

## **The Gods 781**

### **Chapter 781 - Fierce Battle within the Devil Nest**

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boooooom...

The Moon Slaughter Devil Nest was enduring the most terrifying calamity it had ever experienced in its existence as raging flames and sinister darkness filled every nook and cranny. The space within was crazily collapsing in on itself and the thunderous explosions sounded like they were being produced by a heavenly bell that was being repeatedly smashed by an enormous mountain... At this moment, if there were other profound practitioners on the scene, even if they were strong individuals who were at the Emperor Profound Realm, just these earth-shaking explosions would be enough to instantly cause their energy and blood to flow in reverse, rendering them unconscious.

And if they were slightly weaker than that, they might simply be killed on the spot, completely shattered in body and soul.

One man and one devil had already exchanged hundreds of blows in this sealed world of darkness. It was as though the both of them had come to an agreement of sorts, as their strength continued to rise with no end in sight... both man and devil kept pushing each other and testing the limits of each other's power.

The catastrophe that had engulfed the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest grew more and more intense and it was as if the small world had been thrown into the mouth of an erupting volcano... Only the half-bloomed Netherworld Udumbara Flower remained undisturbed, even though it was right in the eye of the storm. It gently and leisurely swayed as it continued to let out those ghostly wails every now and then.

Bang!!!

Yun Che's sword exploded forward but the body of the blade was smashed aside by the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign. Flames which contained the strength of the heavy sword exploded against a stone wall that was more than one hundred fifty meters away. Immediately, an extremely shrill and piercing cracking sound muffled the explosions of the flames as a long crack which stretched all the way to the floor appeared on the stone wall.

To make a crack in the walls of this place was even harder than smashing apart an enormous mountain with the stroke of a sword!

Yun Che's blade sliced through the air as he lost his balance, but he swiftly gathered himself. Grasping the five hundred thousand kilogram Heaven Smiting Sword easily in his hand, he immediately counterattacked, fiercely smashing the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's devilish claws aside.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boooooom...

The Moon Slaughter Devil Nest continued to shake as stone fragments began to fall from the crack in the stone wall that Yun Che had smashed. Before those fragments even hit the ground, they were swallowed up by an immeasurably frenzied vortex of energy.

After more than ten thousand exchanges, it was remarkable that the man and the devil were still evenly matched. From the start to now, neither party was able to gain even the slightest advantage over the other.

Yun Che's expression was extremely gloomy, because this was no simple exchange of skills, this was a fight to the death. Between him and the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, one of them had to die... Yet his eyes were shining with an excitement which only seemed to grow fiercer still with each passing moment.

On the other hand, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was growing more and more alarmed.

He was a devil, a true devil from the ancient times and he was a ruler among the devils at that! Moreover, it was tacitly understood by all devils that humans were merely an inferior lifeform that was not much different from a scurrying ant. In the past, a casual wave of his hand would have been enough to destroy a planet that contained billions of humans.

So even though his life and soul origin had sustained incredible damage and his current strength was not even a fraction of what it used to be, the contempt that he had for humans still remained carved into his very bones. Even though he was in his current weakened state, the aura that Yun Che exuded was still many times weaker than his own... and even though Yun Che held a bizarre blade that caused his power to recoil and his soul to tremble uncontrollably in fear, in the eyes of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, he was still an insect.

However, from the moment he had first exchanged blows with Yun Che, shock began to resonate within his soul. Not only did this shock not grow weaker with each exchange, it was instead growing more and more intense with each passing moment... Initially, he had not used all of his strength, because when he was facing a lowly creature such as this, using all of his might would be a huge stain on his name. After realizing that Yun Che's strength was far greater than he had initially anticipated, he also began to increase the power that he used. But no matter how much his power rose, the other party was able to match it. And right now, it had reached the point where he was using ninety percent of his strength, yet he was still unable to suppress Yun Che.

The power that radiated from that vermillion greatsword alarmed him greatly. Given such power, every swing of that sword should expend a great amount of Yun Che's energy, as he merely had the body of a mortal. Shockingly, even after a thousand sword strokes, not only had his blows not become softer, they were actually growing stronger and stronger with each swing...

This was a lowly creature with an inferior body and aura. Yet he seemed to hold a power that was not inferior to the power his devil god body bestowed him!

This damnable human being, he was definitely desperately holding on just by the skin of his teeth! Given his pathetic aura and his pathetic body, how can he continue to release such a level of power!?

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's expression warped fiercely as black light suddenly exploded out of his fiendish pupils. The highest level of the Illusory Devil Tome of Eternal Night was instantly channeled and dark devil energy surged up from within his entire body without reservation.

Yun Che's brows knit together as he let out a great roar. All of the muscles in his arms swelled, veins twisting and joints popping explosively as he shot forward using both feet as a spring. Berserk profound

energy flowed from his entire body into his arms before surging into the Heaven Smiting Sword. Without holding back, he fiercely swept the sword forward.

Boooooom!!!

The dark earth beneath Yun Che's feet had completely fractured and stone fragments were billowing in the air like leaves in his wake. He heavily smashed into the wall behind him with a loud crash... the overly strong stone wall caused the enormous power that he had endured to completely rebound back into him, rendering his entire body numb. His consciousness instantly blanked as he nearly spat a large amount of blood out of his mouth.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was not in a much better state than he was. He had been sent flying overhead by Yun Che's sword smash. His huge devil body had smashed into the stone ceiling above before violently rebounding off of it. After that, he had rolled for tens of meters before he finally smashed into a stone wall.

When the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign finally stood up, his eyes and expression had completely changed. Even his breathing had grown incredibly rough and heavy.

He... a mighty devil lord, to think that he had actually been sent flying by a human being!!

Sent flying by a human being!!

Sent flying!!

It was like a devilish curse that resonated in his ears and his soul again and again. When he had been wounded by Yun Che's sword at first, it was because he had been in a total state of shock and so he did not react fast enough to defend. But this time around, he had clearly used all of his powers in an all-out clash, and there were no cheap tricks involved either, yet he was still sent flying in the end!!

Sent flying by a human being!

What kind of a humiliation was that!?

It also clearly proved that... the human who stood in front of him, the one that he had thought to be no more significant than an ant, actually had power that rivalled his own!

Yun Che had gotten to his feet before the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign and even though he had endured an attack from his opponent at full strength, the five hundred thousand kilogram Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword had not budged from his grip. Though some of his bones had sustained hairline fractures and more than ten of his veins had snapped, to him, these were merely superficial injuries. He stabilized his energy and blood before slowly sauntering towards the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, "Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, you kept calling me a pathetic and lowly human being, so here I was, thinking that you were hot stuff... But it turns out that you only amount to this much after all!!"

"You... dare... to..."

Regardless of Yun Che's reckless mockery, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had already become so incensed and ashamed because of this humiliation that all his rationality had practically flown out the

window. During the Primordial Era, even in the world of devils, he was still one of the devils that stood above the rest! Mere human beings were not even qualified to kneel in his presence!

Yet right now, he had been sent flying by a human, had been wounded by a human, was being looked upon contemptuously by a human and had even received mockery from a human.

This was like no humiliation he had ever experienced before in his lifetime!!

“Light... less... Eternal... Night!!”

As he chanted those words in a voice filled with enough hate to encompass the universe. Boundless darkness descended from above like a pitch-black curtain. It instantly plunged Yun Che into a quagmire of darkness as that terrifying devouring power immediately assaulted both his body and soul. Every cell in his body seemed to be swarmed by countless dark and sinister hands which tried to drag him towards the abyss of death.

Yun Che instantly recognized it. This was actually the move that Fen Juechen had used during their duel several months ago. The Dark Domain that he had released when he was on the brink of defeat, regardless of the cost.

During that moment, all the light had been swallowed up and it was as if he had been pulled into an endless dark quagmire... It was only the Heaven Smiting Sword that was still able to emit that unrelenting vermilion light within the boundless darkness. When he brandished the sword, that streak of vermilion light had easily torn through the unending night.

The Lightless Eternal Night that was used by the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was many times stronger than the one that Fen Juechen had used. But the vermilion light of the Heaven Smiting Sword continued to flash in the midst of that dark abyss! In this dense and inky darkness, the light emitted by the sword was even more eye-catching.

“Break!!”

“Yellow Springs Ashes!!”

The Heaven Smiting Sword smashed forward heavily, instantly slashing apart this world of darkness as its sweeping blade formed a true vacuum which extended out more than ten meters in diameter. The frenzied Golden Crow flames ignited and spread like wildfire as they fiercely penetrated every nook and cranny of this dark world. In the blink of an eye, the world within the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest seemed to be engulfed in crimson black lava that looked tyrannical enough to annihilate everything.

Darkness and fire tore at one another and in the midst of this catastrophic collision, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign and Yun Che resumed their battle once more. This time, the man and the devil no longer bothered testing each other's strength. Every claw and sword stroke was sent out with full force. The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's expression was so warped that it barely resembled anything normal anymore. The roars coming from his mouth no longer held his previous devilish majesty, instead, they sounded malevolent and terrifying. All of the veins in Yun Che's body were burning and every stroke of his sword was accompanied by a hoarse cry of fury.

Lightless Eternal Night, Yellow Springs Ashes... Both of them had activated startlingly powerful domains, yet both attacks were confined within the tiny interior of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest. The current

Moon Slaughter Devil Nest could not merely be called a world that had been stricken by calamity, it had practically become a hell of destruction! It would not matter if the living or the dead entered this place, because within a few short seconds, they would all be reduced to nothingness.

Even though it had become such a realm of destruction, both opponents still continued to crazily claw at each other within.

Yun Che's clothes had long since been blown to shreds. His skin was a startling crimson-black color and his entire body was covered with hundreds of big and small holes, some of which were so deep that they nearly exposed bone. Many clusters of flame burned on the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's body as well but the two seemed to be completely indifferent to their own injuries and their opponent's injuries. They did not care about what damage their respective domains wrought on each other and every single attack that was being made was extremely fierce and deadly... They were doing their utmost to consign their opponent to the grave!

One devil and one man had fought to the point where both parties seemed insane. Within the Sky Poison Pearl, Jasmine had been quietly observing this vicious fight. Just like the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, she had never thought that Yun Che could go toe to toe with the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign without exhausting all of his trump cards.

The most important reason for this was Hong'er... in other words, the existence of the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword!

Hong'er's presence allowed Yun Che to completely escape the spiritual suppression that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had inflicted on him purely based on the fact that the level of his power far exceeded that of Yun Che. At the same time, this same suppression was instead visited upon the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign himself!

During this fierce and vicious duel, Yun Che had managed to maintain his eager and composed state of my mind. Yet the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, who had ten thousand times the amount of experience in cultivating his mental state, had been in a state of constant frenzied rage... and within this rage, Jasmine could still detect the uncontrollable trembling of his soul.

Furthermore, when the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's power approached Yun Che... or more accurately, approached the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword, it would instantly weaken by a full thirty percent! Such a great decline in power was not accompanied by any grand show or series of events, it simply seemed as if that power had suddenly vanished into thin air!

In other words, even though the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was using all of his strength, Yun Che only endured what amounted to seventy percent of his full power.

This point was something that Yun Che had not noticed but the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was well aware of it. Jasmine had also clearly detected this as well.

With all these factors added together, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, who was clearly far superior to Yun Che in every aspect, was drawn into a deadly struggle with Yun Che, something that he had not even dreamed possible.

And the source behind all of these factors was the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword!

A devil slayer sword was the bane of all devils.

But the constraints that the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword had placed on the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's far exceeded the effects of any other devil slayer sword that were recorded in the memories that Jasmine had inherited.

The name "Heaven Smiting Devil God Sword" that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had at first shouted out and then denied had caused an enormous ripple to resonate in Jasmine's heart and up till now, she still could not calm her heart and mind.

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The world inside the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest was being turned upside down. But the outside world which was separated from it by that shimmering blue barrier was calm and peaceful.

The sky had gradually darkened but Feng Xue'er remained rooted to her original position. No matter how hard the ocean winds blew, she had not moved even half a step. Those pretty eyes which contained the most beautiful and brilliant light in the world remain focused solely on the shimmering blue barrier in front of them. Her gaze did not waver for even a second, as if she was afraid that she would miss something in that instant.

Xia Yuanba flew over from far away before finally arriving at Feng Xue'er's side. It had been more than eight hours since Yun Che had been sealed within the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest. In these eight hours, he had paced around the barrier that surrounded it countless times. He had tried his hardest to find anything abnormal about the barrier but he was unable to detect even the slightest ripple of profound energy.

Feng Xue'er stood there in a complete daze, her eyes vacant. Xia Yuanba's heart was pained at that sight and once more, he tried to comfort her in a soft voice, "Little Sister Xue'er, you should go back to the Ocean Palace to rest first. Your father and family are definitely extremely worried about you. I will keep watch over this place and the moment Brother-in-law comes out, I will inform you immediately... you know, your father came here about an hour ago. He surveyed us from a distance before leaving again."

"...I want to wait here for Big Brother Yun." Feng Xue'er murmured in a soft and gentle voice, "If I am not here when he comes out of that place, he will definitely be worried."

"..." Xia Yuanba gave a quiet sigh and did not attempt to advise her any further. He flew to the spot that was directly above the middle of the barrier as he tried to detect any changes that occurred in this silent world. Before today, he had never thought that this girl, who was more gently beautiful than the purest snow, would have such a stubborn and obstinate side to her.

"Ah but women... they really are troublesome." Xia Yuanba quietly muttered to himself with emotion, "I think it would be better if I don't find a wife for my entire life."

## **Chapter 782 - Devil Transformation**

Boom boom boom...

It was as if countless bolts of heavenly lightning were exploding in the air as more and more of the black stone that had been tempered by the darkness energy for ten thousand years began to crumble apart.

Then, the stone fragments were fiercely sucked into the powerful currents of profound energy flowing through the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest. Fire light shot out in all directions as darkness saturated the air. The Moon Slaughter Devil Nest's quaking did not abate in the slightest.

Both man and devil had been bogged down in furious combat for an unknown period of time. The wounds on both their bodies were too numerous to count but the power that exploded out from the both of them were still sufficient to shake the heavens and move the earth. In both of his lives, Yun Che had gone through countless life-and-death battles but none of those battles had lasted as long nor been as vicious as this one.

Even though Yun Che had entered the highest tier of profound strength that existed within the Profound Sky Continent, there were still many people from the Four Great Sacred Grounds who could defeat him.

However in terms of endurance and recovery ability, he was undoubtedly number one in the entire Profound Sky Continent.

When he had dueled with Fen Juechen several months ago, he had not known that Hong'er was able to restrict his powers. So he had to rely on his absurdly strong recovery ability to outlast Fen Juechen and defeat him. But today, he had met an opponent whose endurance and recovery ability was no less than his own.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign who possessed a devil body!!

Their fight had lasted for several hours but every blow that they sent at each other was still deadly and incisive. However, their power, speed, and the sharpness of their attacks had clearly declined. Both of them had been similarly weakened, so neither party could gain a clear edge.

Boom!!

The Heaven Smiting Sword clashed with the devil claws of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign in midair as another thunderous explosion resounded. A large amount of black stone was pounded into dust by the aftershock of that attack, causing the air in the entire Moon Slaughter Devil Nest to grow gray and hazy.

Darkness energy and Golden Crow flames crazily circulated around the two as the respective energies attempted to tear away and devour one another. It was literally like seeing two vicious beasts which hated each other engage in combat.

Bang!!

The ground that had already begun to sink beneath their feet started to fracture even more. The stone ceiling above their heads had also begun to resemble a giant dome. At this point, the devil claws that clashed with Yun Che's heavy sword suddenly drew back. With a howl of fury, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign thrust out both his hands. Ten ebon beams of profound light shot out from each of his ten emaciated, claw-like fingers as they stabbed towards Yun Che's chest.

Yun Che's body unconsciously started to move backwards. Through sheer force of will, he stubbornly stopped his first reaction, forcing his body to stay put. He neither tried to dodge, nor counter strike, instead pouring all of the profound energy protecting his body into his arms. As the pupils of eyes contacted, he sent his sword sweeping towards the chest of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign.

The boundless pressure generated by this sword stroke threatened to collapse the space in a thirty meter radius around them.

Boom!

The sword beam generated by the Heaven Smiting Sword fiercely swept across the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's chest. There was a sickening snap as the largest bone in his chest was smashed into several pieces and his body was flung hundreds of meters away.. However, all ten beams of the dark devil energy that were shot out by the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign also stabbed into Yun Che's body, causing his vision to go dark as his body stumbled back furiously. However, both his hands still remained tightly locked around the vermilion greatsword and he refused to allow it to leave his hands.

A miserable howl of pain rang out as the longest vermilion sword wound to date had been inflicted on the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's chest. The wound also brought along pain and trauma that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had never experienced before. The heavy sword energy that surged out from the vermilion sword wound on his chest, poured into his devil body as it wreaked wanton destruction on his body and already weakened life force.

Even though a long time had passed, Yun Che remained sitting slumped on the ground and still had not gotten up yet. The ten beams of dark devil energy that bored into his body were like ten devilish needles that came from the depths of the underworld themselves. They ate away at his flesh, meridians and internal organs, wracking his body with so much pain that even his soul could barely stand it.

He pressed his lips together tightly, refusing to let even a hiss of pain escape his lips.

"Stop inhaling right now. Use the cleansing power of the Phoenix flames and the destructive power of the Evil God's profound energy!" Jasmine exclaimed in a low voice, "You are really far too reckless! That energy originated from a true devil! If it enters your body, no ordinary profound energy will be able to cleanse it away! If not for you possessing the profound energy of the Evil God and the cleansing power of the Phoenix flames, you would have basically thrown away half your life there and then!"

Yun Che fiercely gritted his teeth while quickly regaining his composure. Phoenix flames began to swiftly circulate throughout his body as he also used the Evil God's profound energy to wrap up those ten beams of dark devil energy. In a short amount of time, all ten beams of devilish energy were sealed tightly before they were purified by both the Phoenix flames and Evil God's profound energy working in tandem.

Pfft!

Yun Che lurched forward as a large amount of black blood sprayed from his mouth. All of the energy in his body, as well as his five senses, became clear. Unfortunately, his aura had weakened by yet another degree.

But it was clear that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was in a far worse situation.

Yun Che had taken those ten beams of devilish energy in order to land an extremely heavy blow on the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign. The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's miserable cries of incredible pain sent a loud and clear message to Yun Che; that he had gotten the better of that exchange! Even though the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had already gotten to his feet, the vermilion light clearly showed a



hole the size of a human head carved into his chest. Black blood poured out from that hole and Yun Che could even see the broken pitch-black bones jutting out from inside.

Even though the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign tried his best not to cry out, the uncontrollable spasming of his body clearly showed how much pain he was enduring. However, his alarm was far greater than his pain!

Even though his vitality had been sapped, he still had a devil body! No matter how weak a devil body was, it was still something that a mortal's body could not hope to compete with! Furthermore, due to the lingering devil energy within the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest, his wounds and his energy were recovering far faster than they normally did.

He had been forced to use his profound energy from the very start, after such a long and vicious battle, only half his profound energy remained. Given that his opponent had the body of a mortal, his energy should have long been exhausted. But the young human in front of him was weakening at the same rate as he was!

Even the wounds on his body, carved out by the corrosive dark devil energy, were recovering at a rate that completely defied logic.

As for his own wounds... The burns left behind by the Golden Crow flames were still manageable, but the wounds left behind by that vermilion greatsword were another thing altogether! Not only did every one of them caused him immense and unbearable pain, they were recovering at a rate that was more than ten times slower than usual!

"You... who exactly are you!?" As he saw Yun Che, who had taken all ten beams of his devil energy, get up so quickly and calmly, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's pupils widened. He pressed both hands against the hole in his chest and every single finger was trembling as he continued, "You're not human... what exactly are you!?"

His voice now quivered with fear.

Even the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was surprised to hear the fear in his own voice.

He had originally thought that he had encountered a human with a death wish.

Never in his wildest dreams would he have imagined that he would meet a monster among human beings!!

Given that inferior human body, how could he possess this kind of vitality and recovery ability... Furthermore, all of this was occurring while he was stuck in an environment where darkness energy was sapping away at his life at every second!

The sword Yun Che held in his hand was also far more dreadful than any other sword the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had seen during the Primordial Era!!

Even when he had faced off against a true devil slayer sword all those years ago, he had not been seized by this unconscious trembling that he was feeling right now.

"My name is Yun Che and you will find no man more ordinary than I!" Yun Che said as he strode slowly towards the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, "Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign! The era of gods and

devils has long since come to a close! A million years ago, you should have stopped existing in this world! Today, regardless of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, I would still have to consign you to the grave!!”

“Consign this king to the grave? With just you!?” The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign growled through gritted teeth. No matter how bad his situation became, he had never imagined he would ever be reduced to such a pathetic state! And at the hands of a human at that! Boundless fury and humiliation ate away at his already fading rationality and he suddenly let out a furious roar as his entire body was engulfed in a gloomy black fog. At the same time, the crimson black devil tattoos on his chest and back began radiating a deep bloody light.

“You arrogant, ignorant and pathetic human being... this king will let you know just how strong the devil clan is! If you think you alone are capable of defeating this king... you need to stop dreaming!!”

The blood red devil tattoos began to twist and warp as they gradually formed into row upon row of strange runes. The hair on the Moon Devil Sovereign’s head grew even longer as all the bones in his body cracked so loudly that it sounded like a boulder had fractured. The muscles on his body swelled explosively as all four of his limbs instantly doubled in thickness. The blood red meridians present throughout his entire body twisted like earthworms.

A low, pain-filled, roar tore from the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s throat as his body distorted and twisted like a thrashing snake. Jet-black scales quickly appeared on his skin, covering his entire body. A layer of dense, white bone armor grew on his arms and legs. It was as if his bones had been spat out from his flesh so they could wrap around his muscles instead.

This dreadful and bizarre transformation sent a jolt of shock through Yun Che’s heart and he immediately stopped moving forward. At the same time, he could clearly feel the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s aura spike tremendously... Furthermore, it had also become even more sinister and tyrannical than before.

“It’s a transformation!” Jasmine’s exclaimed in a similarly shocked voice but Yun Che heard more caution than alarm.

“All of the ancient devils were able to transform themselves! This type of transformation is different from the shapechange that you are familiar with. It is a method that transforms the body to allow for greater control and release of power. After the transformation is complete, that person will be able to use all of his power. However, the burden on his body and the amount of energy being consumed will greatly increase as well. They would normally only transform into their full-powered state when they were drawn into life-and-death battles! There are some devils that can even undergo multiple transformations as well.”

Zzzt!!

A pair of teeth, which glowed with a dense cold light, extended out of his mouth. They looked like the fangs of a wolf as they flashed with a glaring cold light. Sinister bone spikes had also grown out of his elbows and knees... Finally, the imprint of a blood moon had shockingly appeared on his chest!!

This was the imprint that belong solely to him, the king of the Eternal Night Devil Clan!

During the Primordial Era, this imprint would cause ten thousand devils to bend their knee in submission! But today, a mere human had forced it out!

His fury and power began to spike crazily as the whirling darkness energy coalesced into howling gales. This completely stopped Yun Che's breath as an incomparably heavy pressure assaulted him from all sides, nearly crushing his chest and bending his back.

"His power... has actually risen by a massive amount in just an instant!!" Yun Che, who had originally intended to assault the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign while he was in the midst of his transformation, was slowly being forced backwards by the sharply increasing devil energy. He used both hands to brace himself as a deep expression of shock appeared on his face.

Jasmine let out a emotionless and cold laugh instead, "The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign definitely never imagined that you would be able to force him to transform! The current Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign is a far cry from the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign from the Primordial Era! Given his extremely depleted life force, not only will he have to pay an extremely high price for his transformation but it won't last long either! Otherwise, he would not have waited until now to transform!"

"In his current state, it won't be easy to go toe-to-toe with him. You'll need to use Star God's Broken Shadow and Extreme Mirage Lightning to engage him! However, in these tight and narrow confines, it seems like it's nearly impossible to do so!" Jasmine's brows twitched before she made a decision, "Activate your Profound Handle! Even though it will increase the amount of energy you're consuming and might not help you span the power gap of transformed Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, at least... the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign won't have such an easy time of defeating you while he is transformed!"

"Alright!" Yun Che nodded his head as he changed his grip on his sword, putting his left arm forward instead of his right.

### **Chapter 783 - Blooming of the Udumbara**

"Haa... haa... haa..."

At last, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign finished his transformation. However, for something that would have taken a mere instant in the past, even he had not imagined it now required such a long period of time. Now transformed, the aura of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had grown immensely, the dark devil energy surrounding his body doubling in thickness and density. Yet, his expression lacked any hint of arrogance or complacency that typically came with absolute power. Rather, it seemed to radiate with sinister fury... and hatred.

Since he was not the same Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign he was one million years ago, this transformation had further delayed the full restoration of his life origin by at least another thousand years!!

He had felt this very clearly... had he chosen not to transform, he would have very possibly met his end by Yun Che's hands on this very day!

"In my current state, this king will need no more than ten breaths to kill you!!

"Die!!"

The transformation had greatly increased the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's power, but the enormous burden it put on him made him feel as if his body was going to fall apart at any moment. Without any further delay, he took to the air with a furious roar and rushed towards Yun Che. The sudden change in speed spread waves of alarm through Yun Che's heart.

After the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign transformed, his speed had also massively increased. Yun Che immediately determined that the current speed of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign exceeded his own when he was using Extreme Mirage Lightning! This also meant that even if this place was a wide and boundless region instead of the cramped Moon Slaughter Devil Nest, he could forget about using speed to escape!

Devil energy swirled in the air as sinister winds whistled about. As the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign shot into the air, he had caused all the broken stone fragments to whirl upwards. The terrifying and incredible wind pressure had actually gouged deep grooves into the incredibly tough ground!

His two dark devil claws had grown twice as large and were wrapped in dark light. They seemed to morph into dragon claws as they ripped at Yun Che... Though they were three hundred meters away, they still caused Yun Che's body to freeze as his feet seemed to sink into the ground.

Yun Che's gaze focused coldly. After taking a deep breath, he used Star God's Broken Shadow to instantly escape.

Boom——

The claws of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign smashed fiercely onto the ground, immediately shattering all the stone walls in a thirty-meter radius. Even Yun Che, who had managed to dodge in the nick of time, was smashed in the chest by the roaring and billowing dark energy waves. He let out a low moan as he rolled backwards.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign sent blow after blow flying through the air without much aiming yet all of them immediately home in on Yun Che. His body was sent flying through the air as an enormous dark shadow completely engulfed him.

Yun Che swiftly turned around in midair. All of the profound energy in his body circulated as the figure of the Phoenix and Golden Crow simultaneously appeared behind his back. His left arm also lit up with a strange blue light as the vermilion flashing greatsword, wreathed in the divine fires of both the Phoenix and the Golden Crow, exploded downwards.

Even though Yun Che was facing the transformed Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign who had gotten significantly stronger, he still decided to go with a simple head-to-head clash!

Rrrmb!!

Darkness and flames instantly clashed and interweaved, becoming an ocean of catastrophic energy that blindly engulfed everything within the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest.

Within this ocean of calamitous energy, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign howled in anger as his long hair fluttered haphazardly in the wind. He felt his power being obstructed and immediately raised his head to let out a great laugh... However, this laughter lasted for just a split second before it cut off... because his power had actually been unable to break through the resistance and destroy Yun Che.

Instead, all he could see was his power being forced to a ten-meter standstill, unable to advance even an inch further.

“Wha... what!?” The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s pupils grew large. He could feel that there hadn’t been any change to Yun Che’s aura, but beside him, another aura had suddenly appeared! This aura was roughly only half as strong as Yun Che himself but together with Yun Che, it had managed to somehow block his power!

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign let out another furious roar as he raised both of his bone-plated arms. Those shockingly huge arms began to swell up even more before he began to launch a torrent of blows at Yun Che. Terrifying dark devil energy surged like a tsunami as they exploded towards Yun Che, who had nowhere left to run or hide.

“Haah!!” Yun Che let out a furious shout of his own as he swung the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword with all his strength. Every sword stroke launched a profound energy storm that was powerful enough to annihilate everything that stood in its path. Beside him, the Profound Handle which had taken the form of a heavy sword also danced alongside the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword. Both heavy swords wove a dance of blades as they formed an extremely tyrannical and powerful “Heavy Sword Domain” around Yun Che which expelled the dark devil energy out of it.

“This... this is impossible!!”

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s scalp went numb as his pupils grew even larger. When Yun Che held off his attacks before, it had already far exceeded his expectations. Moreover, it also forced him to pay a heavy price and transform into his battle form. He had thought that once he released all of his power, he would have the power to completely flatten Yun Che and that would have been as easy as flipping his palm. Not once had he ever imagined that the attack he launched after his transformation would actually be completely blocked by Yun Che!

He released his power in a frenzy and every single time he attacked, he did so with all of his might. He held nothing back. Even after thousands of continuous blows, Yun Che still stood there alive, having smashed aside every single one of his attacks!!

“AHHHHHHH!!!”

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s fluttering hair immediately stood on end as the imprint of the blood moon on his chest shone with a ghastly and terrifying crimson black light. Every single devil tattoo on his body also began to shine with a frightening, bloody light.

All of the dark devil energy came to a stop in that very instant and an absolute silence instantly settled over the world. It was as if time itself had suddenly stopped. Following that, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign let out a howl which seemed to come from the depths of purgatory as all the darkness energy in the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest began to dance furiously as they merged together to form a gigantic devil god that seemed to come from the depths of the underworld. The giant mass of darkness energy surged forward, swallowing up the tiny and insignificant Yun Che into the boundless and endless darkness.

“Eternal Night’s Oblivion!!”

The boundless darkness pressed down from all directions as it devoured light, devoured space and even devoured his heavy sword storm. In the next instant, it might just devour him and his profound handle completely as well.

No shock or fear appeared on Yun Che's face. His gaze grew dark and cold and the flames on his body, which were burning with all their might, intensified by yet another degree. Raising both the greatsword in his hand and the heavy sword that the Profound Handle had become at the same time, he released two vast and boundless auras which would even cause the heavens and earth to lose color.

"Destroying Sky Decimating Earth!!"

BOOOM!!!!

The terrifying explosion consumed all the other sounds in this tiny world.

Terrifying energy explosions spread all over the place as both the air and the ground shook. Even space itself recoiled at this dreadful energy as the shrill wail of space being torn asunder echoed through the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest.

Following that, three kilometers of space instantly collapsed. In front of this kind of power, space itself had become as weak and fragile as a thin sheet of paper.

Black holes of various sizes instantly flashed into existence before fading out as quick as they appeared.

Yun Che and the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign naturally had to endure the massive impact and aftershocks left in the wake of the rampaging energy explosions.

The two of them were forced three hundred meters apart. If not for the extremely hard and durable black stone walls blocking their flight, they might have been pushed tens of kilometers away by the impact.

Yun Che leaned on a stone wall as he slowly got to his feet. By the time he stood up, the black stone wall collapsed with a loud bang.

Streams of blood poured down the blade of the Heaven Smiting Sword. His arms had largely borne the impact of that terrifying energy blast. The webs between his thumb and his index finger on both hands were split, many wounds had appeared on both his arms and he had sustained more than ten fractures by the impact alone. But he did not feel the slightest bit of pain... He just felt a numbness that was overly intense, so intense that he lost nearly all feeling in both his arms. It was his willpower and determination alone that allowed him to still firmly grasp that five-hundred-thousand-kilogram sword.

The Profound Handle had disappeared as well. It had been blasted to pieces by that energy blast—but the Profound Handle was a power that came from his bloodline. Even if it was shattered another ten thousand times, he could still summon it once again.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's injuries looked far lighter than Yun Che's. Other than the chest bone that Yun Che had previously broken, only the bone spike on his right arm had been snapped, as blood freely flowed down that arm.

But that was just how things appeared. In reality, his situation was far worse than Yun Che. Because if Yun Che activated his Profound Handle, he only increased the consumption of his profound energy.

But when the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was transformed, not only did he consume more energy, his body also had to endure an enormous burden! And he had just been desperately using all of his power in spite of this, so one could well imagine what the consequences would be.

If Yun Che got a bit closer, he would be able to see that the scales and bone plating on his body were astonishingly covered with many tiny cracks.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's body went limp as he sank to the ground numbly, unable to climb up for quite some time. The dark pupils of his eyes contracted fearfully as though he was trapped in a nightmare.

"Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign... have you... already... reached your limit!?"

Yun Che dragged the Heaven Smiting Sword behind him as he walked slowly towards the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign. His voice had become hoarse, his feet felt like lead, and his breathing had become incredibly heavy and rough. Whether it was the Profound Handle or the "Destroying Sky Decimating Earth" technique, all of them had consumed an extremely large amount of his energy. Coupled with the wounds he had sustained on his arms and his internal organs, he was in an incredibly bad state.

But he could tell that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was in even worse shape than he was! Even though he could still maintain his transformation, his aura had dropped to the point where it was even weaker than Yun Che's.

Even if the wounds on his body were ten times worse, Yun Che would not waste time worrying over things... because he absolutely could not give the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign a chance to catch his breath.

"You... you aren't... human!!" The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign forced himself to his feet. He tried with all his might to gather devil energy but it was as if his devil body had transformed into a leaky wooden bucket. No matter how he tried to gather his energy, he was unable to suppress Yun Che's aura.

So now, he was completely incapable of believing that Yun Che was a human being... Given a human being's weak physique, how could he have a vitality and endurance that even exceeded his own!

"Sorry to disappoint you! I am a human being raised on the very soil of the Profound Sky Continent! Today is the day that you will die... and it is the result of looking down on humans!"

The feeling in his arms began to come back as intense pain replaced numbness. Yun Che started gasping heavily as he tightened his grip around the Heaven Smiting Sword.

"Heeheehee... Kekekehahaha... Huhuhuhu... Wahahaha..."

It was at this moment that an extremely dreadful and sinister laugh rang out from the depths of the cave behind the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign. It sounded like laughter and wailing mixed together, and just hearing it would cause one's blood to go cold as all the fear in one's body congealed to one spot.

Yun Che's feet subconsciously ground to a halt. That was the sound emitted by the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. From what he remembered, he had only heard the ghastly wailing of the

Netherworld Udumbara Flower when his group had come within a hundred and fifty meters of it. Whether it was due to them leaving or his vicious battle with the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, once he left that radius, he was no longer able to hear that sound.

Right now, he was standing roughly one and a half kilometers away from the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, yet he could clearly hear that ghostly wail, as if it was right by his ear! Furthermore, it sounded even more sinister and soul-shaking than before. Just hearing it caused Yun Che's heart to tremble.

At this moment, a wild and triumphant smile suddenly appeared on the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's face.

"The heavens are aiding this king... ha... hahahaha!!"

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign let out a wild and crazy laugh as he crazily circulated all the remaining energy in his body. He allowed all the wounds on his body to split open and as a fierce current of darkness energy streamed around his body, he rushed towards the depths of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest.

Yun Che was dazed for an instant. But following that, his expression changed. Could it be that...

"You need to stop him immediately!!" Jasmine suddenly shouted. "It must be because the Netherworld Udumbara fully bloomed! It holds a giant amount of nether yin energy and if he consumes it, not only will his soul origin be repaired fully, it will also replenish his strength and rapidly heal all his wounds!"

Bang!!

All of the profound energy in Yun Che's body flared as the wounds all over his arms ripped open, spraying fresh blood everywhere. He immediately put the Heaven Smiting Sword away, his body blurring into streak of lightning as he chased after the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign.

### **Chapter 784 - Desperate Straits**

"Hahahaha... hahahaha! The heavens are aiding this king, the heavens are aiding this king!!"

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign laughed as he madly sprinted forward. His laughter was even more wanton and arrogant than it had ever been before. The Netherworld Udumbara Flower only bloomed once every twenty four years and it was this moment that he anticipated the most every twenty four years. Furthermore, this time he was many times more excited by it than ever before!!

Because this time, not only would the Netherworld Udumbara Flower repair his tattered soul origin, it would also greatly boost his soul power, vitality and profound energy for a short while! It would even increase the recovery of his wounds by several times! Before, all of these effects were useless to him but right now, they could completely change his destiny!!

The past few days, he perched on the ceiling above the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, spending every second keeping watch over it, patiently waiting for the moment when it fully bloomed. Now that it had finally bloomed, it was like the heavens themselves had given him a gift as it had bloomed when he needed it the most.

He only needed a short span of twenty breaths to consume the fully bloomed Netherworld Udumbara Flower, which would allow his dark profound energy to mostly recover! During the vicious battle with



Yun Che, he had come out only slightly worse than Yun Che. Thus, if he could recover to that extent, he would definitely be able to turn the tables on Yun Che and suppress him completely!

“You must catch up to him!! If he devours that Netherworld Udumbara Flower, your death will be all but assured!!” Jasmine’s voice was filled with immeasurable solemnity and resentment... Given her level of power, if they were in any other location, she would need a mere instant to extinguish the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign!

But the battle just had to take place here. In this place, she could not even leave Yun Che’s body, much less use her powers!

Yun Che used all of his profound energy as he pushed the Extreme Mirage Lightning technique to its utmost limit, gritting his teeth so hard they nearly broke. When it came to the amount of profound energy they had consumed, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had roughly used the same amount as him but when it came to their injuries, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had clearly been injured worse than him. This coupled with the fact that Yun Che’s speed had always been superior to the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s speed in the first place meant that Yun Che was quickly catching up to the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, even though both of them were traveling at their fastest speed. In the blink of an eye, he had forcefully closed the gap between them to about one hundred and fifty meters.

Now that all of his profound energy was devoted to increasing his speed, not only did the internal and external injuries he had sustained stop stabilizing, they quickly began to grow worse... But in the current situation, he could not afford to pay attention to that.

He should... be able to catch up!!

Within a few breaths, he had rushed into the depths of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest and pulled within one hundred meters of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign. The wailing laughter of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, echoing in his ear, became increasingly clear as he drew closer and closer.

Suddenly, Jasmine noticed something as she shouted in alarm, “Wait! Wait! Stop chasing him!!”

At this moment, a fantastical ghostly light had suddenly emerged within Yun Che’s eyes.

The previously curled-up Netherworld Udumbara Flower was finally fully bloomed, its nine fully unfurled petals arranged prettily as it released an extremely deep and gloomy purple light. In the darkness, that gloomy purple light completely engulfed everything. Yun Che was not able to see the base of the flower or the stamen and he could not see the gently swaying stalk either. It was as if those nine flower petals were floating in a sea of darkness as they released a mysterious and dangerous bewitching purple light.

Reflected in Yun Che’s eyes was... It was as if he had suddenly seen nine demonic eyes!!

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign gave a wild and triumphant laugh as he had already rushed in front of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. He could sense Yun Che quickly closing in behind him but he did not turn around, the blood-smear corner of his mouth hooking into a cold and mocking grin.

Ding!

The world in front of Yun Che changed from a dark world streaked with purple light to a completely white one that was still streaked with purple. Even the sounds around him had suddenly died down... the sound of wind that roared in his ears, due to the speed he was traveling, had vanished into thin air.

The only sound that was left was the ghostly wailing of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower.

The whole world seemed to have transformed into a field of white in an instant.

Purple light swiftly spread within this white world as it gradually stained the entire world. The ghostly wailing began growing closer and closer, clearer and clearer. The sound was even growing more and more beautiful and pleasing to the ear... It slowly changed from the sinister and bone-grating sound he had first heard to something which sounded as sweet and melodious as notes from heaven...

The purple world and the sweet and beautiful melody were able to drown a person in a fantastical dreamscape. Within this dreamscape, familiar scenes and faces began to appear. Cang Yue, Feng Xue'er, Xiao Lingxi, Xia Qingyue, Chu Yuechan, the Little Demon Empress... Each of them appeared one after the other and every one of them had the most gentle and beautiful of smiles on their faces. One pair of beautiful eyes after another gently gazed at him as the purple world slowly began to drift away...

Further and further... more and more hazy...

"Yun Che! Retreat immediately!!"

A shrill shout resounded like thunder in the purple world.

Bang!!

The purple-colored dream world instantly shattered as all the illusions disappeared. After that, an enormous pain assaulted Yun Che. It felt as if hundreds or thousands of steel needles were piercing his heart and soul, causing him to hold his head with both hands as hoarse wails of pain escaped his throat.

He felt as if countless dark hands were tearing at his soul, as if they were trying to pluck all the memories, will and beliefs... from his living body!

Yun Che had experienced mental assaults and battles of the soul far too many times but none of them had been as terrifying and cruel as this one. This feeling of his soul tearing and ripping felt colder and clearer than a knife carving into his body... He had never known nor had he ever imagined that mental assaults could be this terrifying!!

As his soul struggled in pain, he nearly lost control of his power and body. His entire person knelt on the ground as his body shivered crazily, his forehead matted in cold sweat.

Moreover, he was still a full sixty meters away from the Netherworld Udumbara Flower!!

"Hurry up and retreat!!"

Jasmine's voice cracked like thunder in his head once more, helping Yun Che recover some modicum of clarity as he was engaged in a fierce struggle for his soul. He gave a fierce howl as he desperately gathered and focused all of his energy, tumbling backwards in an extremely distorted and painstaking fashion.

Bang!!

Yun Che's head fiercely hit the ground and he rolled and tumbled backwards several times before coming to a stop. During this bumpy ride, he had rolled backwards more than sixty meters. It still felt like his soul was being torn to shreds but it had weakened to the point where he could easily deal with it.

Yun Che propped himself up using his arms as he gasped for breath. Cold sweat streamed down his forehead and rarely-seen fear and alarm could be seen in his eyes.

So that was the... Netherworld Udumbara Flower's soul stealing ability!?

To think that it was this dreadful... Why was it this dreadful!?!?

He was still so far away just now, but it was already that terrifying! If he went even nearer in order to harvest it... The results would have been unimaginable!

How could such a terrifying thing exist in this world!?

"Now do you believe me?" Jasmine said with an extremely solemn expression on her face, "Once the Netherworld Udumbara Flower fully blooms, its soul stealing ability will be far more terrifying than you can imagine! It is definitely not something that a person from your plane can come into contact with!!"

Yun Che did not voice a reply to Jasmine, instead his head jerked upwards... Ahead of him, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign already stood in front of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. That gray-white face was spread wide by an arrogant, mocking grin. He greedily stared at those nine ghostly purple petals as he got drunk on the hellish aura that radiated from them. But he did not forget to cast a wanton, mocking grin in the fallen Yun Che's direction, "Foolish and pathetic human being! To think that you even dared to dream of snatching the Netherworld Udumbara Flower from this king... hahahahaha..."

The wild laughter suddenly abated and the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's face twisted into a mask of fury while his voice grew thick with bone-grating rage and resentment, "It was you... who forced this king to transform, causing me to greatly harm my life origin as a result! Even if you lose your pathetic life ten thousand times, it would not be enough to assuage this king's rage! After this king consumes this Netherworld Udumbara Flower... I will definitely allow you to experience all of the torture known to my devil race! I'll leave you begging for death! I'll make you forever regret being born into this world!!"

He turned his head back, his eyes completely focused on the nearby Netherworld Udumbara Flower. His previous violent fury immediately turned into ecstasy and agitation. He stretched out both his devil claws, covering them with black light as he slowly reached towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower... His movements were so slow and gentle that it looked like he was going to handle the most precious treasure he possessed in his life.

"Ssss—" Yun Che gritted his teeth so hard that they almost broke. Just thinking about the dreadfulness of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower left him drenched in cold sweat. So this short distance that laid between him and the flower had now become a natural chasm that he could not cross!

No! No matter what, he had to stop the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign...

The reason I risked it all to stay behind in this place was to obtain that Netherworld Udumbara Flower! If the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign consumes it, not only will it be extremely likely that it will be the only of one of its kind to exist in this world, the lives of Hong'er, Jasmine and I will be lost forever in this dark place!

So I have to stop it no matter what!

No matter what!!

Both of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's claws were touching the Netherworld Udumbara Flower as he prepared to slowly pluck it... Even though his movements were slow, his hands still trembled, his expression even contained a hint of fanaticism and devotion! As an ancient devil, he had never believed in any higher power. Nor was there any higher power worthy of his belief. But this Netherworld Udumbara Flower had become a sacred existence to him. Without it, he would have disintegrated into dust long ago! Moreover, it was only by relying on it that his soul origin could be fully recovered and he could see the light of day once more!

So every time he plucked it, he was exceedingly careful as he was afraid that he would hurt it. He had never fully absorbed all of the energy in this place, he would always ensure that enough of it remained so it could continue to nurture the Netherworld Udumbara Flower.

Black light wrapped around the nine petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. In the next instant, he would perfectly pluck all nine of these petals... But at this moment, an extremely dangerous aura assaulted him from behind.

Yun Che bounced to his feet as he summoned the Heaven Smiting Sword and his Profound Handle once more. He nearly raised all the profound energy in his body to its limit in one instant as his sword and the Profound Handle blazed with gold-colored Golden Crow flames. After that, he launched an explosive attack in front of him.

"Phoenix Sky Wolf Slash!"

Poof!!

Flowers of blood sprayed from his arms once more as the huge aftershock of his attack sent him tumbling fiercely backwards. The two images of a flaming Sky Wolf carried furiously vibrating spatial ripples as they exploded towards the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign!

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had never thought that Yun Che, who had clearly exhausted most of his profound energy, would still be able to launch such a ferocious attack. Furthermore, the two images of the Sky Wolf were moving at an exceedingly fast speed. Because the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had devoted all of his attention to the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, he had only detected those two attacks when they were barely ten meters away from him.

Bang!!!

Both burning images of the Sky Wolf viciously rammed into the back of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign. He gave a strangled cry as the black-colored scales on his back immediately exploded. Black blood flew through the air as severely deformed bones that had yet to break, were exposed. His entire

devil body shot outwards like a cannon before fiercely smashing against a stone wall that was three hundred meters away. He slid to the ground in a slump, not getting up for a very long time.

“It... succeeded!!” Yun Che said as he propped himself up using his sword. His vision suddenly went black and he nearly toppled over. The Sky Wolf Slash that he had just performed had exceeded the limits of his strength through sheer force of will. Furthermore, he also had to use energy to activate his Profound Handle. The enormous amount of energy he had used caused his body to feel drawn and weak for a while and he could barely hold the Heaven Smiting Sword steady.

But before he even had time to draw a few breaths, his pupils suddenly contracted fiercely.

His recent attack had been cleverly designed to avoid any damage to the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign did not wish for any harm to come to it and neither did Yun Che. The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was blown away but the stalk of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower was practically untouched. However, of the nine glowing purple lights which swayed above it...

Shockingly, only four petals were left!

Furthermore, at the end of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest, five gloomy purple lights were glowing where the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign laid!!

“Crap!” Jasmine exclaimed, “When he was blasted away, he managed to grab five flower petals!!”

Before Jasmine’s voice had fallen, Yun Che shot towards the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign like an loosened arrow... He took a look at the Netherworld Udumbara Flower that he avoided before crazily racing towards where the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign laid.

“Bastard!!” The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign struggled to get up, his back arched in pain. He felt as if a hole had been blasted clear through his chest. But the moment he was sent flying, he had also managed to grab the five petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower that were already in his hands. If not for Yun Che blasting him away, all nine of the flower petals would have fallen into his hands.

When he looked at the onrushing Yun Che, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign grew so furious that he felt as if he would explode, “You damned bastard!! Your struggles will only increase the pain that you are about to experience!!!”

As he roared in fury, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign grabbed those five gloomy and ghostly petals and tossed them towards his open mouth.

Yun Che’s expression suddenly went white as he yelled in a hoarse voice, “Shut your mouth!!”

Gulp!!

It was a simple swallowing motion, something that Yun Che would not be in time to stop even if he was ten times faster. He could only watch as those five petals fell into that wide devil mouth. He could only helplessly witness the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign swallowing them in one gulp.

Yun Che, “!!!”

**Chapter 785 - Desperate Gamble**

Shit!!

As he saw the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign swallow the petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, Yun Che felt an intense chill wash over his entire body.

In the end, the worst case scenario had still presented itself in front of his very eyes.

Not only had he missed the chance to get the desired Netherworld Udumbara Flower, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's wounds and powers would be recovering soon as well! Furthermore, this place was a region that was sealed shut, so even the Primordial Profound Ark would not be able to teleport out of here. It also happened that Jasmine was not able to materialize in this place!

So right now, this could be said to be the most cruel and desperate situation Yun Che had ever been in before.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign who had swallowed the petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower threw his arms wide open in ecstasy as he shut his eyes and enjoyed the feeling of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower's power spreading through his body. An extremely soothing and comfortable feeling spread through his entire body, even down to depths of his soul, causing all the aches and pains that afflicted him to practically disappear.

The dark energy in his body also seemed to be recovering quickly... Yun Che and the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign could both sense it clearly. At this moment, all the wounds on his body started to glow with a faint purple light. After that, the wounds began recovering at such an alarming speed that Yun Che was able to witness the flesh mending and knitting right before his very eyes.

"Hahahaha!" The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign laughed wildly. The moment he consumed the Netherworld Udumbara Flower was the moment of the greatest ecstasy for him. But this time, the feeling of ecstasy was far greater than it had ever been before. Once he thought of how Yun Che's desperate struggles would only lead to despair in the end, his heart was seized by an intense joy, "Pathetic human! Let's see how long you can struggle against this king this time around!"

"You will soon know the fate of those who have provoked and enraged this king! This king will let you experience the most dreadful purgatory in this world!"

"..." Yun Che's whole body went cold as he sensed the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's aura begin to rise dramatically. His guts sank as he saw those wounds close before his very eyes but his mind still remained incredibly clear and focused despite the emotions washing over him...

The more desperate a situation got, the more clear-headed he would become!

Jasmine had said that given the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's current state, he would be able to recover most of his profound energy and be healed of most of his wounds within a mere hundred breaths! However, he had only consumed five flower petals rather than the entire flower, so it should take longer than that.

Even though being able to recover most of his energy and vitality just like that was truly astounding, in the end he still had one hundred breaths... So he would not be thrown into the pits of despair just yet!!

Furthermore, even though five petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower had been consumed... four petals still remained!

The power of the remaining four petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower... may just be enough to grant Jasmine a new life!! Even if they could not, it would definitely still be of great help.

Yun Che's brows sank as his thoughts began to race... Right now, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was still seriously injured and he had used up most of his power as well. If he was able to kill him before he could recover with the Netherworld Udumbara Flower's help, then...

No! There was no if! This was the only option left to him, the only hope he had left... Otherwise, he would definitely be dead meat once the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign recovered!!

However, the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's aggregate power and current state was not far off from his own, given the fact that he also had a devil body... He had not even managed to critically injure him during their vicious battle that had lasted for hours! So trying to deliver a killing blow within the span of a few short breaths would be harder than reaching the heavens!

But the situation he was currently facing did not give Yun Che time to hesitate or consider. Because the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's strength continued to grow with each passing breath and his wounds continued to heal at a rapid pace!! This basically meant that each passing breath would cause the already miniscule spark of hope he had to constantly shrink! Perhaps after the next ten or twenty breaths, that already faint hope might disappear completely.

On the other hand, even if Yun Che had to think with his toes, he would be able to realize that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's following move would not be to engage him in combat. Rather, he would pour all his effort into shaking Yun Che off and rushing towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower! At that point, not only would the remaining four petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower fall into his devil hands... He was not even able to approach the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, so he could forget about struggling or hoping for victory!

Yun Che's eyes widened as a resolute and vicious light radiated from within. Both his hands tightened fiercely around the hilt of the Heaven Smiting Sword. It was almost as if he wanted to embed it in his flesh... Now that he only had one option left to him, Yun Che tossed aside all thoughts of prices or aftermaths!

"Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign!!"

Yun Che roared in such a loud voice that it sounded like his throat would be torn apart. After a short pause, his speed explosively increased as he rushed towards the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign.

"Yun Che, you..."

Jasmine instantly realized what Yun Che was planning and she swallowed her words of warning before they even left her mouth... Because she knew that this was indeed the only option left to him.

He had no choice but to stake his very life on this gamble!

Even though it was extremely likely that he would explode on the spot, at least he could still grasp at that tiny sliver of hope!

“Evil God’s fourth realm, Rumbling Heaven!!”

Boom!!

An incredibly heavy rumbling sound resounded within Yun Che’s profound veins. All of his profound entrances were fully opened as the Evil God’s Profound Veins instantly swelled to twice their usual size... and they were coming close to rupturing!!

At the same time, a wild and frenzied energy wave exploded from his body as they shoved aside all the surrounding darkness energy! The dreadfulness of this energy wave caused the wildly laughing Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign to fly away as if he had been hit by a giant mallet. He flew through the air before smashing against one of the stone walls located in the very depths of the cave.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s laughter immediately grew strangled as he jerked his head upwards to look at Yun Che. The eyes that were filled with complacency and joy were now filled with an enormous dread...

The Yun Che who had been rushing at him had disappeared and what had taken his place was a man who was completely covered in blood, a blood person who was radiating a terrifying aura! Every single strand of his hair stood on end as flames burned around his body! And the profound energy that he was releasing was astonishingly dyed an eye-catching and alarming scarlet color! Both of his eyes seemed to have been dyed with blood as even the whites of his eyes had turned a bloody red!

Blood was spraying from his arms as countless alarming cracks started running through his skin, causing blood to spout from his body like a fountain. His entire body looked as if it had been stabbed thousands of times before it was dragged out of its own blood and one could scarcely see any part of his body that was left unharmed!

His appearance was so frightening that it would cause a normal person to pale in shock and fear but it definitely would not be able to faze the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign. What frightened the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was the wild and berserk aura that was radiating from his body!!

If Yun Che’s aura could previously be described as a cluster of flames... then the blood man in front of him was releasing an aura that was akin to a violently erupting volcano from the depths of hell itself! It was so terrifying that all the nerves in the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign’s body convulsed as the soul that was being nourished by the Netherworld Udumbara Flower was instantly assaulted by an extreme sense of danger.

Furthermore, the blood man was holding a vermillion greatsword in his hand, that further proved that... this blood man was actually Yun Che!!

“You...” The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign gasped as he pressed his back against the wall. He was not able to even croak out a chuckle anymore.

From the moment Yun Che had opened the “Rumbling Heaven” gate, his senses had been completely engulfed by unending pain. But at the same time, he could also feel an incomparably dreadful power exploding out of his body... Furthermore, this power far exceeded the limits of what his body could endure. He could clearly feel every part of his body rupturing the moment profound energy exploded from within his body... Even the world in front of him had turned blood red.



Besides that blood red color, he could not see anything else...

Only the spark of an unextinguishable will was still firmly locked onto the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's aura.

Raising arms that had nearly lost all feeling, he exhausted all of his will to barrel towards the area where the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's aura was located.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's pupils narrowed to pinpricks... One million years ago, this kind of power would've been so insignificant that he would not even deign to notice it. But for the current Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, it was a calamitous power that caused him to shake uncontrollably in fear.

He glanced at the purple light shining in the periphery of his vision. He wanted to rush to where the Netherworld Udumbara Flower was but every time he tried to move his devil body forward, he was forcefully pushed back by the terrifying aura that was rushing towards him. It was as if his back had been nailed to the wall behind him. Right now, he could barely even raise his leg, much less try to rush forward. It was as if every part of his body was being pressed down by an enormous mountain.

The vermilion sword beam grew nearer and nearer and the fear in the Moon Devil Sovereign's eyes grew commensurately. He gave a great roar as all the power in his body surged forth desperately. He formed a jet-black vortex of energy that was ten thousand times darker than the deepest abyss and sent it flying towards Yun Che with a yell.

The moment that jet-black vortex exploded outwards, the Heaven Smiting Sword which carried the power of the "Rumbling Heaven" gate whistled downwards. Instantly, the jet-black vortex that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had formed with all his remaining energy came to a sudden stop. After that, it began to be suppressed, devoured and swallowed up by that vermilion sword beam... until it completely disappeared.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's vision was covered by boundless vermilion light, a copious amount of blood spraying into air as he bore the brunt of that catastrophic explosion. An earth-shaking rumble shook the entire Moon Slaughter Devil Nest as a howl laced with despair and pain rang throughout every corner...

Booom—

"UUUUWWAAAAAHHHHH!!!"

Jet-black stone walls crumbled away rapidly as countless stone fragments fell to the ground. The entire Moon Slaughter Devil Nest was shaking and it seemed as if the heavens and the earth themselves were shaking along with it. Destructive winds blew throughout the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest as they collided and slammed into everything around them, destroying whatever they could destroy. Furthermore, the deepest part of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest had been completely filled by fiercely burning dull golden flames as a catastrophic storm raged about wantonly for ages...

This was the first time Yun Che had ever opened the "Rumbling Heaven" gate, so this was also the first sword slash that he had ever performed while the "Rumbling Heaven" gate was open. Jasmine was still unaware of the result of this sword slash. But what she could definitively confirm was that the current

Yun Che was completely incapable of enduring the power unleashed by the “Rumbling Heaven” gate! Yun Che forcefully opened the “Rumbling Heaven” gate and his profound energy instantly went berserk, Jasmine could clearly see all of his internal organs rupturing as his veins snapped and blood flowed freely from his body. The only things that remained unbroken were his bones that were reinforced by the Dragon God Marrow.

It was only for that one instant... But every single second after that would cause the situation to worsen by many times!!

Perhaps it would only need two breaths for Yun Che’s body to explode and he definitely would not leave a whole body behind.

Given the dire straits that they were in, Jasmine could not afford to hesitate anymore. The moment Yun Che used all of his willpower to launch that blow with his sword, Jasmine’s soul body left the Sky Poison Pearl and entered Yun Che’s body. Four scarlet profound energy beams shot out at extreme speed as they pierced all of Yun Che’s internal organs and entered his profound veins. The four beams of light unerringly pressed on the four open Evil God Gates.

Jasmine’s power was so tyrannical that the instant those scarlet lights disappeared, the four open Evil God Gates had closed as well. The berserking profound energy immediately began to fade away. Jasmine breathed a small sigh of relief before she hurriedly entered the Sky Poison Pearl.

Her soul form was deathly afraid of the devil energy within the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest. Since Yun Che had been within the very depths of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest itself, it was natural that a small portion of that devil energy had seeped into his body. Even though Jasmine had only dwelt inside Yun Che’s body for a brief moment, she felt an exceedingly unbearable feeling spread through her body the moment she re-entered the Sky Poison Pearl.

Jasmine swiftly went into meditation and a long time passed before that unbearable feeling finally disappeared.

She opened her eyes once more as she took a look at the world outside.

### **Chapter 786 - Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer**

The fires continued to burn but they had grown much smaller than before. The wild windstorm and the constant shaking of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest had also come to a stop. Yun Che lay limply on the ground, the muscles of his blood-drenched body spasming and twitching. Every now and then, hoarse moans could be heard from his mouth... proving not only that he was still alive but also that he still retained some semblance of consciousness.

“Yun Che, don’t even try to stand up. Immediately focus on activating the Great Way of the Buddha instead!” Jasmine quickly commanded him.

Jasmine’s voice caused the shuddering in Yun Che’s body to lessen. He no longer tried to struggle. Instead, he closed his eyes and devoted all his remaining strength to activating the Great Way of the Buddha. He could see through blurry eyes that his body was completely covered in blood, yet he did not feel the slightest bit of pain... it was as if his entire body did not belong to him anymore.

At the very end of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest, more than ten paces to the right of Yun Che, several small clusters of flame still continued to burn. Astonishingly, the thing that had been set aflame was the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's devil body.

The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's left arm and both his legs had been severed from his body, lying strewn across the floor in scattered pieces. What remained was only his right arm which could barely be considered intact. Furthermore, his entire body had been completely shattered. It was as if he was mud that had been trampled over by an entire battalion of soldiers. And even this "mud" was still slowly being burned up and consumed by the Golden Crow flames.

"...This king... actually..."

The fingers on his right arm were trembling and a voice that sounded as rough as sandpaper came from the immobilized head of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign.

That voice caused Yun Che's body to twitch. After that, he began to struggle furiously to get up. It was then that Jasmine's low voice rang out, "Don't worry about him, he's already been smashed to bits and pieces by you. The reason why he can still speak is because he is using the very last bit of his devil energy. He will very soon be even deader than dead."

"..." Yun Che's eyelids cracked open as his expression grew more relaxed. His lips curved slightly into a faint smile before he spoke with great difficulty, "Jasmine... thank you, if not for you..."

"Hmph! If not for me, you would have died an even uglier death than him!" Jasmine said huffily. But this time, she did not scold Yun Che for forcing open the "Rumbling Heaven" gate. Because it was really the only option left to him, the only hope that he could grasp at... and in the end, fate once again stood at Yun Che's side.

His wounds were very heavy and another practitioner would have died a hundred times over. Still, these injuries were insufficient to condemn him to death and could be recovered from in a fairly short period of time..

"Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, do you have any words to leave behind!?" Jasmine asked in a cold voice.

"Cough..." The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign droned on in a voice filled with pain and despair, "Even the Evil God's... seal... which lasted for a million years... was not able to kill this king... Yet this king... actually... died... at the hands of... a pathetic human..."

"Hmph! Even though the million year seal of the Evil God was not enough to kill you, in the end, you still die because of his power! It looks like no matter how hard you struggled, even though your struggles lasted for a million years, you were ultimately still unable to escape your fate of dying by the Evil God's hand!"

Jasmine's cold voice was somber. The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's impending death caused her to breathe a large sigh of relief but her heart still held a gloominess that would not be easily dispelled... If they had not entered this place for the sake of finding the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, if Yun Che's peculiar characteristic of courting disaster had not acted up again and convinced him to stay behind, they would not have known that this place was actually hiding a devil from ancient times.

She was unable to imagine the horrific outcome that would have occurred if the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had continued to hide in this place until the day he completely recovered the strength he had during his peak.

Yun Che's all-or-nothing gamble to kill the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign was for the sake of preserving his own life and obtaining the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. But in the end, he had still killed a devil! Perhaps no one in this universe would ever know about it but he had eradicated a giant calamity that would have engulfed countless of worlds in the future.

"Evil... God..." The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign mumbled before he began to laugh hoarsely, "Ha... haha... ha... Do you... really think that the... Evil God... was truly... a god..."

"What? If the Evil God wasn't a god, then could he have been a human or a devil instead!?" Jasmine said with a cold and mocking laugh, "Even though you are at death's door, you're still a devil who has lived for over a million years. But the only thing you want to say before you die is this pile of hilarious rubbish?"

"Heh... hehehe..." The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign continued to chuckle but his laughter sounded rather bizarre. At this moment, his remaining arm trembled in the air as it slowly lifted up off the ground. The remaining devil claws began to stretch out wide as they started to emit a weak and faint black light.

"...!" Jasmine's heart suddenly tightened with anxiety... Could it be that he still had some strength left!?

But she immediately relaxed once more. Even though Yun Che's wounds were extremely heavy right now and he did not possess the ability to resist, he still had the protection of the Dragon God's bloodline and the Great Way of the Buddha. Even if the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign could release one final beam of devil energy, it would still not be enough to kill Yun Che.

At most, it would merely inflict another wound on Yun Che's broken body.

A jet-black orb that was around the size of a dragon's eye appeared in the middle of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's hand which was wrapped in black light. His devil claws began to tremble as he spoke in a hoarse voice filled with resentment, "Pathetic human being... who has also inherited the power of the Evil God... this king... will sacrifice his devil orb... in order to consign you to eternal... damnation!!

All of the remaining power in his broken body was gathered up in that trembling arm as he threw something forward... The jet-black devil orb flew through the darkness before coming into contact with Yun Che and directly burying itself inside of his body.

This sudden and bizarre occurrence sent a jolt of alarm through Jasmine's heart and she spoke in a low voice, "What was that!? What did you throw at him?!"

"Ha... hahahaha... HAHAHahaha..." The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign began to laugh wildly and his hoarse laughter was laced with pain, sorrow... and a warped and twisted joy.

"UWAAAAAAHHHHH!!

At this moment, a pain-filled moan suddenly came from Yun Che's mouth as his blood-covered body was suddenly covered in a weak and hazy black light... Furthermore, the aura that this light was releasing was shockingly a dark devil energy!

"!!" Jasmine could not care less about the risk as her soul body swiftly left the Sky Poison Pearl and entered Yun Che's body once more. Her senses remained locked onto the jet-black orb that had entered Yun Che's body. To her shock, she discovered that it had actually buried itself into Yun Che's profound veins. It released a layer of black light as it sheathed his profound veins in a faint black glow.

Jasmine stretched out a hand, intending to use her power to eradicate it... But the moment her finger stretched out, her heart and soul were shaken fiercely and her face went white with shock.

The devil aura radiating from this dark orb was not strong; it could even be said to be incredibly weak. It would not even be able to swiftly kill the current Yun Che who was in an incredibly weak state. But the level of this devil aura was terrifyingly high!

This was far beyond the scope of her knowledge and experience!

Suddenly, Jasmine remembered that the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had mumbled the two words "devil orb" right before he had thrown out this black orb...

Could it be that this was actually the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's devil origin orb!?

Was this the devil origin orb that the records stated sustained an ancient devil's life origin, soul origin and origin of darkness!?

An item on the level of the devils!!

Jasmine's tiny hand faintly trembled... No, she could not do it!! If this was truly a devil origin orb as recorded in the annals of history, even if its power was extremely weak, it was still not something that she could destroy! Moreover, it appeared to have actually forcefully merged with Yun Che's Evil God's Profound Veins... Even if she was able to remove it by force, it was extremely likely that she would cause severe damage to Yun Che's profound veins in the process!

What was going on!?! These were the Evil God's Profound Veins that we are talking about, how could a devil origin orb merge with them so easily? Could it be because the level of the devil origin orb was so high while the level of Yun Che's profound energy was too low, causing his profound veins to be unable to resist it?

Jasmine's expression kept changing as she struggled with her thoughts. Finally, she stretched out her hand once more as a scarlet colored profound energy surged forth. She reduced its power again and again... She repeated this process more than ten times before finally pushing it into Yun Che's profound veins. After that, she carefully wrapped her profound energy around that jet-black orb.

Immediately, the jet-black light was completely engulfed and covered by that bloody light and the originally weak devil energy completely vanished as well... It had been thoroughly sealed away by Jasmine's powers.

Jasmine let her arm drop as she swiftly returned to the Sky Poison Pearl... Sealing away this thing that was most likely a devil origin orb was the only option she could think of at the moment. But in order to

avoid harming Yun Che's profound veins, she did not dare to use too much power. So that seal would not last for very long. From today onwards, she would have to renew that seal from time to time.

"Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign..." Yun Che could feel the intense changes that his body and profound veins were undergoing as he hoarsely gasped through gritted teeth, "What did... you do to me!?"

"This king... has given to you... a great boon... that you would never be able to obtain... even if you wished for it... ha... haha... kuh..." A spurt of black blood sprayed from the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's mouth, carrying away the greater part of his life with it.

"You..." Yun Che growled through tightly gritted teeth but he was still unable to stand up.

"Don't worry, I have already sealed it away." Jasmine said coldly, Even though she had told Yun Che "not to worry", her heart was exceptionally heavy. Because now that a devil origin orb had merged with the Evil God's Profound Veins, perhaps... it may one day cause a bizarre change that no one would be able to predict or anticipate.

Things that were on the level of the devils were things that not even Jasmine was able to control or anticipate.

"Heh..." The Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's body no longer moved and his voice had grown so faint that it was as soft as the buzzing of an insect, "You... pathetic... and stupid... human beings... Do all of you really think that our devil race... has been destroyed completely...?"

"That which... was... banished... will surely... one... day..."

The final traces of black light within the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign's eyes completely disappeared.

This was the king of the Eternal Night Devil Clan, a devil who had escaped the calamity that had afflicted the gods and the devils during ancient times, a devil who had escaped the million year seal of the Evil God. But in the end, he had died at the hands of a human being and he would forever lie in the eternal darkness of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest.

## **Chapter 787 - Taking the Netherworld Udumbara by Force**

"Is he... dead?" Yun Che asked with much difficulty.

"He's dead!" His devil soul has dispersed and before long, the Golden Crow flames will completely burn his body to ashes as well." Jasmine said as she sighed silently in her heart, "But don't let anything distract you right now, you need to devote all your energy to healing your wounds! The injuries you sustained are really too serious this time around and even if it is you, if you let them linger on a while more, you might lose your life at any moment."

Yun Che did not speak any further. Instead he focused on adjusting his current state and mindset until he could attain proper focus. After that, he swiftly cleared away any thoughts that would distract him before he focused on circulating the Great Way of the Buddha... He knew that Jasmine's words were not the least bit exaggerated. Even when he was in the Primordial Profound Ark, he had never been so seriously injured to the point where he lost all sensation of pain.

This time, his internal and external injuries were incredibly serious and within the entire Profound Sky Continent, the only person who could sustain such injuries and still live was Yun Che alone. This coupled

with the fact that he had nearly run out of profound energy meant that it would require a rather long period of time before he could make a full recovery.

Because of his heavy injuries, Yun Che's ability to concentrate was also greatly affected. A full seven minutes passed before that dim golden pagoda gradually appeared over his head. After that, the energy of heaven and earth that surged into his body began to get denser and denser.

At the end of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest, the broken corpse of the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had finally been incinerated by the Golden Crow flames. The devil body, that was bereft of the power of the devil god, could not escape the fate of being burned to cinders... However, the clouds of black ash were dimly illuminated by streaks of bizarre black light.

Behind the body lay the wall at the very end of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest. Most of the impact from the sword strike that Yun Che had launched at the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, after he opened the "Rumbling Heaven" gate, had been absorbed by this pitch-black wall. However, the attack that had enough power to destroy the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign had not caused this wall to collapse. It had only left behind many long and narrow cracks along its surface.

Threads of abnormal black energy were quietly seeping from those cracks. It was just that there was no way anyone would be able to see it with their naked eyes in this absolute darkness.

"Heeheehee... Kekekehahaha... Huhuhuhu... Wahahaha..."

Now that the dust had finally settled, one could clearly hear the sinister wailing laughter that continued to echo within the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest. The Netherworld Udumbara Flower still gently swayed despite the absence of wind but only four petals remained and whether it was the ghostly wail or the gloomy purple light, both of them had grown far weaker than before.

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Blue Wind Nation. Snow Region of Extreme Ice

Dongfang Xiu had been going north all this while, traveling through day and night and barely even stopping to catch his breath. Given his cultivation, which was at the initial stages of the Emperor Profound Realm, he had barely made it from Blue Wind Imperial City to Frozen Cloud Asgard within twenty hours.

By the time he had reached Frozen Cloud Asgard and conveyed the message he was supposed to deliver, Dongfang Xiu had exhausted all his profound energy. He fell headfirst into the snow and he could barely force himself up after half a day of rest.

"Palace Chief Dongfang, do not worry. Asgard Master has the Frozen Cloud Celestial Soul with him, even if the distance is one hundred and fifty thousand kilometers away, he will still be able to receive our sound transmissions."

The news of Xiao Yun's disappearance deeply shocked the disciples of Frozen Cloud Asgard. Yun Che had personally told them that Xiao Yun was his sworn brother and a few months ago, he had even brought Xiao Yun to Frozen Cloud Asgard to assist him in scaring off Sun Moon Divine Hall.

Murong Qianxue and the others did not have time to arrange for a place for Dongfang Xiu to rest. The six of them combined their powers and swiftly constructed the sound transmission profound formation that was unique to Frozen Cloud Asgard. Borrowing the power of the profound formation, they would definitely be able to send a sound transmission to Yun Che, who possessed the Frozen Cloud Celestial Soul, as long as he was still on the Profound Sky Continent.

After they had constructed the sound transmission profound formation, Murong Qianxue entered the center of the profound formation and focused on sending a sound transmission to Yun Che. Immediately after that, her eyes blinked open as a look of shock and alarm spread across her face.

“Senior Sister, what happened?” Mu Lanyi asked in a worried voice.

“I can’t get through, we are unable to send out the sound transmission.” Murong Qianxue replied, shaking her head gravely as her crescent brows knitted together in confusion.

“How could it be?” Feng Hanyue asked anxiously, “Asgard Master has the Frozen Cloud Celestial Soul, so how is it possible that he isn’t able to receive our sound transmission. Nothing like this has ever happened before. Unless... unless Asgard Master has expelled the Frozen Cloud Celestial Soul from his body.”

“Ah!” Feng Hanxue cried in shock as her beautiful eyes immediately grew misty with emotion, “Could it be... could it be that Asgard Master doesn’t want us anymore...?”

“Stop spouting nonsense.” Jun Lianqie immediately exclaimed, “Asgard Master is a man who values relationships the most in this world! There is no way he would suddenly abandon our Frozen Cloud Asgard. If he truly expelled the the Frozen Cloud Celestial Soul from his body, the six of us should be able to sense it. My guess is that because Supreme Ocean Palace is located in the ocean that is one thousand five hundred kilometers to the south of the southernmost part of the Profound Sky Continent, it might be located outside the boundaries of the Profound Sky Continent. So Asgard Master would not be able to receive our sound transmission. There is another possibility... That place is, in the end, still a Sacred Ground, so it should be covered by an a powerful protective barrier and that barrier might also block out sound transmissions.”

“Another possibility I can think of is that Asgard Master is currently within the ‘Moon Slaughter Devil Nest’ that he had mentioned many times before.” Chu Yueli continued after Jun Lianqie, “Asgard Master has told us this twice before, the main objective behind his trip to Supreme Ocean Palace is to enter the ‘Moon Slaughter Devil Nest’ to look for something. Furthermore, that ‘Moon Slaughter Devil Nest’ is the greatest forbidden ground in the entire Supreme Ocean Palace, so it is definitely covered by an extremely strong isolation barrier. Not being able to send a sound transmission to him is extremely normal in such circumstances.”

“In short, let’s not play wild guessing games with each other.” Murong Qianxue said as she strode out of the profound barrier. She turned to Dongfang Xiu before she continued, “Palace Chief Dongfang, please rest here for the time being, you can send a sound transmission to Empress Cang Yue to update her on the current situation. There is definitely a reason that we cannot send a sound transmission to Asgard Master but there is no need to get too anxious. After that, we will attempt to send a sound transmission every two hours and I believe that Asgard Master will reply us before too long.”



“If that is the case... then we will have to trouble you fairies regarding this.” Dongfang Xiu said in an extremely exhausted voice.

Murong Qianxue and the others did as they said they would. They would reconstruct that profound formation and attempt to send a sound transmission once every two hours. Each time they performed the task, they intentionally increased the amount of profound strength they used...

But the days passed and there was still no reply from Yun Che.

At this point, even the ladies of Frozen Cloud Asgard began to panic.

Even though none of them said it out loud, every single one of them had a bad feeling that... it was not only Xiao Yun that was in trouble right now. It seemed very likely that something had happened to Yun Che as well.

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Within the dark and silent world, Yun Che, who had sat quietly for an unknown period of time, suddenly opened his eyes as he asked in a strained and urgent voice, “How long was I in a trance for!?”

“More than forty hours.” Jasmine coolly replied.

“What!?” Yun Che shouted in shock as he jumped to his feet. That sudden action immediately tore open all the wounds in his body, causing his face to twist in pain as he uttered a low moan.

Yun Che could completely recover from normal injuries in two days time, even if they were considered heavy injuries for a normal person but this time, things were different. Not only had he sustained grievous external and internal injuries, he had even damaged his foundation. So even though he had been quietly recovering from his injuries for more than forty hours, only half of his injuries had healed and he had also only recovered about fifty percent of his profound strength.

“Why? Are you afraid that you won’t make it in time for the Devil Sword Conference?” Jasmine said as she gave cold snort, “Hmph! You haven’t even completely recovered yet and you still have to think about how you’re going to break out of this place! So attending the Devil Sword Conference should be the last thing on your mind.”

“No! It’s not that!” Yun Che said as he swiftly turned around.

Those four points of gloomy purple light continued to slowly sway three hundred meters from where Yun Che was. The moment he looked over at them, he could hear that sinister, soul-piercing, ghostly wail ring out.

Besides the fact that it was missing petals, the Netherworld Udumbara Flower was exactly how Yun Che saw it initially. Even the four petals that remained still continued to shimmer with that purple light, it did not look like it had started to rot or decay in the least.

Even from three hundred meters away, the moment Yun Che laid his eyes on it, he could clearly feel its touch on his soul.

“This is great.” Yun Che said as he let out a long sigh of relief, “Master told me the Netherworld Udumbara Flower would only bloom for three days and once those three days were up, it would wilt instantly.”

“Even though it’s only been two days since it bloomed, it still lost five of its flower petals. So its strength would have greatly weakened. Given my knowledge of these rare plants and spirit medicines, I believe it will definitely wilt earlier than the recorded three days because of it! So we are truly fortunate that all four of the remaining petals are still in perfect condition!”

Yun Che could not help feeling antsy right now. In order to concentrate on recovering from his injuries, he had sealed all of his senses. He knew that the moment he slipped into a trance he would lose all sense of time, so he ensured that a part of his will remained to prevent him from being in a trance for too long a period of time. It was just that his wounds were really too serious, so his will had become extremely weak and the bit of will that he had held in anticipation of this event very swiftly dissipated as well... The moment he came to, he instantly thought of how long the Netherworld Udumbara Flower would stay in full bloom and he grew so anxious that cold sweat nearly drenched his entire body.

It was truly fortunate that all four of the remaining petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower had remained intact.

But at the same time, he was perfectly clear about one thing—If it was a complete and unharmed Netherworld Udumbara Flower, it would still be a full day away from wilting.

A Netherworld Udumbara Flower that had only four petals remaining would definitely remain in full bloom for a shorter period of time, it definitely would not last for three full days! If two days had already passed since it fully bloomed... then it was extremely likely that it would wilt any second now!

“You want forcefully retrieve that Netherworld Udumbara?” Jasmine said as her delicate brows slanted downwards. After that, she immediately barked out a rebuke, “Are you insane!? Have you so quickly forgotten about how terrifying the Netherworld Udumbara Flower is!? What’s more, right now you’re injured all over and you only have half your usual profound strength. So even thinking of getting within one hundred meters of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower will already be harder than scaling the heavens, much less actually plucking it! Forcing your way close to it will also likely result in it stealing your soul and you will become the living dead!”

Yun Che breathed a long sigh before he said in an extremely resolute voice, “I am well aware of how terrifying the Netherworld Udumbara Flower is! But do not forget the reason why I stayed behind in the first place! This even resulted in meeting one Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign who very nearly buried me in this place!”

“What Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign? What ancient devil? What universal calamity... I don’t really give a crap about any of those things! The only thing I stayed behind to do was to obtain this Netherworld Udumbara Flower! Furthermore, I have exhausted so much strength and braved so much danger that I very nearly threw my life away, all so that I could protect this Netherworld Udumbara Flower that only has four petals left! If we do not manage to retrieve it, how do you expect me to be satisfied!?”

Yun Che had already started to gnash his teeth as he finished his rant. Ever since he had entered the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest, his encounters had far exceeded his expectations. Given his personality, having already reached this point, he would definitely not allow himself to leave empty-handed, regardless of the risks or how difficult the task was.

Jasmine replied in a very grave voice, “Hmph, I know that the thing you love to do the most is to gamble with your life. But you should still retain some self-awareness at the very least! Two days ago, you personally experienced the might of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower—and it was when you were still very far away from it! Right now, your wounds haven’t even healed, yet it seems like you’ve completely forgotten what it means to feel pain!”

“Jasmine, tell me this one thing.” Yun Che said in a very calm voice, “Is an incomplete Netherworld Udumbara with only four remaining petals enough to create a new body for you?”

“...No! Of course not!” After a short pause, Jasmine vehemently denied him, “An incomplete Netherworld Udumbara Flower and a complete one are worlds apart! If I want my body and soul to be perfectly united when this new body of mine is created, I definitely need a complete and perfect Netherworld Udumbara Flower! Even if it was missing just one flower petal, it would not be of any use, much less a Netherworld Udumbara Flower that is missing five! So even if you decide to gamble your life and you really succeed in obtaining it, it will all be for nothing!”

“Besides, you won’t even be able to live to tell the tale if you do try to attempt it!”

Jasmine’s words did not move Yun Che in the slightest. On the contrary, they caused Yun Che to focus even more intensely on the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, “You’re lying to me!”

“...Lying to you!?” Jasmine’s voice became cold, “So now, you don’t believe even my words?”

“No.” Yun Che lightly shook his head, “Jasmine, you are the person that I trust the most in this world. As long as it is something that you’ve said, no matter how unreasonable or outrageous those words may be, I will not doubt them in the least. Unless... it was the words that you just said.”

Jasmine, “You...”

“Jasmine...” Yun Che’s voice became exceptionally soft and gentle, “The year that we met, I was sixteen and you were thirteen. You helped me rebuild a set of profound veins, took me as your student and even used your foot to step on my head to force me to kowtow to you... After that, we have been together every day and night, every hour and every moment. We can even clearly feel each other’s existence with every breath that we take. And now, it has already been more than seven years since we met.”

“You... what are you trying to say?” Yun Che’s words caused Jasmine’s voice to turn funny.

“What I’m trying to say is that we have spent seven years completely tangled together. The time that I have spent with you is longer than the time that you have spent with your parents, longer than the time that you have spent with your precious big brother, longer than the time you have spent with any person in this world. So, I know you better than anyone else does—just like how you know me better than anyone else as well.”

Jasmine, “...”

“So right now, I could tell instantly whether you were lying or not. What’s more, you don’t even like to lie in the first place, so you’re really not used to it. Normally, if you want to hide something from me, you’ll simply seal your lips and refuse to speak a word more and you will also deliberately make it known to me that you don’t want to continue. Other than the time you ‘sealed your own profound strength’, you have never even tried to deceive or lie to me!”

“That is also why your claim that you had ‘sealed your own profound strength’ deceived me for such a long time. It was the only time that you had ever lied to me before this! Just now was the second time you tried to lie to me! But I am no longer the person I was five years ago, so I won’t fall for your trick this time. No matter what...”

“No matter what, you definitely want to forcefully obtain those four petals, right!?” Jasmine’s voice had undergone a faint change, it was as if some complex emotion had been layered into it. “Fine... I was indeed lying to you just now! But it wasn’t a complete lie! Even though a Netherworld Udumbara Flower with only four petals remaining would be able to merge my body and soul together, it would not be able to perfectly merge the two! So in the end, it would only stay in effect for twenty to thirty years!”

“...What will happen after twenty to thirty years have passed?” Yun Che asked in a stunned voice.

“It is highly likely that my body and soul would reject each other and I would have no choice but to resume my current form! Hmph, I won’t be so stupid as to endure the same kind of pain as Fen Juechen.”

“So that’s how it is!” Yun Che said as he nodded heavily, “This also means that it will grant you at least twenty years of independence and absolute freedom. After that, the worst case scenario is that you would return to your current state.”

“Then we definitely need to obtain this four petal Netherworld Udumbara Flower!!”

“You!!” Jasmine snapped as her temper boiled over. She gritted her teeth within the Sky Poison Pearl as she said angrily, “You’re really someone who won’t weep until you are one foot in the coffin! Since that is the case, then go ahead and try! Go harvest that four petal Netherworld Udumbara Flower! Let me see where you’re getting that confidence from!”

### **Chapter 788 - My Jasmine (1)**

Yun Che casually inspected his injuries before focusing his mind and striding towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower.

Those four petals released an extremely bizarre and fantastical purple light. Once Yun Che was within one hundred and fifty meters of it, he could clearly feel his soul being pulled in by formless hands. Yun Che ground to a stop, sucking in a deep breath of air before he spoke in a calm voice, “Jasmine, don’t you worry. I’m not silly as to die because I overestimated my own strength. Besides, my life is still linked with yours. The reason my soul was nearly stolen by the Netherworld Udumbara Flower the first time around was because I had not experienced its true terror yet, so I didn’t prepare myself well enough.”

“However, right now, I roughly know the method it uses to steal one’s soul. This coupled with the fact that it only has four petals left makes the prospect of facing it much less terrifying than before. If I pour

all my effort and strength into this attempt, it isn't guaranteed that I will fail. I also have the Sky Poison Pearl with me, so as long as I can get near it, harvesting it won't be a problem at all."

"If the final result ends in complete and utter failure and I see no hope of succeeding, then I will give up."

"Hmph!" Jasmine sniffed angrily as she replied, "Anyways, I can't stop you no matter what I say, so I can't be bothered with you anymore! When you are being tormented to the point where you start begging for death later, don't blame me for not giving you ample warning!"

"I get it."

Both of Yun Che's hands slowly tightened into fists as his brows knit together tightly... In this lifetime, he was convinced that he would never be able to forget just how terrifying the soul stealing ability of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower was. Now that he thought about it again, his entire soul started to shudder uncontrollably as a intense dread was birthed in his heart.

If the thing placed in front of him was something else, even if it was a legendary treasure, a peerless profound artifact or even a mountain of Divine Crystals, he would turn around without a hint of hesitation and leave without even taking another look... because he was definitely not willing to ever experience the pain of his soul being taken from him again.

But what was in front of him was the Netherworld Udumbara Flower... The only Netherworld Udumbara Flower in this world.

"I will definitely succeed!"

"Hah!!"

Yun Che murmured before expelling an explosive shout. His entire body started burning with flames as he rose into the air, rushing with full force towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower.

The first time he had approached the Netherworld Udumbara Flower and was affected by its soul stealing ability, all of the power in his body instantly dissipated... So this time, he wanted to see if he could use extreme speed to reach the Netherworld Udumbara Flower in an instant.

Ding...

The hellish purple radiance before him expanded and the world suddenly fell completely silent. After that, innumerable icy needles crazily pierced his soul while countless dark hands emerged from the depths of the abyss to tear apart every corner of his soul...

Bang!!

Yun Che was thrown to the ground as he fell from the sky in a heap. All the flames on his body had been completely extinguished. His soul was being twisted and rent and the enormous pain that accompanied it caused his internal organs, limbs and the rest of his body to spasm uncontrollably. Every single hair and cell of his body was twisting and shivering in pain.

He gritted his teeth with all his might, forcefully keeping his cries of pain inside. Under that immense pain, his vision had become blurry but he could still see that bizarrely beautiful purple light clearly. It was roughly fifty meters distant from him.

It was also this purple light which allowed him to doggedly keep his nearly fractured psyche in one piece. He forced himself to his feet and tried to stagger towards the purple light. But right after he had taken a single step in that direction...

It was just one single step closer to the flower... yet in an instant, the thousand needles that had been stabbing at his soul turned into ten thousand blades...

When he had spent half his life delivering the killing blow to the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign, leaving his body in tatters, he had not even given voice to a single whimper of pain. But right now, Yun Che was letting out a blood-curdling scream. Just drawing one step closer was like walking through hell and finding another hell inside hell itself. He could feel both his body and soul being rent into tiny bits and pieces. This pain far exceeded any pain that Yun Che had ever known before, it even exceeded Yun Che's very understanding of pain itself!

Furthermore, this intense pain also gave birth to a frantically blooming terror!

Fear and dread instantly swallowed up all of Yun Che's remaining will and bravery. His contorted body reacted by itself as it tumbled backwards.

The sensation of his soul being sliced apart and the mind-warping pain dramatically lessened with every inch he retreated. Once his mind had cleared, he naturally regained control over his power and body. Yun Che continued to stagger backwards, stumbling on the ground as he went. He finally stopped when he reached a distance where he could endure the pain. Both of his knees sank to the ground as he used his arms to prop himself up. He gasped heavily for breath and sweat poured down his forehead in torrents. In the blink of an eye, the ground beneath his head had become completely drenched.

"Haah... Haah... Haah..."

His body continued to spasm uncontrollably for more than ten breaths as he took in great gulps of air. At this point, Yun Che felt as if he had endured the cruellest torture in the entire world... No! This pain was far more dreadful than any torture he could ever imagine.

He turned his head, raising his pasty-white face to look towards the position that he had reached previously. That spot was only about forty five meters away from the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. He could sense that that distance was the limit of what he could endure. If he tried to move forward, even if it was a single tiny step... he would be unable to endure the pain from that point on.

He was also unable to imagine what kind of terrible hell awaited him if he continued to take yet another step forward. He could also scarcely imagine what kind of horrific world awaited him when he was within a single step of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower.

Forty five meters... To him, that normally would be a pitifully short distance.

But in this place, it seemed even farther and more despair-inducing than a gap that spanned millions of kilometers.

One step was a step into an abyss.... One step was clearing a natural chasm!

"Are you... alright?" Jasmine asked in a voice laced with worry. But the moment she noticed the worry in her voice, she immediately turned frosty, "Hmph! This is the result of you overestimating your own strength! I will say this once more! The Netherworld Udumbara Flower isn't something a person from your plane can get close to! As for that soul-stealing pain, you have now experienced it a second time! To be honest, the fact that you haven't collapsed is commendable in and of itself! Because this kind of pain, even if it is I... even if it is a god from the legends, it would still be very hard to bear! Much less someone like you!"

By the time Jasmine had finished speaking, Yun Che had gotten to his feet once more. After that he turned around and faced the Netherworld Udumbara Flower yet again. But this time, the unwavering determination in his eyes had long since disappeared and a thick fear had replaced it instead.

In the past few years, Yun Che had not feared anything—whether it was unbearable might, the approach of death, or a natural force that he could not resist...

This was the first time he had ever experienced fear due to "pain."

Crack!

He squeezed his left hand so hard that he had cracked the bones on two of his fingers... but his pale face did not even flinch. Because it was not even an ant bite when compared to the pain he had experienced when his soul was being stolen.

His feet started moving as he began to walk towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower yet again.

"What are you doing?" His actions shocked Jasmine. She knew very clearly what kind of pain Yun Che had just endured and she had also felt the dread that it had brought to him. So she had thought that Yun Che would never even try to approach the Netherworld Udumbara Flower ever again... and perhaps, he might not even dare to glance at it anymore but he was actually... trying to approach it yet again!

"I still... haven't... failed yet!!" Yun Che said huskily. But the words that he had spat still quivered due to his remaining fear.

"You... Have you really not given up!? Will you truly only weep once you've seen your own grave!?" Jasmine shouted angrily.

"This Netherworld Udumbara Flower... it's right in front of me! It's only a short sixty meters away right now! If I lost all heart to continue due to this small obstacle, then where... will I find the face to see you next time!?"

"Me!?" Jasmine yelled in surprise, "...What small obstacle!? How in this world is that a small obstacle to you!? The pain your body is feeling will seep into your soul and the pain of the soul is not something that mere physical pain can compare to." Jasmine had felt true soul searing pain once in her life before. It was when she inherited the profound strength legacy of the Heaven Slaughter Star God. So she had a very clear understanding about this kind of pain! Even someone as powerful as her would tremble in fear every time she remembered that experience. And to this day, she still would not have the courage to go through that experience a second time!

But for the sake of an incomplete Netherworld Udumbara Flower, Yun Che was willing to face that pain for a third time!!

Yun Che did not wait for Jasmine's response. With a loud roar, he rushed towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower again while Jasmine was still stunned.

Forty five meters...

This distance proved to be the bottleneck yet again. Once more, Yun Che felt all of the strength in his body dissipating as he fell to the ground in pain. He forcefully opened his eyes so wide that they seemed like they would explode and he bit down so hard that his teeth nearly broke as he bounded a huge step forward.

“UWAAAAAAHHHHHHH!!”

A soul-rending cry of pain resounded through every corner of the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest. It was so shrill and sharp that even the pebbles on the ground started to tremble. This instant of soul searing pain was something that Yun Che could not even describe with words and the terrifying notion of committing suicide to escape this pain surfaced in his head.

The only thing that filled his body and remaining will was the instinct to “run away”... to flee at all costs! As his shrill cries continued to rend the air, Yun Che's body was rolling and tumbling backwards... By the time he had recovered some semblance of clarity, he had already tumbled sixty meters away.

Yun Che's face had gone even paler than before and his entire body was twitching and trembling like an insect that was going through its death spasms. Streams of cold sweat rolled down his body. He tightly gritted his teeth... This time, it took an entire thirty breaths before his body finally stopped trembling.

“That's enough, don't try that again. How many time do I have to tell you, it's impossible for you to succeed! You're only suffering for nothing!” This time, Jasmine did not scold him and one could hear a faint trembling in her voice. At first, she was completely convinced that no matter how strong a person's will was, the moment that person experienced the pain of one's soul being stolen, it would leave an eternal dark memory and that person would not even have the courage to think about the experience. But Yun Che... had thrown himself into the fray time and time again.

His desperate actions were so extreme that it was akin to forcefully jumping into a deep abyss, which even the gods would fear, repeatedly. It was not even to fulfill his own selfish desires... it was all for her!!

When Yun Che had endured those spatial storms within the Primordial Profound Ark, what he had experienced was the most extreme physical pain. Jasmine admired his ability to endure all of it, but she was not too surprised by the end result. But comparing physical pain to pain of the soul... it was on an entirely different level!!

Forcefully flensing the soul from the body... it was a process that was millions of times more painful than removing every single bone and blood vessel from one's body!

**Chapter 789 - My Jasmine (2)**



Yun Che's hands pushed himself off the ground as he began to slowly stand up. His pupils were contracted but when he stood up, he was still looking at the four petals of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower that were pulsing with hellish purple light.

"I want to get closer to it..." He muttered under his breath, his voice hoarse from the screaming, "But why do I always involuntarily... use my remaining strength to run away... Moreover, I'm actually afraid right now..."

"Could it be... that my so-called determination was this... weak!?"

Yun Che's voice sounded fuzzy and indistinct. It was as if the Netherworld Udumbara Flower's soul stealing ability was making him delirious. Jasmine immediately replied, "This has nothing to do with the strength of your will! In this world, there isn't anyone who can endure the pain of their soul being rent from their bodies. There is also no one who isn't afraid of this pain either!"

"No, it has something to do with it!" Yun Che had finally managed to stand up completely. He looked at the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, his arms trembling. Not only did his eyes contain a fear that could not be dispelled, there was also a growing violence being kindled there. After that he started moving once more and strode towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, "For the sake of reconstituting your body... That was the request that you made of me the very first day we met. Up to now, it has also been the only request that you have ever made!"

"Jasmine, meeting you allowed a cripple like me to gain a new life and I was also able to regain my dignity as well... Because of you, I can protect my grandfather and my little aunt from all harm and mistreatment... Because of you, I found out about my past and I was able to find my real parents... All of the power, status, dignity and fame that I possess today is due to you. If not for that chance meeting with you, I might have died a dog's death by now... Even if I was still alive, I would possibly only be a wandering ghost that hovered on the edge of despair..."

"But in the end, I could not even help you realize... this sole wish of yours."

Jasmine, "You..."

"Now, in front of my very eyes, I see what might be your last sliver of hope. So, no matter what... No matter what...!!"

"You... need to stop trying, even if it is you..."

"UWAAHHH!!"

Jasmine's words had just left her mouth when they were completely engulfed by Yun Che's roar. He rushed towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower for the fourth time as flames and killing intent covered his body... His strongest aura was his killing aura! So he was using his most extreme killing aura to suppress the fear that he felt towards the pain caused by his soul being rent apart.

In the blink of an eye, Yun Che had once again entered that forty five meter radius. This spot seemed to be the border of a devil's forbidden zone—No one would be allowed to take even one step inside!

Yun Che was once again assaulted by the indescribable pain of his soul being rent apart. His entire body was contorting and spasming but this time, he forced himself to stay upright. He gritted his teeth tightly as he took his first step into the devil's forbidden zone...

"AAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHH!!!"

Yun Che's shout was laced with both pain and determination. He fiercely guarded his soul and his will as he continued forward... one step... two steps... three steps...

Thud!!

By some kind of miracle, he kept charging forward while roaring in rage and wailing in pain. By the end, he had covered a full three meters and now he was within forty two meters of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. He finally sank heavily to his knees and his face was twisted with such extreme pain that his features were all scrunched together. His ten fingers fiercely scabbled against the ground as they curled and contorted into a shape that resembled withered animal claws...

Pain and terror filled his soul as he began to wish for death rather than survival. The all-consuming desire to run away, at all costs, engulfed his remaining will. His body began to jerk spasmodically as he desperately crawled and rolled away from the source of pain...

The pain started to lessen as his shredded soul finally became tranquil. Yun Che's mental clarity returned to him as he lay on the ground and looked in the direction of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower... That purple light was once again more than sixty meters away.

"He... hehe... Hahaha... HAHAHAAAAHA..." Yun Che's fists fiercely smashed into the ground as he started laughing in a voice filled with pain and despondency, "To think that I actually ran away once again... To think that I am actually... this useless..."

"Yun Che!! How much longer do you want this foolishness to continue!?" Jasmine yelled at him in a furious voice, "If you're thinking that the reason that you listed just now is a good reason for your desperate actions, then you can jolly well stop! I don't need you to repay me for my actions! Everything that I have done is entirely for my own sake! I don't need you to gamble your life just to get a mere Netherworld Udumbara Flower! Let's not even talk about the fact that it's impossible for you to succeed... Even if you do manage to obtain it, I won't feel the least bit grateful. Rather, I'd only feel that your stupidity knows no bounds!!"

"Repay... your kindness?"

Yun Che used both arms to hoist himself off the ground. His body wobbled and his voice was weak and lacking energy, "How could it just be... to repay your kindness... Jasmine, to me... How could you simply... be a benefactor to me?"

Jasmine, "..."

He turned towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower and spoke in a low voice, "In my life, I, Yun Che, have braved many storms and seas. I have experienced countless life and death struggles and innumerable calamities. Even an ancient devil that came from the Ancient Era one million years ago died under my blade!!"

“So how can I... be so miserably defeated by a mere Netherworld Udumbara Flower!!”

Jasmine shouted in shock, “Are you telling me that you’re about to try again!? Have you experienced so much pain that you’ve lost all of your grip on reality!?”

“No! On the contrary, I feel more clear-headed than ever right now!” Yun Che said with a low shout, “I am not even scared of a devil! I am not even scared of death! So how can a mere flower scare me so badly that I scamper off with my tail in between my legs time and time again!!”

ROOOOAAAR!!!!

A majestic dragon roar shook the entire place as a pair of azure eyes suddenly blinked open in this pitch-black world. A boundless power engulfed this tiny space as it weighed down on everything.

Dragon Soul Domain!!

Jasmine, “...!!”

The moment he unleashed the Dragon Soul Domain, all of the fear that remained in Yun Che’s heart and eyes completely vanished. He looked at the Netherworld Udumbara Flower, a calm and resolute smile playing across his face, “This time, I will no longer allow myself to be afraid or run away... Because I no longer have a way out!!”

After he unleashed the Dragon Soul Domain, all of his soul energy would be exhausted in an extremely short period of time. So if he retreated again, it would take a very long time before he could recover all of his soul energy... By that time, the Netherworld Udumbara Flower would have already withered away.

So he really did not have a way out after this anymore!

“You can’t!” Jasmine shouted in her loudest voice, “Even if you use the Dragon Soul, you still won’t be able to get anywhere near the Netherworld Udumbara Flower! Moreover, the Dragon Soul Domain will quickly deplete your spirit energy. After that, your soul energy will be extremely weak and it will result in your soul being swiftly devoured by the Netherworld Udumbara Flower! You won’t even have a chance to resist or retreat!!”

“I can do it...” Yun Che gasped through gritted teeth, “Because this is for you... that is why I will definitely succeed!”

“...” Jasmine’s heart was heavily smashed by some unfamiliar object.

ROOOOAAAR!!!!

As the dragon cry resounded in the air, Yun Che gathered all the profound energy in his body as he rushed towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower yet again... But this would be his final attempt!

Because he would no longer have a chance to try again!!

Yun Che’s soul power grew explosively under the influence of the Dragon Soul Domain. As he drew nearer, the Netherworld Udumbara Flower began to sway quicker and the ghastly wail it released started to sound rather abnormal.

Yun Che gobbled up the distance as he fiercely pressed towards the forty five meter mark. His entire body tensed up but the soul-rending power that assaulted him was casually batted aside by the Dragon God's soul power. The pain and his loss of willpower was not even half as much as it was before.

His power and his will were still being swiftly worn away by the Netherworld Udumbara Flower's soul-stealing power. Yun Che began to slow down as his steps became wobbly but he gritted his teeth fiercely as he desperately surged forward... While the Dragon Soul Domain was suppressing that dark and hellish power, he managed to bull his way to within thirty meters of the flower!!

Yun Che was suddenly assaulted by pain which far surpassed the threshold of what he could endure. It was so intense that every hair on his body was shaking and his knees hit the ground violently with a thud. However, his eyes still retained a startling and dreadful clarity...

To be able to retain some semblance of clarity in this sort of situation could only be described as "dreadful".

"Even if... my soul... is completely ripped apart... I will no longer retreat, not even half a step!"

"UWAHHH!!"

His trembling, powerless arms swayed as he began to crawl towards that hellish purple light. The pain of his soul being torn apart caused him to begin to feel as if his arms and even his entire body did not exist. It was only by squeezing out the last bits of his willpower and determination that he was able to push his body forward... As he advanced, the terrifying feeling of his soul being torn apart and flayed from his body continuously increased.

But he... definitely could not retreat!

Within the Sky Poison Pearl, Hong'er was in deep slumber. The vicious battle with Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign seemed to have left her exhausted. So during the past two days when Yun Che had been recovering from his injuries, she had been sound asleep. Jasmine stood by Hong'er's bedside, a stupefied look spreading across her face as she witnessed Yun Che's desperate struggle in stunned amazement. He was slowly crawling within that hellish purple light and he had inched from the thirty meter mark to the twenty seven meter mark. Enormous pain caused his face to twist and warp in such a sinister way that it resembled an evil spirit.

Furthermore, the Dragon God image behind his back was slowly but surely fading away as well...

Suddenly, the Dragon God image flashed and then started fading away at a startlingly fast pace. It seemed like it was about to collapse at any time.

Jasmine's delicate brows jumped as she cried out involuntarily, "Yun Che, don't carry on any longer, hurry up and get back! Your Dragon Soul Domain has almost reached its limit... You can still escape before it completely dissipates! If not, this is where you will meet your end!!"

"..." Yun Che did not reply and he did not retreat. His arms trembled as he clawed forward, leaving behind bloody fingerprints in his wake. He had gritted his teeth so hard that blood was flowing from his gums and streamed from the corners of his mouth. But he barely noticed all of this as he slowly crawled through this purgatory that a normal person would never be able to imagine. He inched forward bit by bit, crawling even deeper into hell.

“...Yun Che! Listen up!” Jasmine’s spirit body was also shaking, and she was shaking nearly as fiercely as Yun Che was, “If I am unable to gain a new body, then I can only exist by continuing to stay attached to your lifeline! If you live, I live! If you die, I die! Now I have already escaped the clutches of that devilish poison, so I can use my powers with no hesitation! As long as I don’t die, I will have to ensure that you continue to live as well! Given my power, even if all the people on the Profound Sky Continent ganged up together, they still wouldn’t be able to kill you! You can also rely on my power to do anything that you are unable to do!!”

“If I can never reconstitute my body, then I will have no choice but to rely on you to continue existing! No choice but to continue protecting you forever!”

“But if I do get a new body, then you will be throwing away an extremely strong protective charm! Right... once I get a new body, I will definitely kill you right away! Because you not only know too much of my secrets and you are also the type of person that I detest the most!”

“You are literally paying an enormous price to do the most stupid thing conceivable in this world! There is still time for you to stop and change your mind... Get away from here immediately!!”

Jasmine yelled in her loudest voice, clenching her tiny hands so hard that the joints of her fingers had long since turned white.

Clap!

Yun Che’s hand grabbed onto a black rock that protruded slightly from the ground as he pulled himself forward an inch. His mouth was trembling as he spoke in a hoarse and weak voice, “You... will... not...”

### **Chapter 790 - My Jasmine (3)**

The Dragon God image had grown incredibly faint and it looked like it would disappear at any moment. At this instant, Yun Che’s pupils flashed with firelight as a phoenix cry rang out in the room and the image of a Phoenix coalesced behind his back...

After releasing the Dragon Soul, he released the Phoenix Soul without holding anything back. The weak Dragon Soul and the recently ignited Phoenix Soul combined forces to slightly weaken the soul stealing power of the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. Yun Che gave a low roar as he rushed forward. During that burst of speed, he covered another three meters.

Now he was only twenty one meters away from the Netherworld Udumbara Flower!

“Wha... what proof do you have that I won’t!” Jasmine’s strained voice showed that she was losing control over her emotions. She deeply inhaled as she forced herself to remain calm and composed, “Okay... fine... Could it be that you will only be content after you have dragged me down to the grave with you once you have been tortured to death by the pain of having your soul stolen!? If you don’t hurry up and get back to a safe spot, you will be dooming me as well! I endured so many years of that devilish poison and it wasn’t easy for me to get to this point! So if your stupidity today ends up causing my death... I will never ever forgive you, not even in our next lives!!”

While the flames burned, the cry of the Phoenix Soul began to grow weaker and weaker. Yun Che was now only eighteen meters away from the Netherworld Udumbara Flower... Even Jasmine was unable to believe that Yun Che could withstand this horrifying soul stealing ability and the pain of having his soul

rent apart and come this close to the Netherworld Udumbara Flower. His miserable cries of pain had grown so hoarse that they barely even sounded human anymore. His actions were so weak that he resembled an old man who was at death's door. But his arms and his body continued to slowly crawl forward inch by inch...

If the Moon Slaughter Devil Sovereign still lived, perhaps even he would not be able to believe the scene he was witnessing.

"Jasmine..." Yun Che murmured in a voice so low that even he could not hear himself clearly, "Believe me... I can definitely... make it..."

"You are even... younger than me... Yet from such a young age... you could only... rely on one person... to live... I know just how... painful... and sad... that kind of life is..."

"Even though you are... haughty... stubborn... foul-tempered... and you love to scold me... you have never allowed... me to pity you... but... I know that... you desire freedom... more than anything else..."

"If... we miss this chance... I don't know... how many more years we will have to... I... will... definitely... not..."

"AAHHHH!!!"

Yet another resonant cry pierced the air, the image of the third Divine Spirit appeared behind Yun Che. The Golden Crow Soul was also ignited by Yun Che, he was releasing all of his soul energy without any reservation.

This explosion of soul energy allowed the now clear-headed Yun Che to stride forward yet again.

By the time he fell to the ground again, he was only fifteen meters away from the Netherworld Udumbara Flower.

But these short fifteen meters were the widest and most terrifying divide in the entire Profound Sky Continent.

At this point, anyone who had not personally experienced the same thing would never be able to imagine what Yun Che was currently enduring.

Dragon God Soul, Phoenix Soul, Golden Crow Soul... All three Divine Spirit images were radiating light. It was just that the images of the Phoenix and the Dragon God had already grown extremely thin and faint but Yun Che was still desperately holding on to the last threads of soul energy. If he did not have the protection of these three Great Divine Spirit Souls, his soul would have long ago been shattered into countless fragments.

Fifteen meters away. This was a distance that Jasmine could scarcely believe. But she knew how hopeless an affair it would be to try to cross these last fifteen meters. Even if Yun Che was at his peak, he would not be able to cross this last stretch... Besides, the Divine Spirit soul power he was relying on had grown extremely weak.

But Yun Che was still using his arms to pull his entire body along as he crawled towards the Netherworld Udumbara Flower at a snail's pace... Jasmine was closely observing Yun Che but she was unable to find out what kind of power the current Yun Che was using to continue dragging himself forward.

“Just what... will make you give up!?” Jasmine’s voice was shaking so hard that it was scarcely recognizable. She turned her head away and closed her eyes... Given her nature, she no longer dared to look at Yun Che’s current appearance, “For the last... I’ll say this for the last time! Immediately... get away from here!! This is an order! I am your master... and you well know that one must always obey their master. Are you telling me that you’re even going to rebel against your master’s orders!?”

Yun Che’s arm was spasming but his body moved forward yet again. His entire body was wriggling and jerking spasmodically, as if he was a dying bug wriggling the last of its life away... Behind him, the images of the Dragon God and the Phoenix had completely disappeared and only the weak light of the Golden Crow image was still flashing.

“A master’s order cannot be disobeyed...” Yun Che’s eyes still remained open as his blood-stained mouth whispered those words, “But in my heart... you are not merely... my master...”

“You are also... my... Jasmine!!!!”

“...” Jasmine’s body trembled. Her heart had grown completely muddled, as if something had exploded in the very depths of her soul.

“UUWAAAAAH!”

The Golden Crow image had also completely disappeared. The moment all three Divine Spirit images completely disappeared, Yun Che’s body was suddenly lit up by flames and under the firelight, one could also see a scarlet profound light...

The three drops of Phoenix origin blood and the nine drops of Golden Crow origin blood were ignited by him in that one instant.

This was the second time he had ignited his Divine origin blood ever since the duel that he had with Xia Qingyue all those years ago! The difference was that he had drawn the origin blood out of his body to ignite it the first time around, but this time, he had ignited it while the origin blood was still in his body.

At the same time, he also resolutely opened the fourth gate of the Evil God that caused him to lose half his life in those short two breaths of time.

“Rumbling... Heaven!!”

Like an insect on the brink of death, Yun Che fiercely rushed forward as cauterizing flames burned all around him. In an instant, he covered nearly fifteen meters of ground. With his remaining will, he hazily ascertained the direction in which the purple light lay. He desperately thrust out his left hand, which flashed with a green light as he came into contact with the purple light, which resembled devil eyes...

Bang!

Yun Che heavily fell to the ground and stopped moving completely. All of the wounds that his body had just recovered from had all ruptured open, whether it was his internal or external wounds. Furthermore, those injuries were even worse than they had been; they were so serious that Yun Che had instantly lost consciousness as he lay there unmoving.

The world within the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest had finally descended into its dark quiet solitude once more... Furthermore, it was an absolute darkness, not a single thread of light continued to glow in this place.

Jasmine dumbly stood in place. She neither moved nor spoke for a very long time... The only things one could see were two streams of wetness trailing down her snow white face. They did not stop, the tears only streaming down faster and faster in the silence.

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“Uuu... This isn’t real... Big Brother... I don’t want you to die... Uuuuu... I don’t want this... don’t want this!!”

“Jasmine... don’t cry... Even if Big Brother isn’t around, you must still... continue to be strong... You still need... to protect Caizhi... After all, she... Cough, cough cough.”

“I... I understand. I will protect Caizhi, I will protect her the same way Big Brother protected me. I must be strong... I must also... must also kill that person... kill all of the people of that astral plane to take revenge for my brother...”

“No... please don’t... don’t visit your vengeance on her...”

“Why... It’s obvious that she was the one who harmed Big Brother... Why is Big Brother still trying to protect her!?”

“Jasmine... you’re still young. Once you’ve grown up, you will learn to truly love someone. It is then that you will understand... Big Brother may have died because of her... but I have no regrets... I just have too many worries that I am leaving behind...”

“Jasmine... promise Big Brother this one last thing... In the future... once you’ve grown up... if there comes a day where you meet a man who is strong, treats you as good as Big Brother has and is willing to give up anything for you... even his life. Then get him to... bring you... far away from this place... forever... The further the better... so no one will be able to find you...”

“No... I don’t want... In this world, there will never be someone who will treat me as well as Big Brother... I only want Big Brother... Uu... uwaaaaaaaaah...”

“Jasmine... you will definitely be able to meet that person... Because my sister... is the kindest... and most beautiful girl... in the world...”

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“...” Jasmine stretched out her small hand and touched the two warm streams of tears that ran down her snowy face. Perhaps it was because she had not cried since the death of her brother and it had been far too long since then. As a result, too many tears had accumulated, and no matter how she tried to control them, those flowing tears simply refused to stop.



Big Brother, do you know? I've really met someone who fits that description.

But, how can I...

"Eh? Big Sis Jasmine, you're crying!"

While Jasmine was in a daze, she had not realized that Hong'er had woken up. She stood by Jasmine's side, looking curiously at Jasmine's tear-stained face while racking her brains. After she had confirmed what she was thinking several times over, she suddenly started jumping in excitement as she shouted, "Whoaa! I had always thought that only I knew how to cry, but it looks like Big Sis Jasmine also knows how to cry as well... This is great!"

Hong'er always got excited over the weirdest things. This time, Jasmine didn't encourage her like she normally did to make her happy. Instead, she stretched out a hand and lightly grasped Hong'er's white and delicate hand.

"Hong'er, if there comes a day where I won't be here anymore and I won't return for a very long time... you need to obediently listen to your master's words, okay?"

"Of course that's okay!" Hong'er said as she nodded her head with no hesitation. She smiled merrily as she replied, "I have always been very obedient to Master... Ah?" Hong'er had finally noticed the main point and she asked Jasmine curiously, "Big Sis Jasmine, you won't be here? Are you going somewhere else to play?"

"I don't know, perhaps I have been thinking too much all of the sudden." Jasmine said as she gave a faint smile, "Anyways, you need to obediently obey your master at all times, okay. Because besides me, you master is the person who treats Hong'er the best in this world, right?"

"Mn!" Hong'er obediently nodded her head. But after that, she slanted her head and whispered to herself, "It's so strange. Big Sis Jasmine seems really weird today... Aiyah, I don't care anymore! Big Sis Jasmine, now that I've finished sleeping, my tummy is rumbling again! I want to eat lots and lots of delicious stuff!"

"....."

There was no sound and no light. Within the boundless darkness, Yun Che lay unmoving, whether he still lived or if he had died was a complete mystery.