

Vessel 1011

### **Chapter 1011: Impressive Battle**

“Wind, death, samsara, all under my command!” Yiyi stood up and grasped her sword at last, releasing boundless sword intent within a single slash.

This energy was no joke, capable of pulling the momentum of the dimension with it.

Feiyun hurriedly leaped backward with his hands spread out like eagle wings. He activated all five domains.

The most obvious were the phoenix, myriad beasts, and silkworms. They looked like independent worlds.

As for the Grand Change and Saint Domain, these two were invisible and internal. Their presence was barely discernible.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!” The slash broke through the first three domains and pierced the Grand Change Art, directly heading for Feiyun’s heart.

Her speed was incredible, appearing in front of Feiyun in the blink of an eye despite being dozens of miles away earlier.

White rays emanated from her in order to resist Feiyun’s domains. She continued pressing her sword forward.

Her action looked extremely slow but in reality, this move was undodgeable.

Though Feiyun had his dragon-phoenix armor on, her sword was special as well. It penetrated the armor and caused him to feel pain.

Nonetheless, he remained calm. His eyes were only half a meter away from hers. He could see each of her brows’ hair clearly and his reflection in her eyes.

He gathered the saint energy in his body into his fingertip and decided to aim for her heart. This saint energy was enough to destroy the heart.

If he were to lose, he must take her down with him as well.

“Whoosh!” Suddenly, she pulled back her sword and took one step backward, appearing thirty miles away.

‘Why did she stop? Did she recognize my saint energy?’ Feiyun’s eyes became serious, thinking about killing her anyway.

Alas, she was quite far away and given her swift movement, it would be difficult to actually strike her.

“I can agree to stay here for three months. Can you tell me why?” Her voice was ethereal.

‘She doesn’t know. Right, her spirit awareness is keen but she still can’t see through my Grand Change Art and detect my inner energy flow.’

He recalled his energy and smiled: "I can't tell you the reason right now but I will do so when the time is right. What makes you change your mind?"

"I want you to agree to one condition." She said.

"I'll agree to anything as long as you will stay put for three months." He put on a gentlemanly act: "Including paying with my body."

"Your talent isn't the best I've seen but your actual battle prowess is gasp-worthy. This shouldn't be wasted." She ignored him.

"Don't tell me you want to recruit me to Aquamoon." He smiled.

She shook her head and said: "You just need to agree, there's no need for you to know right now. I'll contact you when the time is right."

"Fine, I agree." Feiyun said right away: "This reason is why you chose to compromise?"

"Have you forgotten that I still owe you one?" She said.

"I actually did." He stroked his chin and said: "You are one to keep your promise, I should have remembered and brought it up, then we didn't need to fight."

"No, I purposely instigated in order to see your true power. You are quite strong, but not at the top echelon yet. I've only used twenty percent of my power from start to finish. If you can withstand me at thirty percent, you would be among the top echelon of human geniuses." Yiyi revealed.

She thought that she could have killed Feiyun earlier, hence her assessment of him being around twenty percent of her power. This wouldn't have been the case if she had known about his saint energy.

He didn't mind being underestimated either. It actually played more to his advantage.

Yiyi's problem was her kindness so her cultivation didn't matter. For example, she could have killed more than ten paragons from the demon race before. Alas, she didn't do it and this ended with her being grievously injured.

Showing mercy was a fatal flaw. When it was time to kill, one must do so. Therefore, he considered her to be a lower threat than Princess Fei Yuan or Liu Suhong's group.

"I'll have to keep trying to reach thirty percent then." Feiyun smiled.

In reality, he wasn't that confident in keeping her here. Her cultivation was too high on top of possessing a top technique movement. Even using his vessel might not be enough to imprison her. Thus, he welcomed her willingness.

"This kingdom has many vestiges from the antiquity era. Would you like to take a tour to see the temples and shrines, Saintess?" Feiyun put on a young master appearance, looking like one of her suitors.

Yiyi didn't give him and face and refused: "No need for that, I'm used to comprehending the dao alone. I want to train in peace here."

“Don’t say that, Saintess. The truth is that I have another reason to invite you here. I need your help.” He hurriedly rushed over and blocked her path.

If this scene happened on the street, one would think that he was a young master trying to toy with an innocent girl, wanting her to come with him.

She was almost as tall as him as they stood close together: “Speak, I hope your request is reasonable.”

Her opinion of him had worsened the moment they got here. In fact, it turned into distaste.

First, she could tell that he was not loyal romantically. This place was a holy land of Buddhism yet he turned it into the home of his beauties.

If Senior Fo Canzi were to know this, he might fall over and die from anger. She had used her divine intents prior to check out the women. She thought that all the girls from Beastmaster Camp were his concubines.

She considered him a bastard for playing with Liu Suzi and then mingling with Liu Suhong.

He didn’t know her thoughts and kept on going: “The kingdom is changing from a high-level realm into a minor dimension. I’m asking for your help to hasten this change.”

“What do you require of me?” She asked.

“Follow me.” He turned into a beam and disappeared into the horizon. In the next second, he was one million miles away in another ocean.

There was an invisible barrier in the air that forced the water back, resulting in a maelstrom reaching all the way to the bottom. This was caused by none other than a massive piece of Meteoric Spirit Stone.

Given Feiyun’s cultivation, he couldn’t get within a hundred meters of it.

“I want to push this stone into the core so that it would serve as the heart of the kingdom. It would hasten the process.” He said excitedly.

For example, Crimson Leaf had something similar and created a strong gravitational pull. This made the place much better for cultivation improvement.

If the same thing happened here, then the kingdom would truly be a holy ground for Buddhist cultivation.

He felt that since he had inherited Fo Canzi’s legacy, he should do his best to make this place better for Buddhists even though he didn’t like Buddhism himself.

### **Chapter 1012: The Kingdom Is Pure!**

A great altar existed in the residence of the territory lord. It was built on top of a mountain range and became even taller. The base and walls were made from the corpses of demons and spirit stones.

It contained layers of Heaven’s Emergence blood as well, hence its terrifying aura. The laws and energies from Crimson Leaf flowed into the altar.

Despite the resources and manpower available to their faction, it still took them half a month to finish it.

A servant said that it was built for the two princesses. It contained an ancient method to improve their cultivation. It was the power of faith, not from any living beings but to borrow from an ancient deity.

Liu Suzi and Liu Suhong have been occupied with this so they were rarely around.

The old men from the two branches, strangely enough, didn't bother Feiyun either. This gave him more time to stay in the kingdom and refine the meteoric stone with Aquamoon Saintess.

This was a monumental task not inferior to the altar outside. It would require the two of them many years to complete. Thus, he even recruited the Nirvana-level spirit beasts.

"Bro, do you like how I buried this spirit vein?" Feng Qingqing climbed out of the ground, covered in mud and dirt from top to bottom.

Her originally jade hands were dirty. Even her white kitty, Whitey, was brown. She wiped her face but this only made it dirtier.

Feiyun used his phoenix gaze to look at a flowing spirit vein spanning 600,000 miles underground from the center of the kingdom to the northwest.

He then smiled and praised: "It's great. Must have been a lot of work, Qingqing."

"Not at all, do you want me to do anything else?" Her eyes were bright like stars.

She was excited to finally have something to do. Digging pathways underground wasn't boring at all.

The kingdom had twenty-one large-scale spirit veins and one massive one. In order to bury the core, they needed to connect all of these veins together first before spreading them out for increased stability.

"Leave it to me next." He said.

He put on his dragon-phoenix robe and turned into a great phoenix. His wings spanned for miles while his body was covered in draconic scales.

His aura frightened everyone. Even Aquamoon Saintess became alarmed despite being aware of this potential.

She summoned her ruler and a special aura since he possessed more power than a higher-level paragon now. This half-demon has this ace card... it would have been difficult to beat him if he had used it. How many other secrets does he have?

"Boom!" The phoenix smashed into the ground and destroyed tens of thousands of miles.

A crater appeared and continued to grow larger. Loud explosions and violent quakes took over the kingdom.

Two days later, auspicious rays shot to the sky from the crater.

Aquamoon Saintess gathered the laws of the world around her. She became the center of everything. The sarira ashes in the sky rotated around her like stars.

Her hand contained incredible energy. She activated one strand of the ruler's energy and shot it straight at the center of the crater.

This was the power of a saint artifact. Just one strand possessed immense power, enough to move this gigantic meteoric stone.

"Rumble!" The kingdom became unstable and loud.

In the void, someone could see numerous low and intermediate-level realms being attracted by the kingdom before being assimilated.

This was a majestic scene - a star devouring others. Initially, the kingdom only had a diameter of 21 million miles. After ten thousand years, it became 24 million miles. Now, it became 65 million miles in a single day.

This was only the beginning. With a heart in place, the kingdom devoured lower-level realms. Even a few high-level realms were being added. This process continued for several days.

On the fourth day, its diameter exceeded 100 million miles. Oceanic space was 58 times larger; regular land became 76 times larger.

This made it one step closer to being a minor dimension. Without this forceful step, it would have taken 100,000 years to do the same.

"Looks a little desolate still." Feiyun stood at the end of the kingdom and observed the void. The ground beneath him became tougher than before due to the existence of the heart.

Yiyi had a strange feeling of happiness while being involved in creating a world. She had only heard legends about this, not expecting to actually participate one day.

"If the kingdom wasn't stained by your foulness, I wouldn't mind staying for a long time and working to turn this place into a Buddhist paradise, one comparable to Aquamoon Paradise, a holy ground for mankind just like the immemorial temples." She said sincerely with a sliver of hope.

He frowned after hearing this: "Saintess, I don't appreciate your comment. The inhabitants of this place yearn for Buddhism, you can't look down on them just because they are spirit beasts. They are purer than men."

He assumed that she was talking about the spirit beasts.

She shook her head and said: "I'm talking about... forget it, I didn't say anything."

"Hmph, it might be purer than your Aquamoon Paradise." He continued.

"Not necessarily." She said.

"Fine, I'll have to let you see the purity of this place then." He had worked hard to maintain the peace and didn't want others to look down on the kingdom.

He took her to Beastmaster Camp, an area filled with temples and the smoke of incense. Buddhist bells could be heard everywhere. The young ones chanted scripture in harmony.

He smirked and said: "Saintess, where is this foulness you speak of?"

Suddenly, a young girl wearing a white Buddhist dress rushed out. She was gorgeous - red lips and white teeth with a halo behind her.

Her eyes were wet as she leaped into Feiyun's embrace, wrapping her arms around his neck: "You jerk, there is nothing fun to do here and you're gone all the time..."

"Nalan, a Buddhist needs a calm heart." He patted her shoulder.

"How can I be calm when I don't want to be a Buddhist in the first place?! Let's get married, give me a cute son so that when you're not around, at least I have him to play with!" She rubbed her soft body against his.

Yiyi watched the whole thing and sighed. She turned around and left.

"Nalan, we can talk about the kid later, later, okay?" He said and immediately gave chase.

"Saintess, let me explain, that was just a coincidence. Nalan is my younger cousin, our relationship is very pure, this is just a misunderstanding."

She took a deep breath and said: "A Buddhist practitioner embracing you in this holy land, this is an affront to Buddhism. If Senior Fo Canzi were to know this, he would be driven mad."

"She's still young and does whatever she wants, you have to give her more time to cultivate her mind. Let us forget this matter and go somewhere else. I guarantee you that it'll be divine..."

Feiyun brought Yiyi to a valley surrounded by mountains. Inside were palaces with red tiles and even one towering pagoda.

### **Chapter 1013: Birth Tribulation**

This place had a verdant forest with jade-like leaves. One could see the roofs of temples through them.

Spiritual Buddhist chants came from these hidden temples, contributing to a peaceful atmosphere as if there was a Buddha living here.

The female disciples of Beastmaster meditated on bluestone pavement and cultivated. Feiyun and Yiyi's presence didn't affect them since they were in a zen state.

Beastmaster had stringent recruitment requirements and only picked the right candidates - those with a calm heart.

"As you can see, the disciples of Beastmaster only yearn for Buddhism. Their heart is as clear as water. This place is absolutely more serene than your paradise." Feiyun smirked while chatting along the way.

Yiyi actually nodded this time since she sensed the elegant and pure atmosphere. She thought that she had misunderstood him.

Suddenly, a woman walked closer - her black hair stood in stark contrast with her white Buddhist robe. Elegance described her. She had willowy brows and a profound pair of eyes.

Her skin was unreasonably white. She seemed to be deep in thoughts with a pallid complexion.

Ever since her one night with Feiyun in the pagoda, her mind has been in disarray picking between regular life and Buddhism.

She stared at Feiyun and said: "I have made up my mind. I will not fall into the mortal coil. Pleasure is an ephemeral smoke and will not stop my grand dao. I will only consider that night as a dream. Now that the dream is over, my mind shall be at ease once more."

With that, she fled back into the pagoda and closed the doors. From then on, those doors were never open again.

Feiyun stared at the pagoda and felt a touch of bitterness. He understood her internal struggle and thought that he might have been too distant.

"Who is she?" Yiyi asked.

"The supreme of this branch... Well, you have to listen to me, our relationship is very complicated, it's not what you think." His face turned red as he tried to defend himself.

Luo Yu'er then also appeared from the forest. She looked worried as she told Feiyun: "Sister Luofu's baby is acting up with strange phenomena. Young Master Feng, you need to come now!"

Feiyun no longer thought about changing Yiyi's mind. He had no choice but to admit that there were certain things off about the kingdom.

"What phenomena? Take me there." Feiyun followed Luo Yu'er right away.

Yiyi slightly frowned and followed as well out of curiosity.

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When they made it there, they saw a crowd already - Witchcraft Goddess, Yao Ji, Xue Shuang, the Ji sisters, and Feng Qingqing.

The phenomena alarmed everyone. The most conspicuous was a purple beam shooting up from the pavilion, seemingly piercing through the domain.

The vegetation affected by the purple light grew at a rapid rate. They were covered in a bright layer resembling amethyst.

Dao hymns could be heard in the air. Rain poured down along with lightning bolts. It was as if a thunder god was descending.

This prompted everyone to move back. The destructive power was insane, instantly destroying everything around the pavilion. Meanwhile, other lifeforms grew even faster.

Feiyun was worried but couldn't get close due to the lightning bolts. These were special bolts capable of eradicating him.

"A birth tribulation... this only happens when a sacred fetus is present..." Yiyi became frightened while looking up in the air.

Sacred fetuses only existed in the legends. They were recorded in the ancient scrolls and were no longer around.

The turtle jumped down on the ground and couldn't believe it: "It's not a sacred fetus, this is a divine fetus! A sacred fetus only needs one tribulation while a divine fetus needs three. This is only the first..."

Both sacred and divine fetuses weren't allowed in this world and would incite the jealousy of the heaven. It would find a way to eliminate them before birth.

"Rumble!" The lightning attack intensified. More than a hundred blade-like bolts descended and tore the sky apart.

Feiyun's worry about Long Luofu only increased.

"My grandson is only a mindless baby, it doesn't deserve this! Damn you, jealous heaven! Sigh!" The turtle cried out in pain.

"We'll see about that." Feiyun directly flew into the sky towards the black clouds.

"This is the power of a tribulation, an outsider would face ten times the power! Your soul will be destroyed!" Yiyi didn't expect him to be so emotional. She sent her sword to bring him back.

"So be it!" He used his Grand Change Art. Space became distorted so he was able to escape her sword.

He released all of his energies and became shrouded in a Buddhist radiance.

"Boom!" Dozens of bolts surrounded and struck him.

Yiyi didn't know how to feel. This half-demon could actually be so selfless? She herself wouldn't dare to face this tribulation yet he didn't mind losing her life.

The struggle lasted for half a day with him managing to stop the brunt of the bolts. He was bloodied and tattered; his charred skin torn from his bones.

Bolts coursed through his body and flayed him. They even affected the soul. Nonetheless, the tribulation eventually went away and he fell down from the sky.

A layer of dried blood encapsulated him, leaving only the moving eyes out to prove that he was still alive.

Feng Qingqing and Luo Yu'er both cried after seeing this.

"It's ... fine, it's over now..." Feiyun's voice was hoarse. His throat seemed to have been damaged by the tribulation.

He got up and walked over to the devastated land to carry the unconscious Luofu out.

She was also grievously injured with open wounds. He wrapped a red cloak around her.

Her cultivation was too weak compared to the birth tribulation. Though the fetus stopped a portion of the attack, she still stood no chance.

Fortunately, Feiyun blocked the majority of the lightning bolts and saved the two of them.



After placing her down and stabilizing her injuries, Feiyun coughed out blood and was on the verge of fainting.

“Bro...” Feng Qingqing came over, wanting to support him.

He waved his hand and said: “I’m fine. Qingqing, Yao Ji, help me keep an eye out, I will go meditate for three days.”

His injuries were rather serious due to the power of the tribulation. If he didn’t train with Tribulation Break, he would have been annihilated. Nonetheless, he thought that it was worth it to save the mother and child.

In history, women capable of gestating a sacred fetus were all mighty cultivators. Long Luofu might be the weakest at first-level Nirvana. She had no chance of stopping a divine tribulation.

However, after being attacked by the bolts, he actually understood Tribulation Break more than before. His body became a world of tribulation powers. The myriad dao of heaven and earth flowed through him.

Crusty pieces of flesh fell off him, revealing white skin like that of a baby. He then absorbed the bolts and made them his own.

“Boom! Boom!” Two more phoenix bones were created on his back - bright and scorching. He had a total of thirty-two bones now.

His power and innate talents improved again, almost reaching the threshold of a mythical genius.

“Is this the so-called profiting from a disaster? I’m quite close now.” Feiyun became emotional. In his previous life, he was a mythical genius.

In this one, his body was far weaker in comparison. Now, he almost caught up and felt the urge to try and reach it.

“Sacred fruit, seven-colored spring, Heaven’s Emergence blood...” He took out some precious materials that would help him break through, and also a large number of spirit stones as well to use as energy.

#### **Chapter 1014: Seventh-level Nirvana**

Reaching the mythical genius level was challenging and dangerous.

‘If only I have the Yang Soul Holy Embryo from those two girls, the chance will be higher. Ah, forget it, their condition is too much.’ He coveted the supreme treasure owned by the Ji sisters.

In fact, even the territory lord of Crimson would go crazy after hearing it.

The holy embryo wasn’t an actual human embryo. This was changing one’s dantian into the form of an embryo, akin to the nascent soul of the daoists. In order to become a saint, one must change their dantian into this form first.

The Yang Soul Holy Embryo was even more incredible, possessing only the yang affinity. Even the saints from the ancient eras couldn’t reach this step.

If Feng Feiyun were to obtain this embryo, he would immediately become a mythical genius. Moreover, his cultivation and actual battle prowess would soar like the winds.

Unfortunately, the two sisters were too stubborn and demanded marriage in the exchange. He tried his best to persuade them otherwise but they wouldn't budge.

'Hmm, even without the embryo, I have a trinity-fire spirit vein and a blood-spring spirit vein, that should be helpful.'

He used the Grand Change Art and mobilized the momentum of the earth. He led the fire vein up to the ground, burning everything along the way with its lava.

He then jumped into the spirit vein. The trinity-fire spirit vein was made from the combination of three different flames - First Dark Origin Flame, Second Dark Hell Flame, and Third Dark True Flame.

He also ate a sacred fruit and drank two types of seven-colored springs. His body became resplendent with various powers and turned into a five-colored statue. A refinement process started to refine his bones and blood while removing impurities.

The flames suddenly became violent and turned into an inferno entering his body.

Though his physical defense was incredible, it still couldn't stop the power of the flames, especially the third.

Third Dark True Flame was considered the king of flames - a testament to its destructiveness.

He wished to use the flames to improve his talent - something heaven-defying and insulting to the king of flames, hence the punishment.

His veins, meridians, and bones were being scorched and melted. On the other hand, his various powers were trying to heal him.

Alas, the recovery wasn't as fast as the destruction. His phoenix bones activated and released their powers to stop the flames.

"Blood-spring vein!" Another spirit vein made out of blood rushed into his body and boosted his vitality. This created a balance between creation and destruction.

Unfortunately, the balance didn't last for long. Flames started attacking his bones; even his soul was being melted.

Reaching the mythical genius level after birth was arduous. Only saints during their youth had done so. If he kept this up, he would be reduced to ashes.

"I can't give up now! Immortal phoenix, rebirth!" He ate a nirvana pill and wanted to risk it all, wanting to perform the seventh rebirth at this crucial moment. The power of life-and-death should help him reach the mythical level.

The two spirit veins coiled around him like two dragons. Time passed and who knows if he was still alive inside the blinding radiance?

After a long time, life returned to the radiance with a spark. It seemed as if a phoenix hatchling was in there. It issued a deafening screech that could be heard in the entire kingdom.

The laws and energies in the domain started flowing toward him.

Xuanyuan Yiyi stood on top of a pagoda; her white dress fluttered to the wind. She looked like a flawless moon hanging above the roof.

She could see a ball of fire growing in size and illuminating the horizon. Its pressure was immense.

One could see a pair of wings within the massive ball. Just one feather spanned for miles. The burning lasted for an entire day before extinguishing.

Feiyun could finally be seen sitting in the meditative pose. The area around him has been reduced to something like a flat crystal.

His skin shimmered, being softer than a woman's. His hair draped down on his shoulders. The power of fire brimmed around him. Just one spark could melt a mountain.

His current form seemed to be made of fire, not flesh. His aura was pure and terrifying. It became a fire domain with immense destructiveness.

There were forty-two bright spots internally - his phoenix bones. He has reached the seventh level of Nirvana after consuming the two spirit veins and gaining ten phoenix bones.

His cultivation had soared but he didn't know if he was at the mythical level or not.

In reality, the line between the historical and mythical levels wasn't so clear. The only way to tell was to actually fight in battle.

He converged his power back inside his body. Eventually, his aura disappeared and he became normal again.

"Bro, your cultivation improved again?" Feng Qingqing came over, still holding Whitey.

"I got lucky." He smiled and nodded.

"How do you improve so fast?" She seemed unhappy, not wanting to be left behind and forgotten like a stepdaughter.

How can I lose? I have the legacy of the Skeletal God Monarch. There's no way!

He flicked her forehead and said: "Your talent is impeccable and there's a strong evil affinity within you. Your problem is your laziness, that's why you can't catch up to me. If you just put in a little more effort, maybe you will improve even faster."

"Really?"

"Really."

Her eyes lit up. She kissed Whitey's cheek once before disappearing into the horizon, most likely for training.

She was similar to Nalan Xuejian, never maturing mentally.

As for Feiyun, he worried about Long Luofu and ran over. However, she was doing better than he could possibly imagine.

A mysterious power flowed around her. Each of her movements contained the laws of the heavenly dao.

Her aura became increasingly dignified. Its regalness was palpable.

When she saw Feiyun coming closer, she raised her snow-white finger and a beam shot out.

“Boom!” The Buddhist domain automatically activated to stop the beam.

However, it pierced through the domain and struck him, causing him to feel slightly numb.

So strong! He thought.

With his current cultivation, the Buddhist domain was extremely tough. However, Long Luofu still broke through it.

He didn’t mind the sudden attack and said: “Your power just now is incredibly pure.”

She stood up and came over. Her pregnancy made her body more voluptuous yet her waist was still thin. She looked at her finger and said: “I felt a complete transformation after the first birth tribulation. I can’t control my increasing power right now.”

He nodded: “This is normal. As the saying goes in the mortal world, a mother’s honor increases as her son’s position grows. There is a divine fetus inside you, it is cultivating and absorbing the essences of the world. Your body is the current medium. Thus, a portion of these essences will enter you. The first tribulation activated them so now, your power is beyond your imagination.”

### **Chapter 1015: Cosmic Seal**

There were two types of phenomena in the cultivation world. One was more common - a baby benefiting from having a powerful father or mother. They would be born blessed, having a higher starting point than others.

The other type was rather rare - a mother benefiting from the baby.

Even if the mother’s talent and cultivation weren’t exceptional, the sacred fetus would grant her more power as it grows.

This was the situation with Long Luofu. Of course, this was naturally a good thing.

However, if the mother couldn’t control the sudden boost, then it could become a disaster.

Feiyun taught her a top merit law so that she could control this new power. After teaching her the fundamentals, he left at ease.

He still hasn’t given up on the Yang Soul Holy Embryo so he went to find the sisters again. This was fruitless since they didn’t relent. He had no choice but to give up.

“If it’s not meant to be, there’s no need to force it.” He became different after reaching the seventh level.

He wanted to fight Yiyi again since both of them were in the same level now. Few could reach the seventh level.

He wanted to know if his Immortal Phoenix Physique and Golden Silkworm Scripture were stronger than her Heart Meditation Sword Scripture and Earth’s End Dao.

She had the Earth’s End Step while he had Swift Samsara.

Her sword technique was impeccable but he had the Tribulation Break.

In his previous life, Shui Yueting killed him with the sword scripture, breaking through his phoenix physique with an ambush. That thrust contained zero mercy.

He didn’t have the chance to actually experience it before dying.

Amidst his rumination, he found himself being next to the ocean.

Bright moon and auspicious red clouds. The reflection of the moon looked like silver scales, gently swaying to the current.

He walked on the water as if it was land. Each step created a lotus flower.

This was because the Buddhist affinity in the world could sense his pure power. It gathered and materialized in the form of a lotus.

After countless steps, he reached an island. There, a lady in white embracing a sword stood in waiting.

“I knew you would come.” The flawless woman said.

“I want to witness your strongest sword.” When he stopped, the waves beneath him turned into a holy Buddha.

She shook her head in response: “The sword scripture uses the heart for control. Using the stronger slash will expend all of my will and power, meaning that my heart will die.”

“The heart will die after the strongest slash?” He murmured.

He raised his hand and created a cosmo within. Peaks turned into mountains and lakes turned into oceans.

This was the Cosmic Seal, a technique from the third diagram of the silkworm scripture. He had fused three million different techniques together to create this cosmo.

Though it hasn’t reached the primeval state, it was still immensely destructive.

“One thought, destruction.” She closed her eyes. The sword on her back floated up in the air and created an illumination moon.

“Boom!” Both the cosmo and the moon shattered.

The battle didn't continue because Feiyun lost interest due to her comment about dying after using the strongest slash.

At the first glimmer of dawn, he left the island after speaking: "I'll fight you at another time."

His mind was distracted by the comment so his chance of winning became rather low. He meditated for two days before calming down.

Since he has been in the kingdom for several days, he was afraid that the others would notice his puppet.

Thus, he left the pathway and noticed something different. There was another person in his room while his puppet has been reduced to dust.

This person's back was rather beautiful. She sat next to the window lattice while wearing a violet robe.

Liu Suzi played with her fan as she spoke in an aggressive tone: "You've finally come out."

Feiyun put away the Buddha. Since she didn't destroy it, it showed that her personality wasn't too rotten.

"You've passed the test, able to see through my puppet right away. Impressive." He smiled.

"I want to know where Yiyi is right now." She had an unprecedented expression. Her aura seemingly froze the room.

"You're talking about Aquamoon Saintess?" Feiyun played dumb.

"Who else but her?"

"Haha, then you're asking the wrong person. Aquamoon Saintess is an elusive dragon, how would I know where she is? Aren't you good friends? You should know where she is more than me." He sat down and wasn't afraid of being exposed.

And so what if he was exposed? The saintess chose to stay in the kingdom of her own volition.

Liu Suzi's cultivation has reached the sixth level. Her pressure was immense; most youths would be crushed by now.

This was due to the altar giving her a strand of power from an immemorial god, helping her finish the sixth rebirth. She probably benefited more than just this.

There might be an accumulation of power still hidden inside her. Its activation would be explosive.

This was the privilege of a princess; others never got to enjoy such treatment.

She looked rather confused since she had absolute confidence in Yiyi's cultivation. She didn't think that this half-demon could even damage Yiyi's hair.

However, the last time she saw Yiyi, Yiyi said that she was going to see the half-demon. From then on, Yiyi didn't show up again nor did she respond to any talisman.

Thus, she thought that something had gone awry and went to find Feiyun.

“You haven’t seen her?” She furrowed her brows.

“Just once a month ago. Did something happen?” He pretended to be slightly startled.

Her brows furrowed even more: “Don’t jinx her. Yiyi’s cultivation is beyond your imagination. Only the lords of the last generation have a chance against her. It’s just that... she has been gone for almost a month and the last person she saw is you.”

“She probably returned to Aquamoon.”

“She would have left a message behind for me.” She shook her head.

“How strange.” He stroked his chin and said: “Don’t worry, she’s the saintess of Aquamoon. Only demons dare to attack her, no one else.”

“Demons!” Her expression slightly changed and she hurriedly left the room.

He chuckled and didn’t worry about this matter. He began to consolidate his cultivation once more.

In the next few days, the residence became more lively with powerful cultivators arriving. The majority were geniuses from all over the territory.

Each realm sent its top geniuses. A few powerful realms sent a dozen or so while the weaker only chose one as their representative.

Older experts also came. These old men were lords of their region and commanded respect.

A notable genius was an arrogant youth from Mo Domain, Mo Hen. He challenged everyone and showed off his immense power.

“The Mo hid him well, that’s one of the thirty-six antiquity clans for you. Such a powerful successor.”

“Right, I’ve never heard of him before.”

“I believe the clan sent him to Capital Mountain to train. He only got back recently.”

“I see, a disciple from Capital Mountain, no wonder why he’s so arrogant. He’s actually stronger than Eighth from the Gu.”

Another young lady revealed her talent. Though she tried to keep a low profile, a genius from another antiquity clan wanted to court her. He pushed the issue and was sent flying by her long hair.

Later on, people found out that she was a daughter of Water Domain and a member of Lifeless Palace. She was currently its celestial maiden.

Feiyun was reading a scroll while enjoying the view from a cliff. He saw ships and people flying in the air and took a deep breath: “Looks like it’s about time to depart.”

## **Chapter 1016: To Sacred Court**

Normally, reaching the sixth level of Nirvana would grant one the title of unmatched genius.

Of course, this was only a relative title. None was truly unmatched because a territory was too vast. Each domain had a diameter of one hundred million miles or so. Who knows how many geniuses were still hidden?

In a few villages or abandoned forests, top cultivators might live reclusively and their disciples might not even come out.

Moreover, some true masters would only show themselves when absolutely necessary.

The hidden geniuses of immemorial clans would only be summoned back, the same for the battle-hardened monsters on the myriad race battlefield.

"I and Liu Suzi will lead the expedition to Sacred Court this time. The geniuses from the domain are all prideful and arrogant, they might not play nice with you." Liu Suhong stood with her hands behind her back. A considerable force flowed around her.

Their engagement has been decided two days ago with the three seventh-ranked half-demons acting as witnesses.

The half-demon alliance fully supported the engagement. The three seventh-ranked half-demons felt the same way, thinking that half-demons were on the rise.

The news of the engagement shocked everyone back in the alliance. They felt elated because who would call them slaves now? Since when could a slave marry a beautiful princess?

This caused an earthquake in the other territories too. Thus, it was of utmost significance for all the half-demons in the world.

The main branch in Sixth Central sent out a message to every other branch. It caused all the half-demons to become motivated - that even a frog could eat swan meat with enough effort and they could become frog princes one day.

Of course, the young geniuses gritted their teeth, thinking that wretched half-demons should be massacred. The engagement was completely unacceptable akin to a flower pinned to a pile of manure.

Those who didn't know Feng Feiyun felt the urge to kill him.

This was a story of a beggar marrying a princess. All the beggars would become happy while the rich young masters would want to kill them and take their place.

It was a matter of feeling resentful and indignant - if even I can only look up at the princess, how dare a lowly half-demon marry her?

In short, the engagement had both benefits and potential problems. Liu Suzi gained the support of all half-demons. The experts from the alliance would also help her become the next successor.

On the other hand, the nobles would criticize her for doing so. After all, they truly cared about their reputation. This was the reason why she reminded Feiyun about the trip.



He put down the history book and stared at the geniuses standing in the distance: "I just won't hang around them. However, I do think that you should try to get on their good side. I'm sure they'll affect your competition."

Currently, many successors from the domains preferred Liu Suzi instead after hearing about the engagement.

Nonetheless, she still had plenty of supporters.

"I still think the first princess will win. Her fiance is not a regular half-demon. He obtained the huge spirit stone from Nine-abys and a peerless treasure." An old man from Ocular Domain smiled.

"I have a few connections in the half-demon alliance. Their main branch couldn't assess Feng Feiyun's blood, there is a chance that he is a half-phoenix. His potential is boundless." A cultivator from an immemorial clan said.

"The fourth ancestor is a wise and calculating man, the same for the first princess. They won't do anything that has no benefit. Our half-demon son-in-law might pleasantly surprise us."

These people received key information and guessed that Feiyun was special. Thus, they put their money on the first princess.

The trip this time wasn't only to participate in the Faction Evaluation. More importantly, it was a competition between the two princesses. The winner would become the successor; the loser would certainly be killed.

The domain lords and immemorial clans were making a bet as well. Winning meant being in the grace of the next territory lord. Betting wrongly meant being pushed aside.

For Feiyun, it would be better for Liu Suhong to win. First, he was her fiance, at least on paper. Most importantly, the half-demons would benefit from this.

The problem with half-demons right now was their lack of confidence and ambition. They needed a legend for motivation so that they would be able to fight for their dignity.

Feiyun wanted to be this legend. He had a long conversation with Lord Qing Ji regarding this matter.

Ever since Long Luofu's tribulation, he felt that in certain circumstances, a man couldn't only think about his own benefits.

This might be the difference between a "man" and a "father".

A man was willing to betray the whole world, ready to become a devil at any moment. They could massacre on a whim and were possessive. They believed that they were born to fight, and that fighting was a legitimate reason for death.

Their personality would change after becoming a father. They started thinking about other matters and cared more for those nearby. They began worrying about their victims and the latter's family members. How would their children survive? Did they truly deserve death?

This wasn't a matter of becoming indecisive but rather, gaining reason and rationality. It was a maturing process. The man would become more attractive and prudent, no longer as irresponsible as before.

This was a reason why he agreed with Liu Suhong recently. In the past, he would rather die fighting than acquiesce.

Of course, if given the chance, he would still choose to become a devil again for the sake of Nangong Hongyan. This wasn't a matter of being impulsive or unreasonable, just something that must be done with courage and decisiveness.

Liu Suhong has reached the sixth level. She said: "The domain teams are bringing their top ancestors. For us, seven important ancestors are coming. Fourth and Sixth Ancestor are included."

Feiyun frowned. These geezers will be problematic since they wanted his Grand Puppet Art and secret treasure. He could only wait for them to make their move and react accordingly.

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It was finally the day of departure. The expedition grew larger and included 100,000 cultivators. The majority of them were young geniuses.

Naturally, it was also divided into two camps - Liu Suzi and Liu Suhong.

Liu Suzi had the number advantage with around seventy percent of the crowd.

They crossed through an ancient portal and reached Sacred Court's South Pole Star on the same day.

This was one of the five main stars of Sacred Court, floating eight thousand meters above the ground. One could go up using elaborate stair systems.

Though Sacred Court has been declining for a long period, it was once the central authority of this dynasty. Its prosperity dazzled spectators; spirit veins floated upward like galaxies.

However, they didn't have too much time to take in the scene. The group was taken to a mansion owned by the Liu for a long time now. Nobles like them had a position in the capital.

Alas, Feiyun didn't have time to rest. He was chosen by Liu Suhong to be a messenger visiting Azure Faction.

Liu Suhong wrote with wonderful calligraphy. The characters contained the dao. After she finished, she sealed it in a letter and gave it to Feiyun: "The goal this time is to elevate Crimson into an earth-level territory. Given our resources and talents, we are absolutely qualified. Now, Sacred Court is but a puppet, Azure Faction is the true ruler of Sixth Central."

### **Chapter 1017: Elder Lin**

Feiyun accepted the letter and saw that the words "Elder Lin" were written on it. "Who is this person?"

"The territory lord himself might not be able to meet the Azure Lord. Thus, we are meeting the most trusted confidant of the lord. Though he's only a servant, he's quite influential and feared even by the territory lords. With his help, the ranking up should be easier." Liu Suhong said.

“If what you say is true, it won’t be easy obtaining an audience since many others will want to meet him.” Feiyun said.

She nodded: “His hobby is collecting top-ranked spirit treasures, that’s what we must do. I’ve mentioned it in the letter so when he reads it, he’ll absolutely see us. Now, the most important thing is whether you can pass this letter to him. I’m sure you won’t let me down though.”

Feiyun held the letter and didn’t read the content. He placed it into a jade box instead.

He left the residence and came across Liu Suzi by chance.

She still wore the same masculine outfit and was also choosing a messenger. This person was none other than the genius of an immemorial clan - Mo Hen.

Feiyun and Liu Suzi smiled at each other from a distance.

She watched his departing figure and said: “Feng Feiyun is more frightening than you can imagine, do not underestimate him.”

Mo Hen proudly said: “Don’t you worry, Seventh Princess. If I can’t match a half-demon, I am not worthy of working for you.”

She knew that he was prideful but most importantly, talented enough to perhaps compete with Feiyun: “All in all, you will have many capable competitors, you must somehow get Elder Lin to read the letter without diminishing my clan’s honor. Go, I await good news.”

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Feiyun didn’t go alone either. Two more top geniuses from the first princess’ faction tagged along.

They weren’t strangers at all - the twins from Lifeless Palace, You Ziling and You Zilin. They were members of Aqua Domain’s ruling clan.

“Didn’t think we would work together one day.” Feiyun smiled.

Their domain originally supported the sixth princess. Thus, the twins were part of the alliance that attacked Liu Suzi.

Unfortunately, the sixth princess lost so they needed to follow someone else. Liu Suzi was clearly not an option so the first princess was the obvious choice.

You Zilin, dressed in a blue robe, rubbed his nose and said: “I didn’t think you would marry the first princess either, half-demon.”

“True, no one expected this.” Feiyun still smiled.

“I thought you would marry the seventh princess.” Zilin continued.

Feiyun could see why because back in Nine-abyss, Feiyun even killed paragons to protect Liu Suzi.

He nodded and said: “We’re friends.”

“Let’s go already, Mo Hen’s group is already running. We can’t let him get the upper hand.” You Ziling also wore a blue dress. She had fair skin and bright eyes with celestial glimmers around her body.

“Fine, fine, women never stop nagging. I feel like just the two of us would have been fine, my sister should be staying with the first princess... Sis, don’t grind your teeth, I didn’t mean anything by that. What I’m trying to say is that let men like us take care of the chores, you and the first princess are big shots who should plan the important stuff. Am I right, Feng Feiyun?”

Feiyun climbed up the prepared carriage and smiled: “Sounds about right.”

They could hear her grit her teeth behind them.

Once they came to Elder Lin’s residence, they saw that it was packed with people outside - messengers from the other territories.

This looked like a gathering of geniuses. The atmosphere seemed rather tense and combative since they were all competitors.

“Our West Spirit will rank up to the earth level, back off, Grove Mountain!” A crimson-haired girl managed to knock down a huge man with a palm strike despite her delicate hand.

“Creak...” A boy servant around eleven or so opened the door. He came out and announced: “The elder will not accept any letter, please leave.”

“Little one, go back and send a message that we are from the sixth prince faction of West Spirit. Our prince has been a fan of the elder for a long time and would appreciate an audience. Here are some gifts to show our sincerity.” The crimson-haired girl wore silver armor. Her broad sword was wider than her waist. She came over with a red box.

The boy didn’t accept the box and said flatly: “I already said that the elder will not accept any letter. This applies to gifts as well.”

The girl wasn’t used to being treated in this manner due to her noble background. Nonetheless, she restrained herself.

“Hmph, whatever, don’t need to be so rude.” She then left with her armored followers.

Everyone gloated at her embarrassment because she was quite stuck up.

Mo Hen came before the gate and respectfully lowered his head: “Young fellow, I am a messenger of Crimson Territory’s seventh princess. She is also a fan of Elder Lin but knows that he is very busy and does not wish to bother him. She only wrote a letter, hoping that you could give it to the elder.”

His politeness made a good impression on the youth. The latter cupped his fist and said: “Ah, I see. The elder said that the Crimson Lord is a true hero, becoming a war god in just one thousand years, what an incredible feat.”

“Then would he like to meet our princess?” Mo Hen happily said.

The youth shook his head: "The Faction Evaluation draws near so it is problematic for Elder Lin to see any princes or princesses right now. Thus, he will not meet anyone. After the evaluation, he will prepare a banquet as an apology."

Mo Hen seemed disappointed. The youth has made it clear. Pushing the issue right now would seem unwise.

The other messengers shook their head and sighed. It seemed that Elder Lin would not interfere in this matter. They would have to find another opportunity.

"Elder Lin is renowned for his wisdom and strategy. He knows that involving himself will risk offending others so he's choosing a policy of non-interference." You Ziling said.

Yu Zilin frowned then told Feiyun: "Looks like we will have to find someone else. Haha, Mo Hen got rejected."

Mo Hen glared at them and said: "What are you laughing at? Elder Lin said he won't see anyone, you can try too and be rejected like the rest."

"We'll see about that..." You Zilin retorted.

Feiyun stopped him with one hand and said: "Elder Lin does not wish to be implicated in this matter, we're leaving."

"Haha, half-demons are so cowardly with no courage to even try. Let's go!" Mo Hen sneered and left with his group.

"Why would the first princess like this useless brat?"

"Hahaha!"

Zilin became frustrated and said: "Feng Feiyun, why did you stop me? You care about face but I don't, it's still better than being laughed at by them."

"Then you go." Feiyun climbed up the carriage.

Zilin looked back and saw all the messengers leaving. The door was closed again. Knocking again would only make Elder Lin unhappy with the first princess.

"What are you waiting for? Come here." Ziling yelled at him.

"Fine." Zilin unhappily got on the carriage, looking quite sad while inside. He felt as if he had just been slapped.

Feiyun, on the other hand, had a calm expression from start to finish. Once they rode for two hours or so, he told the driver: "We're stopping here."

The carriage stopped and the three got off to return back to Elder Lin's residence. As for the carriage, it returned to their place with three puppets on board.

"What are we doing?" You Zilin was confused while following Feiyun.

Ziling was also curious. Elder Lin had stated his intention, what were they going to accomplish here outside of asking for further humiliation?

"We haven't finished our mission, we can't go back now." Feiyun said.

"Mo Hen laughed at you earlier and you acquiesced, now you care about face? I don't know what to say, it's going to be dark and no one will see us." Zilin angrily said.

"Isn't that the best?" Feiyun smiled.

"No, because Mo Hen might already be making fun of us back in the mansion for not trying to deliver the letter. Everyone will laugh at us tomorrow." Zilin said.

Feiyun's expression became serious: "Our goal is to hand over the letter, not to prove anything. If Elder Lin wishes to show others that he's neutral, we have to go when there is no one around."

Having said that, Feiyun headed for the gate.

### **Chapter 1018: Myriad-stone Mountain**

You Zilin and You Ziling finally understood Feng Feiyun's plan.

You Zilin happily followed behind Feiyun and said: "The evaluation must be too important and competitive. Elder Lin doesn't want to offend all the lords so he wishes to maintain neutrality, at least in appearance. This doesn't mean that he'll refrain from taking advantage of it in the dark. That's why he'll work with our first princess, am I right, haha?"

"Maybe, maybe not." Feiyun had the same thought but he didn't know Elder Lin enough to be confident.

Nonetheless, You Zilin was impressed with Feiyun's analysis, thinking that the half-demon shouldn't be underestimated.

You Ziling had seen him scheming back in the white spiders' camp and didn't find this surprising. She thought to herself: 'The first princess is extremely intelligent and now, with this half-demon's help, she's a tiger with wings.'

Feiyun performed the Grand Change Art and created a stealth barrier. The trio then approached the gate.

Since it was night time, it was lit brightly with lamps and only one patrolling beast flying above. Moreover, a youth stood in front of the door, seemingly waiting for someone.

The trio walked out of the night and got closer. The youth saw them and didn't say anything. Once they got close enough, he smiled and said: "This is the personal palace of Elder Lin. Please walk around."

"My name is Feng Feiyun. I'm here to visit Elder Lin since I've been told that he is an exceptional treasure master, a true expert of the art. Since I'm a treasure master as well, I wish to learn from him." Feiyun smiled and said.

"Well..." The youth didn't know how to answer after hearing this.

"I've journeyed a long way from Crimson Territory because the elder enjoys teaching juniors. Please go send a message." Feiyun went on.

"I see." The youth said: "Wait out here a bit, I will let the elder know but I do not guarantee anything."

The youth turned around and soared back into the palace.

You Zilin and You Ziling were ecstatic to see this.

A bit later, the youth returned and said: "You three are in luck, the elder is cutting spirit stones at Myriad-stone Mountain right now. He heard about juniors coming to visit and was quite glad. Follow me right now."

Feiyun thought to himself that this elder was quite wily, seeing visitors under this pretense.

The palace was rather grand with numerous floating buildings. It was comparable to the residence of a territory lord.

The youth led them through a mountain range spanning dozens of miles, completely made of various ores. There wasn't a single regular glass or pebble.

Some stones had powerful spirituality and a frightening aura. There seemed to be ancient paragons sealed within them.

The twins' cultivation was still weak so they couldn't withstand the pressure, feeling as if the soul was about to leave the body.

Feiyun stopped and said: "Stay out here, I'll go alone."

"No, we'll go with you." Ziling insisted.

"I forgot to say, there are many forbidden spirit stones here. One must put on a stone talisman to hide your presence first." The youth suddenly said and then handed three talismans over to the group.

'And here I thought he was strong, so it's just the talisman.' Yilin was frightened earlier, thinking that the youth was stronger than him.

The twins attached the talisman to their palms. A stone layer wrapped around their hand then an aura did the same to their body. This separated them from the outside world and turned them into non-living statues.

Feiyun handed the talisman back and said: "I'm a treasure master, I know how to nullify the forbidden stones' power."

The youth looked a bit surprised but didn't say anything. He continued to lead the group forward.

Along the way, they saw many servants and a few armored patrols. The maids were relatively pretty but the guards could travel freely without talismans. They looked like spear-wielding specters. This mountain range was absolutely a highly-guarded location.

Finally, they came to a flat area. The stones here were large. The smallest was seven meters tall while the largest were hidden by the clouds. They had massive shadows, looking like immobile behemoths.

This place had a large gathering of cultivators, servants, and more than a hundred guards. Some were strong enough to prevent Feiyun from seeing their actual cultivation.

“He is the visitor who wishes to see the elder.” The youth bowed toward a muscular man.

“The one from Crimson?” The old man glanced at Feiyun and spoke softly.

The youth nodded.

The old man whispered something else before closing his eyes.

The youth returned and said: “The elder is looking for a forbidden stone that has run away. Please wait, Young Noble Feng.”

Feiyun smiled and said: “It’s alright, the elder’s matter is more important.”

“How does a stone run away?” Yilin whispered.

“All things can have spirituality and sentience, more or less. The ores here are special, any of them will fetch a sky-high price outside. It’s normal for this to happen.” Feiyun said.

Liu Suhong mentioned how this elder loved collecting special spirit stones. This turned out to be rather accurate.

He began looking at the cultivators here. All of them had the same uniform from Elder Lin’s mansion.

There was one exception - a youth, the only person who was sitting down. He looked around twenty years of age and was rather handsome with seemingly-sculpted features and thick brows.

He sat on a boulder and looked to be immovable. He didn’t have a talisman on him either.

When Feiyun stared at him, he sensed it and looked back at Feiyun. He narrowed his eyes before revealing a friendly smile. He then turned and focused on the stones again.

Not long after, a gray-haired old man returned. His face was full of wrinkles. He wore inexpensive clothes like a farmer.

However, everyone else tidied their robe and seemed to treat him with respect.

The muscular old man bowed and said: “Elder, did you find the stone?”

Elder Lin shook his head in response: “No, this stone was dug out from an immemorial ruin. It has the blood of a saint so it knows how to hide its own aura. Finding it will take some time.”

Elder Lin then bowed towards the sitting youth and smiled: “I was not told of your arrival, Second Prince. Please excuse me.”

The youth hurriedly stood up and stopped him from bowing: “Elder Lin, please don’t be so polite. I will always be your student. If you bow, then I’ll have to get on my knees.”

Elder Lin still slightly bent his back and said: “May I ask why you are here, Second Prince?”

The youth’s name was Ning Jialin. He took a jade box from one of the maids and respectfully handed it to the elder: “I’m here to see how you are doing, also to give you this medicine.”



Though the elder acted with reverence, it was clear that the prince was here to curry favor.

Feiyun watched quietly and analyzed the situation.

“An immemorial stone escaping is a big deal indeed. It might cause a lot of damage in this mountain range, would you like my help?” Ning Jianlin asked.

“Indeed.” Elder Lin nodded: “But wait a bit, Second Prince. I have another friend who has traveled far to come here so I can’t be rude.”

The elder knew how to interact with people. Even a servant would feel that he was somebody while talking to the elder.

### **Chapter 1019: Saint Bone**

Elder Lin walked over with a friendly smile and then asked: “Feng Feiyun, you must be the young friend from Crimson. Tong'er said that you are also a treasure master. May I ask what level you are currently at?”

Ning Jialin also looked over for the second time. He understood Elder Lin, not just anyone would be treated so amicably by him. This showed that the guy was special in some way. Moreover, he didn't need a stone talisman either.

Feiyun pretended to be overwhelmed from being shown love by a superior. He cupped his fist in obeisance: “Due to my ineptitude, I hope to receive a few pointers from you, it'll benefit me for a lifetime.”

“Don't be so harsh on yourself, the fact that you came without a stone talisman is a testament to your ability. Your treasure-seeking skill is above many paragons.” The old man smiled and said:

“Coincidentally, an immemorial stone ran away and is causing me a headache. You and the second prince are both capable treasure masters, let's have a contest to find the stone then. I will gift the winner a treasure.”

“Well...” Feiyun put on an awkward expression.

Ning Jialin's eyes lit up and laughed excitedly: “Brother Feng, no need to put on an act. I'm sure Elder Lin is right about your ability.”

“I can't keep refusing when you and the elder put it like that.” Feiyun smiled.

A thirty-year-old man walked closer and cupped his fist toward the elder: “Dao San would like to enter the maze as well.” [1]

“Dao Si would also like to offer my assistance, Ancestor.” [/ref] Si = fourth[/ref]

“Tian Mo wishes to compete against the second prince and Young Noble Feng. “

More than ten members in the palace stepped forward, both young and old. They didn't have a stone talisman yet could still move normally in this palace. This showed that they were treasure masters from the Lin.

Elder Lin seemed amused to see this: "It's rare for everyone to be so enthusiastic. Very well, whoever wants to join can, and the winner will get a spot for the Heaven Restoration Chamber."

Everyone became emotional and highly motivated after hearing this. Feiyun didn't know the significance behind this but could tell that it was special judging by everyone's response.

Eventually, there were thirteen more members from the Lin in addition to Feng Feiyun and the second prince.

"Are you confident?" You Ziling whispered.

He shook his head in response: "An immemorial forbidden stone is no joke. If Elder Lin and the others couldn't find it in a short time, do you still think it's easy?"

The fifteen then entered the stone maze in a line.

"Elder, this is a letter from our First Princess. She hopes to have the privilege of paying you a visit." You Ziling raised a jade box with both hands.

This was something Feiyun told her to do before leaving.

Elder Lin's eyes slightly narrowed. He didn't accept the box and pondered for a bit before smiling: "The first princess of Crimson stands out among her peers."

"You have heard of her before?" Ziling was surprised.

"There is no other princess in the world who is engaged to a half-demon." Elder Lin stroked his beard.

"Elder, you are a grand wisdom master indeed, as omniscient as can be."

"Your princess is a good girl who doesn't care for public opinion. This requires courage and is rather admirable."

"Then this letter..."

Elder Lin waved his hand and said: "I'm just a servant, how can I let the princess visit me? If anything, I should be visiting her palace."

Ziling lamented, realizing that this was a polite refusal. It looked like Feiyun couldn't predict everything. This Elder Lin truly wanted to be neutral.

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The mountain range was filled with mysteries and priceless stones. This was a highly-guarded location. Normally, others wouldn't allow entry.

"That rock has a large spatial spirit stone inside."

"That one has a dragon stone..."

"This came from outer space. There might be a meteoric stone inside..."

Feiyun was frightened because the rocks here were incredible. He would need to open them up for verification.

“Damn, the old geezer is really rich, just these rocks alone are worth the treasury of a city.” The turtle salivated, wanting to rob the entire mountain range.

“I don’t think this is all.” Feiyun came to a tablet with the characters, “Seventh Forbidden Zone.”

He could sense a chill coming from there with the yin affinity. It felt like the winds of hell.

He used his phoenix domain to stop this yin energy.

“We can’t go in this place, I feel like there are stones from hell in there.” The turtle became frozen.

“Raa!” Ghastly wails came from within. They then saw a mountain of skeletons with a blood moat at the base.

“It might really be a stone from hell.” Feiyun’s expression became serious.

This place must have been marked forbidden for a reason.

Suddenly, Ning Jialin appeared nearby and smiled: “Brother Feng, your knowledge is impeccable. Elder Lin talked about it before, this should be it.”

The turtle immediately hid after hearing the youth.

The second prince’s cultivation was exceptional, able to approach Feiyun so closely.

‘I wonder if which territory he’s from.’ Feiyun thought.

“Elder Lin said that our missing stone is stained with the blood of a saint so it should feel familiar with the yin affinity. Maybe this is its destination.” Feiyun suggested.

“I have the same thought.” Ning Jialin said with a smile: “How about we go in for a look?”

Feiyun shook his head: “It’s forbidden for a reason, it’ll be problematic if something ominous attaches to us.”

Feiyun left while Ning Jialin used a special technique to enter. He showed no sign of fear.

“Why didn’t we go in? It might actually be in there.” The turtle asked.

“It’s not in there.” Feiyun responded.

“If we can come up with that idea, so did the elder. He naturally came and searched the place already, there’s no point wasting time there.”

He suddenly stopped and crouched down to pick up a fist-sized rock from a puddle of water.

It looked very ordinary outside of little spots, not as impressive as the other rocks.

He created a strand of saint energy on his fingertip before flicking the rock twice. Suddenly, two layers of light surrounded the rock.

“Oh? It has this too?” The turtle became surprised.

“It might have a saint bone inside. Of course, this bone might have turned into a fossil at this point.” Feiyun became excited?

"?!" The turtle leaped out of Feiyun's robe, swallowed the rock, and then started running.

"Boom!" Feiyun threw another rock at the turtle, causing it to fall down. He then stomped on its shell and took out the rock: "The rocks here are certainly part of a list. Taking one out will be problematic."

"But we can learn a saint dao from it." The turtle's neck stretched upward, wanting to swallow the rock.

As for Feiyun, he had a total of 108,000 saint dao already. Others might view this rock as a priceless treasure but it was just useless to him.

"Learning someone else's dao is meaningless. One has to create their own before becoming a saint." Feiyun said before adding: "Shh, it's here."

"What?"

"That immemorial stone." Feiyun quietly activated his Grand Change Art and hid the duo. They became as indiscernible as air.

The fist-sized rock still had the same layers of light around it, looking like an immaculate divine lamp.

Suddenly, something sounding like footsteps or a rock rolling could be heard.

#### **Chapter 1020: Domain Lord**

Feng Feiyun activated his phoenix gaze as his fingers drew the Grand Change Art, ready for action.

"Whoosh!" A shadow flew past and the stone on the ground suddenly disappeared.

Feiyun waved his hand and released eighteen different rays to trap the newcomer.

It turned out to be a black rock resembling a millstone. The material looked magnetic. The smaller piece of stone made from saint bone was attached to it at this point.

It struggled and roared, unable to escape the rays whirling around it.

"Don't waste your energy, follow me." Feiyun captured both and then left the maze.

He wasn't the first to return. Six were ahead of him and saw that he returned empty-handed. A sneer appeared on their face.

"Did you find it?" You Zilin asked.

"We'll see." He smiled without answering.

A while later, everyone returned. They all had a stone with them. The second prince was the last and he was empty-handed like Feng Feiyun.

The stones taken back had a unique aura very similar to a forbidden stone. Everyone felt that the right one was among the thirteen.

Alas, Elder Lin shook his head and said: "You all didn't find the real stone. It tricked you."

He waved his finger and the thirteen stones returned to the maze. He walked towards the prince and cupped his hand: "Second Prince, did you find anything?"

"I'm afraid that I was too incapable to find it." Ning Jialin shook his head.

"You did better than them since you weren't fooled by the stone's illusions and fake stones. This is the omniscient level, only a few treasure masters can reach it in the present day." Elder Lin smiled.

"Thank you for your kind words, Elder." Ning Jialin responded.

The elder then stared at Feiyun and asked: "Young Friend, what about you?"

Feiyun cupped his fist and answered: "I was fortunate enough to find an interesting stone."

He formed a mudra and opened space. A portal with a blinding radiance within emerged.

"This is a celestial portal..." One cultivator became startled.

Other treasure masters couldn't stay calm either since they understood the significance of this portal. Only the grand masters of this art could communicate with a mysterious world and create this portal.

The name of this world was Celestial Void. Those capable of opening the portal were all respected. Even territory lords would treat them as esteemed guests.

Two rocks connected with each other flew out of the portal. One looked like a millstone while the other was only the size of a fist.

Feiyun then closed the portal and siled: "I didn't have a choice due to the stone's accumulated power. I had to temporarily place it into the celestial space."

Elder Lin laughed and said: "I can see the reason behind your engagement now, Virtuous Nephew."

Being able to open the celestial portal was akin to having access to a great treasury with ample storage space.

The second prince had a different opinion of Feiyun now and cupped his fist to show respect.

"Oh?" Elder Lin stared at the fist-sized rock, clearly interested.

The man known as Third from the Lin said: "Our ancestor asked you to find the immemorial forbidden stone, not these two rocks."

"Third, don't speak on a subject you are ignorant of." Elder Lin chastised.

Third immediately shut his mouth, not daring to disobey.

Elder Lin smiled and said: "Virtuous Nephew, tell us more."

"Very well." Feiyun pointed at the fist-sized rock and said: "This one encompasses a saint bone, most likely a fossil at this point."

This completely shocked the crowd. A saint fossil was something in the legends, definitely a holy artifact.

"How can this be? A saint should return to the world as spirit energy or be buried in forbidden tombs. Why is there a single fossil here?"

"It contains the dao of the saint, it's even more precious than a heavenly scripture."

Elder Lin said: "This is indeed a saint fossil. Haha, even I was mistaken before, not knowing that there was such an artifact nearby. If you didn't find it, Virtuous Nephew, I would have never figured it out."

"Bam!" A large majority of the crowd got on their knees and excitedly said: "Congratulations, Ancestor. With the help of this fossil, your cultivation will certainly soar."

Elder Lin laughed heartily and sincerely. His mood was clearly jubilant as he said: "Gifts all around for being here during this joyous occasion. Virtuous Nephew, for your great contribution, I will bestow you a domain and a title, Domain Scion."

This was just another way to say "Domain Lord".

Feiyun thought to himself that this old man was truly influential. Just one word could make someone a domain lord. This was the authority of a territory lord.

Each domain lord had a file in Sacred Court. They were pillars of the dynasty and enjoyed numerous privileges.

For example, if one were to be assassinated, the killer would be pursued and severely punished by the entire dynasty since this was considered a challenge to its authority.

Furthermore, a half-demon domain lord was virtually unheard of. This was akin to reaching the sky with one step, becoming a member of the upper echelon.

The other territory lords might not dare to make this decision but Elder Lin did.

Feiyun cupped his fist again and said: "Thank you for your reward, Elder."

An official seal was brought over with the characters on it, "Domain Scion".

Envious eyes were on Feiyun - a half-demon becoming a domain lord in one day. This was just like a dream.

"Virtuous Nephew, go report to the Celestial faction. After signing the document, you will officially become a domain lord of Sixth Central." Elder Lin smiled.

He didn't need to say anything else. It was obvious that the other rock was the immemorial stone. It also had a touch of saint's blood and the similar affinity made the fossil capable of leading it outside.

Feiyun left the elder's mansion with an official seal and one for the Heaven Restoration Chamber. They began returning to the princess' location.

You Zilin and You Ziling didn't look too happy during the carriage ride.

Feiyun saw their expression and smiled: "What's wrong with you two? Did the elder accept the letter?"

"Now you're asking about it? And here I thought you have forgotten about our mission." Yilin snorted.

"You're probably too excited about becoming a domain lord and no longer give a damn about the princess." Ziling didn't like Feiyun's act in the palace.

"Didn't I leave this matter to you two?" Feiyun smiled.

“Elder Lin truly does not want to participate in this matter. He didn’t open the box at all and refused the invitation. I thought that you would ask him again after finding the rock and he would be happy enough to entertain us. However, you completely forgot about it.” Ziling uttered coldly.

Feiyun stroked his chin and said: “Let me see it.”

Ziling took the crimson box out and handed it to him. There was still a seal on top.

“He read the content already.” Feiyun smiled.

“Impossible, he never opened it.” Zilin denied.

“Given his cultivation, he could still read even if it was a million miles away.” Feiyun chuckled.

Ziling frowned and said: “The princess said that if he read the content, he would certainly grant her an audience. This wasn’t the case since he delicately refused us.”

“What did he say?”

“He said that ‘I’m just a servant, how can I let the princess visit me? If anything, I should be visiting her palace.’” Zilin copied the old man’s demeanor and tone.

“Isn’t this a refusal? Do you actually think a senior like him would go visit a junior?” He finished.