor, someone who was already incredibly powerful himself, was added in, the Yama Realm had four people at the level of a god emperor.

Now that he knew about the three great Yama Ancestors, he was probably going to hold back on that idea and reconsider where to attack first.

“Did the Yama Realm ever come back to ask for me again during this period of time?” Yun Che suddenly asked a question that sounded completely unrelated to the topic at hand.

Chi Wuyao replied, “No, he did not. The Yama Emperor is someone who is quite good at keeping his cool. However, you still killed the Yama Ghost King in the end, so there’s no way that he’s really going to just let it go. Perhaps he’s just waiting for a suitable opportunity.”

“Hmph, then we won’t wait for them to come knocking on the door.” Yun Che raised his head. “We will still swallow up the Yama Realm first.”

Not only did Yun Che not show any signs of hesitation when he found out about the Yama Ancestors, his gaze even seemed more resolute than before.

“What about the amount of time? Will it be the same as before?” Chi Wuyao asked as she stared at him unblinkingly.

“No.” Yun Che spoke the next five words slowly. “We will go right now.”

This time, Yun Che had even given Chi Wuyao a huge shock.

Qianye Ying’er stretched out a hand to grab Yun Che’s arm. “What exactly are you planning to do!? Explain it to me clearly! If not, I won’t allow you to go!”

“If you do not explain yourself, this queen will not agree to this matter either,” Chi Wuyao said with a look of consternation on her face.

The gazes of the two women subconsciously collided for an instant. After that, they instantly averted their eyes.

Yun Che did not say anything. He closed his eyes for a short period of time and released his soul power, forming two spirit fragments which entered Qianye Ying’er and Chi Wuyao’s brows respectively.

Both women closed and opened their eyes simultaneously.

“Can you truly... accomplish it?” Qianye Ying’er asked hesitantly.

“I can,” Yun Che replied.

“No way!” Qianye Ying’er shook her head and her jade hand gripped Yun Che’s arm a little tighter. “It’s far too dangerous!”

“Danger?” Yun Che asked in a cold and scoffing voice. “What’s that?”

Chi Wuyao lapsed into a brief moment of silence before saying, “That really is too dangerous. This concerns the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness and the Yama Ancestors, there are too many things which cannot be calculated. However... since you are so eager for vengeance, it’s not surprising that you’d choose to take a few risks rather than be tormented by the passage of time.”

"I still disagree!" Qianye Ying'er took a step forward and glared at Yun Che, "In a few more years, once our cultivation has become sufficiently strong and you've successfully cultivated the Eternal Calamity of Darkness, it won't be too difficult to swallow up the Burning Moon Realm and the Yama Realm with the added power of the Soul Stealing Realm. There's simply no need for us to take such risks."

"You can't stop me," Yun Che replied without any hesitation or emotion.

"..." Qianye Ying'er bit back the words she wanted to say.

"Fine then, we'll do as you wish." Compared to Qianye Ying'er's vehement resistance to the idea, Chi Wuyao seemed to come around rather quickly. She gave it some thought before saying, "However, there's no need for us to be too anxious when dealing with this matter. Before this, we should get rid of some causes for concern so we won't suffer any consequences when we enter the Yama Realm."

"Causes for concern?"

"The Burning Moon Realm has been snooping around quite often the last few days." Chi Wuyao's eyes narrowed as she said those words, a cold and dangerous light flashing in her bewitching eyes. "This is probably because they found out that this queen personally went to the border of the Northern Region ten days ago. It is very likely... that they've sniffed something out."

It was not impossible for them to find out about the changes occurring within the Soul Stealing Realm. After all, all three thousand six hundred Soul Attendants had undergone that dark rebirth. Once they were released from their quarantine, it would be easy to detect any strange changes since there were so many people that they could spy on.

"If you're truly so anxious and impatient..." Chi Wuyao paused for a moment before continuing, "This queen will personally pay a visit to the Burning Moon God Realm tomorrow!"

"To do what exactly?" Qianye Ying'er asked.

"To put on a show of force," Chi Wuyao said with a dry chuckle. "And while I'm at it... I'll also be calling in an old debt!"

Qianye Ying'er turned to the side. It was as if she was not willing to let Yun Che or Chi Wuyao see the look in her eyes right now. "Since we've already decided to go to the Yama Realm, aren't you afraid that going to the Burning Moon Realm to put on a show of force will be counter-productive instead?"

Chi Wuyao chuckled before she replied, "If it was the Yama Emperor, then it would indeed be counter-productive to do such a thing. But when it comes to the Burning Moon God Emperor... this queen understands him all too well."

"Ten thousand years ago, he took advantage of the chaos resulting from the Clear Sky God Emperor's death to steal the Untamed Divine Marrow. But after he witnessed this queen's abilities, he decided to hide it far away from the Burning Moon Realm and he did not even dare to touch it for the next ten millennia."

Her lips curved into a small, mocking smile, "He is someone who values his position above all else, someone who hates taking even the smallest risk."

"I'll go with you," Yun Che said.

“Sure.” Chi Wuyao readily accepted his condition.

The Burning Moon Realm was to the west of the Yama Realm and it was about as far from the Yama Realm as the Yama Realm was from the Soul Stealing Realm.

Fen Daojun, a mighty name that had once shaken the Northern Divine Region. However, that name had long since been forgotten by the world, but there was no one in the Northern Region who did not recognize his other name:

The Burning Moon God Emperor!

Today, something startled him so badly that his eyes suddenly shot open while he was meditating. After that, he slowly rose to his feet.

“God Emperor, what instructions do you have for us?” the servant girl at the Burning Moon God Emperor’s side said as she hurried over. When she saw the grave expression on his face, she was so shocked that her heart tensed up and she did not dare to say anything further.

The Burning Moon God Emperor raised his head to look at the sky. His eyebrows tightly knit together and his jade robes were trembling. Suddenly the atmosphere through the entire great hall had become oppressive.

There was no way he could mistake this aura.

It was Devil Queen Chi Wuyao!

She clearly did not have any intention of hiding her aura. On the contrary, she was deliberately releasing her aura and even though she was still a great distance away from the Burning Moon Realm, he could already feel it with unmistakable clarity.

If one were to compare the total strength of each of the three king realms of the Northern Region, the Yama Realm would be the strongest. However, if you were to ask the Burning Moon God Emperor who he feared the most, his answer would be the Soul Stealing Realm’s emperor, Chi Wuyao.

And today, she had suddenly come to visit him personally, without any warning at all.

He turned his head to the side. His brows sank and he suddenly spoke in a deep voice, “Open the realm and prepare a feast!”

[Chapter 1658 - Burning Moon God Emperor](#)

The barrier covering Burning Moon’s capital parted when the Burning Moon God Emperor gave the order. Silence suddenly blanketed the area.

Fen Daozang, a peak level nine Divine Master and the head of the Eleven Moon Eaters, walked up to the Burning Moon God Emperor quickly after the barrier had opened. He was also the God Emperor’s great uncle.

“What is the matter, God Emperor?”

Still staring at the sky, the Burning Moon God Emperor said with a frown, "It's the Devil Queen."

"What!?" Fen Daozang exclaimed in shock.

"What must come, must come," the God Emperor muttered to himself.

From the moment the Untamed Divine Marrow he kept hidden in the Thousand Desolations Divine Sect was stolen and detected by the seventh Witch, he knew that it was only a matter of time before she sought reparations from him.

However... he didn't expect her to show up herself. It seemed a little too much even for something this important.

It had been several thousands years since the last time Chi Wuyao had visited the Burning Moon God Realm.

"How should we prepare, God Emperor?" Fen Daozang asked.

The Burning Moon God Emperor fell silent for a moment before asking, "How many Moon Eaters are present in the realm right now?"

Fen Daozang answered, "Seven in total including me, God Emperor."

"Gather them all and have them wait at the main hall." The Burning Moon God Emperor's eyes flashed darkly. "The Devil Queen is cunning and devious, so we cannot clash against her head on. However... this is our capital she's visiting. She will not underestimate our power!"

"Understood." Fen Daozang accepted the order. He let out a near imperceptible sigh when he turned around.

Although the Burning Moon God Emperor had spoken in a forceful and imposing manner that was befitting his status... in reality, the fact that he had ordered every immediately available Moon Eater to go on standby at the main hall showed just how wary he was of the Devil Queen.

To put it even more bluntly... he was afraid.

Tens of thousands of years ago, when the Soul Stealing Realm was still the Clear Sky God Realm, the Burning Moon God Emperor had never ordered more than one Moon Eater to accompany him when the Clear Sky God Emperor came visiting.

Burning Moon Royal City was bustling with activity for a time, but the Devil Queen was approaching at a surprisingly slow pace. She seemed to be giving them an ample amount of time to react and prepare on purpose.

The leisurely approach was incredibly arrogant, but it also loomed over their heads like an invisible doom.

Fifteen full minutes later, the Devil Queen's voice suddenly came from above. "How have you been, Burning Moon God Emperor?"

She neither announced herself nor declared her reason to visit. Since the blunt greeting was directed at the Burning Moon God Emperor alone, no one had the right to answer her besides him.

The Burning Moon God Emperor frowned deeply before rising to his feet. By the time he was fully erect, he was full of smiles and beaming like the sun. "Hahahaha! This king knew that an honored guest was soon to arrive at our royal city when all the devil flowers in the Burning Star Pond bloomed at the same time, and the sky was filled with black stars yesterday. But I wasn't expecting it to be you, Devil Queen!"

He floated into the sky and appeared in front of Chi Wuyao. He shot a glance at the entourage she brought with her before smiling even wider. "The Burning Moon Realm is honored to have you as a guest, Devil Queen. Many years have passed since we last met, and it looks like both your beauty and your power have improved by leaps and bounds during this time. This king is truly impressed."

"And you look like you haven't changed at all, Burning Moon God Emperor." The ghost of a ridiculing smile danced across Chi Wuyao's lips. "Did you really waste all your years having fun on top of women?"

Everyone in the Northern Divine Region knew that the Burning Moon God Emperor was lust incarnate. But Chi Wuyao was the only one who would dare say it to his face and make fun of him.

Instead of getting angry at her, the Burning Moon God Emperor laughed loudly and said, "There is nothing more enticing than power and sex to a man. This king may be the emperor of Burning Moon, but his nature is that of a shallow mortal who couldn't forget the pleasures of the secular world. This king knows that he is incomparable to you, Devil Queen."

Chi Wuyao smiled beautifully in response. "I guess you aren't completely oblivious after all, Burning Moon God Emperor."

"~ ! @# ¥ %..." The corner of the Burning Moon God Emperor's eyebrows twitched slightly. Had the Devil Queen been someone else, he would've smashed them to dust already.

He knew that Chi Wuyao had come for the opposite of peace, but the level of hostility she was displaying still exceeded his predictions.

She was probably very angry about the Untamed Divine Marrow... and worse, she wouldn't have come personally if she didn't have absolute confidence in getting what she wanted.

A good ending was starting to look like an impossibility.

Chi Wuyao watched the thinking Burning Moon God Emperor for a second before saying, "Aren't you curious why I'm here today?"

The Burning Moon God Emperor replied with a chuckle, "Considering how long it has been since we last met, not even ten days and nights would be enough for us to talk about old times. I've prepared a banquet, so why don't we speak while we enjoy it?"

"In that case, this queen shall not bother with pleasantries."

"Please."

Chi Wuyao had only brought four people with her today.

Yun Che, Qianye Ying'er, Eighth Witch Yu Wun and Ninth Witch Chanyi.

The fact that the Devil Queen had chosen to bring her weakest Witches instead of her strongest, the Great Witch did lessen the pressure sitting in the Burning Moon God Emperor's mind by a lot.

The banquet was set up in the main hall, but only a few dozen people were attending. Moreover, they were all incredibly important people.

After all, how many people in the entire Northern Divine Region had the right to sit in the same space as the Devil Queen?

When the Burning Moon God Emperor appeared with the Devil Queen and her entourage behind her, everyone in the hall stood up in unison and saluted them respectfully. At the same time, an invisible but terrifying pressure started pressing down on the guests.

A total of seven Moon Eaters, twenty Burning Moon Divine Envoy's, and the most talented princes and princesses were attending the banquet.

When a group of people were gathered in one place, their natural auras would mingle together and form a kind of invisible pressure. Since everyone here was a top tier expert, the pressure that was formed could crush almost anyone's willpower and paralyze them in place.

Although their guest was the Northern Region Devil Queen herself, they weren't going to make things easy for her!

One of the attendees was Fen Jueran, the Burning Moon Prince who met Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er back at the Imperial Heaven Tower. He froze for a second when he saw the duo, but he quickly regained himself and lowered his head again. His heart started beating wildly.

Chi Wuyao stood at the entrance to the hall and looked around for a bit. A demonic smile started crossing her lips. "If there's one thing you people have improved on, it would be the way you treat your guests. Even I'm a bit taken aback by how 'magnificent' your hospitality is."

A god emperor's words were expected to strike the world like thunder, but Chi Wuyao's were as soft as cotton and as seductive as a succubus. The moment her voice entered the ears and slipped into the soul, everyone in the hall trembled and felt their blood rush to their heads. The princes and princesses who were weaker compared to the people around them even started swaying and feeling dizzy all of a sudden.

What should've been a tremendous, unified pressure dissolved into shambles in almost an instant.

"Hahahahaha!"

A loud laugh suddenly cut through the haze and woke everyone up like the morning gong. The Burning Moon God Emperor said loudly as his retinue recovered themselves, "I could rouse the whole realm, and it still wouldn't be enough to welcome a guest as honorable as you, Devil Queen. I would be plenty grateful already if you don't find the banquet too inadequate."

"Now, please take your seats so I may show you the extent of my hospitality."

Chi Wuyao smiled and stepped into the hall. Wherever she went, people bowed their heads in fear... that's right, not deference, but fear; a fear that sprang from the bottom of their souls.

The princes and princesses were covered in cold sweat. Everyone had heard of the Devil Queen since long ago, but they had never had the misfortune of encountering her until now. Who would've thought that that a simple voice was all it took for the Devil Queen to unbalance them and make their hearts tremble even now?

The Burning Moon God Emperor sat down in his chair, and Chi Wuyao sat in the seat of honor. Yu Wu and Chanyi stood to the left and right side of Chi Wuyao behind her and treated the people around them as if they didn't exist.

Yun Che sat next to Chi Wuyao, and Qianye Ying'er stood behind him.

The duo hadn't said a word since they entered the Burning Moon God Realm, but the Burning Moon God Emperor was very different from what they expected him to be.

"Devil Queen, forgive me if I assumed wrongly, but is she the Witch you recruited in the recent years, the one named 'Chanyi'?"

The Burning Moon God Emperor stared at the Witch behind Chi Wuyao.

Out of all the people Chi Wuyao had brought with her, Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er were without a doubt the biggest curiosities of them all.

Ten months ago, a level seven Divine Sovereign named "Ling Yun" had crushed the Imperial Heaven Tower cultivator, Tian Guhu and killed the Yama Ghost King, Yan Sangeng in a single strike. Besides that, his companion "Ling Qianying" had heavily wounded the fourth Witch, Yao Die.

This incident had shocked the world and affected many people. And after so many days, it would be embarrassing if the Burning Moon Realm still hadn't figured out that Ling Yun was Yun Che, and Ling Qianying was the Brahma Monarch Goddess who had escaped to the Northern Divine Region.

Since that incident, Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er had been staying at the Soul Stealing Realm. There were two versions of the rumors regarding the duo. The first one suggested that they had departed for the Soul Stealing Realm of their own accord. The second one suggested that the Witch's injuries angered the Devil Queen greatly, so they were captured and taken back to the Soul Stealing Realm for punishment.

Knowing Chi Wuyao, the Burning Moon God Emperor was inclined to believe the second rumor.

Clearly, the Yama Realm thought the same thing as well.

But today, not only did Chi Wuyao bring Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er with her, she even allowed Yun Che to sit beside her. Even stranger, the longer the Burning Moon God Emperor examined their behavior, the more he felt that... Yun Che was being treated better than even the Witches themselves.

It was why he was both incredibly surprised and puzzled right now.

Generally speaking, the normal reaction in this situation would be to request the guests introduce themselves and make their conjectures based on that. Even the Moon Eaters and the Burning Moon Divine Envoy's thought that their God Emperor was going to ask Chi Wuyao about Yun Che immediately.

But he didn't. Not only did he not ask about Yun Che or question Chi Wuyao's motive for coming here, he had asked about the ninth Witch instead. He never even glanced in Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er's direction. It was almost as if he didn't care about them at all.

Chi Wuyao hadn't come in peace. He might be incredibly curious, but he wasn't going to let himself fall into Chi Wuyao's rhythm no matter what.

In fact, he was the one who had something to "apologize" for, so the first thing he needed to do was to gain as much advantage over the Devil Queen as possible.

In this case, the ninth Witch Chi Wuyao recently recruited was clearly the best choice to begin his attack.

"That's right," Chi Wuyao answered. "Chanyi became my Witch seven years ago. She is an obedient child, and I like her a lot."

Chanyi: "..."

"I see." The Burning Moon God Emperor nodded with a chuckle. "I had heard that the Devil Queen usually chooses her Witches based on their looks first and their talent second. This king never thought much of that rumor until today. This king is now certain that this new Witch of yours can make nations swoon beneath her feet."

On the surface, it sounded like the Burning Moon God Emperor was praising the ninth Witch's beauty. In reality, he was ridiculing her talent and Chi Wuyao's eye for talent.

As a middle stage level eight Divine Master, Nanhuang Chanyi was certainly the weakest Witch to date.

"But of course. I'm sure that even you would be charmed if you ever got the chance to witness her true appearance," Chi Wuyao replied leisurely as if she hadn't noticed the hidden barb. "Speaking of which, this queen heard that the Burning Moon Realm has recently welcomed their youngest ever Moon Eater, and that you've even adopted him as your son. Is that true?"

The whole reason the Burning Moon God Emperor asked about the ninth Witch was so that he had an excuse to bring up his adopted son. His heart skipped a beat when Chi Wuyao seemingly walked herself into his trap.

But on the surface, the Burning Moon God Emperor's emotions were hidden perfectly. He put on a look of pretend surprise and said, "Oh? This king is surprised that you would care about such a small matter. Since you seldom leave the Soul Stealing Sacred Region, this king is surprised that you would care for such secular matters."

Chi Wuyao smiled slightly. "Half the Northern Divine Region was stunned by your gesture, so it would be harder not to hear about it. Besides, since when were Moon Eaters a small matter?"

"Hahahaha!" The Burning Moon God Emperor let out a loud laugh before calling out, "Daopian!"

A brawny and stalwart-looking man left his seat and bowed respectfully. "What is your order, royal father?"

His life aura wasn't particularly thick compared to his compatriots. He was almost the youngest person to attend the banquet among them. But unlike his life aura, his profound aura was extremely powerful. It was the aura of a late stage level eight Divine Master!

The devil brand on his person also marked his status as a Moon Eater.

The Burning Moon God Emperor smiled at his adopted son. "Well, what are you waiting for? Come greet the Devil Queen already, it's rare that she would care about rumors like this."

"Yes, royal father." The man turned toward Chi Wuyao and gave her a respectful, but not overly humble bow. "This junior, Ji Daopian greets the Devil Queen."

"So, you're the Burning Moon God Emperor's newly adopted son and the new Moon Eater." Chi Wuyao seemed to be examining Ji Daopian curiously from behind the black fog that was covering her face.

"Yes," Ji Daopian replied with his head lowered.

"Ji?" Chi Wuyao's brows spread slightly. "You retained your surname even though you've become a Moon Eater and the Burning Moon God Emperor's son? This is a bit unusual."

"..." Meanwhile a certain nobody named Yun had closed his eyes as if he had fallen asleep.

Ji Daopian's eyes were cool and sharp. He was unmoved by the Devil Queen's imposing aura even though he had just recently inherited the Burning Moon divine power. "Royal father possesses a heart of gold. He gave me my divine power and allowed me to keep my original surname for a hundred years."

"I see. This queen admits that she is impressed by the Burning Moon God Emperor's ability to win the hearts of his people."

But before the god emperor in question could say anything, Chi Wuyao added, "However, this queen must also question your eye for people, Burning Moon God Emperor. How can you grant someone this untalented your divine power and even the honor to be your son? Have the Moon Eaters truly fallen this far?"

[Chapter 1659 - Utter Defeat](#)

When Chi Wuyao said those words, Ji Daopian's face immediately went stiff and the expression of every Moon Eater present changed as well.

In the Northern Divine Region, the Moon Eaters, Yama Devils, and Witches were existences that were inferior only to the god emperors themselves. They were people that the world could normally only admire from afar and offending them was the same as offending the mighty heavens.

The only people who just barely had the right to look down on them were the three emperors of the Northern Region.

If anyone but the Devil Queen had dared to say such words, if there had been another lesser being foolish enough to speak such nonsense, they would have been cut in two on the spot.

The Burning Moon God Emperor's smile vanished swiftly as his eyebrows knitted together slightly. "Why would the Devil Queen say such a thing? Could it be... that you feel that the talent of this king's foster son is only ordinary?"

"Oh?" A doubtful look crossed Chi Wuyao's face as she asked, "Could it be that the Burning Moon God Emperor thinks that his foster son's talent is laudable? Could it be that the Burning Moon God Emperor has not only emptied his body but also his mind on women over the last few years?"

"Hahahahaha!"

Chi Wuyao had mocked him in a way that bordered on humiliation, but the Burning Moon God Emperor responded with a hearty laugh instead. He could sense that Chi Wuyao was trying to deliberately provoke him, so... he chose to keep his cool to spite her.

"Even though we haven't met in years, I'm surprised that the Devil Queen has grown so fond of jokes," the Burning Moon God Emperor said as he leaned back. His eyes seemed to drift unintentionally toward Witch Chanyi who was quietly standing behind Chi Wuyao.

"The Devil Queen's devilish might is as high as the heavens and I'm afraid that no one in this universe can truly catch your eye. However... Daopian received the Burning Moon divine power at around the same time as your newest Witch, the Ninth Witch. Yet, his cultivation is nearly half a level higher."

"If Daopian's talent is merely ordinary, then this Witch, someone under the Devil Queen's command, is so talentless that it is hard to watch, no? Is the Devil Queen trying to mock herself with those words?"

The calm and collected words of the Burning Moon Devil Emperor instantly quelled the rage in the Moon Eaters' hearts. The respect and deference in their eyes when they looked at Chi Wuyao had now been partially replaced by a mocking derision.

It was rumored that the Soul Stealing Devil Queen was as frightful as a demon and there was no one in this universe who did not fear her. But now that she had appeared before them, she had actually smashed her own foot with the rock she was trying to lob at someone else.

She did not seem like anything special right now.

Chi Wuyao gave a dry chuckle. "When it comes to telling jokes, this queen has no choice but to concede defeat in the presence of the Burning Moon God Emperor. What does cultivation have to do with talent? Even though this queen's Chanyi would not dare proclaim that her talent is unrivaled, she isn't someone your newly adopted foster son, who doesn't even share your surname, can compare to."

Before the Burning Moon God Emperor could even open his mouth, Ji Daopian's head had already jerked up as he said, "Your Highness, this junior respects you as a senior so I dare not be impolite. However, as one of the Moon Eaters, I won't allow you to maliciously trample all over our name! Even if you are the Devil Queen!"

As a Moon Eater ensconced in Burning Moon Royal City, he had the qualifications to confront any opponent, even the Devil Queen herself.

Chi Wuyao indolently looked toward him as her lips curved mockingly. "Maliciously trample all over your name? Do you think you're even worthy of that?"

“Chanyi.” She suddenly gave a command before she continued in a languid voice, “This is the first time you’ve visited the Burning Moon Realm. Since you’ve come all this way, you should take the chance to exchange pointers with this newly-appointed Moon Eater. Teach him exactly what the word ‘talent’ means!”

“Yes Master.”

Chanyi stepped forward after receiving Chi Wuyao’s command and stood opposite Ji Daopian.

The atmosphere in the main hall thickened and astonished looks appeared in everyone’s eyes.

With the sole exception of Ji Daopian, all of the seven Moon Eaters present were level nine Divine Masters. They could tell with a single glance that this new Witch’s cultivation was in the middle of the eighth level of the Divine Master Realm whereas Ji Daopian’s cultivation was at the latter stages of the eighth level of the Divine Master Realm.

They were both eighth level Divine Masters but when one reached the latter stages of the Divine Master Realm, even the difference of half a level was nearly insurmountable.

As Moon Eaters and Witches were luminaries of the same standing, the devil arts that they cultivated were more or less equal. That was exactly why even a small difference could be described as “nearly insurmountable”. The strength of their darkness profound energy could directly decide between the victor and the vanquished.

As a result, if they were to truly fight a duel, Witch Chanyi had practically no chance of winning... So what pointers could she even give Ji Daopian?

This Devil Queen... Was she stark raving mad or was she deliberately trying to pick a fight?

Clang!

Before Ji Daopian even had a chance to reply, Nanhuang Chanyi had already drawn her golden sword. Black mist spread out all over her body and her devilish might was flaring out at full force. “Please advise me!”

Now that she had already drawn her sword, Burning Moon had no choice but to respond in kind. In fact, they would not be able to find a reason to refuse even if they wanted to. Ji Daopian’s eyes narrowed as he turned to look toward the Burning Moon God Emperor.

The Burning Moon God Emperor rose to his feet and said, “Fine, since the Devil Queen is so eager, Daopian, go and spar with the supremely talented Ninth Witch.”

“Yes, royal father!”

Ji Daopian flung his arm open with a soft, disdainful snort and a huge black halberd appeared out of thin air. It caused a roiling wave of darkness energy to surge out and shake the entire hall. And in the short span of a single breath, it violently tore apart most of Chanyi’s energy field.

Fen Daozang and another Moon Eater immediately flew out of their seats and an obstruction barrier was swiftly formed, splitting the great hall in two.

“Since it’s just a friendly spar, this much space will do.” While the Burning Moon God Emperor wore a relaxed smile on his face, his heart filled with tension.

Every time he checked the Witch Chanyi’s aura, he could confirm that she was in the middle stage of the eighth level of the Divine Master Realm and he was intimately familiar with Ji Daopian’s strength as well. If they were to truly fight, it would almost be impossible for Ji Daopian to lose.

The Devil Queen that he knew would never offer to take a beating when she clearly knew that she was outmatched. In that case, only one possibility remained.

She was seizing the opportunity to cause a ruckus!

Ji Daopian had clearly been enraged and in his rage, he would unleash all of his power and try his best to beat the Ninth Witch as quickly as he could to slap the Devil Queen’s face. It was very likely that the Ninth Witch would get injured in the process.

Which would give Chi Wuyao an even greater excuse to stir up trouble!

When he thought of that, the Burning Moon God Emperor sent Ji Daopian a concentrated sound transmission, “Remember! You must not hurt her!”

Qianye Ying’er shot a cold glance at the Burning Moon God Emperor. A god emperor was the highest existence in this universe. They were truly individuals who could look down on all creation, they were completely unrivaled and free from any worries. In such a situation, any other god emperor would definitely let out a wild laugh and relentlessly mock the other party.

Yet the eyes of the Burning Moon God Emperor, who clearly held the absolute advantage in this situation, were actually filled with caution and hesitation.

He was practically a disgrace to all god emperors.

However...

How could anyone who became a god emperor be a simple person?

Everyone had their own way of life and way of doing things, and it was the same for god emperors as well. If she dared to look down on an existence like a god emperor, then she would not even know how she had died when death came for her.

In the moment that Qianye Ying’er withdrew her gaze, she suddenly felt a cold light sweep across her body.

The dark imperious might that swept over Qianye Ying’er for an instant caused her eyebrows to sink suddenly.

Even though it had only lasted for a mere instant, Qianye Ying’er had still clearly felt the Burning Moon God Emperor’s power and it definitely surpassed the power that Xing Juekong or Yue Wuya had back in the day... In fact, he did not seem any weaker than Zhou Xuzi.

Inside the barrier, Ji Daopian was finally making his move.

He did not bother with any niceties or formalities as he started to twirl his giant halberd in the air. It looked like a dragon soaring out of an abyss as it danced in the air and the dark devilish light that radiated from it instantly flooded the world.

Even the people outside of the barrier could suddenly feel a heaven-toppling weight press down on them.

He was the youngest Moon Eater in history, the very first foster son that the Moon God Emperor had made an exception to accept, so he already possessed a very strong sense of pride and self-respect.

In front of the Burning Moon God Emperor and all of the other people present, how could he lose to a Witch of the Soul Stealing Realm who was clearly weaker than he was!?

Chanyi's delicate brows knit together slightly. She gave a slight twist of her waist as her sword flashed out in a golden blur to collide against the giant halberd sweeping toward her.

Rumble!

The entire surface of the barrier started to ripple and shake, and it did not subside for quite a while.

There was an insurmountable gap in power between the two of them. When the strength of two people's devilish power and devil art were on the same level, the results of a direct clash of power was clear for all to see. Chanyi resembled a butterfly caught in a gale as she was sent flying head over heels into the distance. The excess power generated by the gigantic halberd had been absorbed or resisted by her Witch Domain and she swiftly regained her balance.

However, she had been left at an absolute disadvantage after the very first clash of arms.

Ji Daopian was already rushing forward, a dark devilish light trailing behind. The gigantic halberd actually started to bend into the shape of a crescent moon as he swung it with terrifying strength and it snapped toward Chanyi's frail and willowy waist like a whip.

Rumble!

Rumble!

RUMBLE!!

Even though the spectators were separated from this duel between Divine Masters by that barrier, they could still feel the world-destroying might emanating from each attack.

This battle had been decided from the very beginning. Witch Chanyi, who possessed a weaker cultivation, could still return some attacks at the beginning, but as the battle began to drag on, her inferiority was on full display. She could no longer find the opportunity to counterattack as Ji Daopian's gigantic halberd swung wildly at her from every direction. She had to devote all of her effort to defense.

As Ji Daopian started to destroy her Witch Domain and it started to shrink inch by inch, even defense was starting to look like a lost cause.

“He he he.” The Burning Moon God Emperor let out a long laugh as he said, “The Devil Queen wanted to show this king what ‘talent’ was, and it seems like this king has already witnessed it. How about we just call it quits here?”

If one did not know the Burning Moon God Emperor, they would definitely think that he was an amicable and easygoing person for being such a gracious winner. They would have thought that he was a broad-minded, benevolent pacifist.

Chi Wuyao gave a dry chuckle as she replied in a languid voice, “I feel that the Burning Moon God Emperor may be speaking a little too soon.”

Just as Chi Wuyao finished speaking, the battle within the barrier suddenly started to change.

Chanyi was under so much pressure that she was forced to keep retreating and even her Witch Domain was about to be blasted apart, but she suddenly went from defense to offense as she instantly gathered the energy of her domain to the front and clashed head on against Ji Daopian’s rampaging great halberd.

This action seemed to be the last forced counterattack an opponent would launch when they were on the brink of defeat and everyone in the hall could already see the image of Witch Chanyi being blown away after taking a heavy hit...

Only the Burning Moon God Emperor’s gaze abruptly grew focused in that instant.

Because the speed at which the Witch Chanyi was gathering the power of her domain was abnormally fast.

Boom!

As the strength of two Divine Masters directly collided, Witch Chanyi leaned backwards as she was blasted away... Her energy had been blasted aside and the profound energy surrounding her should have gone into a frenzied chaos for a short amount of time.

However, she managed to stabilize herself as dark profound light started shining from her body once more. A dark lotus swiftly bloomed in front of her to meet the onrushing Ji Daopian.

This scene was something that defied all the laws of darkness and it actually caused Ji Daopian, who still held the absolute advantage over Chanyi at this moment, to falter as he rushed toward Chanyi. However, even though he was shocked by the scene that had played out in front of his eyes, he did not allow himself to get flustered. He did not stop his headlong charge and he swept his giant halberd forward, smashing apart the dark lotus in front of him... But just then, the pupils in his eyes fiercely shrank.

Even though the Witch Chanyi was still in full retreat, when she waved her jade palm, three dark lotuses bloomed to meet his explosive attack head-on. Every black lotus was radiating an aura of darkness that was no weaker than the last.

“!??” As a Moon Eater, someone who had inherited the Burning Moon divine power and possessed the highest level of knowledge when it came to the power darkness, Ji Daopian was so shocked by what was happening that he actually stopped moving in the midst of this fierce battle.

The faces of all of the Moon Eaters who had gathered in the main hall today changed dramatically. Even the Burning Moon God Emperor... had subconsciously taken half a step forward when he saw what the Witch Chanyi did.

They had an even better view of the fight than Ji Daopian did, so they clearly saw Witch Chanyi create three dark lotuses consecutively even though she was off-balance and her power had been blasted aside.

The giant black halberd thrust out viciously and devilish light instantly filled the area. It swiftly tore through all three black lotuses like a howling evil dragon, scattering countless dark energy fragments over the area.

However, the devilish light that shone from the giant halberd dimmed considerably after it had torn apart those black lotuses. Furthermore, it was also at this moment that Witch Chanyi rushed in front of Ji Daopian. Black and gold clashed as a dark light shone from the golden symbols inscribed on her sword as she suddenly thrust it in his direction

Bang!

The halberd collided against the sword, causing black stars to fill the sky. This time, it was Ji Daopian, who had not put the full force of his strength into the blow, who felt his body quiver violently. After that, he felt his body flying backwards as a look of shock flashed across his face.

However, he had not even been given the chance to catch his breath as another sword beam shot toward him. She had clearly rushed forward to catch up to him, but the might of her blow was actually no weaker than the previous one!

Witch Chanyi continued to attack with the sword in her left hand as her right hand continued to form dark lotuses. A slash of her sword shoved aside Ji Daopian's giant halberd and a malevolent look flashed across her face as a black lotus heavily smashed into his body, causing the domain around his body to sink in heavily at the point of impact.

Bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang, bang—

Witch Chanyi's incomparably bizarre transformation was not just a short-lived burst of power. Instead, her attacks were growing fiercer and fiercer. Her sword strikes were so fast that they resembled a raging storm as they poured down on Ji Daopian. And this was not even the astonishing thing about her attacks...

The most astonishing and irregular thing about her attacks was that each blow of her sword contained a tyrannical amount of dark power. It had not receded or grown any weaker despite her constant rain of blows. In fact, her Witch Domain, which had nearly been blasted apart earlier, was now slowly unfurling once more. It grew bigger and bigger as it started to suppress Ji Daopian's ever-shrinking domain.

All of the six Moon Eaters in the audience rose to their feet, mystified and astonished expressions on each and every one of their faces. Even the Burning Moon God Emperor could no longer hide the shock on his face.

Darkness profound energy was an extremely strong but unruly beast. This was common knowledge throughout the Northern Divine Region.

But when Witch Chanyi used her darkness profound energy, it actually flowed as smoothly and easily as a stream of running water. The speed at which she gathered, released, and withdrew her darkness profound energy was so fast that even he, a god emperor of the northern region, could not understand what was happening... In fact, it was fair to say that he was completely confused by this.

He suddenly glanced to the side to look at Chi Wuyao and Yun Che, only to discover that there was no disturbance in their auras at all. It was as if they were looking at something that could not be any more ordinary.

Ji Daopian was left reeling as he started to lose every clash against the Witch Chanyi. She unleashed an unending torrent of attacks, her sword flashed with such alacrity that it resembled a fount of quicksilver flowing out from the ground. Before Ji Daopian could even catch his breath after each clash of arms, Witch Chanyi fiercely assaulted him with yet another wave of dark power.

Clang!

A dull and muffled sound rang in the air as one of Chanyi's blows connected. Ji Daopian's numb right arm was violently smashed aside by Chanyi's sword. He finally lost all feeling in that arm when his giant black halberd was sent flying from his hand. With her other hand, she forcefully pierced Ji Daopian's protective domain, which was already on the verge of collapse. A black lotus then mercilessly exploded soon after, striking his chest.

Rumble!

An enormous sound rang in the air as Ji Daopian's protective domain was instantly riddled with holes. He flew through the air in a heap until his back smashed heavily against the barrier. When he fell to the ground, his body gently swayed as he stabilized himself... and forcefully swallowed the mouthful of blood that was surging up his throat.

Unfortunately, no matter how much of a strong front he tried to put up, the giant black halberd which had left his hand and his complexion, which was now a little pale and sickly, very clearly painted a picture of his defeat.

Moreover... one could even call it a complete defeat.

Witch Chanyi sheathed her sword and turned around. Even though they did not see her make any movements, her Witch power, which had originally been surging up violently, vanished without a trace in the blink of an eye.

This scene caused many pairs of eyes to tremble once more.

Ji Daopian stood frozen in place. He did his best to maintain the haughty look in his eyes and the hardened expression on his face, but his eyes were distracted and unfocused. It was as if he could not bring himself to believe or accept that he had actually been beaten...

As a Moon Eater, he had actually lost to a Witch of the Soul Stealing Realm whose cultivation was inferior to his.

“This... is?” The Burning Moon God Emperor slowly turned his head towards Chi Wuyao, and everyone could clearly see... the astonishment and shock on his face. Emotions that he could not suppress even though he possessed the dignity of a god emperor.

“So has the Burning Moon God Emperor now witnessed what talent truly is?”

Chi Wuyao held a jade cup in her hand, her long snow-white fingers even more delicate and lustrous than the devil jade used to make this cup. “It’s fine if you allow women to empty your body, but you shouldn’t let them empty your head as well.”

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The Burning Moon God Emperor swiftly sensed his own loss of composure. He exhaled softly and his expression returned to normal.

His gaze swept across the entire area before coming to a halt when it alighted on Witch Chanyi’s body. After that, he gave a gentle wave of his hand.

The Moon Eaters withdrew their powers and the barrier dissipated.

Chanyi twirled around and after a thread of dark energy, that was so subtle that it was nearly imperceptible, surged through her body, she had already returned to Chi Wuyao’s side. Once again, she resumed her silent vigil behind her.

Though she had just resoundingly defeated a Moon Eater, an existence on the same level as her, whose cultivation was higher than her own, she displayed no pride or joy at her achievement. In fact, she did not even glance in Ji Daopian’s direction.

It was as if the outcome of their duel was only logical and reasonable. An ending that could not be any more common.

Thud!

Ji Daopian fell to his knees heavily, his head bowed low. He gritted his teeth as he said, “Royal father... Daopian is useless.”

“Rise, it was not your fault.” The Burning Moon God Emperor gave a dry chuckle. He gently raised a hand and a gentle but irresistible power pushed Ji Daopian to his feet. “On the contrary, your control over the Burning Moon divine power has increased yet again and your father is comforted by this fact.”

Ji Daopian raised his head, hot tears streaming down his face.

As a Moon Eater, he had caused disgrace to the Burning Moon Realm. But he was currently receiving affirmation and comfort rather than a furious glare and rebuke from the Burning Moon God Emperor.

When he rose to his feet, the frustration and humiliation he felt from being defeated had transformed into a grim determination to train and improve his cultivation with maximum intensity. He would soon gain complete control over the Burning Moon divine power and he resolved to never disappoint his father again.

The Burning Moon God Emperor had originally planned to use the result of the duel between Ji Daopian and Chanyi to gain an advantage in the situation. Yet the other party had managed to turn the tables on him in his own capital... and they had even defeated a Moon Eater! The force that formed the heart of the Burning Moon Realm, the strength that formed the spine of his king realm.

Even he had lost his composure for a brief moment.

However, in the blink of an eye, he looked completely calm and composed once more. His smile was as breezy as a gentle wind as he said, "I congratulate the Devil Queen. To think that you actually found such a prodigious talent. This king has rarely seen a person who can control darkness profound energy to such an extent. The Devil Queen truly has a good eye and great fortune. Looks like the position of Great Witch will soon be taken by someone else in a few years."

The control Witch Chanyi showed over darkness profound energy in her battle with Ji Daopian was so shocking that it shook the world. It had exceeded the realm of all logic and common sense. Even the Burning Moon God Emperor, who thought that his control of darkness profound energy had reached the pinnacle, had to admit that he was not her match in this area.

From the perspective of any dark profound practitioner, this sort of special talent, or perhaps one should say freakish talent, would only be seen once every ten thousand years... No, it would be hard to find someone like this once every several hundred thousand years.

One could foresee that this new and freakishly talented Witch would definitely become the strongest Witch in the future as long as her talent was not damaged in any way... and she might very well become the future emperor of the Soul Stealing Realm. In fact, it was hard to see the upper limits of her strength in the future.

The battle that had taken place this very day was enough to violently shake the entire Northern Divine Region.

The Burning Moon God Emperor gave a heartfelt sigh of obvious envy and admiration. But Chi Wuyao only responded with an indolent chuckle as she said, "It definitely is this queen's fortune to be able to obtain such a beautiful and obedient child like Chanyi. However, Chanyi's talent isn't considered spectacular amongst the Nine Witches and her cultivation is also the lowest. So how could I agree with the words 'the position of the Great Witch will be taken by somebody else'?"

"Hahahaha." The Burning Moon God Emperor let out a hearty laugh before shaking his head in response. "Devil Queen, this king has already seen what you wanted to show me with sufficient clarity. With enough clarity to shock me and fill me with jealousy. Is there any need for the Devil Queen to behave in such a manner?"

"Behave in such a manner?" Chi Wuyao slowly shook her head in the exact same manner as the Burning Moon God Emperor. "Burning Moon God Emperor, you waste your days and energy frolicking with women and it's bad enough that you have caused the entire Burning Moon Realm to stagnate with you as well. But to think that you're actually so naive as to believe that this queen is the same sort of person as you."

"Yu Wu!" Chi Wuyao suddenly yelled in a deep voice.

Witch Yu Wu, who had been quietly and obediently standing behind Chi Wuyao, raised her head at this moment. She raised a small and delicate hand and made a gentle pushing motion.

Instantly, a beam of pitch-black light abruptly shot through the air and rushed towards the strongest Moon Eater, Fen Daozang. She had released that attack with such practiced ease that it seemed like the reflexive hissing of a devil snake.

Before this beam of dark devilish light had been released, the only thing the people of the Burning Moon Realm could sense was a ripple of dark energy so short that it could be ignored. But the attack was so strong and heavy that it caused the entire great hall to turn dark and cold instantly.

The smile on the Burning Moon God Emperor's face immediately froze in place.

Fen Daozang did not get to his feet. His old eyes sank as he tried to grab the beam of black devilish light Witch Yu Wu had released.

However, the instant his hand was about to touch that black devilish light, it suddenly swerved like a darting snake even though Yu Wu had not done anything. After that, she closed her fingers and the beam of black light vanished into thin air.

It had vanished completely, without leaving a single trace of darkness behind.

Fen Daozang's palm froze in midair, a look of shock spreading over his face.

As for the Burning Moon God Emperor... Not only did the smile on his face freeze, his entire face had also started to twist in shock. Feelings of shock and astonishment that were far more violent than before welled up in heart at this moment.

He had never seen Witch Chanyi before so he was convinced that she had been a freak that the Devil Queen had been immensely lucky to find. He was also sure that one of the reasons she had visited him today was to show her off.

However, this was not the first time he had seen Witch Yu Wu or even the first time he had seen her skills.

And the Witch Yu Wu he had seen back then most definitely could not handle darkness profound energy with such freakish proficiency!

He suddenly realized something in his extreme shock. The Soul Stealing Realm... had found a secret method to gain ultimate control over their darkness profound energy!?

Just Witch Chanyi alone had already broken all the laws of logic and common sense. But to think that even Witch Yu Wu would also...

If his conjecture was true, then the other Witches, especially the two Great Witches, and Chi Wuyao herself...

Once he thought of those things, the Burning Moon God Emperor felt his heart seize up as he felt a cold sensation suddenly permeate his body. No matter how hard he tried, he could not get rid of that sensation.

“Do you understand now, Burning Moon God Emperor?” Chi Wuyao gave a dry chuckle as she stared at the gaggle of tongue-tied Moon Eaters and Burning Moon Divine Envoys. She whispered in a languid and seductive voice, “Just because you chose to stagnate does not mean that others will also choose the same.”

“...” The Burning Moon God Emperor made no reply.

At this time, even the weakest prince or princess could sense the abnormality in the Burning Moon God Emperor’s eyes and aura.

The more powerful a person was, the higher the level they had reached, the better they would understand what such control over darkness profound energy meant.

His brain swiftly raced through his god emperor memories and the records of the Burning Moon Realm. In the entire history of the Burning Moon Realm, there had never appeared such a person who could control darkness profound energy to such an extent.

If the Soul Stealing Realm truly had found such a secret method that allowed all of their Witches to reach such a level, then the Soul Stealing Realm’s total strength could not simply be described by the word “breakthrough”. In fact... their strength had undergone a complete and genuine rebirth!

Even at the level of the king realms, the ultimate pinnacle of power in the universe, it could still be called a rebirth.

At this time, Fen Daozang suddenly started rising to his feet and took a single step forward. It was so heavy that it caused the entire hall to vibrate, causing every eye in the room to turn toward him.

“Devil Queen,” he said dryly, his tone heavy and solemn, “Could it be that you have come today to show off your might and intimidate us?”

As the grand uncle of the Burning Moon God Emperor, Fen Daozang could be said to be the person who understood the Burning Moon God Emperor the best in this world.

The Burning Moon God Emperor had always been an extremely prudent man. Before he made any major decisions, he had to research everything thoroughly and possess enough advantages before he agreed to do it. He was never willing to take large risks with no guarantees. In fact, he was always patient with good self-restraint, and it was very hard to provoke him to anger.

This was the path he had taken as an emperor, it had nothing to do whether it was right or wrong.

After Chi Wuyao had arrived, she immediately showed off Witch Chanyi, who seemed to possess a prodigious talent in handling darkness profound energy. Then she proceeded to show off Witch Yu Wu, who had undergone a world-shaking transformation, which would undoubtedly pluck at the Burning Moon God Emperor’s nerves.

From a certain perspective, one could say that Chi Wuyao’s current actions were fiercely jabbing at the Burning Moon God Emperor’s weak spots.

In any case, this was still Burning Moon Royal City. How could they allow the Soul Stealing Realm’s Devil Queen to keep intimidating them!? If news of this got out, their Burning Moon Realm would become a

laughingstock! It would also be hard for them to raise their heads in front of the Soul Stealing Realm ever again.

Fen Daozang's words caused the air in the great hall to thicken. The Burning Moon God Emperor's brows twitched but he did not make any move to stop him.

"That's right!"

Chi Wuyao's tacit admission to Fen Daozang's sudden and blunt question exceeded everyone's expectations. She continued haughtily, "The reason why this queen came today was precisely to show off my might and intimidate you!"

The already heavy atmosphere completely froze the moment Chi Wuyao said those words.

"Hmph!" Fen Daozang took another step forward, causing the floor to violently shake. Imperious might welled up in his eyes and his voice turned as heavy as the tolling of a bell. "Devil Queen, this is Burning Moon's capital, not your Soul Stealing Realm's sacred region! Do you truly hold our Burning Moon Realm in such disregard!?"

"If you truly wanted to intimidate us, bringing along your Great Witches would have been enough. But based on your current entourage, it does not matter how talented they are! They are far from qualified to accomplish such a feat!"

When it came to age and seniority, he was the Devil Queen's senior. When it came to the authority he held in the Burning Moon Realm, he was second only to the Burning Moon God Emperor. This was why his aura and attitude were still belligerent in front of Chi Wuyao.

Chi Wuyao had already gone so overboard with her outrageous behavior that their Burning Moon Realm would be nothing more than a cowardly tortoise hiding in its shell if they continued to tolerate it any further!

If the Burning Moon God Emperor was not willing to clash with Chi Wuyao head-on, he would do it!

How could they let anyone behave in such an outrageously arrogant manner in Burning Moon Royal City!?

"Not qualified?"

Chi Wuyao's voice was soft and languid and no anger could be heard in it. She swept her eyes over Fen Daozang in a very indifferent manner. There was no heavy darkness in her eyes when she did that. On the contrary... they seemed to be filled with a mocking pity.

"Yu Wu, Chanyi," she said in a calm voice. "This old man is saying that you're not qualified enough. What do you think you should do?"

Chanyi and Yu Wu exchanged a single glance before they leaped into action. A fragrant breeze gently blew in the hall before they soared into the air and landed in front of Fen Daozang. They brandished their weapons, a golden sword and jade spike respectively, and pointed them towards Fen Daozang.

Fen Daozang was taken aback, but soon started laughing loudly. “Devil Queen, has your humiliation turned to rage!? Should these two little Witches truly be challenging this old one? Aren’t you afraid that this old one’s hand might slip and break one of the Devil Queen’s arms!?”

The control that Chanyi and Yu Wu had displayed over the power of darkness was indeed something that was incredibly shocking but their cultivation was still only at the eighth level of the Divine Master Realm in the end.

This was especially true for Witch Chanyi. Despite the fact that she had handed Ji Daopian a resounding defeat, she had also laid bare the upper limits of her strength.

As for Fen Daozang... As the number one Moon Eater in the Burning Moon Realm, he had reached the ninth level of the Divine Master Realm thirteen thousand years ago and his cultivation had already reached the very limits of the ninth level long ago.

Even though he would probably never be able to step into the ultimate realm of power that was the tenth level of the Divine Master Realm, he could be said to be invincible as long as it did not involve anyone who was at the level of a god emperor.

Putting aside the fact that both Yu Wu and Chanyi were level eight Divine Masters, even if they were newly-minted level nine Divine Masters, they still would not be able to defeat Fen Daozang if they attacked him in unison.

Yu Wu and Chanyi did not say a single word after Fen Daozang started laughing. They chose to launch a sudden attack.

As two dark auras suddenly erupted, two beams of cold light rent the air and pierced towards Fen Daozang as they left ripples of darkness in their wake.

There was no barrier isolating the rest of the hall from the battle this time, so those weaker Burning Moon Divine Envoys, princes, and princesses were violently shoved back the instant the Witches unleashed their power. After that, they panickedly circulated all of their energy to resist their might.

Fen Daozang gave a heavy snort. He did not even move his feet as he slowly pushed his old and withered hand forward, causing a dark energy field to soundlessly spread out.

An exceptionally heavy and muffled explosion shook the air and Yu Wu and Chanyi’s bodies suddenly froze in mid-flight. Their bodies had been forcefully immobilized under the effects of Fen Daozang’s dark energy field and even their darkness aura was being slowly devoured by it.

No matter how perfectly compatible they were with the darkness, there was still no way for them to overcome such a huge gap in power.

Fen Daozang gave a cold laugh before he yelled in a deep voice, “Do you really believe that two of you, little Witches who haven’t even grown their teeth out yet, have the qualifications to behave so arrogantly in front of this old one!?”

He flipped his palm in the air, causing the dark energy field to violently swell and forcing Yu Wu and Chanyi backwards. “Hurry up and run back to your Soul Stealing Realm!”

This was the capital's main hall after all. If he were to go all out, he would only damage his own capital city. However, Fen Daozang's move had showed his divine might and the insurmountable gap between him and the two Witches.

At this time, Yun Che, who had been quietly seated, slowly rose to his feet.

Whoosh!

A cold and dark wind suddenly blew into the hall. It was not a very strong wind but it engulfed every inch of the great hall in the blink of an eye... In fact, it had actually spread inside Fen Daozang's dark energy field!

His robes started fluttering in this dark wind. His head was slightly bowed and his face was cold and impassive. Only his long hair was dancing in the air but every strand of his hair was wreathed in an extremely dense, pitch-black devilish energy.

The Burning Moon God Emperor snapped his head toward Yun Che and all of the eyes in the hall also started to focus on Yun Che at this very moment... As his dark hair danced in the breeze, black formation markings slowly started to appear on his body.

At the same time, the same black formation markings also appeared on Yu Wu and Chanyi's bodies.