

The Gods 591

Chapter 591 - Little Demon Empress' Crisis

The sky grew darker and darker. The night was exceptionally dark today and no stars could be seen in the night sky. A dark cloud floated by, covering up the crescent moon. In an instant, the entire world became as dark as black ink, and when one stretched out his hand, he could not see his fingers. Even the air became exceptionally heavy... as though it was using the surrounding darkness to predict something.

"Tonight really is overwhelmingly dark," Yun Che muttered to himself. As he looked into the sky, the cloud layer was not dense, which signified that there was also almost no chance of rain.

After some time, the clouds that shrouded the moon slowly floated away and dim moonlight shone down. In front of Yun Che, the figures of two towering peaks appeared vaguely in the distance. Under the darkness of the sky, they looked like two giants that depended on each other to stand.

The entrance to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley laid where the two towering peaks crossed paths. In the area fifty kilometers around it, there was no sign of humans, and only a few profound beasts were seen.

"I'm almost there!" Yun Che called out in a low voice. His body started to descend, his speed slowed down, his aura weakened greatly, and even his eyebrows knitted slightly.

From the message Yun Qinghong had sent to his mind, he learned that the seal at the entrance of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley was personally set up by the soul of the Golden Crow. The profound formation was thirty meters tall and was constantly emitting a golden profound glow and a scorching aura.

In the darkness of the night, even if one was several kilometers away, the golden glow of the profound formation should be exceptionally eye-catching. However, from what Yun Che could see, there was only a patch of darkness between the two peaks and not one bit of the golden profound formation could be seen.

Which meant that... the profound formation that sealed Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley had indeed been broken!!

"Looks like what I predicted had indeed come true. The Little Demon Empress had indeed come to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley... And there was indeed a way to forcefully break the seal to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley," Yun Che muttered.

It was also obvious that after the seal to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley had been broken, it would not recover immediately, and people that came later could freely enter as well.

Yun Che took out a Sound Transmission Jade and was about to inform Yun Qinghong of the news that Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley's profound formation had been broken, but just as he was about to talk, he put down the Sound Transmission Jade and said to himself, "I better go closer to confirm things."

Yun Che closed the distance quickly and soon, he could see the entrance to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley in front of him. He could clearly feel that the surrounding air was becoming hotter and

hotter, and when he was one and a half kilometers away, the scorching heat had become unbearable for any normal human. Then, Jasmine suddenly said, "Quick, get down; there's someone at the entrance."

Hearing this, Yun Che quickly descended from midair and slowly walked to the entrance. Using Hidden Flowing Lightning, he became silent. Previously, even the Little Demon Empress could not detect his existence when he was close by, not to mention other people.

Every time his proficiency in the Great Way of the Buddha increased, the sensitivities of Yun Che's five senses increased. Stopping one kilometer away, he stood behind a huge boulder as he looked across the darkness and indeed, at the entrance of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, he clearly saw the figure of a person.

Although he could not see the person's face clearly, this person did not withhold his aura and from the profound aura, Yun Che felt a sense of familiarity.

This aura, this slight pressure, was not foreign. This person was...

Yun Che thought for a short while before his heart stirred fiercely—

Hui Ran!!!

Duke Huai's eldest son, the strongest of the Illusory Demon Seven Scions... The one he beat miraculously during the ceremony by sending him flying with one swing of his sword!!!

Why would he be here....

Yun Che thought for a while before his heart sank... Hui Ran appearing here could only mean one thing. The members of Duke Huai Palace had, as he feared, learned of the actions of the Little Demon Empress and had entered Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley after the Little Demon Empress had entered!

Their motive was obviously to kill the Little Demon Empress at such an excellent place like Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley!!

To perform such an act, nothing could be leaked and there must be no signs of the act. Therefore, the ones who performed the act must be the ones Duke Huai trusted the most... As such, his immediate relatives would naturally be involved!

Father or son!

To ensure that the assassination was successful, it was definitely not possible with Duke Huai alone. Then, the person Duke Huai would most likely bring along would definitely be his father who had disappeared for a long time, but was most likely be hiding behind the scenes and was at the pinnacle of profound cultivation... Duke Ming!

Hui Ran was obviously here to act as a lookout! To prevent anyone from approaching and realizing that Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley's seal had been broken... If he could defeat this person, he would definitely silence him, and even if he couldn't, he would clearly know who had approached.

Yun Che hid his body again, took out the Sound Transmission Jade and sent a sound transmission to Yun Qinghong, "Unfortunately, my guess was right... The profound formation to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley has been opened. Duke Huai Palace's Hui Ran is guarding the entrance."

When he finished speaking, Yun Che kept the Sound Transmission Jade... He believed that when Yun Qinghong heard this, he would definitely rush over immediately.

“What are you going to do?” Jasmine asked.

Yun Che thought for a while and said, “I’ll guard here for now. Even if I disregard Duke Ming and Duke Huai, I’m also unable to beat Hui Ran. The only thing I can do now is to observe and wait for Father and Grandfather to arrive.”

“However, what Grandfather said previously is true. The Little Demon Empress definitely won’t let down her guard so easily. After leaving the palace, she most definitely rushed towards Golden Crow’s Ancestral Land that is within the depths of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley. Even if the people from Duke Huai Palace reacted right away, it would not be possible for them to chase up to her. Within the Golden Crow’s Ancestral Land, the Little Demon Empress would not encounter any danger. When her bloodline has been awakened, even if Duke Ming personally attacked, it wouldn’t be possible to kill her.”

After saying these, Yun Che’s eyebrows did not relax but knitted even more tightly.

“Oh? Is it?” Jasmine snorted, “After saying all this, you don’t find anything wrong? How smart are Duke Huai and Duke Ming who are always behind the scenes. How would they not think of something your grandfather thought of! They’re able to predict the Little Demon Empress’ movement and chase her to this place, so isn’t it obvious that, just as you were afraid of, they had already learned numerous secrets about the Demon Emperor’s clan? What they know would definitely be much more than what your grandfather knows! If it were just like you had said, why would they chase to this place knowing fully well that it would be a waste of energy... and even leave one person to stand guard at the entrance!”

Jasmine’s words were also what Yun Che had been wondering about. She stopped for a moment, changing the tone in her voice, and she coldly laughed, “Regarding the bloodline of the Golden Crow, I just remembered something interesting.”

“Something interesting? What?” Yun Che was stunned.

“In the world that I was in, there’s an astral plane called ‘Flame God’s Realm.’ That place is dominated by flames and the people there all succeeded the bloodline and strength of fire beasts from the Primordial Era. There were flame qilins, azure divine birds, zhurongs, nine-tailed divine foxes, scarlet sables... Almost all the legacy of the flame-type divine beasts from the Primordial Era were concentrated in the ‘Flame God’s Realm.’ Above them were the three strongest flame forces which naturally were the races of the Vermillion Bird, Phoenix, and Golden Crow, which possessed the supreme flame divine powers and bloodline!”

Yun Che, “...”

“I’ve once said before, among the three flame supremes, although the Golden Crow is ranked last, if one were solely judging based on the might of the flames, the Golden Crow would be the strongest. However, within the Flame God’s Realm, the combined strength of the Golden Crows is far inferior to that of the Vermillion Bird and the Phoenix; not even half of theirs! Do you know why?”

“...Could it be that the Golden Crow flames are too intense? Not only is it intractable, it would harm one’s body?” Yun Che thought for a while and replied. Because Jasmine had once said similar words to him. Furthermore, within the Illusory Demon Realm, the purest heirs of the Golden Crow, the Demon Emperors, only had a very short lifespan. After their bloodline awakened, they could only live for more than a thousand years. In addition, no Demon Empress managed to live past a thousand years.

“Hmph, that’s right.” Jasmine said, “Within the Flame God’s Realm, men who cultivated the Golden Crow flames usually had lifespans that were half of those who cultivated the Vermillion Bird and the Phoenix Flames! Females who cultivated the Golden Crow flame had half the lifespan of males who did so. They were even often subjected to the pain of the flame burning their hearts!!!”

“This is because the Golden Crow Flame is the most supreme Yang flame and it does not allow the existence of even one bit of Yin energy! The more pure the Golden Crow bloodline, the more true this is! The vitality of women is innately Yin. If one bore the bloodline of the Golden Crow and cultivated the strength of the Golden Crow, wouldn’t the Golden Crow Flame harm their vitality?!”

Yun Che looked up vigorously, “Jasmine, what do you mean... by saying all this?”

Jasmine laughed coldly, “What I meant is that if that was the case for the women in Flame God’s Realm, for the Little Demon Empress who possessed an ordinary body, simply inheriting the Golden Crow’s bloodline would cause her excruciating pain. For them, the so-called awakening of the bloodline simply means obtaining a pure drop of blood from the soul of the Golden Crow. Heh, she’s merely a woman; if she were to obtain a pure drop of blood from the Golden Crow Ancestor, then, no matter how hard she tried to resist and withstand, her vitality would be burnt up within a year!”

“If she were still a virgin and still possessed her vital yin, she would not even survive past a month!”

“What!!” Jasmine’s words caused Yun Che to become deeply shocked and he nearly shouted out loud.

Jasmine then continued, “However, if the soul of the Golden Crow has some brains, it would not do the stupid thing of wasting the precious Golden Crow blood on a woman! Even if Little Demon Empress managed to see the soul of the Golden Crow, she would most likely be chased out.”

Yun Che, “!!”

Yun Che was greatly shocked... Jasmine’s words definitely wouldn’t be wrong! But if this were all true, then the Little Demon Empress’ attempt to awaken her bloodline would only end in failure! Even if she were to reach the Golden Crow’s Ancestral Land, the only result would be her being chased away by the soul of Golden Crow... Because even he would not believe that a divine beast which had its own will, such as the soul of the Golden Crow, would choose to waste its bloodline on a successor that would quickly perish after receiving it.

Then, unable to awaken her bloodline, she would soon encounter Duke Huai who entered after her...

Yun Che stood up immediately and did not hide his action one bit. Even his profound aura was released without restraint. He instantly swept up a storm and rushed straight to the entrance of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley.

“Who goes there!!” Yun Che’s action had undoubtedly caught the attention of Hui Ran who stood up intensely, releasing an aura of dismay which condensed the air within a radius of thirty meters.

“What do you want to do?!” Jasmine asked displeasingly.

“Obviously, I need to rush in!” Yun Che said as he gritted his teeth, “If all of this is real... the Little Demon Empress would be in great danger. There’s no time left to wait for Father and Grandfather! No matter what, the Little Demon Empress cannot perish. Otherwise, the Yun Family would be doomed!”

“With your strength now, what use is there even if you were to rush in? Regarding people who have the ability to kill the Little Demon Empress, I’m afraid you wouldn’t be able to stop them for even a breath of time.”

“...If I can find her and she isn’t dead yet, then I’ll have a plan! Hong’er, come out!”

Yun Che howled as a red radiance flashed in his hand and the Heaven Smiting Sword appeared in his hand. Without even a word of greeting, the sword smashed straight at Hui Ran.

Chapter 592 - Duke Ming Appears

Boom!!

A loud noise suddenly exploded within the deathly silence of the night. A violent flow of air that was more ferocious than a storm swept all around, and scorching Phoenix Flames shot into the sky. The flames spread and clearly illuminated the two people’s faces.

“It’s... you!!!” Although Hui Ran immediately recovered and stood firmly after he was sent flying by a swing of Yun Che’s sword, his arms were still severely numb and his muscles shrieked in pain uncontrollably. Seeing that the person who suddenly appeared was Yun Che, he immediately swept around himself with a peculiar gaze before quickly searching behind Yun Che.

“Heh, don’t worry, there’s only me,” Yun Che relaxingly said, lifting the Heaven Smiting Sword. When he attacked Hui Ran just now, he also suffered the recoil due to Hui Ran’s strength. Although he looked to have gained the advantage... Hui Ran had blocked his blow with just one arm.

The profound strength of someone in the eighth level of the Tyrant Profound Realm, along with powerful profound arts and a shocking physique... His strength was truly frightening.

Yun Che’s words caused Hui Ran to be shocked for a moment, “What are you doing here?” Changing the tone of his voice, he shouted, “You’re courting death!”

“Courting death? Hahahaha!” Yun Che laughed madly in disdain, “Is some trash who was beaten by me in three moves worthy of saying those two words in front of me?”

Hui Ran was someone who was extremely arrogant, and looked at everyone else in disdain. And for someone like that, he was easily angered as well. Expectedly, just one sentence of disregard caused the aura around Hui Ran to increase tremendously. His bloodshot eyes made him seem as though he was a devil that came from hell, as he said angrily, “Yun... Che! This duke will personally turn you into minced meat!!!”

After the ceremony had ended, Duke Huai had personally said that no matter how much he had wanted Yun Che to die, he could not touch Yun Che. However, Yun Che had appeared at a place where no one was allowed to come on this night and even insulted him... No matter what, he was going to torture him to death tonight!

Yun Che wagged his finger in contempt, "Tsk, tsk. You really are useless, you so-called prince of a Duke Palace. Your father and grandfather had wanted you to stand guard to prevent any accidents. If you had really attacked, heh, aren't you afraid that the commotion would spread to Illusory Demon Realm? At that time, when everyone gathered to figure out what happened, the plan to kill the Little Demon Empress might end in failure.

When the enraged Hui Ran that was about to attack had heard what Yun Che had said, his pupils shrunk in shock... He was shocked that Yun Che had figured out their Duke Palace's plan and even more shocked that he had mentioned the word "grandfather!"

His grandfather, Duke Ming... was their Duke Palace's biggest trump card and well-kept secret for the past hundred years! This was a secret that no one had managed to see through!

Tonight, the Yun Che in front of him... had figured it out in one go.

Never mind Hui Ran, if Duke Huai had heard these words, he would be greatly shocked as well.

Yun Che's initial words were meant to cause Hui Ran to become angry, and his latter words were to test him while he was still enraged. From the change in Hui Ran's expression and eyes, Yun Che was shocked as well... Because from Hui Ran's reaction, it was proven that the frightening guess of "Duke Ming" being involved had become reality!

If Duke Ming was involved, then Little Demon Empress' fate was... absolute demise!

He could not wait any longer.

Hui Ran, was now standing in front of him, letting out a strong killing intent which shot to the skies, "You know too much... You must die!"

Boom!!

The boulders surrounding Hui Ran were shattered and the ground cracked. Following the ignition of the crimson-black flames on his body, a thick, dark chain appeared in his hand, and at the ends of the chain were two huge, round hammers that were filled with spikes!

Meteor hammer... and it was a twin meteor hammer!

A meteor hammer was a very lethal weapon that was extremely difficult to handle. However, with Hui Ran's physique and strength, the meteor hammer in his hand would undoubtedly be nightmarishly powerful.

"Be careful, this twin meteor hammer of his... each hammer weighs at least fifty thousand kilograms!" Jasmine warned.

Each hammer was no less than fifty thousand kilograms, and adding up the two, their weight was nearly that of the Heaven Smiting Sword in his hands!

"Don't worry... I don't have time to waste on him now!" Yun Che muttered, and just when he had finished speaking to Jasmine, Hui Ran swung his arm and a meteor hammer that carried crimson-black flames flew violently at Yun Che... Wherever it went, the air distorted vigorously and the ground below

sunk madly. The surrounding boulders of numerous hundred kilograms all disappeared like bubbles being popped.

Even with Yun Che's physique, if he were to be hit by the hammer, it would not be easy to bear.

Yun Che's gaze focused as he retreated. However, he did not avoid or dodge, and instead swung his sword at the meteor hammer.

BOOOM!!!!

With a loud bang, Yun Che retreated in panic. His arms that held the Heaven Smiting Sword was feeling numb and yet, the corners of his mouth revealed a satisfied smile... Hui Ran, who wielded the frightening meteor hammer, was sent flying into the air when it collided with the sword. The meteor hammer's surface seemed to have been branded with an indentation.

"Wha... What!" Hui Ran was extremely shocked. His meteor hammer had been forged with a lava core made of "Flame Devil Heart Shattering Steel" which possessed the strength to destroy mountains. Ever since he had started using it, nobody below the Sovereign Profound Realm dared to face it head on. This swing had been made out of rage, and he had used nearly eighty percent of his strength. He originally thought that he would see images of Yun Che's arms shattering, yet, he had never imagined that when his meteor hammer collided with Yun Che's great sword... he would be the one sent flying.

Besides being shocked, Hui Ran was furious. In front of his eyes, Yun Che's heavy sword had already arrived instantly, bringing along blazing phoenix flames. He stared widely and howled. His Fallen Flame surged in an instant and the twin meteor hammers swung in unison, which made them seem like two Flame Devils that came from hell as they smashed forward.

"Go... and... die!!!"

BOOM!!

With a loud bang, all the dark clouds in the sky scattered, and within a three kilometer radius, the earth was completely overturned. Crimson-black flames filled the entire sky and the entire scene looked as though doomsday had arrived... Under such catastrophic strength, the greatsword that had infused with Phoenix Flame shattered into numerous tiny fragments right in front of Hui Ran's eyes and disappeared from sight.

Yun Che's figure disappeared with it.

Taking where Hui Ran stood as the center, a massive, deep pit that spanned farther than three kilometers appeared. In the air, there were shattered flaming rocks raining down. Grabbing his meteor hammer, Hui Ran had an extremely downcast expression, and after five breaths of time, he had finally reacted. What he had shattered just now was obviously just Yun Che's profound handle!

And Yun Che had used that opportunity and snuck into Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley's entrance!

He turned and looked towards the entrance of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley but did not give chase. His face revealed a cold smile as he laughed, "Idiot... With your speed, if you wanted to run, this duke might not be able to kill you! However, you chose to court death yourself..."

"Then, you shall become the Little Demon Empress' companion in death!!"

Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, Core Region

“Princess Caiyi, it’s been a hundred and fifty years, how have you been. Oh no, I guess I should address you as... Little Demon Empress!”

The man was of medium stature, looked elegant and handsome, and his face was rather pale. Overall, he looked as though he was a weak scholar, yet he was emitting an extremely frightening pressure from his entire body.

The world of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley was shrouded in exploding flames and the constant rumble of thunder. At every corner, a disastrous elemental storm was present. However, around him, it was frighteningly silent and there was no sign of any flames or lightning. There did not even seem to be any trace of airflow. His hair and sleeves were all still... just like his surroundings, where his frightening aura seemed to have condensed the air around him.

He was dressed in a red robe and looked to be only around thirty years old. Standing in front of Duke Huai, he seemed to be even younger than Duke Huai. Furthermore, the Duke Huai who usually treated everyone indifferently and was feared by many others not only stood upright behind him, but he also had a posture of respect.

The Little Demon Empress stared closely at this person, as her expression and gaze changed, revealing the shock and horror in her heart.

Within the Golden Crow’s Ancestral Land, she did not obtain a desirable result and was expelled by the soul of the Golden Crow. Without much hesitation, she swiftly returned because she could guess what Duke Huai would do if he had predicted her course of actions, and at the same time, she had a bad feeling... There was only an entrance to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley and no exits. The only way to exit from Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley was to wait for one to be forcibly expelled a day later when the seal was reactivated.

However, since the Demon Emperor’s Seal had a way to allow her to enter forcefully, it must also have a way for her to leave as well... But, she had to get back to the place she entered from first.

When she was flying back to the core region of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, she saw Duke Huai... Regarding Duke Huai’s appearance, she was already well-prepared and was not surprised. However, she never expected the person that accompanied Duke Huai!

He was a person that has disappeared for a hundred and fifty years without a word!

“Duke... Ming!” The Little Demon Empress’ chest rose intensely. For this person to suddenly appear here today along with Duke Huai, she would not naively believe that he was here to welcome her. At that instant, in her shock, she had finally understood facts that she had previously dared not to believe.

“It’s been a hundred and fifty years, but your highness still looks the same,” Duke Ming spoke with a slight and gentle smile. If it were not for the frightening flow of air, anyone who saw that smile would feel that the smile was like a warm spring breeze, “It’s such a pity. Although your highness possessed the purest of the Demon Emperor’s bloodline, even if you forcefully seal your vital Yin and maintained your body in a youth-like state, the feeling of the bloodline eating away at your body must be unbearable. It must be hard on you to bear it all these years. Although the Little Demon Emperor died early, there are

many men within Illusory Demon Realm. You could have found any of them to release your vital yin and live comfortably for the past hundred years. Hahahahaha!”

Duke Ming and Duke Huai both laughed hysterically. Their words of insult had caused any hope within the Little Demon Empress to shatter as she continued staring closely at Duke Ming... Staring at this person that her father used to trust and value; this person that she herself used to greatly respect. In her heart, her anger was like a volcano that was exploding crazily.

She also clearly knew how frightening Duke Ming’s profound strength actually was... Then, he was the third strongest person in the entire Illusory Demon Realm behind the Demon Emperor and Demon King.

However, now that both the Demon Emperor and Demon King had passed on, he had become the undisputed number one within Illusory Demon Realm! Within a hundred fifty years, his strength had obviously risen greatly. Under the effect of his profound energy, even at the Little Demon Empress’ level, her body was frozen cold and her chest felt a suffocating pressure.

“Duke Ming, you have hidden very well.” The Little Demon Empress’ gaze was like an ice cold sword and golden flames had already ignited on her hand which was holding the Demon Emperor’s Seal.

Chapter 593 - Life and Death Battle!

Yun Che shot like an arrow towards the entrance of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, and suddenly the space in front of him distorted completely. Once the darkness had dissipated, what presented itself before his eyes was a world where scarlet fire and purple lightning wreaked complete havoc.

The outside world was completely enshrouded by the ink-black curtain of night, but there was not a hint of darkness here. Wherever he looked, he saw raging volcanoes and boiling lava. These volcanoes were grouped inconceivably tightly together, and while their heights differed wildly, each and every one of them burned with a bright red flame. There were some as tall as three thousand meters, and they seemed like huge flame devils which set the heavens ablaze.

The earth was so hot that it had turned red and every grain of sand released a shocking temperature. If a normal person came here, they would burn to cinders in the span of a few breaths. Yet the sky was a deep purple color, as storm clouds howled like furious devil gods, and every now and then the ground was struck with thunderbolts that shook the heavens and the earth.

Boom!!

A bolt of lightning that was several tens of meters thick exploded in front of Yun Che as it instantly cleaved a volcano in two. Countless volcanic rocks and magma flew through the air... This scene, which would terrify anyone who witnessed it, was instead extremely commonplace here.

“The degree of activity of the fire and lightning element in this place exceeds what I had anticipated. No wonder it was able to become the highest level training ground within Illusory Demon Realm,” Jasmine said in a bland voice as she observed the vibrations of the spirit energy around her. She let out a soft sigh and said in a seemingly disdainful, yet astonished voice, “The fire spirits and lightning spirits birthed in this place aren’t bad at all; at the very least, they are not of the lowest grade.”

Yun Che swept his eyes across the world in front of him and he did not let his guard down at all, but there was no indication that Hui Ran had run in after behind him. He turned around, and to his

amazement, what he saw was the same boundless crimson world that he had seen in front of him... There was no trace of an exit, not even anything similar to a teleportation profound formation.

“What is going on?” Yun Che said as his brows furrowed, “Could it be that we can only enter from the entrance, but we cannot exit from the same place?”

“This place is the same as the Heaven Basin Secret Realm and the Primordial Profound Ark. It is a small world and its laws are not the same as those of the outside world, but neither of these laws interfere with each other. That entrance was only a spatial profound formation that was meant to send you into this world. As for exiting this place, if you do not have any special method, you can only wait for the energy field of this world to expel you from this place.”

“That is also the reason that Hui Ran person did not think of chasing you inside.”

After hearing Jasmine’s words, Yun Che suddenly recalled what Yun Qinghong had told him before. That one would be expelled from Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley twenty-four hours after entering it, unless one died in this place... this condition was indeed exactly the same as the Heaven Basin Secret Realm and the Primordial Profound Ark.

The reason why Hui Ran did not follow him inside was because he was scared that even though it was easy to enter, he could not exit it as he pleased.

Yun Che did not let go of the energy that he had gathered. He soared into the sky and immediately pushed his speed to its limit as he rushed crazily towards the west amidst the interweaving gleam of fire and lightning...

A great number of fire and lightning spirits wandered and danced in front of him. Even though most of them were only as big as his palm, they released the aura of the Sky Profound Realm, and some even had an aura of the Emperor Profound Realm. Occasionally there would appear a high-grade spirit that would actually release the aura of the Tyrant Profound Realm.

If one were able to subdue and refine these fire and lightning spirits, then they could be directly converted into one’s own profound energy. Refining a low-grade Emperor profound fire spirit was equivalent to the result of many years of bitter cultivation for a normal Emperor Profound Realm practitioner!

In order for these spirits to be born, some extremely exacting conditions had to be met. It was only in an environment where an element was extremely active and pure did they have a possibility of appearing. An example of such an environment would be the heart of a glacier or the bottom of a lake of lava, and even then, the chance of a spirit appearing was extremely low. Thus, even a low-grade elemental spirit could be sold for an astronomical fortune.

But in this Golden Crow Lightning Valley, they appeared in groups and swarms.

No wonder the power levels of those who lived in Demon Imperial City were so shocking. It was not surprising that since the Yun Family had been barred entry to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley for one hundred years, its power had weakened to an astonishing degree.

However, Yun Che ignored all of these things and he tried his best to evade them instead, so he could avoid being attacked by them. Using the Extreme Mirage Lightning, before these lightning and fire spirits could approach, he was already long gone.

He needed to immediately find the Little Demon Empress!!

Before that happened... she must not die!

Rumble... rumble... rumble....

Yun Che had swiftly flown over hundreds of kilometers when he suddenly felt the air start to vibrate. This vibration did not happen every now and then; instead it steadily continued and it actually grew fiercer and fiercer as he pressed forward. His ears were barraged by the ceaseless explosions while thunderclouds above him stirred fiercely and in an agitated fashion.

Boom!!!

The sound came from an extremely distant location, yet an extremely heavy explosive sound reached all the way here. Yun Che focused his gaze towards the front... and in a faraway location of indeterminate distance, a scarlet-yellow cloud of smoke and a crimson-black cloud of smoke soared into the sky. Smoke filled the skies, and below the smoke were two clusters of unimaginably far but brilliant pinpricks of firelight which hurt the eyes.

That was....

Yun Che fiercely ground his teeth and his profound energy swelled as he pushed the Extreme Mirage Lightning to its limit. His whole person seemed to morph into a meteor which streaked across the horizon, and he was so fast that he barely even left any afterimages behind.

Boom!!

Two clusters of fire collided in midair, yet it made a terrifying sound, as if two mountains were colliding violently against each other. In an instant, heaven and earth turned dark and the ground frantically broke apart and was launched into the sky before being swiftly reduced into bits and specks of dust.... and the rocks here were definitely not normal rocks; they were high-grade profound stones which had not melted despite existing in Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley for the last ten thousand years!

In the sky, the scarlet-yellow flames and crimson-black flames struggled to devour each other. Within the flames, two figures could be seen clashing against each other like two streaking bolts of lightning. Every collision caused the sky and the earth to howl.

The rocks below continued to break apart and volcanoes were being completely uprooted by the extremely terrifying energy that was being exerted. Fire and magma filled the sky as a bizarre red mist filled the sky and became thicker and thicker, to the point that a person would not even be able to see his own hand if he held out it in front of him.

On the ground, a huge crater that was over three hundred meters wide had long ago formed... and the surface of the crater was as sleek as a mirror.

This kind of power was much more fiercer than the explosion of any volcano.

Because this was a life and death battle between Monarchs!

Boom!!!

Yet another explosion ripped through the air.

The dazzling scarlet-yellow flames suddenly tore apart the seemingly demonic crimson-black flames and rushed forward explosively, instantly engulfing one of the figures and sending that flame-wreathed silhouette crashing into the ground.

For an instant, the earth trembled and the winds and clouds scattered as a fire pillar that was more than three hundred meters thick shot into the sky, traveling thousands of meters. In the distance, an immense mushroom cloud had risen into the sky and it did not dissipate for a long while.

Underneath the mushroom cloud, the Little Demon Empress calmly floated in midair. Her grey robes gently swayed in the air as her long hair splayed out behind her and her crystalline eyes were as dark and sinister as a death god's.

In front of her, Duke Huai had flown up from the deep crater to meet her once more. Even though his expression was calm, and a faint cold smile still adorned his face, his appearance was extremely miserable. His embroidered clothes were riddled with thousands of holes and half of his hair had been completely scorched. His entire left hand had been severely burnt and two rivulets of blood flowed down the corners of his mouth.

In the sky far above, Duke Ming stood by idly, his eyes faintly open, his expression tranquil and content. It was as if he was simply enjoying some beautiful scenery.

"Duke Huai, if it were just you alone, you would still not be worthy of taking this empress' life!" The Little Demon Empress voice was even deeper than the rumble of thunderclouds.

"Heh? Is that so?" Duke Huai wiped off the blood at the corners of his mouth and he flew even higher at an even pace. His expression was not the least bit resentful as he said, "Ah, the Little Demon Empress is indeed worthy of her reputation. Even though this duke had never believed that he was your opponent, I had never thought that you would actually be able to suppress me to such an extent! The late stages of the fifth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm. You're no longer any inferior to the Yun Qinghong of twenty-five years ago; it truly brings tears of joy to this duke's eyes."

"Heh, Little Demon Empress, you are after all the last remaining member of the line of the Demon Emperor. If you simply died like this, it would be such a waste. So before you die, why don't you let this duke play with you for a while... the longer you amuse me, the longer you'll live! Hahahahaha!"

The Little Demon Empress' Golden Crow bloodline was far purer than Duke Huai's, so the Golden Crow flames that she released would have a great suppressive effect. Therefore, even though their profound strength was equal, if they went all out, Duke Huai would definitely not be the Little Demon Empress' match... But the key qualifier was that the Little Demon Empress had to go all out!

As he laughed wildly, Duke Huai raised his hand and grasped a flaming longsword that had appeared out of nowhere. The flames that engulfed the body of the blade were definitely not the scarlet-yellow of the Golden Crow flames; instead the flames had the color of thick blood.

Devil Blood Sword!!

The blood flames spread over Duke Huai's body, causing his aura to fluctuate violently, and even turning his face into something horrifying and sinister. He wildly brandished the Blood Demon Sword and every slash produced a huge swathe of crimson-black flames. These crimson-black flames congealed together in mid-air, finally forming a three hundred meter tall giant Flame Devil.

Duke Huai was the same as Hui Ye; he also cultivated the powerful Fallen Flame Devil Art. If Hui Ye could use the flame devils, then it was natural that Duke Huai could do so as well... and his flame devil was many, many times stronger than the flame devil of Hui Ye.

Duke Huai roared, and with a wave of his hand, the immense flame devil let out a gloomy and sinister wail that seemed to come from the depths of hell as it fiercely threw itself at the Little Demon Empress.

Just looking at that three hundred meter flame devil would cause one to be scared witless. But the Little Demon Empress expression was as cold and calm as a lake that had been sealed in ice, and not a single ripple appeared on her face. She raised her arm and her broad grey sleeves danced in the air, and in an instant all the fire, lava, and volcanic rocks in a three thousand kilometer radius seemed to come to life and converge together in front of her... In the next instant, it congealed into a three hundred meter tall, thirty meter wide fire greatsword. As more and more fire and rock congregated together, it grew bigger and bigger, and a majestic, blazing power seemed to completely envelop the sky and the earth.

Duke Ming had not yet made a single move; instead he wanted the ill-matched Duke Huai to exchange blows with her first. The Little Demon Empress was completely mystified by this... but at this late hour, she was finally alerted to Duke Ming's terrifying intellect. As a person possessing such intellect, he naturally clearly understood the meaning of the phrase 'a long delay gives rise to many hitches.' He had come to take her life, an opportunity which would only come along once every blue moon. So the wisest thing to do would be for him to personally attack with all of his power, so that he could kill with her within the shortest amount of time....

He should have understood that the longer he delayed it, the more likely it was for an unforeseen event to occur! Once an accident occurred, not only would he lose this extremely rare opportunity, but he would also expose himself and be put on the defensive.

But Duke Ming was still doing what anyone would term as an extremely stupid action... He tasked Duke Huai with taking the Little Demon Empress life, while he just stood there idly watching, without even the slightest intention of taking action himself.

Even though the Little Demon Empress had her suspicions, she did not have any idle time to consider them. Because even though her power was greater than that of Duke Huai, she definitely could not relax. It was hard for her to devote her attention to anything else as she faced off against a Duke Huai who was going all-out.

Ssss!

The flame seal between the Little Demon Empress' brows suddenly flashed with a golden-yellow light, and as she raised both her arms, the gigantic flame sword shot forward as it rent the sky apart... Even though it looked like it was moving at a slow speed, it had directly stepped across dimensions and bored into the body of the onrushing giant flame devil. The sword pierced through the Flame Devil's body

without the least bit of resistance as it bore the gigantic Fallen Flame Devil God aloft and drove it into the sky.

Boom...

The flaming greatsword which pierced the Fallen Flame Devil exploded and produced an extremely terrifying profound energy storm which descended with a huge explosion... The sound of the explosion was so huge that it sounded as if a star had exploded in mid-air.

The howls of the struggling Fallen Flame Devil echoed across the sky, but within the span of a few short breaths, the Fallen Flame Devil had been blown apart and was swiftly reduced to a countless number of fire fragments which filled the atmosphere.

The thunderclouds in the sky had disappeared... Or, it was more accurate to say that, one could no longer see the sky as it was completely filled with berserking Golden Crow Flames. Apprehension finally appeared on Duke Huai's face as he retreated at the swiftest possible speed he could muster... Even though he had never thought that he was the Little Demon Empress' match, he had also never thought that she would be quite this powerful.

At this time, Duke Ming, who had been standing by idly watching the show, revealed a sinister, cold smile as his eyes flashed. Before anyone could observe his movements, a wild gale blew and his entire person seemed to vanish from its original spot... An afterimage that moved so swiftly that the naked eye was unable to capture appeared behind the Little Demon Empress' back.

Even though the Little Demon Empress had easily broken apart Duke Huai's Flame Devil, she had put her all into that strike, not holding back in the slightest. Furthermore, Duke Ming's profound strength was superior to hers by half a realm, so it was only when Duke Ming was within thirty meters of her that she detected his presence... But by then, it was far too late.

Bang!!!

An extremely ear-piercing shattering sound ripped through the air as the space around the Little Demon Empress fractured in an instant. The Demon Emperor's Seal flew out, and under a strong attractive force, it instantly flew into Duke Ming's hand... At the same time, an extremely violent windstorm smashed into the Little Demon Empress' body. The Little Demon Empress gave a low groan as she was smashed a hundred meters away before finally coming to a halt.

Chapter 594 - Facing Duke Ming

"Heh!" As he raised the Demon Emperor's Seal that he grasped in his hand, Duke Ming narrowed his eyes slightly and displayed a bland and placid smile that would cause discomfort to anyone who gazed upon it.

"It has gone perfectly according to my royal father's plans," said Duke Huai, no longer trying to attack the Little Demon Empress. Instead, he sidled over to Duke Ming's side. Even though his body was covered in wounds, the smile he displayed was incomparably self-satisfied.

"Your goal was... the Demon Emperor's Seal!" The Little Demon Empress held a hand to her chest. Her expression may have been calm, but she radiated a bone-piercing killing intent that caused the air around her to freeze solid.

Low-level profound practitioners used spatial rings as storage devices, but once one reached the rank of Monarch, one could open a personal dimensional pocket. One could store important objects in this dimensional pocket, so that these things would not be so easily lost or stolen like the objects in a dimensional ring.

Stealing something from someone's dimensional pocket was far harder than killing that person... If one truly killed that person, his dimensional pocket would collapse as well, and the items inside that pocket would either be ripped apart by the spatial energies or fall into the cracks between dimensions. Either way, those items would never appear again.

The reason behind Duke Ming not personally taking action and letting Duke Huai attack was to take advantage of the instant when the Little Demon Empress would be powerless to defend herself once she had used her full force to deal with Duke Huai, and seize her dimensional pocket... stealing the Demon Emperor's Seal that lay inside!

"You really need to thank this thing, because it has let you live until now," said Duke Ming, dangling the Demon Emperor's Seal in front of him. His voice was as tranquil as water, but it would cause the heart of anyone who heard it to palpitate, "This duke knows that as long as a member of the Demon Emperor's clan has it on their person, once they encounter any life-threatening situations, it will automatically drink your Demon Emperor blood to help you use the blood escape technique, and it can even help you directly leave this Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley. The price would merely be the loss of some blood essence!"

"This duke has waited far too long for this day to come... so how could I give you such an opportunity?!" Duke Ming grasped the Demon Emperor's Seal tightly, and his normally placid smile finally turned rather sinister.

The Little Demon Empress' face paled for an instant and she ground her teeth silently. She replied in a deep voice, "You... Why do you know the secrets of the Demon Emperor's Seal?!"

"Hahahaha!" Duke Huai gave an unbridled laugh, "Little Demon Empress, the things that my royal father knows far exceeds what you have imagined! There are some secrets of the Demon Emperor's clan that my royal father knows of that even you do not know!"

"This duke does not mind telling you that when the ceremony was suddenly stopped halfway, even though this duke suspected that you were going to do something, I did not have any clues to act upon. However, my royal father knew very clearly where you were headed all along... Because my royal father knew that you could use the Demon Emperor's blood within you to activate the Demon Emperor's Seal and forcibly open the sealing profound formation that sealed Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley... and once you were inside Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, you could use the Demon Emperor's Seal to force your way out as well."

The Little Demon Empress, "..."

"But Little Demon Empress, it has to be said that your decision to halt the ceremony once you had received the Demon Emperor's Seal so you could awaken your bloodline as soon as possible was truly a wise and brilliant choice. If not for the guidance of my royal father, this duke would not have even

begun to guess it. Even if I had managed to deduce your actions, I would have arrived far too late... Because if you had truly awakened your bloodline, it would have caused a great hindrance to this duke.”

“But it’s just too bad...” Duke Huai let a mocking grin form on his face, “that in the end, you, the Little Demon Empress, are a mere woman! If a woman were to dare to awaken the Golden Crow bloodline, it would lead to only one result: death! From time immemorial, the Demon Emperor had always been a man, so no one had ever known about this particular detail. Even you direct inheritors of the Demon Emperor’s bloodline did not know... yet my royal father had complete knowledge of it! So not only were you unable to fulfill your wishes by coming here... you have even given us an incredible present!”

“You pitiful woman, how could you possibly think that you were my father’s adversary?!”

The Little Demon Empress tightly clenched her hands and both her small face and her lips had been drained of all color. But her eyes were filled with a nearly golden-colored firelight... in that moment, her fury and her profound energy were raised to their extremes.

“Without the Demon Emperor’s Seal, whether by the blood escape or the dimensional escape... heh, you no longer have any possibility of leaving this place alive,” Duke Ming said as his smile filled his face, and he extended his palm towards the Little Demon Empress. Within his palm, a small cluster of crimson-black flames swayed, “So now you can let go of everything and die... and when you reach the Yellow Springs, do not forget to help this duke send his regards to your pitiful royal father and royal brother... Oh?”

Duke Ming’s voice suddenly stopped and his head tilted and looked southward. A disdainful laugh escaped from his mouth after that, “Oh? It seems like a little rat has scampered inside. Princess Caiyi, looks like your luck isn’t so bad after all. Before you die, someone actually specially volunteered himself to be your burial partner.”

After Duke Ming had said those words, both Duke Huai and the Little Demon Empress felt an aura approaching fast... It was definitely traveling at the speed of a Sovereign Profound Realm practitioner, but the aura being emitted was abnormally low... it was only at the Sky Profound Realm! At most, it was only at the peak of the Sky Profound Realm.

An aura at the peak of the Sky Profound Realm, yet it displayed the speed of a low-level Monarch, and it was only one person... Whether it was the Little Demon Empress or Duke Huai, they had only seen this kind of person once in their life... Moreover, the rapidly approaching aura was not unfamiliar to them!

“Could it be...” Duke Huai violently swiveled his head and his face revealed a deeply incredulous expression.

The elements in this place were incomparably active, so the rate at which Yun Che’s Great Way of the Buddha absorbed the energy of heaven and earth was far faster than it was in the outside world. When Yun Che had flown from the starting point to the central region, he could maintain his maximum speed without exhausting too much energy or tiring out.

Once Duke Huai and the rest had discovered Yun Che, Yun Che had already firmly locked on to the Little Demon Empress’ position...

Whoosh!!

A fierce gale blew past, and as an afterimage faded away, Yun Che's figure was standing in front of the Little Demon Empress. Once he saw that the Little Demon Empress was not dead and did not even seem to be wounded, his heart instantly felt better.

"Yun... Che!" He was in disbelief before, but at this moment, Yun Che's face had clearly appeared in his field of vision. Duke Huai's pupils instantly dilated and his throat trembled with astonishment. A low and deep howl that carried a deep hatred and bloodlust rose from his throat.

For him to react as if he had met a great adversary proved that Yun Che had already formed a shadow in his heart and soul.

"Oh?" Duke Ming raised his eyebrows immediately. An unexpected appearance, a young face and a speed that was not matched at all with his profound strength. All of these already caused Duke Ming to take interest in the young man in front of him. And once Duke Huai had yelled out that name, it caused the interest in his gaze to immediately grow by several times, and he slowly swept his slightly narrowed eyes over Yun Che's body thrice.

"Why did you come here?!" Yun Che's sudden appearance undoubtedly caused the Little Demon Empress great shock and also caused a layer of dark clouds to descend on her heart... Because once he appeared at this place, Duke Ming and Duke Huai would definitely not let him leave this place alive!

"Oh, I just came out for a stroll, so I could take in the night breeze. But to my surprise, I saw that the seal over the entrance of the Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley had disappeared, so out of curiosity, I decided to take a peek inside," Yun Che said in a carefree and relaxed manner, as if he completely missed the danger that he was in. He said these words to relax the guards of both Duke Ming and Duke Huai... If they found out that he had already informed Yun Qinghong regarding the opening of the seal, they would definitely act in an incomparably decisive manner....

So given the current scenario, every second he dragged out increased their hope for survival... Since Yun Qinghong was already alerted to the fact that Duke Ming may be the real mastermind, he would definitely not come by himself. Instead, he would bring along a group of experts that could deal with Duke Ming as well!

It was only if he could drag it out until that time comes that they could dispel the danger surrounding the Little Demon Empress.

"Idiot!" The Little Demon Empress naturally did not believe Yun Che's words, as his previous lightning speed had already betrayed his anxiety. She said in a low voice, "Leave this place right away! No matter what happens... you are not allowed to turn back!"

After saying that, the flames wreathing the Little Demon Empress rose ten of meters into the air. Yun Che gave the Little Demon Empress an astonished look... The Little Demon Empress who gave other people the impression that she was devoid of all emotions was actually planning to use her full strength to obstruct Duke Ming and Duke Huai in order to give him a chance to escape....

It looked like she was not as cold-hearted as she made herself out to be....

But it was clear that her plan was untenable. Yun Che shrugged his shoulders and said, "I think I'd rather not waste the energy... If it's an opponent that even you cannot flee from, then it is even more impossible for me."

"... Stupid! Why are you so stupid that you have come to die?!" The Little Demon Empress yelled fiercely. Her face, which looked like that of a young maiden, had fury and gloom written all over it, emotions that completely clashed with her young and tender childish face.

"Oh... So you are that Yun Che," mused Duke Ming as he had finished measuring Yun Che, his face revealing a rather interested smile.

Yun Che turned around and looked at Duke Ming, and there was a smile that did not seem like a smile plastered on his face, he said, "Oh the renowned Duke Ming actually knows this humble one's name, this humble one is completely overwhelmed by the favor you have shown to me."

Duke Huai gave a cold snort and he wanted to step forward to say something, when his face suddenly froze over... Because when Yun Che had spoken just now, he clearly mentioned... the two words "Duke Ming!!"

What was going on... How could he know the name "Duke Ming?!" Even the people in Demon Imperial City had not seen him for over a hundred years, and his existence was practically forgotten. But this Yun Che who had only arrived in Demon Imperial City for three months... Why would he be able to yell out the two words "Duke Ming?!"

For an instant, astonishment flashed across the Little Demon Empress' face.

"Oh?" Duke Ming's eyes instantly narrowed into two long slits, and the gaze directed from those slits unerringly rested on Yun Che's eyes, "Interesting, you actually recognized this duke."

"Of course I would recognize you," Yun Che said as he crossed his hands across his chest. In front of this terrifying character whose strength dominated Illusory Demon Realm, who could cover the sky with one hand and whose intellect and shrewdness were deep and unfathomable, Yun Che did not even seem the least bit nervous. Instead, he smiled merrily and replied, "I not only know that you are Duke Ming, I also know that..."

"It was you who colluded with Mighty Heavenly Sword Region one hundred years ago to kill the previous Demon Emperor... and it was also you... who personally killed the Little Demon Emperor!!"

Yun Che's words were undoubtedly both astonishing and earth-shaking. The Little Demon Empress' entire body shook dramatically and she fiercely and suddenly raised her head; she seemed to slip into a daze for an instant... while Duke Huai did not have enough time to conceal the look of pure astonishment which appeared in his eyes. Even Duke Ming, who had been staring straight at Yun Che all this while, had turmoil flash in his eyes for a moment.

Yun Che's brows immediately sank... This guess turned out to be one hundred percent truth.

"Are you agitating him? This guy's profound strength has actually reached the tenth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm! If he wants to kill you, even using one finger would be enough!" Jasmine said in a solemn voice.

“...” In this world where Profound Gods were only a mythological existence, the tenth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm was the very peak of all profound practitioners! No matter if it were in Profound Sky Continent or in Illusory Demon Realm, these existences were true monarchs who looked down on everything under heaven and could not be surpassed! An existence which humans would brand as God!

Yun Che had never dared to think that he would actually ... face this kind of peak expert so quickly... A person who was truly unrivaled under the heavens!

Yun Che silently sucked in his breath and replied Jasmine, “I definitely do not want to agitate him... But you must know, curiosity is one of humanity’s great weaknesses! And in this world, there are very few things left that would make a kind of person like Duke Ming curious. But the words I have just said will definitely be enough to induce him to keep questioning me!!”

“Every additional word spoken will increase our chances of escaping!”

Chapter 595 - Main Culprit

“What... what did you say?!” The Little Demon Empress’ tone was deep and stiff, and it revealed an incredible, violent confusion.

“Oh?” Duke Ming lifted his eyes, looked at Yun Che with some interest, and said, “This duke doesn’t seem to understand what you are saying all that well.”

“Hehe!” Yun Che’s face revealed a sneer, and his eyes even showed obvious disdain and mockery, “You, Duke Ming, have the ambition to take over the world, have unparalleled profound strength, a calculating mind that even ghosts and gods can’t predict, and a heart that is ten thousand times even more vicious than snakes and scorpions... I originally I thought that you were a formidable person that couldn’t be more qualified, but too bad... seeing you today, it seems that you are just a chicken who only dares to do but doesn’t dare to confess, it really disappoints me.”

“You have a death wish?!” Duke Huai instantly became furious, and abruptly reached and grabbed towards Yun Che. This was the first time in his whole life that he saw someone actually insult his own father.

However, Duke Ming reached out and stopped Duke Huai, following he lifted his head and laughed loudly, “Hahahahaha! You are indeed the young man who had made my son fail miserably. Your mouth and devious mind are really sharp like knives, and your words are so harsh that this duke doesn’t even know how to respond.”

Duke Ming narrowed his eyes once again. The light coming from the narrowed, long slit of his eyes were even more frightening than those coming from a poisonous snake, “This duke knows that you are trying to drag out the time. However, there are very few things in this world that interests this duke, and very few things that I want to know the answer to that it’s sad, so this duke is going to grant you some more time to live. Here, tell this duke, what else do you know?”

The words that Duke Ming said was not a question, but rather an implied confession. The Little Demon Empress’ breath was completely messed up, and the flames on her body suddenly ascended high, and

the flame burning in her eyes was not simply the Golden Crow's flame anymore, but it was like gruesome hatred from hell's purgatory.

Yun Che sneered softly, and said without hurry, "Back then, Profound Sky Continent suddenly invaded Illusory Demon Realm... that was because of you! You used some kind of method to let the Four Great Sacred Grounds of the Profound Sky Continent know the existence of Illusory Demon Realm's 'Mirror of Samsara' that was treasured by the Demon Emperor, and falsified that the 'Mirror of Samsara' had some godly powers, triggered their ambition, and caused the people from Profound Sky Continent, with all their resources, to invade Illusory Demon Realm, just to seize the Mirror of Samsara... and the reason they were able to invade again and again, and be able to retreat unharmed, was because you were there their man on the inside!"

Yun Che pointed at Duke Huai and said coldly, "And the reason you did what you did was to replace the Demon Emperor, and become the owner of Illusory Demon Realm! The reason the previous Demon Emperor would chase to Profound Sky Continent personally, was absolutely not because of out of rage and recklessness... he must have fallen into your trap! The Little Demon Emperor's death... was not because of acting rashly after drinking too much and forcefully barging into the Profound Sky Continent, but... he died in the hands of you, Duke Ming!"

"Are you going to deny these things?"

Almost each sentence that Yun Che had said made Duke Huai's face change each time. Deep inside, his eyes were filled with shock. He thought that the things that he had said, in the whole world, were secrets that only they, father and son knew, and it was absolutely impossible for the third person to know... even those people in Profound Sky Continent didn't know the identity of their inside man back then.

Clap... clap... clap... clap...

"Hahahaha!" Duke Ming laughed loudly and clapped his hands, and his eyes were without any ripples, "Brilliant, you really are brilliant. Yun Che, looks like it wasn't wrong for the son that I am proud of to lose face in front of you. This duke will generously admit it; what you said was absolutely correct. The reason those Sacred Grounds of Profound Sky Continent invaded Illusory Demon Realm was because of this duke. This duke merely told them back then that the Illusory Demon Realm's Mirror of Samsara that was treasured by the Demon Emperor contained a divine profound mystery. If they could crack the secret of the Mirror of Samsara, then they could break through the limit of the Sovereign Profound Realm, step into the Divine Profound Realm, and become the legendary 'Profound God.'"

"Those people were even greedier and stupider than this duke had expected. Not only did they believe it, but a year later, then already couldn't wait and were preparing to step into Illusory Demon Realm. This duke naturally was happy to help them construct the spatial tunnel, and tell them what this duke wants them to know... These people from Profound Sky Continent really didn't disappoint this duke. They brought Demon Imperial City into complete chaos, and made the deaths of the Demon Emperor and the Little Demon Emperor go even more perfectly than this duke had planned!"

Duke Ming laughed wildly, "Hahahaha! What Profound Sky Sacred Grounds, they were only chess pieces that this duke used and played within my palms. As for that Demon Emperor and Little Demon Emperor, in the hands of this duke, they were only two pitiful little bug. This duke merely used a small trick and

easily led the Demon Emperor to where the spatial tunnel was. Of course, no matter how stupid he was, he wouldn't rashly chase into the spatial tunnel and suicide in Profound Sky Continent's territory... it was this duke's timely appearance that helped him. Princess Caiyi, your pitiful father was really surprised when he saw this duke's appearance. Until this duke approached to a distance of just two steps away from him, he didn't have any guard, and he was kicked lightly by this duke into the spatial tunnel..."

Little Demon Empress, "!!!!"

Yun Che, "..."

"On the other side of the spatial tunnel, there was the 'Heaven's Might Soul Suppressing Formation' waiting for him. As soon as he entered the 'Heaven's Might Soul Suppressing Formation,' even if he had the strongest profound strength, he wouldn't be able to use it." Duke Ming laughed lightly, his expression of boundless arrogance was as if everything in the world couldn't escape his control, "As for the Little Demon Emperor who had just ascended the throne, it was even easier. On the night of your grand wedding, he was just like the you today; he generously gave this duke an absolutely great chance. He actually went to commemorate the previous Demon Emperor alone... But, this duke didn't kill him. I merely crippled him, and threw him into the spatial tunnel that led to Profound Sky Continent. This way, there would be no trace of this duke left behind. This duke only randomly left some last words for him... The next day, the whole Illusory Demon Realm knew that the Little Demon Emperor who had just ascended the throne acted rashly after drinking too much at the wedding night with the Little Demon Empress, and barged into Profound Sky Continent alone... compared to grieving for the death of the Little Demon Emperor, there must be even more people cursing at his stupidity, hahahaha!"

"Duke... Ming!!!"

The flames on the Little Demon Empress were waving furiously, her small body was even trembling in an incredibly violent way. Yun Che, who was closest to her, could clearly felt that her anger, hatred, and murderous intent were bursting out so strongly that it was almost going to completely tear up the space. He gave a sideways glance at the Little Demon Empress, and found that even though she was covered in flames, under the reflection of the scarlet-gold flames, her face was still as pale as a white sheet of paper... and at the corner of her mouth, there was a bright, red blood slowly dripping down.

She wasn't hurt when she was fighting against Duke Huai; that trace of blood... was from the internal injury caused by her rage and hatred that was too intense.

And at this moment, a deep respect rose in Yun Che's heart for the Little Demon Empress.

Until today, she had not known that the culprit that got her father and brother killed wasn't Profound Sky Continent, but was the Duke Ming in front of her! He killed the two people that were closest to her, caused the extinction of the bloodline of the Demon Emperor's clan, caused chaos in Demon Imperial City, and even harmed the whole Illusory Demon Realm. Yun Che could imagine how strong that hatred and murderous intent must be...

But even so, she was able to strictly kept her rationality, and didn't drop everything under the influence of the hatred that pierced her bones to attack Duke Ming. Because not only was it impossible to kill the Duke Ming whose ability was incredibly terrifying, but she and Yun Che would only die even sooner... At

this moment, this second, she must gain every breath of chance to live, so there would be a possibility for her revenge in the future!

Duke Ming rolled his eyes, then narrowed them and enjoyed the Little Demon Empress' expression at this moment...That's right, 'enjoy.' That hatred that so strongly wished to burn his bones to ashes, that hatred that so strongly wished to tear him into pieces, made him enjoy and gave him pleasure, "Knowing the truth, and still able to refrain from attacking this duke, you are indeed Princess Caiyi. It was worthwhile letting this duke not getting the perfect chance to kill you for this hundred years. You should thank this duke gracefully, letting you know who destroyed your clan before you died...Oh, that's right, you know back then when the Little Demon Emperor clearly saw this duke's face, how remarkable his expression was? Tsk-tsk, it was so remarkable that even when this duke thinks about it now, it gives me endless aftertastes."

"Duke... Ming..."

The Little Demon Empress' voice was so raucous and deep that it didn't even sound like a human's voice. The two short words were so cold it was as if it was from the hell's purgatory, but it couldn't be compared to a ten thousandth of the hatred in her heart. Even though Yun Che's face was calm, the hatred in his heart was no less than that of the Little Demon Empress, because his grandfather's, Yun Canghai's death, was also because of Duke Ming! The Yun Family's descent, the tragedy of Xiao Yun and his destiny... it was all because of this Duke Ming in front of him!

He took a deep breath, and said coldly, "Duke Ming, your clan was able to be a royal clan; that was all because of the Demon Emperor's clan! You not only weren't grateful and failed to serve loyally, but you grew your own ambitions, and were cruel to this point! Aren't you afraid of getting struck by lightning because of your sins!"

"Such childish words." Duke Ming smiled lightly, "The emperor of the world should naturally be someone with ability. From the moment this duke was born, I was determined to be the one to rule the people under heaven. The people who get in this duke's way, no matter who it is, this duke will do anything to get rid of the person. These so-called 'loyalty' and 'righteousness' are things that belong to ridiculous weaklings!"

"What you want this duke to confess, this duke has all confessed. Now, tell this duke, about the information of this duke, how did you find out?" Duke Ming looked straight at Yun Che, the gaze from his eyes was like two sharp knives; it almost pierced through his heart and soul as Duke Ming continued, "This duke thought that no matter what I did, I wouldn't leave any trace. Over this past century, the whole Illusory Demon Realm has never had anyone who suspected this duke. How did you, Yun Che, find out about it? Could it be that this duke made any mistakes on the way?"

"Very simple." Yun Che casually stepped back, stood by the Little Demon Empress and said, "You should already know, that even though I am the son of the Yun Family, I am from the Profound Sky Continent. When I was in Profound Sky Continent, I was in contact with Mighty Heavenly Sword Region of the Four Sacred Grounds... these, were naturally heard from Mighty Heavenly Sword Region!"

"Mighty Heavenly Sword Region? Heh!" Duke Ming was obviously not satisfied with this answer, but he didn't continue to ask; instead he made a sneer, and his eyes which were already revealing a dangerous light, immediately becoming even more chilly, "This duke will believe your answer for now. Then, your

goal of dragging out the time is already perfect enough, but unfortunately, the back-up that you have been waiting for didn't show up. Next, how are you going to save yours, and Princess Caiyi's lives in front of this duke? Mn?"

Yun Che also sneered and said, "Then does Duke Ming think that the reason I came here despite knowing you were here was to die for nothing?"

"So this duke is curious; why do you think you could escape from the palm of this duke's hand?" Duke Ming asked with a smile. His dangerous but calm expression was as if he was telling Yun Che that even if he had some great trick, it was absolutely impossible for him to escape from him, "Is it based on the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven that you've been holding in your hand?"

Chapter 596 - That's Ripping Off Your Grandson!

Duke Ming's words triggered Yun Che's heart, and evoked a strong, unsettling feeling; he then immediately crushed the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven that was in his hand without any hesitation.

He would dare to rush in, and wanted to save the Little Demon Empress from Duke Ming, and what he counted on the most was indeed this Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven that Mu Feiyan had just gifted him! Because when Mu Feiyan gave him the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven, his face was full of pride, and promised that as long as Yun Che had it on him, at a crucial moment, it could form a protective barrier that no one could break, and it could last for as long as six hours... in this amount of time, it would definitely be enough for Yun Qinghong to get here.

But...

Following a soft sound, the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven was crushed by Yun Che very easily. A wave of blue light spread in haste. In an instant, it formed an ice-blue barrier with a diameter of ten meters, enveloping Yun Che and the Little Demon Empress within, and cutting Duke Ming and Duke Huai out.

Even though the process was short, to an extremely strong practitioner, a short breath of time could allow him to do a lot of things. But Duke Ming only watched while smiling; there wasn't even a sign of him trying to stop them. When the protection barrier appeared, his expression also didn't change at all... except in his eyes, which held an additional trace of disdain.

When Duke Ming called out the "Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven" that was held tightly in his hand, Yun Che already had a bad feeling about it, and the expression on Duke Ming's face right now magnified the unsettled feeling in his heart a dozen times more... For being able to open up the protective barrier at the first instant, Yun Che had held the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven in his hand from the very beginning. And to keep the aura from leaking out, he naturally used his profound energy to safely trap the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven's aura, but Duke Ming called him out so easily!

Merely based on the aura, he knew that it was the Mu Family's "Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven," it was obvious that he was absolutely no stranger to it! Then he wouldn't be unaware of the toughness of its released protective barrier! But, even though Duke Ming already knew that he was clearly holding the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven, he didn't look for a chance to seize it, didn't stop him from crushing it, and wasn't even surprised or panicking...

His reaction was all outside of Yun Che's expectations!

“Hahahaha!” Looking at the protective barrier formed by the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven, Duke Ming only laughed recklessly, “So that’s what it was. This duke was originally looking forward to what kind of clever way you would use to escape from this duke’s hands, but the result really disappointed this duke greatly.”

“It was only this mere Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven!”

Yun Che locked his eyebrows tightly, and his heart was suddenly alarmed. He said without weakening his momentum, “Mere? The Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven is the Mu Family’s most protective treasure. Since you look down on it so much... You can try breaking it!”

“Hahahaha,” Duke Ming laughed recklessly once again, as he slowly stepped forward. Even though there was a protective barrier in between them, every step Duke Ming got closer, the pressure on Yun Che multiplied. In front of the protective barrier, he reached out his palm and slightly recounted, “If it were a hundred years ago, it would be true that this duke wouldn’t have the powers to destroy it, and in the whole Illusory Demon Realm, no one could do so.”

“But, now this duke is no longer at the ninth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm, like a hundred years ago. I am at the tenth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm! It is the peak realm in this world. Upon reaching this level, this duke’s palms can already almost touch the laws of this world, even this space under the palm of this duke, could in an instant... be shattered!”

Duke Ming suddenly twisted his wrist, and at that instant, a large swirl abruptly appeared and spread in speed... this wasn’t a swirl caused by airflow, not a swirl caused by profound energy... but it was a completely twisted space!!

The twisted space didn’t disappear in an instant, but it was spreading fiercely like sea waves, and in a blink of eye it spread onto the ice-blue barrier... The barrier that was originally thought to be tough and unbreakable, under the extremely horrifying space swirl, was instantly twisted like a fragile soap bubble, and it continued to twist even more violently, until it was twisted into an extremely exaggerated shape... Perhaps, in the next breath, it would be completely torn apart.

“!!!” Yun Che was solidly surprised. He subconsciously blocked in front the Little Demon Empress, his eyebrows locked tightly, blue veins popping out from both sides of his hands. The protective barrier that the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven formed was promised by Mu Feiyan that it could hold on for six hours, and even if his grandfather were alive it couldn’t be destroyed...

What kind of person was Mu Feiyan... Not only was he Yun Che’s grandfather, he was also the highly respectable Patriarch of the Mu Family. What he said was absolutely authoritative, and on top of that, the exaggerated reaction of Mu Yubai and the others when Mu Feiyan took out the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven, and the joyous expression revealed by his father and mother... towards the strong protective ability of the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven, he naturally had no reason to doubt it. Or else, he wouldn’t dare to just barge in and face the extremely strong Duke Ming.

Never mind six hours, even if it only supported him for two hours, it would be completely enough for Yun Che.

He never thought that the life-saving barrier of the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven was so vulnerable in front of Duke Ming.

That's ripping off your grandson!

And it's ripping off his little life!!

"This Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven is indeed a rare protective item in the Illusory Demon Realm," Duke Ming stopped the movement of his palm, but the twisting space was still continuing, and the protective barrier was on the edge of collapsing. If Duke Ming continued his movement, it would completely shatter, "Because the profound energy level that it can resist, is only up to the ninth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm. But against a level exceeding that, it is no different from a thin layer of ice! In all of Illusory Demon Realm, only this duke can destroy it this easily. Yun Che, you miscalculated."

Yun Che, "..."

Duke Ming's eyebrows loosened up slightly, and the corner of his mouth raised a little. The face without any expression became a leisurely soft smile, "Yun Che, honestly, this duke would hate to kill you. You have an abnormal skill, and you are smart, and your potential is even more surprising. Under the gaze of this duke, you didn't panic at all, and this means that your mental strength is also unusual. You dare to barge in knowing that this duke is here, your bravery and boldness is even more unusual... With your age, having this type of ability, even this duke cannot help but be impressed. If you just die like this, it would be such a waste."

"So?" Yun Che narrowed his eyes, "Could Duke Ming be prepared to give me a chance to live?"

"Let this duke plant a soul imprint on your body, and from now on be loyal to this duke, then, not only can you live, when this duke rules the world, you can enjoy riches and honor in your life, and this duke can even spare your Yun Clan." Duke Ming said softly, "This duke has never hesitated and became soft-hearted when it came to killing someone; you are the first. This is the utmost grace that this duke is giving you! Do not disappoint this duke."

"Grace? Heh..." Yun Che sneered deeply, "Your so-called 'grace' doesn't even amount to a penny to me! Even if I die, I will not let someone like you who cannot even be compared to an animal taint my own soul!"

"Very well." Duke Ming nodded his head slowly, "Since you choose stupidity, then... die!!"

Rumble...

The space trembled crazily, and the enormous space swirl immediately swallowed the protective barrier that was built by the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven, and it ripped it into countless of shattered pieces. At that instant, it was as if the whole heaven and earth was drawn into the horrifying spatial whirlpool.

Because of the extremely terrifying profound energy's suppression, Yun Che almost suffocated, his legs couldn't even move, and he couldn't make a sound from his mouth. At this moment, a small, grayish-white shadow slightly swayed, and blocked in front of him. At the same time, the space swirl viciously collided onto the grayish-white shadow...

Ugh!

A deep, suffering moan swept across Yun Che's ears. Afterwards, his arms were grabbed tightly by a small, delicate hand. On the wrist of the small hand, a dark scarlet bracelet instantly broke, and released a flame-like bright light...

"Clang!"

The instant that flame brightness flickered, the figures of Yun Che and the Little Demon Empress disappeared at the same time, and the spatial whirlpool swept across, crushing the layers of space. Under this extremely horrifying power, even a normal Monarch, not to mention a normal person, would be easily crushed into pieces.

Duke Huai was surprised and hurried forward, "Royal father, what happened? How did they disappear? Could they have..."

"Heh!" Duke Ming put down his palms without a hurry, there was not a trace of panic or an unsettled expression on his face, not even an expression of surprise; it seemed like this was also within his expectations, "It was only the crushing of the 'Scarlet Blood Bracelet' that launched a dimensional escape. There is such a thing existing in the Little Demon Emperor's memory, and it was just as this duke expected, that the Little Demon Empress had equipped it. But too bad, Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley is an independent world, the Demon Emperor's Seal's blood escape can help her escape to the world outside, but the Scarlet Blood Bracelet could never do that."

"It is just a pitiful struggle before their death, how can they escape from this duke's palms?" said Duke Ming as he slightly turned his body, narrowed his eyes and smiled. His eyes were directly focused on the northwest. The corner of his mouth slightly raised a smile, soft and gentle as a breeze... The light from the slits of his eyes were even more cold and bone-piercing than the world's most vicious poisonous snake.

Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, northwest borderland.

The world was immediately several times hotter, and the air was so thin that it was almost impossible to breathe.

Yun Che was swung away by the Little Demon Empress, and landed on the ground roughly. After a short duration of being stunned, he suddenly understood what happened. He stood up, looked at the surroundings and asked, "Where... where is this place?"

"Northwest borderland," the Little Demon Empress had her back turned against him, as she said coldly. As soon as she finished speaking, her body suddenly froze and an arrow of blood spat out from her mouth, landing several meters away. Her whole body lost all her strength, and she knelt down onto the ground.

"Little Demon Empress!"

Yun Che immediately stepped forward, wanting to hold her up, but when his hand just touched her shoulder, he was pushed away hardly by her, "Don't touch me!"

Yun Che stood there, and didn't dare to move. The Little Demon Empress painstakingly struggled to breathe for a little while, finally stood up slowly and turned around... The young girl's cheeks were without any color of blood, but the bloodstain at the corner of her mouth was still hard to look at.

Yun Che hurriedly in his calm mind, started to appear the scene from a few breathes ago... Duke Ming's attack wasn't pointed at the Little Demon Empress first, but it was him! At the pressure of a peak Monarch's profound energy, how was it possible for him to avoid it? He was able to live, and not only was it because the Little Demon Empress escaped with him using the dimensional escape... but it was more because the Little Demon Empress used her own body, and endured Duke Ming's deadly attack.

Yun Che's chest was violently rising and falling, he said sincerely, "...Thank you for saving my life."

Compared to this... his unreliable grandfather, arghh!!

The Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven that Mu Feiyan gifted him not only failed to save his life at a crucial moment, it almost killed him... because if it wasn't for the Frost Crystal of Absolute Heaven, he wouldn't just barge in Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley like that.

"Save your life?" The Little Demon Empress held her chest, and said in a low, cold voice, "Ridiculous! You think you could live past today?! The Demon Emperor's Seal has been seized by Duke Ming; we cannot leave Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley at all. With Duke Ming's ability, it won't be long before he would be able to find us again... you self-righteous idiot, why did you barge in here to suicide for nothing?!!"

Chapter 597 - Hatred Higher Than the Heavens

"I was just worried that Duke Ming and Duke Huai had gotten to you already," Yun Che said with an innocent face.

The Little Demon Empress said angrily, "If you already knew it was Duke Ming... why did you still barge in! With your ability, not to mention Duke Ming, even in front of Duke Huai, you are no different than an ant... Do you really not cherish your own life one bit?!"

"..." If Yun Che was yelled at like this normally, he would have already returned it several times harder already, but at this moment, he couldn't get angry at all. Each one of the Little Demon Empress' words was filled with hatred, but none of that hatred was against him. Inside the Little Demon Empress' voice that was yelling at him, what he heard more was unwillingness and self-blame.

"If you die today because of me... after I die, how will I still have the face to see the Demon King... ugh!!" the Little Demon Empress said as her body violently shook, and she spat out another large mouthful of blood, her already pale face becoming even paler. She clutched her chest, and her body slowly swayed, almost falling.

At this moment, she was like a young, weak girl who was seriously ill and on the verge of dying. Even her eyes, that were normally cold as an ice lake, that people couldn't dare to even look into directly, had already darkened, continuously revealing a sense of absent-mindedness... Anyone seeing her at this moment couldn't feel the majestic-feeling that belonged to the Little Demon Empress; they could only be deeply sympathetic.

"Are... are you okay?" Yun Che stepped forward a little in a probing manner, and asked worriedly.

"Her lifeline has been cut, she doesn't have much longer to live," Jasmine said softly.

“What!?” Yun Che was shocked in his heart, “How is that possible! She only suffered an attack from Duke Ming... Even though Duke Ming is strong, the Little Demon Empress also has mid-stage Monarch’s profound strength, how could it be possible...”

“Hmph, what did you think?” Jasmine scoffed in disdain, “When you reach the Sovereign Profound Realm, a small realm would mean all the difference in the world. That Duke Ming is an entire half a large realm stronger than the Little Demon Empress! On top of that, that Duke Ming’s attack was harsh, and even if that strike wasn’t a hundred percent of his strength, it was at least ninety percent! Also, the Little Demon Empress placed herself in front of you in a rush; not only did she not have the chance to defend with all of her strength, it hit her vitals... forget about being able to breathe and live for a little more, even if she died on the spot, it wouldn’t be strange!”

“...” Yun Che clenched his fists tightly, his heart and soul trembled uncontrollably.

Duke Ming’s ability was so terrifying to this extent. Even the powerful Little Demon Empress was seriously injured like this in one strike... Even the Little Demon Empress was like this, if it wasn’t for the Little Demon Empress taking the hit from Duke Ming, he would have already died!

Whoosh... Yun Che’s heart was twitching violently, somewhere deep inside his heart and soul, it was even touched harshly, and couldn’t stop under the violent trembling... Why block that strike for me... Yeah, you didn’t know that the one thing I, Yun Che, couldn’t stand in my whole life, is owing my life to a woman...

Because that was how Ling’er died in my arms... my promise to her, and my promise to my own soul...

If the Little Demon Empress died, and I was able to escape by myself in the end, then, in my heart and soul, there would be another layer of chains that I could never resolve in this lifetime... How would I be able to face Ling’er...

“What are you preparing to do after this? Wait for your death?”

“...I never knew what ‘waiting for my death’ meant.” Yun Che said with gritted teeth, “My Great Way of the Buddha is at the fourth stage... If we can escape from here, even if her lifeline has already been cut off, if she could hold on for ten days, I am sixty percent certain that I can save her life!”

“Yun Che, I ask you!” The Little Demon Empress suddenly spoken up. Her voice was already very weakened, but she still tried her best to support her deep vocal tone and the prestige of the Little Demon Empress, “Back then, when the Demon King and the Yun Family’s ten seniors died in Profound Sky Continent, was it also because of what Duke Ming had done?!”

“Yes.” Yun Che nodded in reply, “Back then, when my grandfather and the others left, the location of where the spatial tunnel pointed to and the timing of their arrival, were all clearly taught to the Profound Sky Continent’s side... As soon as they arrived in Profound Sky Continent, they directly fell into the Heaven’s Might Soul Suppressing Formation that was prepared beforehand... Or else, with the strength of my grandfather and the ten seniors of the Yun Family, how could they have all been completely annihilated?”

The Little Demon Empress’ body was releasing an extremely deep hatred, “What else did Mighty Heavenly Sword Region tell you? What else did Duke Ming do!”

“This...” Yun Che took a breath, and said, “All those things about Duke Ming weren’t actually heard from Mighty Heavenly Sword Region.”

“...Then how did you find out?” The Little Demon Empress locked her eyebrows.

“It was a guess... and these guesses have all become reality,” Yun Che sighed and said.

“Three months ago, when I first came to Illusory Demon Realm, based on: what I had seen and heard, the situation of Demon Imperial City, the reason and process of how Profound Sky Continent invaded, the illogical actions of the Little Demon Emperor, combined with everything my grandfather had told me about how once he entered the Profound Sky Continent, he walked into a trap, I logically thought that there must have been someone colluding with the Profound Sky Continent within Demon Imperial City, and it was most likely Duke Huai Palace.”

“After I told this to my father and grandfather, Father brought up that if these were all true, then Duke Huai Palace’s ambition didn’t grow after the previous Demon Emperor was killed, but before... and then, Father mentioned the name ‘Duke Ming.’ After thinning it out, everything suspicious pointed to him... When Illusory Demon Realm was in commotion all these years, and he had completely disappeared for all this time, it already made that an enormous suspicious point. And the truth was as so! Duke Huai’s ambition and some of his actions were only for show. The real conspiracy was ten thousand times scarier than what the people of Demon Imperial City had seen.”

What Demon Imperial City’s citizens had seen was that after the Demon Emperor’s bloodline was cut off by Profound Sky Continent, the Little Demon Empress, as a woman, was unable to awaken her bloodline, and there couldn’t be any more successors. As a result, Duke Huai emerged with his ambitions, pulled forces to his side, and wanted to replace her. Even though the nature of it was conspiring a treacherous act, in the eyes of the people, it didn’t count as something that “angered both human and god,” many strong practitioners had even agreed to Duke Huai’s actions ——The Demon Emperor’s bloodline had gone extinct, with only the Little Demon Empress left. For another clan to become the emperor was something that would happen sooner or later. Duke Huai had enough ambition and ability, and even enough forces. If he became emperor, it would be more acceptable than a woman being the emperor.

After the Little Demon Empress abdicates from the throne, the only force qualified to control Illusory Demon Realm would only be Duke Huai Palace... So Duke Huai’s actions, from another angle, was only an act with undue haste.

It was also because of this that more than half the Guardian Families and Duke Palaces which had been loyal to the Demon Emperor’s clan for ten thousand of years favored Duke Huai.

But the truth was that Duke Huai Palace colluded with an outer force and murdered the Demon Emperor, murdered the Little Demon Emperor, cut off the united Illusory Demon Realm, and the Demon Emperor’s clan that had let the world be peaceful for ten thousand years! This was an action that was devoid of humanity, troubled the world, and angered both human and god!

If the truth were known by the world, then, even if the Guardian Families and Duke Palaces had ten thousand guts, they wouldn’t dare to fall on Duke Huai Palace’s side.

Duke Huai Palace, would become the target of public criticism, the enemy of everyone under heaven, being despised and punished by everyone.

But now, even if the Little Demon Empress and Yun Che knew the horrible truth, and even if they escaped from Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley today, they couldn't expose the truth to the world. Because Duke Ming's measurements were incredibly brilliant, a series of conspiracy and murder didn't leave a trace of mark. The Demon Emperor died in Profound Sky Continent, the Little Demon Emperor died in Profound Sky Continent, and the Demon King also died in Profound Sky Continent... Every single thing, all pointed to the Profound Sky Continent, and none of them pointed towards Duke Ming.

If the truth were exposed to the world like this now, they would instead be incriminated by Duke Huai Palace.

Duke Ming, was truly an extremely horrifying person.

If it weren't for Yun Che meeting Yun Canghai under the coincidence of fate and the arrangement of the heavens, and found out about his grandfather being plotted against as he stepped into Profound Sky Continent, then until now, perhaps they wouldn't have known the whole truth... and they would still have ignored this "Duke Ming" person's existence.

The Little Demon Empress gazed at Yun Che as a peculiar light shone from deep within her eyes, "Then how did you know that Duke Ming, who was behind all of this, would appear here? Did you also guess that?"

"Mn, I guessed it." Yun Che raised his head, "When you were at your best state, you suddenly cut the Grand Ceremony short after receiving the Demon Emperor's Seal. The most reasonable explanation that I could think of was that after you received the Demon Emperor's Seal, you would awaken your bloodline at the first moment. Subsequently, I thought that you might have had a way to force open Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley's seal, so I was worried that if Duke Huai Palace's people also knew, and they would seize this extremely good chance of killing you.

I told all of this to my father and grandfather, but they weren't worried, because even if this all became true, once you entered the Golden Crow's Ancestral Land, even if Duke Ming attacked you personally, they couldn't harm you... but I wasn't able to relieve myself from the guesses and worries, so I came to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley to confirm for myself. At the entrance, I didn't see the seal, but I saw Hui Ran from Duke Huai Palace, so I knew that all of my worries had become true!"

"I confirmed from Hui Ran that Duke Huai and the Duke Ming that my father had spoken of had both entered Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, and at the same time, I found out that even if you entered the Golden Crow's Ancestral Land, you were doomed to not be able to awaken your bloodline... Today's actions were only giving Duke Huai Palace a chance to kill you. Thus, I couldn't wait for Father and the others to arrive, and came in here myself first."

Yun Che lied a little bit, because he couldn't say that he found out that the Little Demon Empress wouldn't be able to awaken her bloodline from Jasmine.

"I didn't know that your father was stabbed in the back by Duke Ming before. As for the Little Demon Emperor getting schemed upon by Duke Ming, I only thought of that after I entered Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley." Yun Che said with a steady face, "You were able to force yourself into Golden

Crow Lightning Flame Valley. My father and grandfather didn't know about it, and so it means that it is a secret of the Demon Emperor's clan, but Duke Ming was very clear about it. Even you didn't know that women could not bear the Golden Crow's ancestral blood, but Duke Ming obviously knew."

"The people in the world that knew your Demon Emperor's clan's secret better than you are possibly only the previous Demon Emperor and the Little Demon Emperor. So I thought of the only possibility; that a hundred years ago, when the Little Demon Emperor was attacked by Duke Ming, on the verge of dying, and his consciousness was unfocused, Duke Ming searched his soul, and seized all of his memories... and what Duke Ming said before, proved it to be the truth without question."

The Little Demon Empress' heart trembled violently in her heart once again.

Today, Duke Ming seemed to clearly know about her coming to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, and that she would gain nothing as a result. Also, he even knew clearly that the Demon Emperor's Seal could launch the "blood escape" at a crucial moment...

This kind of savior trump card, was a secret that absolutely couldn't be known by anybody of any race...

But Duke Ming knew clearly.

Yun Che's words... the Little Demon Emperor back then was plotted against by Duke Ming and even his soul was searched... This guess pained her heart so much that it almost suffocated her... but it was the only explanation and possibility!

And once a person's soul had been searched, the person would directly become a soulless shell... become a pitiful, living dead...

"Ugh..." A strain of almost black-colored blood flowed out from the corner of the Little Demon Empress' mouth. That wasn't the blood from her internal injuries, but the blood under her suffering and extreme anger... All these years, she was vigilant against Duke Huai Palace, but the extreme hatred in her heart, was always towards the Profound Sky Continent, and she even swore that for as long as she lived, when the time came, even if it would kill her, she had bathe the Profound Sky in a bloodbath, and get her absolutely irreconcilable vengeance.

Today she just found out, that all these years, she was hating the wrong person.

Her father was a worldly Demon Emperor who controlled Illusory Demon Realm in his palms, and the whole world bowed to him. But the real culprit that killed him wasn't the Profound Sky Continent; he was plotted against by one of the people that he trusted the most! Her royal brother, who was also her husband, didn't die tragically because he was trying to save their father, but was also plotted against... and died so tragically...

All these years, what she saw was all an illusion. What the whole Illusory Demon Realm thought of was also an illusion. Everyone, including her, the Little Demon Empress, were played in Duke Ming's palms; even the Profound Sky Continent's Four Great Sacred Grounds were still mere tools used by Duke Ming.

"Duke... Ming..." The Little Demon Empress' hatred filled up her heart and soul. She grabbed tightly onto the grey clothes before her chest, and her trembling ten fingers were pale without any color of blood, "Duke... Ming... Duke... Ming... Even... if... I... become a ghost... I... will not... let... you... get... away... with... this..."

Chapter 598 - Desire in Peril

“Pfft...”

The Little Demon Empress spat out another large mouthful of black blood, and within the blood, were worrying pieces of blood clots. Following that, she gradually knelt onto the ground, her eyes occasionally losing focus and occasionally looking dull.

Seeing her vomit blood, Yun Che suddenly felt his heart clench as he rushed forward to support the Little Demon Empress' thin shoulder. Just as his hand had touched the Little Demon Empress' shoulder, she slapped it away heavily, “Let me tell you again... Don't... touch me!”

The Little Demon Empress looked extremely weak, but her slap was not light. It had caused Yun Che to retreat several steps while her body trembled intensely and nearly collapsed. She then looked up, her tender face looking so weak that it caused one's heart to ache, but her gaze still exhibited the coldness and stubbornness that could never dissipate, “Solely based on the fact that you visually violated my body that day... even if you're the Demon King's descendant, I should dig out your eyes... If you dare touch me again... I will kill you!”

Her lifeline had been severed and both her mind and body had been severely injured. Yet, she still cared about such things... The corners of Yun Che's lips quivered as he rebutted with displeasure, “I already said that I did not peek at you on purpose that night... I had been there all along. It was you who did not detect me and stripped...”

Even before Yun Che had finished speaking, a scorching wave swept the area and the Little Demon Empress' tender white hand grabbed onto his neck, “Do you really think that... I wouldn't dare to kill you!”

Although the Little Demon Empress was weak, she still possessed the strength of a mid stage Monarch. Even in her current state, killing Yun Che was a simple task. Yun Che nodded and replied seriously, “Mn... Because you do not have any killing intent towards me.”

Immediately after he spoke, Yun Che was afraid the Little Demon Empress would storm off and he quickly continued, “We have already been forced to such a peril, so now we need to think of how to escape... Even if you want to kill me or dig out my eyes, at least wait until we have escaped.”

“Hmph!” Little Demon Empress flung her hand and pushed Yun Che far away, “Escape? Are you so naive to think that we can escape from Duke Ming's vicious clutches?! Now is only the calm before the storm.”

Yun Che's eyebrows knitted as he replied, “I have encountered situations more dire than this at least ten times! However, I'm still alive now... That's because before I lose my breath, I will struggle with everything I have! Even if there were ten more Duke Mings, I would not sit still!”

“Little Demon Empress, you're the monarch of Illusory Demon Realm. For the past century, you've suffered the pain of losing all your closest kin and have been bearing pressure far beyond anyone's imagination. You had to face the judgement of the world, worry about the future of the Demon Emperor's bloodline, and handle the wild ambition of Duke Huai Palace. Even so, you've still held the position of the monarch and protected the remaining pride of the Demon Emperor for the past hundred years. Duke Huai could not defeat you, and even the powerful Duke Ming, who harmed the late Demon

Emperor and the Little Demon Emperor, had been unable to realize his wishes all this while because of you...”

“Every time my father talks about you, he holds you in high regard, and after I realized the truth, I also came to respect you greatly. It can be said that among all the women I’ve seen in my life, other than my master, you’re the most outstanding one! You’re the powerful Little Demon Empress, the only female monarch in the entire history of Illusory Demon Realm... Such an outstanding person, would they be willing to accept fate?! I know that in order to save me, you were severely injured and your lifeline was severed... However, as long as we are able to escape today, even if your lifeline is broken, I have ways to let you live! Don’t forget, my parents had been severely injured for more than twenty years but were still completely cured by me!”

Little Demon Empress, “...”

Yun Che walked forward and stood in front of her, “Little Demon Empress, I would never believe there is anything ‘absolute’ in this world! Also, there is also no absolute peril! If you’re still unwilling to die... If you still want to personally exact revenge for your royal father and the Little Demon Emperor... then follow me. Make use of the short remaining time to come up with a plan and escape no matter what!”

The Little Demon Empress was stunned as she looked straight at Yun Che’s eyes... Within them, she saw concern, but no fear nor one bit of hopelessness! The look on his face did not change one bit... This was the first time in her life that someone’s look was so bright that she felt it was eye-catching. She lost focus for some time and even the darkness in her soul started to waver.

“Furthermore, and most importantly!” Yun Che said extremely seriously, “You should know that the Demon Emperor’s bloodline possesses a secret that only Demon Emperors and the Yun Family Patriarch know! Before, when the late Demon Emperor was harmed, he could not pass the secret on to the Little Demon Emperor in time, and my grandfather had also been harmed in Profound Sky Continent... However, when I met my grandfather, not only did he pass me the Demon Emperor’s Seal, he had also told me this secret which was crucial to the Demon Emperor’s Bloodline and told me to personally pass it on to you!”

Yun Che words caused the Little Demon Empress to be shocked once again! As the daughter of the Demon Emperor, she certainly knew the existence of this secret but did not understand why the Patriarch of the Yun Family could know this secret when the Demon Crown Prince could not until he succeeded the throne. No matter whether it was her or whether it was the Little Demon Emperor, they did not ask about this matter, despite their curiosity. Originally, she had thought that this secret was lost when the Demon Emperor and Demon King had met with harm, and would be buried forever. However, Yun Che had actually brought this secret of the Demon Emperor back.

She looked at Yun Che... When he spoke, his eyes did not show any signs of lying, “There’s naturally a reason why this secret was not imparted upon you earlier. It’s because this secret can only be used during the most dangerous and desperate of times... like the current situation with the Illusory Demon Royal Family! If this was mentioned earlier, once one did not have sufficient determination, something disastrous would happen!”

“Because, this was a... way to let the heir to the Demon Emperor... advance to a Half God Realm and let him possess the strength of someone half a step into the Divine Profound Realm!”

Half God Realm... Half-step Divine Profound!

This was something that only existed in the imagination and legends, and even to the Little Demon Empress, it sounded too much like a dream.

“What did... you say?” she uttered in disbelief.

“What I just said was something my grandfather personally told me. If I had said any lies, I would burn within the depths of hell when I die.” Yun Che looked at Little Demon Empress straight in the eye and said with absolute seriousness and uncertainty, “At that time, personally killing Duke Ming wouldn’t be any difficult task! Destroying Duke Huai Palace would also be simple! You can rebuild the entire Illusory Demon Realm and no one would dare disobey you! The people and families that had betrayed you would tremble below your feet and regret...”

“As long as you can survive today, all of it would come true!”

“Therefore, there’s no more reason for you to sit still and leave it to fate any more!”

Half-step Divine Profound... Avenge her father... Avenge her husband... Rebuild the might of the Demon Emperor... Reform the entire Illusory Demon Realm...

Each of Yun Che’s words was like lightning striking directly at her soul. Her eyes started to lose their dullness and lifelessness, and they started to tremble intensely as a strong desire started to frantically appear...

Crack!

Boom!

A thick bolt of purple lightning struck down from the skies, shattering the tough profound stones on the ground and causing a huge pit to appear. The strong shock wave traveled towards them and violently swept the weak Little Demon Empress away. Yun Che quickly flew up and caught the Little Demon Empress in midair, gently wrapping his right arm around her waist.

Although the Little Demon Empress’ clothes were big, her body was extremely thin. In particular, her slender waist was tender like the branches of a willow, allowing Yun Che’s arms to completely wrap around it easily.

The Little Demon Empress’ body froze slightly, but this time, she did not attack Yun Che and instead just said softly, “Go... I want to kill Duke Ming... to avenge my royal father and royal brother... I cannot die here... bring me away... no matter what... I cannot die here...”

Yun Che’s words had undoubtedly given the Little Demon Empress a large amount of hope and desire. Yun Che smiled and nodded firmly. The arm around her waist wrapped around even more tightly, “You are more familiar with Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley than I am... Which direction is the most advantageous for us to head toward?”

“To the east... the ancestral land is in that direction... Although we cannot enter without the Demon Emperor’s Seal... If we are able to reach that place before Duke Ming finds us... The Golden Crow Divine God... might not watch without interfering...”

“Okay!!” Yun Che replied strongly and activated the Extreme Mirage Lightning, shooting towards the east like a bolt of lightning. In actual fact, whether it was Yun Che or the Little Demon Empress, they clearly knew that it was near impossible to arrive at the Golden Crow’s Ancestral Land before Duke Ming.

Even if they managed to arrive first... The answer as to whether the soul of the Golden Crow would intervene was already clear. Because, with the power of the soul of a true god, the situation within the entire Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley was definitely clear to the soul of the Golden Crow. If it had wanted to intervene, it would have done so when the Little Demon Empress met Duke Huai and Duke Ming.

After all, it was the one that provided the bloodline of the Demon Emperor with the power of the Golden Crow. It was their entire clan’s benefactor, but not protector. It would not bother to meddle in such affairs!

The secret regarding the “half-step Divine Profound” that Yun Che had explained to the Little Demon Empress was not a lie. When the Demon Emperor’s clan faced the danger of being exterminated, they could use this secret of the Demon Emperor to obtain the strength of half-step into the Divine Profound Realm... becoming unbeatable in this world. This would cause the situation to change and allow the Demon Emperor’s bloodline to rebuild.

However, all that Yun Che had described was only half the entire truth.

The other half was... that although this secret way could indeed allow someone with the Demon Emperor’s bloodline to obtain the profound strength of half a step into the Divine Profound Realm, their longevity would in turn be left with only three years...

This was also the reason why Yun Che did not immediately tell Little Demon Empress the secret that Yun Canghai had passed on to him even though he had already been in Demon Imperial City for three months.

Using Extreme Mirage Lightning, Yun Che’s speed became faster and faster, to the extent that even Little Demon Empress was shocked. He only possessed the strength of the Sky Profound Realm, and there were no strong profound fluctuations coming for him, yet, he could raise his speed to the level of a low-level Monarch. Based on the understanding of any profound practitioner, this was something that was basically impossible.

Along the way, Yun Che had shook off numerous fire spirits and lightning spirits. His eyebrows knitted tightly, as his eyes scanned the road in front, searching for any possibility.

The Little Demon Empress had mentioned before, this was the north-western boundary of the Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, and looking northward, there were no longer signs of the scorching earth and no signs of the volcanoes that were engulfed in flames. All that was seen was a frightening scene of redness that was boiling, as though it were a boundless purgatory of blood.

Yun Che could not help but ask, “What surrounds the borders of the Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley? A spatial barrier?”

“No! It’s one thousand, five hundred kilometers of lava! This lava is not made of any molten rocks, but comprised of the most scorching profound stone refined by the Golden Crow Flame! This one thousand, five hundred kilometers of lava surrounds the entire Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley and is named the “Sea of Death!” If one dares to touch the Sea of Death, even at Duke Ming’s level, he would instantly be injured. If he’s submerged within the Sea of Death, just a few short breaths of time would be able to turn him into ashes! If we were to suffer at the hands of Duke Ming here, he would undoubtedly throw us into the Sea of Death to eliminate any evidence!”

Just as the Little Demon Empress had finished speaking, a very gentle voice that to them, was like a nightmare, sounded from the sky, “Heheheheh, Princess Caiyi is indeed as clever as I had expected. You had the same plan as this duke.”

Yun Che abruptly stopped moving, gritted his teeth and looked forward... About a hundred meters in front of him, the air distorted violently and the distorting space was torn apart violently. Duke Ming walked out slowly from within, his face revealing a casual smile. He was followed by Duke Huai, who was smiling coldly.

“Duke... Ming!!!” Little Demon Empress stared intensely at Duke Ming who appeared in front of them as she uttered the two words that filled her with deep pain... as well as the strongest hatred and killing intent that she had ever felt.

Chapter 599 - Sea of Death

“Oh? Little Demon Empress, you don’t seem too well. Your heart vessel has been severed and your internal organs are all damaged. You must be feeling quite miserable now, right?” Duke Huai laughed arrogantly, “This duke has been unable to do anything to you, but now that my royal father has personally acted, even if you’re the Little Demon Empress, you’re still vulnerable.”

“Oh, judging by the looks of the two of you, did you imagine that you could have escaped? Hahahaha...” Duke Huai started to laugh hysterically, “This duke had thought that you two would choose to honorably end yourselves so that we couldn’t get the chance to kill you ourselves. However, I did not imagine that there would be anyone in this world that would have such a laughable imagination. Since you want to escape, then run all you want. Let this duke see where you can escape to, hahahahaha!”

The speed at which Duke Ming had appeared was much faster than what Yun Che had imagined. His gaze turned cold and his breathing also became heavier. Duke Huai’s hysterical laughter and arrogant words caused his soul to fluctuate while he concentrated solely on Duke Ming.

“Hug me tightly...”

Within the Little Demon Empress’ mind, Yun Che’s voice suddenly rang, “Hug me tightly and no matter what happens later, don’t loosen up nor let go... As long as you have any consciousness, remember to not let go!”

“This is our... only hopes of escape! Believe me!”

The Little Demon Empress was stunned.

What they were facing now was the true definition of peril. Even without Duke Ming, Duke Huai alone could easily put them to death. Now, even if Yun Qinghong arrived, there was no possibility of survival.

As for Yun Che, in front of this frightening person from Illusory Demon Realm, no one would believe that he had any chance of escape... It would be impossible for even a slim chance of a struggle.

However, as though she did not have any control, the Little Demon Empress opened her arms and followed Yun Che's instructions, hugging his waist tightly...

During the Demon Imperial Reign Ceremony, he had continuously defied what people thought to be impossible with earth-shattering results and repeatedly turned their laughter into shock... By himself, he rebuilt the reputation of the Yun Family and decimated Duke Huai's foolproof plan... causing her to feel deep admiration for the first time in her life.

Now, she also could not help but to trust him.

Hugging this twenty-two year old man who was weak and yet ignored all danger to protect her suddenly made her feel more assured. She was immersed in this mysterious, foreign and incomprehensible feeling. In the depths of her head, a muffled voice seemed to be telling her, "This is... the feeling of relying on someone..."

Duke Ming raised both his hands and looked towards the sky saying, "Princess Caiyi, your Demon Emperor's bloodline has already ruled over Illusory Demon Realm for ten thousand years. It's time for this to end. From today onwards, there will no longer be any Demon Emperor within Illusory Demon Realm, and my son will no longer be Duke Huai. Instead, he will immediately ascend the throne and become Emperor Huai! As for your Demon Emperor's clan, you'll be soon be forgotten by the Illusory Demon Realm. And you, Princess Caiyi, will not only be the last ruler of the era of Demon Emperors, you'll also become the shameful conclusion to that era of Demon Emperors. It's such a pity you won't live to see all this."

"Royal father," Duke Huai said, "let me deliver their ends to them. These two pathetic worms are too lowly for royal father to personally act. Especially Yun Che... let me kill him personally to quell the hatred in my heart."

Duke Ming glanced and faintly said, "You're a mid stage monarch and the person that is about to ascend the throne of Illusory Demon Realm. Yet, you actually took initiative and are so desperate to kill this person whose age and strength are far below you. In front of him, you have failed miserably."

Duke Ming's faint words caused Duke Huai's body to stiffen as he hung his head in shame and say, "I am useless..."

"No, this duke did not say that you're wrong." Duke Ming slowly continued, "This was the first time in your life your plans were messed up; your emotions lost control, you were shamed, and all this was because of a mere youth older than twenty. This was something you could not comprehend. and perhaps you have not realized but in your heart, he has already planted a demon... The only way for you to completely exterminate the demon in your heart is to personally kill Yun Che."

"Kill them!"

Duke Huai suddenly looked up and replied, "Yes!"

“Also! Facing someone you must kill, no matter how weak that person is, even if he’s like the meat below your knife, you must not toy with him! You must eradicate him in the shortest amount of time possible!”

“I will remember royal father’s teachings!”

Duke Huai immediately appeared in front of Yun Che, and locked onto him with a strong aura. Duke Huai smiled as his casual and arrogant gaze made it seem as though he was looking at two pathetic worms, “Yun Che, this duke has been thinking for the past few hours how he could tear your corpse to shreds personally to quell my hatred. However, it’s no longer important now. This duke going to be the ruler of Illusory Demon Realm soon, and you no longer have the qualifications for this duke to hate you. You don’t even deserve to be looked in the eye by this duke. Having the Little Demon Empress accompany you in death sure is a lucky thing.”

“Then, you shall continue protect the Little Demon Empress in hell!”

Duke Huai’s face revealed ferocity as he raised both his hands and laughed hysterically. A skull-shaped crimson-black flame then appeared above his head and grew more than thirty meters in size instantly. The sky was now darker, and the fire spirits and lightning spirits escaped frantically as though they were scared of something...

Duke Huai had always put Duke Ming’s words in his mind and this blow of his was nearly ninety percent of all his strength. This fallen flame that was used against a Sky Profound Realm profound practitioner was no longer simple overkill... this was strength that could even destroy the Little Demon Empress in one move in her current state.

There was an instant of darkness as the massive Fallen Flame Devil shot straight towards Yun Che with a devilish howl... Although their main motive coming to Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley today was to kill the Little Demon Empress, both Duke Ming and Duke Huai targeted their attacks at Yun Che and not the Little Demon Empress.

Perhaps within their consciousness, Yun Che was the bigger threat, as compared to the Little Demon Empress.

Such a frightening attack would put even an Overlord to death, needless to say someone in the Sky Profound Realm.

The profound energy in the Little Demon Empress surged as she wanted to defend, ignoring the dangers to her heart vessel, when she heard Yun Che shout, “Don’t move!!!”

Yun Che retreated at full strength as his right hand supported the Little Demon Empress’ waist tightly. However, under the pressure emitted by Duke Huai, it was extremely difficult for him to move as he saw the Fallen Flame Devil approaching... At the instant the Fallen Flame Devil was about to hit him, he turned abruptly and allowed the Fallen Flame Devil to strike against his back...

“Sealing Cloud Locking Sun!!!”

BOOM!!!

Following a deafening blast, the Fallen Flame Devil that came from Duke Huai exploded and filled the air over tens of kilometers, which made the surroundings seem as though it was a world where the flames of doomsday had arrived. Yun Che had been swept several kilometers away, as though he was wind blown by a typhoon...

Seeing the figure that was a distance away, the smile on Duke Huai's face stiffened and even Duke Ming's expression darkened, "What?!"

A strike that was nearly full power from a mid stage Monarch. Even a hundred or ten thousand Sky Profound practitioners would be destroyed instantly without any trace.

However, Yun Che had only been sent several kilometers away and his body was still intact. Although his aura was extremely weak, he was still alive! Even his consciousness did not seem to dissipate... He was still carrying the Little Demon Empress and rushed towards the north with a speed that was not possible for his profound strength.

"He actually... didn't die?!" Duke Huai's eyes stared widely and did not revert for some time as he could not believe what he saw or felt.

However, how could he know that Yun Che had possessed the body of the Dragon God, was under the protection of the Great Way of the Buddha, and had undergone eighteen months of refinement within the spatial storm without using any profound strength. A normal tyrant was unable to harm him.

Furthermore, the protection of Sealing Cloud Locking Sun and his high resistance against flame profound arts... Even a blow at full strength by him, Duke Huai, was unable to take Yun Che's life!

"Hmph, although he did not die, he's severely injured. All his organs have been shifted and half of his meridians have been severed," Duke Ming said calmly, but the shock in his eyes still did not dissipate. A Sky Profound Realm practitioner forcefully receiving a blow of a mid stage Monarch without dying, and still even possessed enough strength to escape... Even for someone as strong as Duke Ming, it was something that shocked the depths of his heart.

If this person did not die... When he matured, his strength would be frightening!

Luckily, he was bound to die today!

"Quickly give chase... and kill them!" Duke Ming said deeply.

Yun Che pushed his Extreme Mirage Lightning to its limits. While severely injured, his vision was sometimes clear and sometimes blurred. However, his speed did not drop one bit.

They were originally already at the borders of Golden Crow Lightning Crow Valley and now, just below them, was a bloody red scene — That was the sea of lava which had been boiling for ten thousand years.

One thousand and five hundred kilometers of the Sea of Death!

A warm fluid gradually flowed onto the Little Demon Empress' hand. She then turned and looked at her palms... Her two slender and snow white arms had now been completely dyed with blood. It was as though she had just been soaking in a sea of blood.

The Little Demon Empress' body trembled slightly.

She looked up, her eyes meeting Yun Che's at that instant. From Yun Che's face, she could not see any signs of pain; instead, she saw a gradual smile, "Don't worry, I'm alright."

The warm voice and the gentle smile seemed to have its own indescribable magical powers as it strongly touched the depths of the Little Demon Empress' soul, making her lose focus and forgetting how to speak.

"Do you feel that... I'm very outstanding, heheh!" Yun Che laughed. As they went closer and closer to the Sea of Death, the surrounding air had become ten times hotter than what a normal human being could bear.

Little Demon Empress, "..."

Behind them, Duke Ming and Duke Huai approached swiftly, and within a few breaths of time, they had already closed the distance by half. However, when they were finally above the Sea of Death, their speeds had clearly slowed down. Perhaps they had guessed what Yun Che had done, or maybe it was because the Sea of Death was too frightening and they did not dare to approach it.

"They actually entered the Sea of Death!" Duke Huai gritted his teeth. Before, he did not manage to kill Yun Che in one move and looked as though he still could not comprehend.

"Looks like you've chosen an honorable death!" Duke Ming replied faintly, "Hmph! Alright, it'll save us the trouble. The eventual results of dying in our hands would also be being thrown into the Sea of Death."

Yun Che's speed had also slowed down until he completely stopped. He did not turn around to see how close Duke Ming and Duke Huai were, but instead, looked ahead at the blood-like sea that seemed boundless, "I do not know what your chances of survival are from me doing this... However, this was the only way that I imagined where we had any chances..."

"Hug me tightly... Close your eyes..."

Yun Che released his profound energy and Phoenix Flame. The scarlet flame wrapped around him and the Little Demon Empress and yet, it did not make Little Demon Empress feel any sensation of heat... Just the feeling of a warm breeze blowing around her.

Yun Che closed his eyes and exhaled heavily. His hands wrapped around the Little Demon Empress tightly as he removed his profound energy that was causing them to float and crashed down along with her... They fell straight into the Sea of Death below them and silently sunk into the seemingly boundless, blood-like sea.

Chapter 600 - Endless Molten Lava

The searing heat wave in the air above the Sea of Death was even scarier than the profound flames released by a normal Overlord. The fire spirits wandering above the air were all releasing the aura of the Tyrant Profound Realm. Furthermore, it was said that deep within the Sea of Death, fire spirits of the Sovereign Profound Realm were bred.

Duke Ming and Duke Huai's bodies were frozen as they helplessly watched Yun Che and the Little Demon Empress fall into the Sea of Death. Duke Ming waved his long sleeves and took Duke Huai with him through space. Almost within the instant they traveled, backed away from above the Sea of Death to its edge. Because as strong as Duke Huai was, overstaying there would still be unbearable.

"Hmph! Letting them die just like that... It's too easy for them!" Falling into the Sea of Death would certainly mean their deaths. There was not any possibility for them to survive it, because even if it was his royal father, Duke Ming, who fell within, he would be melted into ashes in the time of at most ten breaths. But Duke Huai didn't get too much pleasure from it; instead he gnashed his teeth from feeling unhappy with the result!

Because Yun Che and the Little Demon Empress could be tortured and killed at his will, he used all of his strength, but he was extremely surprised that not only was he not able to kill them, but instead gave them a chance to kill themselves... especially Yun Che! Even though Yun Che died and completely perished right before his eyes, Duke Huai couldn't fully release the anger that was bottled up in his chest the whole day, and this made him incredibly uncomfortable.

"When you couldn't kill them just now, this duke already knew that they would choose this way to die," Duke Ming said softly.

"It's this child's incapability," Duke Huai lowered his head and said.

"Let it go." Duke Ming looked at the Sea of Death that was forever boiling with indifference in his eyes, and followed with a slow, cold sneer, "Today's Grand Ceremony was a complete mess, but it was a blessing in disguise! The return of the Demon Emperor's Seal easily made the Little Demon Empress give us a chance to kill her! And Yun Che barging in was another additional reward! Dying in Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, perishing in the Sea of Death, not even half a trace of it would remain. Even if he really had a powerful master, or a strong force behind him, they will never be able to trace it back to us."

"This is all heaven's will... Heaven is favoring our clan!"

"That's right, it is all heaven's will!" Duke Huai laughed loudly, "The Little Demon Empress died. There is no longer a Demon Emperor's bloodline in this world! After this, the Illusory Demon Realm will belong to us! Congratulations royal father... No, I should congratulate our clan finally following the heaven's will and getting what we wished for, and will control the Illusory Demon Realm from now on!"

"Don't celebrate so early yet." Duke Ming said slowly, "The Little Demon Empress' death was only the end of the generations of Demon Emperor's rulings. There are still a lot of obstacles on your path of becoming the emperor! Those Guardian Families and Duke Palaces that will be loyal to the Demon Emperor's clan 'til death are all great obstacles. Especially the Yun and Mu Families; according to what Yun Che had said earlier, they are already suspecting this duke's existence."

"Don't worry, royal father," Duke Huai said while seeming confident, "when the Little Demon Empress was alive, they were already suppressed to an extent that they didn't even have the guts to do anything! Now that the Little Demon Empress is dead, they lost their backbone, and are more like a sheet of loose sand. Perhaps they would even rush to our Duke Huai Palace to surrender... Talk about an obstacle

that's worth considering, hmph, simply relying on a revived Yun Qinghong still cannot help them thrive in this environment!"

Duke Ming didn't show any expression, and slowly nodded his head, "Royal father still cannot show his face in this short period of time. The path has already been paved successfully. It will be up to you to get rid of the last obstacles. If you can't even do that..."

"I will definitely not disappoint royal father!" Duke Huai said in an arrogantly, definite tone before Duke Ming finished speaking.

At this moment, Duke Ming suddenly turned around, looked to the south indifferently, and said in a low voice, "People from the Yun Family and the Mu Family are here... There are twelve people in total. Hmph, their lineup is enough, but unfortunately it's too late!"

"Then what should we do now? Avoid them?" Duke Huai said, his expression didn't show any surprise or panic.

"No need." Duke Ming raised his arm, and held up the Demon Emperor's Seal, "Do you know why even though I still make the effort to seize this Demon Emperor's Seal even when I have the absolute confidence in putting the Little Demon Empress to death?"

Duke Huai answered, "Royal father said, when the people of the Demon Emperor's clan have the Demon Emperor's Seal on them, if they are in danger of life, the Demon Emperor's Seal will automatically drink the Demon Emperor's blood in order to launch the blood escape, and the power of blood escape can help them escape out of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley... Also, if the Little Demon Empress finds the chance to escape to the spot where she first entered Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, she could use the Demon Emperor's Seal to directly leave Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley..."

Having spoken of that, Duke Huai was suddenly enlightened, "Royal father, could it be..."

"That's right," Duke Ming grabbed the Demon Emperor's Seal, "In order to escape Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, it needs the Demon Emperor's blood. But in the memory of the Little Demon Emperor, it clearly recorded that dukes with a thin Demon Emperor's blood can also do so! It would only take more blood."

"In the entire world, only the two of us know this secret. It is known to the common people that if you want to get out of Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, you can only wait until the seal forms itself again, and then be forcefully discharged. Aside from this, there is no other way!"

"If so, when we use the Demon Emperor's Seal to escape Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley, and after this you show yourself in the Demon Imperial City, then everyone would know that you couldn't have been in Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley! After the news of the Little Demon Empress disappearing in Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley spreads out, if the Yun Family and the Mu Family go against you, you could use this to shut them up, and even accuse them!"

Duke Huai's eyes immediately brightened up; he could almost see the incredibly awful look on Yun Qinghong's face when that happened, "Royal father is wise!"

"Let us wait temporarily for an hour," Duke Ming said softly as he looked at the Sea of Death once again.

Duke Huai stuttered, "Could royal father be worried that... but falling into the Sea of Death, there is no possibility for them to live. Even if it was royal father, you would also..."

"Hmph!" Duke Ming scoffed lightly, "This Yun Che reveals a lot of strangeness! You weren't able to kill him with all your powers, making me feel like this person cannot be judged with normal reasoning... it even made me feel an instant of a sense of danger!"

"Even if the Little Demon Empress doesn't die, he must die!" Duke Ming said coldly, "This Sea of Death is the molten lava of the Golden Crow that has been boiling for ten thousand years!"

"This can count as a reward for him making this duke feel an instant of the sense of danger!"

"Yes." Even though Duke Huai thought Duke Ming's cautiousness was too exaggerated and even ridiculous, he didn't dare to disobey. And one hour was far from enough for the Yun Family and the Mu Family who had entered Golden Crow Lightning Flame Valley to arrive here in time.

The only result of falling into the Sea of Death was becoming ashes, no matter who it was.

The Little Demon Empress closed her eyes... Disappearing into the Sea of Death was at least far better than dying in the hands of Duke Ming and Duke Huai. It was just that she was destined to not be able to take revenge and reconcile this hatred higher than the heavens. Even the truth would remain unknown forever. Even the whole Illusory Demon Realm would fall into the hands of Duke Huai Palace.

She had an infinite amount of unwillingness, but at this moment, she was incredibly calm. She didn't know if it was because death was close within reach, or because... of this man by her side who was hugging with her tightly.

She felt her entire body sinking into the boiling lava, the sense of burning was flowing everywhere. What was even more scary than the burning feeling, was the sense of death. But the time passed by breath by breath, she still didn't feel her life disappearing, didn't lose her senses, but the sensation of sinking was particularly clear. The burning feeling around her still existed, but it didn't become stronger. Even though her body had been seriously injured, she was still able to endure it completely.

The Little Demon Empress opened her eyes in confusion, and found a pair of bright eyes looking straight at her. Yun Che grinned and said, "Heh... did... you... think... that... you died... already?"

In her sight, besides Yun Che... everything else was dark red like the color of blood!

Whether it was front, back, up, or down... the slowly boiling lava was everywhere!!

They were in the world of molten lava right now, but somehow this molten lava didn't touch their bodies. Surrounding them was a three meters thick layer of bright, red flames. This layer of bright, red flames was thin, but it completely isolated the endless molten lava around them... Even the burning temperature of the molten lava was significantly reduced!

The Little Demon Empress knew how scary the molten lava of the Sea of Death was. No one in the Illusory Demon Realm would disagree calling it the scariest thing in the world. Isolating the molten lava in the Sea of Death... not to mention her, even if her royal father were still alive, it would be absolutely impossible to do it.

But that layer of flames... the bright, red flames from Yun Che, was able to do it.

“This... What is going on?” The Little Demon Empress’ voice was as if she was in a dream; she still couldn’t believe her eyes.

Yun Che clenched his teeth tightly. He had the power of the Evil God; even if the molten lava of the Sea of Death was ten times scarier, it wouldn’t be able to harm him. But he must pour all of his powers into isolating the molten lava and the scary heat to protect the Little Demon Empress. Even though he had an incomparable fire controlling ability, this was the fire from the holy Golden Crow after all, and the molten lava surrounding them spread for a thousand miles endlessly. It wasn’t an easy task for him to completely isolate it.

It was incredibly difficult for Yun Che to say the few words to the Little Demon Empress. Facing the Little Demon Empress’ questions, he already didn’t have the strength to explain, instead he clenched his teeth, and said difficulty, “I don’t know... how long... I can last... Duke Ming’s temperament is even more cautious than Duke Huai... Right now... they must still be guarding outside... so we cannot... leave yet...”

“Right now... I cannot be distracted to attend to you... If you want to kill Duke Ming yourself for revenge... try your hardest to lock in your vitality... At least before I can’t hold on anymore... you absolutely cannot die!”

With a broken lifeline, normal people would have died instantly already. Even an Overlord could only struggle to survive for a couple hours at most before dying... Even though a Monarch with a broken lifeline would also die for sure, if they supported themselves with all of their strength, with the profound body and powerful profound strength they had that exceeds the common people, there was a possibility for them to live for another several days, even dozens of days!

“...” The Little Demon Empress stared at Yun Che for a while. When she closed her eyes, the word “death” had already completely disappeared from her mind, and it was replaced by a strong desire to survive with deep, complicated emotions. She stopped being aware of the environment around them, forgot where she was, channeled the rest of the profound energy left in her whole body, and used it all to lock up the last of her life vitality... She must live; even if it wasn’t for revenge, it was for the hope Yun Che gave her with his everything.

“You idiot, hurry up and channel the Great Way of the Buddha!” Jasmine said in an exasperating tone, “In this molten lava environment, the active rate of the elements are no less than the spatial storm of the Primordial Profound Ark! The force of nature you absorb in every breath using the Great Way of the Buddha will be several dozens of times greater than of the outside world! Not only can it heal the wound on your body fast, your healing ability will also far surpass the depletion... and here you are questioning how long you can hold on for!”

“Of course I can hold on for as long as I want to!”

Yun Che’s eyes widened... when he realized it, he almost wanted to slap himself on the face... He was overthinking it under the shadow of Duke Ming, he ignored the fact that the Sea of Death was in an extreme elemental environment!

When he was first in the extreme elemental environment in the Primordial Profound Ark, his Great Way of the Buddha could absorb several dozen times the force of nature compared to normal, and kept him alive while his body was being destroyed by the spatial storm... Of course he could do it here!!

Yun Che focused his mind shortly, and a dull golden pagoda appeared spinning above his head. Instantly, pure natural essence flowed into his body like a stream... In merely the time for one breath, this stream already surged and became a flood, flowing into his whole body in an almost crazy level... Yun Che's brain immediately became clear, the tiredness of his body was speedily decreasing, his outside wounds were healing at a speed that could be seen with the naked eye, even his broken meridians were healing at a speed that normal people couldn't even believe.