Ancient GM 991

Chapter 991: Father and Daughter

Waves of commotion rocked the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire.

Princess Qing`er had brought a young man into the royal palace, and this matter simply couldn't be hidden. In fact, very swiftly many major characters even knew that Princess Qing`er arranged for that young man to stay in Princess Changping's estate. This verified the guesses of many people. It was very possible that Princess Qing`er might truly have fallen for this young man.

"Considering the princess's age, it's very normal for her to fall in love. But who exactly is that young man? Which immortal emperor is he the descendant of?" The major characters in the royal palace all mused silently, wanting to know more about Qin Wentian's origins.

Princess Qing`er had fallen in love, and it was fine if she did so, but this person must definitely be able to match up to her status. If not, all the young men who were pursuing Qing`er wouldn't be convinced otherwise.

"The name of that young man is Qin Wentian, right? There are no peak-level immortal emperors in this layer of the immortal realms that have the surname of Qin. He must be either a descendant of an ordinary immortal emperor or a powerful one that's hidden in seclusion."

"I've heard some information from the guards at Princess Changping's estate. This young man isn't a descendant of immortal emperors—he came from a particle world. Apparently, he became acquainted with Princess Qing'er in that particle world, so Qin Wentian must be a genius in that particle world."

The commotion caused by this news was extremely terrifying. In just a short instant, all the major characters in the royal palace knew of Qin Wentian's name and origin. Most probably, even Qin Wentian himself had no way to anticipate the commotion he had created. It had caused his name to resound endlessly, shaking the major characters of the Evergreen Immortal Empire.

"This man actually originated from a particle world? Could it be his talent is heaven-defying? Exuding magnificence through the generations?"

"Maybe because Princess Qing`er is still too young, and hence she's blinded by the so-called love she's feeling. The princess is not yet mature, and might have been cheated by this guy's flowery words."

"Princess Qing`er actually killed the granddaughter of the Cloud King for the sake of someone from a particle world? In addition, this happened when the two of them were staying as guests at the Everpeace Marquis Manor? This is somewhat too overwhelming. it will most likely even displease his Majesty."

The commotion had reached an unbelievably large scale. There were some geniuses of the younger generations who were completely reluctant to accept this, and they felt unconvinced. They had always wanted to be closer to Princess Qing`er, but she had never given them a chance at all. Her icy demeanor kept countless pursuers away, and she had shown no interest in a relationship before, regardless of what identity and status the pursuer had. But now, she had actually brought a man from a particle world here and even killed the granddaughter of the Cloud King for him.

Jealousy reared its ugly head. There were already many young geniuses who hated Qin Wentian.

Qing`er had completely no idea of the waves her actions caused. The reason she brought Qin Wentian back was to tell her family of Qin Wentian's existence and to let them know of her feelings. It would be best if they could approve of Qin Wentian.

The Great Emperor Palace was situated in the central region of the royal palace's vast territory. Immortal qi permeated the atmosphere, exuding boundless elegance and majesty. Qing`er arrived before a luxurious-looking hall and entered through it.

"We pay our respects to Princess Qing`er." The guards outside the hall knelt down as they saw Qing`er approaching.

Within the majestic great hall, a middle-aged man with an extraordinary demeanor could be seen. He put down the brush in his hand and looked up, staring at the beautiful figure walking towards him with a gentle smile on his face. "Qing`er, you are back."

"Mhm." Qing`er nodded. Even when facing her father, her expression was as cool as ever. However, the Evergreen Immortal Emperor understood her and naturally didn't blame her for it. In fact, he had always blamed himself for missing out on Qing`er's childhood.

"I..." Qing`er opened her mouth, and as she tried to speak, the Evergreen Immortal Emperor stretched out his hand and stopped her. He smiled, "I already know. It's Qin Wentian, right? I didn't expect that he would find his way to the City of Ancient Emperors from a particle world. His determination is truly out of this world."

Qing`er's beautiful eyes flickered. She calmly stared at the Evergreen Immortal Emperor, and didn't say anything. She waited for him to continue.

"Right now, the entire royal palace is affected by this commotion. Many kings, dukes, and marquises are already denouncing Qin Wentian. They say he isn't qualified to be with you." The Evergreen Immortal spoke lightly. Qing`er didn't reply, but the light in her eyes had grown colder.

"I know you suspect me of orchestrating that incident with the Eastern Sage Immortal Emperor. But you don't have to suspect me. I can tell you straight away that I didn't tell the Eastern Sage to play Qin Wentian like a fool," the Evergreen Immortal Emperor said calmly. "Naturally, I also didn't tell him to look out for Qin Wentian. Everything he did was according to his own intentions. If he really had accepted Qin Wentian as a disciple, I wouldn't have any objections either. It's only that I didn't anticipate Dongsheng Ting to also fall in love with you, which made them intentionally suppress Qin Wentian."

"But you also didn't want him to become the disciple of Eastern Sage, right? You didn't even want him to come to the immortal realms," said Qing`er as she looked at her father. Her thoughts were very meticulous, and she was also very sensitive. She had long sensed some of her father's thoughts on this matter.

"You can put it that way. But do you know why?" asked the Evergreen Immortal Emperor. Qing`er didn't reply, waiting for her father to tell her himself.

"Because of you." The Evergreen Immortal Emperor sighed. "All the kings, dukes, and marquises in our empire are discussing what status a person must have before that person can be a match for you. But they also know I care nothing for identity or status. Right from the start, this world has always been very fair. If you want a high position, you have to climb up the ladder yourself. And when you are at a certain height, people below will start fawning over you. They will want to use you to help them climb up as well. Right now with my current status, there's almost no one whom I need to look up to. What I truly hoped was for you to grow in strength."

The Evergreen Immortal Emperor stared at Qing`er, his eyes filled with love and affection as he continued, "In this world, in regards to existences like immortal kings and emperors at the peak, there are many more males compared to females. Why is this so? It is because men have a deeper

obsession for cultivation, a deeper thirst for power. Although they have people they love, it is very rare for them to sink completely within that love. However, this is different for women. Women are much more sentimental and emotional, and they are easily swept away by the tides of love. Qing`er, you are precisely an example of this."

Qing`er's beautiful eyes flickered. It was very rare for the Evergreen Immortal Emperor to converse with her the thoughts that were truly in his heart. She had brought Qin Wentian back with her to express her feelings on the matter. Her royal father seemed to understand her intentions, and he was similarly telling her the true thoughts in his heart.

Women were more sentimental and emotional and were easily swept up by the one they loved. She was a classic example of this... Qing`er had no way to refute it. She knew what her father said was the truth.

"Child, I did indeed hope that he wouldn't come to the immortal realms. I don't wish to see you sinking into the river of love so young in your life. Sometimes, the things that you cannot obtain and cannot see will, in turn, transform into a kind of intense motivation that pushes you on. For example, during the period of time when the two of you were separated, you improved with godly speed. Qin Wentian was the same as well. Maybe this is the reason why he arrived in the immortal realms so quickly and found you in the City of Ancient Emperors after such a short time had passed.

"Hence, even if you blame Father, I will still stick to my thinking. One day, if both of your strengths are high enough to reach my level, you can do whatever you want. But as for now, I really don't support the two of you," the Evergreen Immortal Emperor said honestly. Qing`er didn't know what to say; she couldn't blame her dad for his love for her.

"Being together can give me motivation as well. I will avoid delaying my cultivation, and so will he." Although Qing`er understood the Evergreen Immortal Emperor's concern, her voice was still filled with determination. Just as the Evergreen Immortal Emperor had said, females were usually more sentimental and emotional in comparison, and since she was already so deep in the river of love, it naturally wouldn't be so easy to pull her out. She was unable to accomplish such a thing.

The Evergreen Immortal Emperor sighed with melancholy. "His level of cultivation is merely one of the reasons why I don't support this. Do you wish to hear about the main reason?"

"Mhm." Qing`er nodded.

"Right now, imagine that if you and Qin Wentian were to run into danger, with him facing a lifeand-death crisis. The you now, if you could sacrifice yourself to save him, would you be willing to do so?" The Evergreen Immortal Emperor asked solemnly, his tone turning heavy. Qing`er's body trembled slightly, looking into her father's eyes.

Would she? Naturally, she would!

"The look in your eyes has already told me your answer." The Evergreen Immortal Emperor bitterly smiled. "I already know about that incident in the Eastern Sage Immortal Sect. Also, when you were in the City of Ancient Emperors, Qin Wentian caused a wave of events to unfold. Every time he was in danger, you would always be by his side, fighting shoulder to shoulder with him, even when he was killing the descendant of the Xuan Emperor or when he fought against Zi Daoyang."

"Even if we disregard all that as nothing, in the future when Qin Wentian ascends to immortality and meets with even more dangerous situations on his path to rise to the top, would you escape alone?" asked the Evergreen Immortal Emperor.

"No," Qing`er calmly replied. The Evergreen Immortal Emperor already knew she would answer this way.

The Evergreen Immortal Emperor turned his head, staring at a portrait in the great hall. In that portrait, the image of a supreme beauty could be seen. She had a smile that could topple empires, and she also bore a strong resemblance to Qing`er.

"I'm not proficient in spatial energy. You inherited your talent in spatial energy from your mother. You should also know the energy sealed in your body is something she left for you. You were only born just before she died..." The voice of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor grew misty as he sank into his memories. Qing`er silently listened, and a moment later, the Evergreen Immortal Emperor continued. "Qing`er, do you know how your mother died?"

"No..." Qing`er shook her head. The death of her mother was something no one in the royal palace had dared to talk about.

"She died to protect me." The Evergreen Immortal Emperor slowly turned back, and his immeasurably deep eyes shone like the stars as he stared at Qing`er. His calm voice caused Qing`er's heart to tremble violently.

At this moment, Qing'er understood that it was impossible for her to change her father's opinion.

"Child... to me, your accomplishments in cultivation will always be ranked second in my heart no matter what. Your safety is my main concern, and it is everything to me." The Evergreen Immortal Emperor sighed. "I don't wish for you to take the path of your mother. I don't want her footsteps to echo before yours as you follow them down. Qin Wentian doesn't have the ability to protect you. At the very least, the him now isn't strong enough to do so."

"One day, only when he is finally strong enough to protect you, the doors of our immortal empire will open for him," the Evergreen Immortal Emperor said slowly, telling Qing`er the truth in his heart. Undoubtedly, the Evergreen Immortal Emperor was a good father, even though he didn't support Qing`er and Qin Wentian.

Qing`er had no way to contradict anything he said. In fact, she didn't even have the qualifications to change her father's thinking. How could she still persuade him?

The Evergreen Immortal Emperor valued her life more than anything. Naturally, it also exceeded Qin Wentian. This was because Qing`er was his daughter.

"Father..." Qing`er called out. The Evergreen Immortal Emperor simply stared at his daughter.

"Thank you." Qing`er spoke in a low voice, as a smile appeared on the Evergreen Immortal Emperor's face. The word 'father', and 'thank you', truly made him feel very happy in his heart.

"I understand your love," said Qing`er, gazing at her father. A gentle smile appeared on her face as she continued, "However, I too, have the right to choose who I love. You can choose not to support us, but father... you cannot object to this!"

Staring at the smile in Qing`er's eyes, the Evergreen Immortal Emperor was left speechless for a long time!

Chapter 992: Provocation with Words

The news of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor and Qing`er's meeting was soon circulated around. Many of the major characters were waiting to see what the Evergreen Immortal Emperor's attitude would be.

Ever since Qing`er was brought back to the royal palace, many descendants of the kings and marquises wanted to pursue her, but Qing`er had always ignored them. The Evergreen Immortal Emperor had always maintained a stance of neutrality—nobody knew what his true thoughts were, and they could only try their best to guess.

But this time, Princess Qing`er had already brought a man to her home and had gone to see the Evergreen Immortal Emperor. In that case, no matter what, his Majesty should at least make his stance clear, right?

Would his Majesty support or object to this?

If his Majesty agreed to Princess Qing`er and Qin Wentian, all the commotion and the discussions about Qin Wentian would instantly die down since they would be pointless. Qin Wentian would instantly become the prince consort of the Evergreen Immortal Empire, and his status would be set in stone. This was evidently something many of the nobility didn't wish to see.

In Princess Changping's residence, the aunt that had always been close with Qing'er had already given the order to prepare a welcome banquet for Qin Wentian. After all, since Qing'er arranged for Qin Wentian to stay here, and as her aunt, she naturally had to ensure that she took good care of Qin Wentian.

In the banquet, Princess Changping's husband and daughter were present as well. They regarded Qin Wentian with curiosity, and probed him slightly with their questions. From this, they gleaned some information and gradually came to understand Qin Wentian a little better.

Princess Changping's husband was an immortal king known as the Scarlet Eye Immortal King. He was bestowed the title of the Scarlet Eye Marquis by the Evergreen Immortal Emperor, and was also a prince consort of the Evergreen Immortal Empire. Although both Princess Changping and the Scarlet Eye Marquis weren't that strong in terms of combat prowess, they still had immense authority and status in the empire. After all, Princess Changping was the blood-sister of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor, and she had given her all to aid him back when they were fighting for the right to establish this empire.

"Qin Wentian, you are famous now. With a sweep of my immortal sense, I hear endless mention of your name throughout the royal palace. Even the slaves and servants are excitedly discussing you." The Scarlet Eye Marquis laughed straightforwardly. Qin Wentian bitterly smiled, "I know that we caused a great deal of commotion when Qing`er brought me into the palace, but I didn't expect the news to circulate that fast."

"Hahaha, you have to understand who the people in the royal palace are. Every one of them are either kings or marquises. Their immortal senses can easily sweep through the royal palace, so it takes no effort for them to gain information." The Scarlet Eye Immortal King laughed. Qin Wentian thought about it and nodded in agreement. After all, this place was the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire where all the elites gathered.

"What are they saying about me?" Qin Wentian laughed.

"They are talking about your cultivation level, your background, where you came from, etc." said the Scarlet Eye Immortal King.

"There are certainly many who hold me in contempt, right?" Qin Wentian laughed casually. There would surely be many who disliked him—the Scarlet Eye Immortal King was just too polite to say anything.

"Do you feel the pressure is very great?" The Scarlet Eye Immortal King glanced at Qin Wentian. Qin Wentian's situation was similar to his. The Scarlet Eye Immortal King was also a prince consort and had received his fair share of criticism when he pursued and married Princess Changping back in the day. His talent was evidently good enough since he had become an immortal king, but even so, he wasn't considered a peak-tier character, and was someone ordinary among the immortal kings in the royal palace.

Naturally, back then Princess Changping didn't have the status that Qing`er had now. Now that the Evergreen Immortal Emperor governed the empire, and the fact that Qing`er was the person he doted on the most, in addition to the fact that Qing`er had another extremely powerful teacher, her status was almost unparalleled in the entire immortal realms. It explained why it had caused such a great commotion when she'd brought Qin Wentian back to the royal place.

"There's indeed some pressure. But some things cannot be changed so easily, even with a large amount of people. Since Qing`er brought me here, I will directly face whatever may come my way," Qin Wentian said stoically. Princess Changping and the Scarlet Eye Immortal King smiled, nodding silently at Qin Wentian's maturity. It was very rare for juniors like Qing`er and himself to have this amount of courage.

However, just as Qin Wentian had said, some things couldn't be changed so easily, even with a large amount of people. This was especially true when it came to a person's attitude. An example would be the Evergreen Immortal Emperor's attitude. If everyone else in the royal palace supported him and Qing`er but her father didn't, they would merely be expressing their stance. Ultimately, they were unable to change anything.

At this moment, a butler dressed in black walked over and called out, "Princess, Marquis."

"What's the matter?" Princess Changping asked.

"There are people who have come to pay a visit," the butler replied. The Scarlet Eye Immortal King and Princess Changping swept out with their immortal sense, and their eyes flickered with a smile as they glanced at Qin Wentian.

"There are plenty of descendants from kings and marquises already here to probe you. Qin Wentian, you'd better be prepared in your heart. There are no kind souls among these people," said Princess Changping. After that, she stared at the butler and said, "Invite them in for the banquet."

"Yes, Princess." The butler nodded before he left. After a short period of time, over ten proud-looking young people could be seen walking over. All of them were of the nobility, and clearly also good-looking and talented. A majority of these people were either at the eighth or ninth level of Celestial Phenomenon, and they were all from the same generation as Qin Wentian. Somehow, this seemed to be intentional.

"We pay our respects to Princess and Marquis." These people were exceptionally polite as they bowed in the direction of Princess Changping and the Scarlet Eye Immortal King.

"You youngsters need not be so polite. Come and take a seat." Princess Changping smiled. Everyone respectively walked over to the banquet as they took their seats. At this moment, many gazes turned to Qin Wentian, their eyes gleaming with sharpness.

Qin Wentian lowered his head and tasted the wine, not bothered by all the attention currently directed at him. He allowed these people to study him as they wished.

"Princess Changping organized a banquet for such a handsome-looking young man, but forgot to invite us. This made all us juniors truly heartbroken." A young lady smiled, speaking with a teasing note in her tone. However, the first sentence out from her mouth had cut right to the chase, directly referring to Qin Wentian.

"You guys are so busy everyday, I don't wish your elders to blame me for delaying your cultivation progress." Princess Changping smiled.

"Princess, don't say that. If you invited us, I'm sure our elders would undoubtedly all be very happy." The beautiful young lady spoke in a gentle manner. After that, she turned to Qin Wentian, "Princess, why don't you introduce this young man to us? Seeing that he can be invited to this banquet, I'm sure he must be an extraordinary individual."

There was an underlying meaning within the words in this sentence. It was clear that she already knew who Qin Wentian was, but she still wanted to ask.

"He is Qin Wentian. I'm sure most of you already know his name. That little lass Qing`er tossed him to me, so naturally I must take good care of him," explained Princess Changping.

"True. This is the first time Princess Qing`er brought someone back to the royal palace. The other kings and marquises are all paying close attention to this matter. Since Brother Qin can obtain Princess Qing`er's approval, you must surely have a heaven-shaking identity, right? Do you care to share where you come from? And by the way, which immortal emperor are you a descendant of?" The young lady smiled as she turned her gaze towards Qin Wentian.

Princess Changping and the Scarlet Eye Immortal King leisurely sipped their wine as they silently observed. They didn't plan to help Qin Wentian out of this—they had already reminded him in advance to be prepared in his heart. These were all things he had to face if he wanted to be with Qing`er.

Qin Wentian put down the wine cup in his hand. He stared at the beautiful young lady and replied, "I'm from a particle world, and I don't have an illustrious identity."

"Oh?" An expression of interest appeared on the female's face, looking as though she was surprised and had just learned about this.

"Brother Qin is truly too humorous," said a young man clad in blue, with brows angled like swords. At this moment he lifted his head and continued, "This is the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire, a place where kings and marquises reside. Even ordinary immortal kings would find it impossible to enter. If Brother Qin is really from a mere particle world, what qualifications do you have to sit here and enjoy this banquet?"

"That's right. Since Brother Qin is already here, why must you still hide your identity. Why don't you just tell us the truth?" another young man added, his eyes gleaming with sharpness. Although none of his words were overly rude, it was clear he was filled with disrespect. He was obviously implying that Qin Wentian shouldn't even be qualified to enter the royal palace, let alone sitting here enjoying a banquet.

Simple words they may be, but the underlying meaning was clear to all.

Everyone turned their attention to Qin Wentian, wanting to see how he would reply.

"Has everyone here attended banquets before at other important places?" Qin Wentian chose not to immediately reply, and instead, countered with another question.

"Of course," someone replied.

"That's something that occurs frequently. In fact we have also been to several banquets organized by very important characters." The young lady smiled.

"When everyone here attends the banquet, do you all need to report the name of your clan and identity to gain entry?" Qin Wentian asked again.

Those people laughed. One among them then spoke, "That's natural as well. For some of those places, you're not allowed to enter even if you have outstanding talent. Without telling people of your identity, you basically have no qualifications to attend any immortal banquets."

At that last sentence, the person who spoke purposely caused his voice to sound out louder as a smile filled with hidden meaning appeared on his face.

"Oh, so in other words, if your current identity and status were wiped away, then everyone here would have no qualifications to attend any banquets?" Qin Wentian asked. The same matter, presented in another way, caused the meaning it intended to be different as well. When Qin Wentian spoke these words, a light, mocking tone could be heard in his voice.

"Status and identity, these two things are akin to halos of light that are an inherent part of who we are." Someone laughed, narrowing his eyes as he stared coldly at Qin Wentian.

"That sounds right." Qin Wentian smiled. "But some people are just so sad, thinking an illustrious identity and status means everything. At the very end, without true strength, they are doomed to end up like jokes in the eyes of others. In any case, I didn't lie to any of you. I'm indeed from a particle world, but I don't find this to be a shameful matter. And am I not already sitting here enjoying the

banquet? In addition, both Princess Changping and the Marquis have even become good friends of mine. At the very least, they wouldn't mock me."

"Oh, but are you forgetting something? The fact that Brother Qin could even step into this place was all because of Princess Qing`er," the young lady continued.

"You guys are so proud of the identity and status you have, which you only gained as a result of the merits rendered by the senior generations. Could it be that all of you are ridiculing Princess Qing`er's judgement?" Qin Wentian coldly laughed. "Or in other words, are all of you here jealous of me?"

"Brother Qin truly knows how to joke." The voice of the young lady had turned cold.

"What a sharp tongue you have. No wonder Princess Qing`er fell for you," a young man rudely added, and Qin Wentian's expression froze as he stared at the person who spoke.

"Brother Qin, don't blame them. They are all very direct people, and they always say the first thing that comes to their mind without ever processing it carefully," said the young man in blue. "But that person who spoke is right. You were able to gain Princess Qing`er's favor with flowery words, which caused her to bring you into the royal palace. This is undoubtedly a showcase of your 'capabilities'."

"However, this type of 'capability' is only fit to be looked upon with scorn," that person continued, doing nothing to hide the disdain in his voice. His tone grew ruder, but Qin Wentian merely regarded them emotionlessly. These people had intentionally come here to anger him. If Qin Wentian really acted because of this, he would become nothing but a joke.

"Hmph." Qin Wentian's lips curled into a smile. Wanting to anger him into taking action against them? What a joke. He sat there, and enjoyed his wine alone as the smile on his face grew wider.

"What are you smiling at?" someone questioned.

"I'm smiling at how superficial and ignorant the descendants of nobility in the royal palace are." Qin Wentian put down his wine cup. His words instantly caused the eyes of everyone to turn as sharp as swords as they turned to Qin Wentian!

Chapter 993: Lesson

"Superficial and ignorant?" The blue-robed young man smiled coldly as he stared at Qin Wentian. It looked like this Qin Wentian wasn't that stupid, since he could still endure it. Even though they were humiliating him, he could still be so calm and not act out against them in anger. He still possessed the sense of mind to rebuke them with words.

"Princess Qing`er and I came from the City of Ancient Emperors. With so many supreme geniuses in that city, the descendants of immortal kings and emperors were countless. Naturally, many of them were like you guys, always boasting of their identity and status," Qin Wentian calmly continued as he sipped his wine. All the young men and women here stared at him, waiting for him to continue.

"Among the descendants of immortal kings and emperors, there were naturally an obnoxious amount of arrogant people, all strutting around with no one in their eyes. I, Qin, have seen plenty of people like you guys. In fact, there are even many with identities and statuses more illustrious than the whole lot of you. An example would be the sons and daughters of immortal emperors," Qin Wentian continued.

"Going to the City of Ancient Emperors? This is what you claim as a qualification to come here?" someone mocked.

"No, no. I just want to tell you guys that... for those people high up and the arrogant pricks, I've personally witnessed many of their endings... and all of them died a miserable death." Qin Wentian glanced at the people, slowly lifting his wine cup and sipping his wine again. "And so, I'm honestly advising all of you with good intentions not to depend on your identity and statuses, and not to posture so much when out there roaming the world. It's fine if you do so here, as there are so many experts that can protect you. But the moment you guys leave the Evergreen Immortal Empire, I'm afraid that..."

After speaking until here, the mocking look in Qin Wentian's eyes intensified as he stopped his speech. However, it was clear what Qin Wentian was trying to say. All of a sudden, their auras all turned cold, filling the atmosphere with a biting chill.

Qin Wentian's unspoken words were probably, "I'm afraid that you wouldn't even know how you died."

"Are you insulting us?" a young man asked icily. His hand trembled and he crushed his wine cup into pieces, causing the wine to splash onto the table.

"I, Qin, do not have a high status. Why would I dare to do that? I'm merely sharing what I know," Qin Wentian spoke calmly, his tone filled with casualness. "In the City of Ancient Emperors, even those extremely famous descendants of immortal emperors rarely boasted about their identity and status. But today at this banquet of Princess Changping, I truly have broadened my horizons. Princess and Marquis, if you get the chance, please do remember to advise the other kings and dukes. Tell them it's best not to send their juniors out to roam the world for the sake of their safety."

"Oh?" Princess Changping's beautiful eyes turned to Qin Wentian.

"It's too dangerous," Qin Wentian continued in a low voice. After his words, even more wine cups shattered. Princess Changping's smile was as gentle and warm as ever. It looked like Qin Wentian's mindset was considerably more mature compared to these descendants of kings and marquises. He was able to contain himself quite well. As expected of someone who'd made it all the way to here from a particle world. His state of heart surely had undergone many experiences of being tempered, and he'd apparently seen many cases of people either trying to humiliate or intentionally make things difficult for him. However, these sons and daughters of nobility were different; they had been doted upon since birth and had naturally become extremely arrogant. Especially for those descendants who were talented. The amount of pampering and doting would surely increase and focused on them. In the empire, who would dare show them any disrespect, let alone humiliate and insult them with words?

"Brother Qin's state of heart is extraordinary. I'm impressed." After a moment of silence, the young man clad in blue had a faint smile on his face. "However, since Brother Qin is so proud to come from the City of Ancient Emperors, I wonder if your strength can match up to your arrogance."

"Just speak directly." Qin Wentian was too lazy to continue bantering.

"Brother Qin is such an extraordinary individual, and since we've had the fortune to meet at this banquet, I can't help but feel an itch in my heart. How do you feel about us sparring? I'm sure Brother Qin won't reject such a request, right? Princess,can we use this place to spar?" The blue-clad young man stared at Princess Changping as he asked, clearly not willing to let Qin Wentian wriggle his way out.

"Little friend Qin is, after all, still a guest of my estate. It's best that you ask his opinion." Princess Changping turned her gaze towards Qin Wentian.

"This place is the royal palace. You're all descendants of nobility, whereas I am alone. It wouldn't be good for me if you guys begged your brothers, sisters, parents, uncles, and grandparents for help after I injure you, right?" Qin Wentian laughed.

"INSOLENCE!" A person immediately slammed his palm down onto the wine table, causing it to disintegrate into dust.

"Qin Wentian, you do have a talent for insulting people," that beautiful lady said icily, staring at Qin Wentian. His words were filled with extreme contempt for them. To declare that he would injure them? And in addition, they would seek help from their elders for revenge?

This person was too brazen. His words clearly indicated that they would be defeated without a doubt, and also, that they would be shameless enough to ask for help from their elders because they couldn't afford to lose.

"If you can injure us, we will just accept it. Inviting elders to help out in matters of the junior generation is something we disdain to do. However, Qin Wentian, what if you run off instead and tattle to Princess Qing`er for help after being injured? That would truly be laughable," another person countered, mockingly.

"With just you guys?" Qin Wentian started laughing. He didn't say anything else, but his expression truly enraged all the geniuses present.

"Qin Wentian, you have no one in your eyes." A person coldly spoke.

"Come out and fight." The aura of another person gushed towards Qin Wentian. Given how sharp Qin Wentian's senses were, he could tell that the talent of this man wasn't bad, but he was still far from the mark of being considered a peak-level genius. These people should be the ordinary geniuses that the nobility sent over to probe him, all to intentionally anger him. It was ironic that they were angered instead by just a few sentences from him.

"Even if you are a guest of the princess, I have to teach you a lesson for daring to be so rude." A black-robed young man stood up, glaring coldly at Qin Wentian.

"Princess, Marquis, I'm sorry for creating trouble for you guys," Qin Wentian apologized, looking at Princess Changping and the Scarlet Eye King.

"No worries. You guys are all juniors. Since they wish to spar with you, just accompany them." Princess Changping smiled. After which, she silently transmitted her voice to Qin Wentian, "They

are only here to probe, and have no true malicious intentions towards you. It's fine to teach them a lesson, but try not to injure them too heavily."

Qin Wentian glanced at Princess Changping, conveying that he understood. After all, this place was in the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire. He didn't want to go too far and make things difficult for Qing`er as well. Since these people wanted to test him out so much, he would just teach them a small lesson.

Standing up, Qin Wentian moved to the empty site next to where the banquet was located. He calmly stood there and turned his gaze towards the descendants of nobility as he said, "You guys can come at me together."

"Arrogant."

"This guy is too arrogant."

"Let me deal with him." A young man in black stepped out. His entire body crackled with black lightning, containing a terrible destructive power within. Seeing Qin Wentian standing there unmoving, he rushed out with a thunderous roar, causing the earth to shake as a tyrannically ferocious fist punched out with fearsome power, aiming for Qin Wentian.

Shimmering runic light enveloped Qin Wentian. All of a sudden, his aura became incomparably vast and steady, just like that of an incomparably gigantic mountain, or that of an endless ocean.

"Are you looking for death?" The fist of the black-robed young man slammed forth, generating waves of lightning and thunder that exploded outwards, blasting into Qin Wentian. At that moment, Qin Wentian calmly lifted his palm and pressed forward. The black-robed young man suddenly felt exceptionally small and insignificant in front of that palm. That palm contained a supreme suppressive might, suppressing the fist attack directly.

—BOOM!— An explosive sound rang out. With a smack, the black-robed young man was smashed to the ground as he coughed out a mouthful of blood, his body shaking with unbearable pain. Inclining his head, his eyes were incomparably cold when he regarded Qin Wentian.

With a single strike, Qin Wentian had completely suppressed him. That palm seemed to contain a boundless might strong enough to shatter mountains and collapse the heavens. He had no way to stand against that at all.

The faces of the others all stiffened, and they stared with wide-eyes at Qin Wentian. Such power was beyond their imagination. They too, were also geniuses with strong combat prowess. But could they withstand that palm strike?

"It looks like what I said before was right. Other than your identity and status, you guys have no capabilities at all," Qin Wentian mocked. "Didn't I say to come at me together? Coming at me one by one will only result in all of you being smacked to death with a single slap."

"Too overbearing, you piece of..."

"Since Brother Qin's combat prowess is so outstanding, we won't be polite then," interjected the blue-robed young man. He knew that if they didn't work together, there would simply be no chance to defeat Qin Wentian. For the sake of victory, they could only choose to throw away some face by joining forces.

"You don't need to be so courteous. If you are so courteous, I might not even bear to injure you all." Qin Wentian smiled. From the start until now, he was as calm and as casual as ever.

Everyone was completely enraged. All of them released their own constellations, boosting their own strength. The resplendent astral light illuminated this space, painting a beautiful picture.

"GO!" The blue-robed young man commanded, and everyone simultaneously launched their attacks. A brilliant saber cleaved down to slash apart the void. A surge of sword qi transformed into a whirlpool that crackled with lightning, capable of lacerating anything. There were even powerful demons being manifested, their roars rumbling the heavens, and they wanted nothing more than to devour Qin Wentian with a single bite.

Instantly, the winds and clouds changed, as attacks of overwhelming destruction swept out, all aiming for Qin Wentian. There was simply no way for him to evade them all.

"Did this fellow bite off more than he can chew?" the Scarlet Eye Marquis commented in a low voice filled with worry. Although Qin Wentian was powerful, these people weren't weak, and they were all talented geniuses.

"He was able to come here all the way from a particle world, so how can he be ordinary? I'm afraid those descendants are the ones who may have bitten off more than they can chew. They are being

used as scouts to determine the situation, while the truly intelligent ones watch from the shadows." Princess Changping laughed. She had absolute trust in Qin Wentian.

At this moment, all the attacks blasted into Qin Wentian. The runic light enveloping Qin Wentian flared even brighter as an absolute ultimate suppressive might gushed forth from him, along with a towering surge of demonic might. With a wave of his hand, the faint silhouette of a greater demon manifested from his bloodline protection ability, towering up the sky. A golden divinity of suppression could also be seen behind his back, and it emitted a forcefield of pressure that instantly collapsed the attacks of all the other geniuses.

"Are all of your strengths only so-so?" Qin Wentian coldly smiled. His palm then blasted out as endless power swept through the heavens and earth. Numerous manifestations of terrifying Great Rocs appeared, shooting out like lightning and slamming into the bodies of the geniuses. They were all blasted to the ground in an instant. Their countenances paled, while the weaker ones coughed out blood.

"Unable to withstand a single strike." Qin Wentian flicked his sleeves and stepped out with his hands crossed behind his back. The expressions on the descendants of nobility were all extremely ugly to behold. They turned to Princess Changping. "Princess and Marquis, us juniors shall bid our farewell here."

After speaking, the group of people departed instantly, no longer having the face to remain here.

Chapter 994: Voices in the Royal Palace

After everyone left, Qin Wentian returned to his seat. The Scarlet Eye Marquis raised a toast to Qin Wentian, "That was incredible, little fellow. To be able to sweep over ten geniuses from your own generation is truly extraordinary. Come, let me drink a toast to you."

"Marquis is too polite." Qin Wentian raised his wine cup as well, draining the contents of the cup in a single gulp.

The Scarlet Eye Marquis smiled at Qin Wentian, "No, I am not. Those fellows aren't considered top-tier supreme geniuses among the younger generations, but their talents are still extraordinary. Yet, you easily swept over them unchallenged, with no effort at all. From this, one can see how tyrannical your strength is. Most likely among your generation, there are none at the same cultivation level who can stand against you."

The Scarlet Eye Marquis was an immortal king expert. During Qin Wentian's combat, the vastness of his aura and the power he released was akin to a desolate Greater Demon king. It was very rare for people below immortality to have such a terrifying aura. Not only that, Qin Wentian had an incomparably tough body, and he was able to effortlessly dominate those at the same cultivation realm as him.

The news of their combat soon circulated throughout the royal palace, bringing with it the sound of endless discussion.

"This young man is so arrogant he has nothing in his eyes. He humiliated the descendants of kings and marquises, and his behavior is incomparably tyrannical. He treats the people of the royal palace like air."

"Qin Wentian's strength is truly phenomenal. No wonder he was able to gain Princess Qing`er's love. Given his combat prowess, there's scarcely anyone in the royal palace of the same generation that would be able to defeat him."

"He actually said that our sons would go crying to us and their grandparents for help after they are defeated? What an uneducated boor! He's only good for speaking nonsense."

"Haha, this Qin Wentian is awesome, no wonder Princess Qing`er fell in love with him. I'm actually rooting for the guy. Did some people think their sons ever had a chance to get together with Princess Qing`er? Are those people even qualified?"

"Princess Qing`er's judgment is extraordinary."

In numerous estates, the name of Qin Wentian rang out unceasingly, and it seemed that everyone held a different attitude towards him.

However, at this moment, a fearsome voice rang out from the Cloud King Manor.

"Qin Wentian's arrogance knows no bounds. Despite the princess being in love with him, he still used words to outrage the modesty of Xia Lian, the daughter of the Everpeace Marquis. He is simply despicable. He's even caused havoc in the Everpeace Manor. Because the princess is still young and unfamiliar with the ways of the world, she actually killed the daughter of the Everpeace Manor for this man."

"Qin Wentian thinks he can disregard everyone because he ranked first in the Immortal Ascension Rankings. He must have used his outstanding talent to mesmerize Princess Qing`er, and now he's come all this way to become a prince consort. He intends to depend on his talent to assume a position of power, so we must assume that this man is an extremely ambitious character. He even disregards kings and marquises."

"Qin Wentian even dared to outrage the modesty of Xia Lian with words when he was a guest at the Everpeace Marquis Manor. In the end, it resulted in her death. Did he really think that he could disregard everyone with just his talent alone? Princess Qing`er has already fallen into his trap. He believed that the fact he would become the prince consort is already set in stone and he'll surely be placed above the kings and marquises in the future."

"The Cloud King's anger is no joke, he's preparing to personally speak to his Majesty. He won't allow Princess Qing'er to continue staying mesmerized in Qin Wentian's thrall or the consequences will truly be unimaginable."

Countless voices of discussion rang out within the manors and estates of the nobility. Qin Wentian was naturally the focal point of all these discussions, and even the guards and servants had something to say about this matter as well.

"So it turns out that he is the top ranker in the City of Ancient Emperors. It's only expected for him to have nothing in his eyes, even daring to insult those descendants to the point of saying that he would be in for an unpleasant situation if they went crying for help to their parents and grandparents if he injured them. This is simply taunting them."

"Do you understand how heavy the 'weightage' of being the #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings is? There are countless supreme geniuses gathered in the City of Ancient Emperors, and since he has managed to rank above all others, his arrogance is understandable. I guess this is also the reason why he has no regard for those descendants of nobility."

"What a 'good' first ranker. To have such outstanding talent, and with the backing of Princess Qing`er, how can he still have any respect for the kings and marquises? As long as the Emperor nods his head, the position of prince consort will belong to him."

The discussions in the palace were beginning to skew to one side. Of course, these voices didn't belong to the kings and marquises. With their current status, even if they did have such thoughts in their hearts, they weren't about to reveal what they were thinking of so easily. The vast majority of these voices were from people of all varieties within the royal palace. Many of them felt that Qin

Wentian was dependent on his talent and Princess Qing`er's love for him, and this was the reason why he so arrogantly disregarded everyone.

In any case, this was the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire after all. To all the kings and marquises, the Qin Wentian now was still only an outsider. His outstanding talent was proven by the fact that he had been ranked first in the Immortal Ascension Rankings. If the Evergreen Immortal Emperor favored him, he would instantly become the prince consort, and his status would then be explosively elevated to aristocracy. It was a position of power that could suppress all the kings and marquises. They wouldn't be so foolish as to directly make an enemy out of him then. However, they wouldn't express their support either.

It was true that Xia Lian had died. The daughter of the Cloud King had brought Xia Lian's corpse all the way to the royal palace, so how could they not be enraged? After all, a daughter of nobility had been killed because of an outsider. What if something similar happened again in the future? Could it be that Qin Wentian was free to kill their sons and daughters without punishment? He was simply too lawless.

"The princess has been in the emperor palace for quite some time. It seems that she and His Majesty have many things to discuss. I wonder what His Majesty's attitude will be?" Countless gazes were fixed toward the central emperor palace. No matter how many people supported Qin Wentian or how many people were against him, everything would be useless once the Evergreen Immortal Emperor made a decision.

A single sentence from His Majesty would settle everything. If he supported Qing`er and Qin Wentian, then no matter how loud the opposing voices were, everyone would still accept his decision.

In Princess Changping's estate, Princess Changping and the Scarlet Eye Marquis didn't forget to use their immortal sense to scan the royal palace while they chatted with Qin Wentian. At this moment, Princess Changping smiled at Qin Wentian, "It seems like the vast majority in the palace are against you."

"Little friend Qin, such antagonism matters not when one is powerful. So it turns out that you are the #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings. The Evergreen Immortal Empire has yet to produce such an outstanding character. Come, I'm going to toast you once more." The Scarlet Eye Marquis had a frank and straightforward personality. Qin Wentian naturally complied, and he raised his wine cup and drained its contents in a single gulp.

"The Cloud King can be extremely conniving," Princess Changping warned. "Your position of #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings in the City of Ancient Emperors should only be known to you and Qing`er. The people in the royal palace couldn't possibly have discovered this so quickly. Did you divulge this information during your time at the Everpeace Marquis Manor?"

"Mhm." Qin Wentian nodded.

"The Cloud King hid this news before now, until you dominated all those juniors. Then he began to use it as an excuse to strengthen the case of your arrogance, and he's even saying that you don't place any kings or marquises in your eyes. Basically, they are putting you in a position without giving you the chance to explain. It's why the discussions within the royal palace are being tilted to one side," Princess Changping explained, her words causing Qin Wentian to furrow his brows.

"They are acting this way because of jealousy," the Scarlet Eye Marquis clarified.

"Jealousy is human nature. After all, he is the first person that lass Qing`er brought back to the palace. That's already enough to cause people to feel jealous about him. The fact that he's the #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings, and the incident with Xia Lian's death, those people won't care about what really happened. They've already formed their own opinions of his character." Princess Changping had hit the nail on the head with a single sentence.

"If my talent is weak, I will be deemed useless and not qualified to enter the royal palace. If my talent is good, I will be deemed arrogant, not placing kings and marquises in my eyes." Qin Wentian shook his head with a bitter smile.

"That's right, since Qing`er brought you into the palace, that by itself is the original crime. It's only natural for there to be such pressure." Princess Changping smiled. Qin Wentian was also an intelligent man. He naturally knew how it looked for an outsider to be brought directly into the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire. And that same outsider was even together with Princess Qing`er, the same daughter the Evergreen Immortal Emperor doted on the most. How could people not be jealous?

"What are the exact circumstances regarding Xia Lian's death? I trust Qing`er, and she would definitely never kill a person on a whim, let alone in a place like the Everpeace Marquis Manor," Princess Changping asked.

Qin Wentian then explained everything, "... and that's why Qing`er became so angry and immediately killed Xia Lian."

"In that case, Xia Lian deserved her death. I'm afraid the Everpeace Marquis Madam hasn't told the whole truth to her father, the Cloud King. After all, it is true that her daughter has died, so everyone will sympathize with her." Princess Changping smiled. Nobody would expect that the daughter of the Cloud King would be so arrogant and unbridled; she had not placed Qing`er in her eyes and had even wanted to kill Qin Wentian right in front of her. This was simply too outrageous.

"In summary, she has offended her superior. But to think that the Cloud King is actually standing on her side. Did he really think His Majesty would believe in him and not Qing`er?" The Scarlet Eye Marquis coldly laughed.

"Hence, this is the reason why the Cloud King Manor has released the news to sway the public to their side. He naturally understands that he won't be able to do anything to Qing`er. And as for Qin Wentian, even if he is unable to punish him, he still wants to destroy any chances of them being together. After all, a grudge has already been formed from Xia Lian's death," Princess Changping said. Qin Wentian silently mused at Princess Changping's intelligence. She had easily seen through it all.

"Princess Qing`er has come out." At this moment a voice drifted over in the air. In the direction of the emperor palace, a flawlessly beautiful figure could be seen walking towards Princess Changping's estate. Princess Qing`er's expression was as cold as ever, and nobody could tell what she was thinking. And in an instant, the news that Qing`er had finished her conversation with the Evergreen Immortal Emperor soon circulated throughout the entire royal palace.

"Princess entered alone and conversed for so long with His Majesty, but then she also exited the palace alone, and his Majesty didn't summon Qin Wentian to meet him."

This caused many to speculate about the thoughts and intentions of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor. Not summoning Qin Wentian indicated that he didn't approve of this relationship, right? Could it be Princess Qing`er had failed to convince her father?

"I knew it. His Majesty is an enlightened sage. How can he allow such a conceited and contemptuous young man to become the prince consort? This young man doesn't even place kings and marquises in his eyes, so if he truly became the prince consort, how much more arrogant would he be then?"

Within the royal palace, many of the nobility finally heaved a sigh of relief. If His Majesty had summoned Qin Wentian, it meant that what they feared had come to pass. The moment His Majesty

nodded his head in agreement, everything would become absolute. It was useless no matter how the Cloud King tried to protest.

However, there was a very high possibility that His Majesty was still observing the situation. After all, the Evergreen Immortal Emperor doted on Qing`er a lot and wouldn't really do anything to Qin Wentian. Even if he didn't agree, he wouldn't go all out to separate them.

And just as the people of the royal palace were mired in discussions, Qing`er arrived at Princess Changping's estate. Qin Wentian inclined his head and looked at Qing`er, only to see Qing`er's expression was the same as ever. She stood before him, appearing as though she wanted to say something but didn't know where to start.

"It's fine..." Qin Wentian smiled. He had already prepared his heart when he came here. Regardless of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor's attitude, he wouldn't be too bothered by it. He also didn't have any hope to plan to propose a marriage to the Evergreen Immortal Emperor. Although Qin Wentian was confident in himself, he wasn't arrogant to that extent. What qualifications did he have to propose a marriage? The reason why he'd accompanied Qing`er here to the royal palace was only because he wanted to express his intentions. He wanted to tell the world that he, Qin Wentian, existed!

Chapter 995: Written Invitation

Qing`er stared at Qin Wentian's smile, feeling somewhat upset in her heart. Her beautiful eyes flashed with a stubborn look. She turned to Princess Changping and said, "Aunt, I will be staying here temporarily with him... can you arrange a courtyard for us?"

Princess Changping was startled for a moment. Her eyes flashed as she stared at Qing`er, only to see Qing`er looking straight at her without evading her eyes. This caused Princess Changping to sigh silently. It looked like this lass's obsession was truly very deep.

"Okay, but if your father starts to blame me, I will make it clear that this is your own idea." Princess Changping shook her head.

"Mhm." Qing`er nodded in agreement.

Princess Changping then issued a command for the finest courtyard to be cleaned, before leading Qing`er and Qin Wentian over. "The environment of this courtyard is beautiful and elegant. There are many rooms here, and both of you can choose one for yourselves."

After speaking, she cast a deep glance at Qing`er. Qing`er didn't seem to understand her meaning and said nothing. She lightly nodded in thanks, and Princess Changping turned and departed the area.

"Qing`er, I'm fine. There's no need for you to do this..." Qin Wentian was touched by her act, understanding Qing`er intentions.

"Stay here in the royal palace for some days at least, okay?" Qing`er inclined her head, looking at Qin Wentian. Staring into her eyes, how could Qin Wentian bear to reject her? He nodded, "Okay. I will accompany you for a period of time. I will make other plans only after I've broken through to immortal foundation."

To Qin Wentian, he still had another important target: to establish his immortal foundation. It didn't make a difference to him where he did it, and he might as well accompany Qing`er by accomplishing it in this place. As for the contempt and cold disdain that the rest of the royal palace regarded him with, he truly couldn't care less.

In the Royal Palace, among the estates of the nobility...

"What? Princess Qing`er allowed Qin Wentian to stay at Princess Changping's estate? And she's even moved into a courtyard with him?"

"Princess Qing`er is too deep in this. She is disregarding her own reputation to let everyone in the royal palace to know of her determination."

"Bastard! What person is this Qin Wentian exactly? How did he make Princess Qing`er so besotted with him? If Princess Qing`er can treat me like that, I won't even mind if I died!" a young man roared loudly, filled with intense animosity.

This was the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire. What status did Qing`er have? She knew it wouldn't be appropriate to go directly against her father by getting Qin Wentian to move into her residence. Hence, she decided to move in with Qin Wentian in a courtyard of Princess Changping's estate instead? This already told everybody of her determination. No matter what, she had to be together with Qin Wentian.

By doing this, Princess Qing`er's reputation would surely be damaged. The entire attention of the royal court was all on her.

"The Cloud King has entered the emperor palace, and he wishes to seek an audience with His Majesty." Another great commotion was occuring in the royal palace. An imposing figure could be seen soaring through the air above the royal palace, heading straight to the emperor palace. The guards didn't stop him; the Cloud King was one of the trusted subordinates of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor, and had rendered many great merits before. He was one of the rare few who had the authority to enter the emperor palace whenever he chose. His arrival only needed to be reported before he stepped into a place forbidden to most—the residence of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor.

"Yun Ting begs an audience with Your Majesty." Outside the forbidden location, it was impossible for the Cloud King to enter directly like Qing`er could. Hence, he had to wait outside before approval for his entry was granted.

"Cloud King, what's the matter?" The voice of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor rang out.

"Qin Wentian is bewitching the Princess, and he must have ulterior motives in his heart. My granddaughter, Xia Lian, has died because of him. I beseech Your Majesty to punish him with death." The Cloud King did not dare to complain about Qing`er, so he could only shift all the blame onto Qin Wentian. If the Evergreen Immortal Emperor had already agreed to Qin Wentian and Qing`er before this, he wouldn't have come to the emperor palace at all. But it seemed that the Evergreen Immortal Emperor didn't agree, and Qing`er's stubborn decision to move in with Qin Wentian had given the Cloud King another angle to attack this problem. Perhaps the Evergreen Immortal Emperor would now have some prejudice towards this Qin Wentian due to Qing`er's actions.

Although the Cloud King was of the nobility, he didn't allow hatred to cloud his mind. It was fine for the junior generations to have conflict with each other. But if he were to directly act against Qin Wentian before he knew the Evergreen Immortal Emperor's attitude, it would be disastrous if this ended up incurring His Majesty's ire. After all, since Qin Wentian had already been brought to the royal palace by Princess Qing`er, no matter who it was, everyone would still have to give the princess some face.

"I already know about Xia Lian's death, and she was the one in the wrong. Qing`er brought Qin Wentian to the Everpeace Marquis Manor to be a guest, yet she verbally insulted and humiliated Qin Wentian, and even attempted to kill him. But she has already died, and in your heart, you should understand clearly who was right and who was wrong. Hence, I won't say anything more.

Cloud King, do your best and focus on your cultivation. Try to break through to the emperor realm as soon as possible. We should not concern ourselves so much with matters of the junior generations... Just let them handle their matters themselves."

The Evergreen Immortal Emperor's voice rang out. The Cloud King's heart was as clear as a mirror. He bowed and replied, "I understand, Your Majesty. Yun Ting will leave now."

After speaking, the Cloud King immediately turned and departed without saying another word. Since His Majesty had already spoken, he knew what he had to do.

The Cloud King returned to his manor, and no one else went to bother Qin Wentian. Rumors of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor's intentions soon circulated around the royal palace; the matters of the junior generations should be handled by the juniors themselves with no interference from the elders.

The attitude of His Majesty with regards to Qin Wentian and Qing`er seemed to have been made clear. He didn't support them, but because he doted on Qing`er, he had no strong objections to it as well. He was fine with letting things follow the course of nature.

"It's really true that the love His Majesty has for Princess Qing`er is incomparable." Many sighed. What was regrettable was that the princess's heart had already been stolen by an outsider.

After the Evergreen Immortal Emperor made his stance clear, the voices of discussion within the royal palace gradually died down. The Everpeace Marquis Madam brought Xia Lian's corpse back home, leaving with hatred in her heart. However, she couldn't do anything. Nobody dared to force their way into the royal palace and let alone the fact she was merely the wife of a marquis. If she tried to do something, she might even implicate the Cloud King.

Right now in Princess Changping's estate, within the courtyard where Qin Wentian and Qing`er were staying at, a formless layer of runic light enveloped the entire place. This was a formation that could block out the prying senses of others. In the royal palace, all the manors and estates owned by nobility had many formations akin to this. Nobody liked to be spied on. One's immortal sense could still break through the layer of light if they forced it, but doing so would result in an alarm being sounded. This action was nothing less than a provocation and most of the time, no one would choose to do so.

The environment of this courtyard was truly beautiful, and had been intentionally selected by Princess Changping. This courtyard spanned over tens of miles, situated amidst mountains and lakes. Jade pavilions were built in the center, and the waters of the lake rippled with fish swimming freely within. Qin Wentian currently had a rod in his hand and was trying to fish. The commotion in

the outside world was simply cacophonous. He wanted some peace and quiet. Fishing was able to train the tranquility of one's heart, bringing him some peace. It also allowed him to make preparations with regards to the state of his heart for his breakthrough to the immortal foundation realm.

Qing`er sat beside Qin Wentian, and the two of them resembled a celestial couple—both were extraordinary and outstanding individuals.

"Father is worried that I will be trapped by emotion, thus affecting my cultivation," Qing`er said quietly, staring at the waters of the lake.

"I can understand His Majesty's feelings." Qin Wentian smiled. "Although my talent isn't bad, Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants are ultimately counted as weaklings in the vast immortal realms. Immortal Foundation is merely the true beginning. The Evergreen Immortal Emperor must be worried that you will encounter danger if you follow me."

Qing`er turned and looked at Qin Wentian, only to see a smile on his face. Qin Wentian was also an intelligent man, so how could he fail to understand the intentions of the Evergreen Immortal Emperor? Refraining from openly objecting to their relationship was already beyond his expectations. Although his talent was extremely high, his cultivation was too low. Anyone from the royal palace could smash him to death with a single strike. Although his talent might be enough for him to step into the Immortal Emperor Realm in the future, the path leading to there was filled with too many obstacles. Having more talent didn't mean having a lower chance of dying.

"Am I that good-looking?" Qin Wentian saw that Qing`er kept staring at him and couldn't help but laugh. Qing`er rolled her eyes, and she glared at him before shifting her eyes back to the lake.

"After the baptism by the Sacred Luminance, our cultivation foundations are more stable than ever. It shouldn't be too difficult for us to establish our immortal foundations. Will you return to the Royal Sacred Region after breaking through?" Qing`er murmured.

"I think so." Qin Wentian nodded his head.

"Bring me along okay? I will accompany you to fetch Qingcheng." Qing`er's voice was filled with gentleness, causing warm currents to rise in Qin Wentian's heart. But what would happen if the Evergreen Immortal Emperor learned of Qingcheng? What attitude would he have? Most probably, even Qing`er herself didn't dare to tell her father about this. The pressure they would face would be greater than imagined. It was somewhat ordinary for powerful experts in the immortal realms to have wives and concubines. But considering Qing`er's status, as well as the prestige of the

Evergreen Immortal Emperor, those kings and marquises would surely be rushing in line to kill him once they learned of it.

Only Qing`er didn't mind.

"Qing`er," Qin Wentian called out gently. Qing`er shifted her gaze over, only to see an endearing warmth in Qin Wentian's eyes, as though he wanted to melt her into a puddle. Qing`er averted her eyes, not daring to match Qin Wentian's gaze directly.

At this moment, Qin Wentian moved forward. Qing`er froze, and her heartbeat quickened. A moment later, Qin Wentian kissed her on her fragrant lips, and a feeling of wonder bloomed in Qing`er's heart, her heartbeat pounding more intensely.

Qin Wentian broke the kiss after a short moment. Staring at the ice-like beauty in front of him, he could see her blushing deeply, painting her face with a lovable shade of red, akin to the clouds at sunset. He could feel a boundlessly deep love stirring his heart.

"Qing`er, I will definitely marry you in full honor and glory. I won't allow your status as the princess of an immortal empire to suffer the slightest bit of dishonor." Qin Wentian's eyes gleamed with his determination.

Qing`er's eyes shifted nervously, staring ahead. She tried her best to suppress the emotions in her heart, to show none of it on her face. However, currents of warmth flooded her entire being. This must surely be what love felt like!

"I will return first to rest." Qing`er stood up, before turning and walking away. With her back to Qin Wentian, a radiant smile could be seen on her face, as resplendent as the shining stars.

Qin Wentian continued fishing. Something was tugging at the rod, but he didn't seem to notice... He licked his lips, still thinking about that kiss he shared with Qing`er, especially that slight jolt of electricity when their lips met.

Today, countless young men within the royal palace couldn't sleep after knowing Qing`er had decided to stay in the same courtyard with Qin Wentian. Their imaginations were running wild from not knowing what might be happening. They couldn't wait to tear Qin Wentian into pieces! She was a princess with a lofty status, exuding a natural cold arrogance. Her talent was outstanding and her features were flawless. The moment they thought about the possibility of the pure jade-like princess

being tainted by that bastard Qin Wentian... they felt like their hearts were crawling with countless ants.

But all of them were helpless. His Majesty didn't say anything, so what could they do? Did they intend to barge right into the estate of Princess Changping to forcefully separate the two?

During the second day, countless people were still monitoring the situation at Princess Changping's estate. And early today, there was already someone who had sent out a written invitation.

This written invitation was sent from the Qi King Manor. Not only was the invitation delivered to Princess Changping, many of the nobility received it as well. This was an invitation to the junior generation for a banquet. Not only that, Qin Wentian was included in the guest list as well.

"The son of the Qi King has ended his seclusion. But if I remember correctly, he should be in the midst of establishing his immortal foundation, right? Can he bear to exit his seclusion midway?"

"Seems like the reason for him doing so was because of Qin Wentian. He has always been a pursuer of Princess Qing`er." Many were silently speculating. Now, Qin Wentian had a rival. The son of the Qi King had outstanding talent and had returned from the City of Ancient Emperors numerous years ago. "Back then, he was almost one of the top few rankers in the Immortal Ascension Rankings. If I remember it correctly, he should be ranked #5. And now, after such a long period of seclusion, I wonder how strong he's become!"

Chapter 996: Banquet

In Princess Changping's estate, Qin Wentian stared at the written invitation as he spoke in a low voice, "Qi King Manor!"

Qing`er appeared beside him, "The crown prince of the Qi King Manor returned from the City of Ancient Emperors many years ago. It's said that in the past, he was powerful enough to be ranked #5 there and after his return, he has been in closed-door seclusion all thIs time to break through to immortal foundation. Right now, he is sure to be very powerful. There must be some insidious plot in him inviting you over. Let me go with you."

"I think it would be better if I went alone. The Evergreen Immortal Emperor told the Cloud King not to interfere in matters of the junior generations. In the royal palace, those nobility wouldn't dare

to do anything to me. In addition, your name isn't included in the guest list and if I forcibly bring you there with me, wouldn't that incur the ridicule of others?" Qin Wentian smiled. "Don't worry, I can handle them."

Qing`er stared at Qin Wentian as she nodded her head. "Okay...but if they are too overbearing, just return here straight away."

"Mhm." Qin Wentian nodded. He held onto the delicate hands of Qing`er. Qing`er's hand trembled slightly but she didn't resist, allowing him to hold on to it.

"I'm someone who is going to marry the princess of an immortal empire. How can I allow people to look down on me." Qin Wentian teased.

Around noon, the Qi King Manor was extremely lively. Several experts of the younger generations in the royal palace were all invited and they respectively made their way there, riding on immortal-ranked treasures or having powerful demonic mounts. The scene of so many people travelling truly constituted an imposing sight.

Outside the Qi King manor, many powerful demons started roaring. Their thunderous roars were extremely terrifying and many of these demonic beast mounts were variant or mutated types, sharing the same level of cultivation as those human experts who mounted them. Basically, they grew up together.

The Qi King was an expert that was bestowed kingship by the Evergreen Immortal Emperor, there was no doubt about his power. The Qi King Manor was also located in an extraordinary location within the royal palace. Now, the crown prince of the Qi King Manor, Yang An, was arranging a banquet specially to target Qin Wentian. This was the reason why there were so many of the younger geniuses showed up. Basically, everyone who received the invitation was here today, so how could the atmosphere here not be lively with so many experts of the younger generations gathered here in the Qi King Manor?

Outside the manor, people were chatting with each other. One of the young men asked, "Did Qin Wentian even show up?"

"I think he's still not here yet, but I have no idea if he would come or not." Some other person replied.

"Hmph, maybe he will come but would also bring Princess Qing`er along." The person who spoke earlier snorted coldly. And at this moment, a voice rang throughout the air causing the eyes of everyone to turn to that direction.

"That's Qin Wentian."

"He is Qin Wentian? Seems merely so-so. What type of trash demonic beast is he sitting on? It's so chubby. Don't tell me that's actually his pet?"

The people below discussed. Qin Wentian's mount was naturally Little Rascal. Little Rascal didn't bother with transforming, he only made his body larger. That chubby appearance naturally exuded a natural cuteness but that was only relative to the perspective of females. In any case, the entire sight just seemed comical.

The eyes of this pet was very large, it continued flashing, staring in all four directions, at the powerful demonic beasts present here. Its chubby body shook with every step as it flew through the air.

"Brother Qin, your demonic beast is so adorable." In the air beside Qin Wentian, there was a young lady also mounted on a demonic beast, flying through the air. She was sitting on the top of a redwinged avian beast whose eyes gleamed with a terrifying light. It was actually a Crimsonblood Roc, one of the weaker species that descended from the great rocs.

"This pet of yours is so chubby, can you lend him to me to play with for a few days?" Another young man smiled. He was sitting atop a ferocious white tiger that exuded a balefulness that was incomparable. The tiger stared at Little Rascal and let out a few thunderous growls.

Many young experts then crowded around Qin Wentian as their demonic beasts roared, exuding a fearsome demonic might that swept over this entire space.

"Would this little cutie be frightened? Hahaha..." Everyone laughed, intentionally making their demonic beasts to get near Little Rascal.

"Little Rascal, seems like you are being looked down on." Qin Wentian smiled and patted Little Rascal.

Little Rascal's eyes gleamed with light, he didn't seem to be the slightest bit frightened. Next, it merely spoke in its baby-like voice, "You go fight with them and then I will have a legitimate reason to eat their demonic beasts. So many powerful beasts here, I'm sure they must taste delicious."

"Eh?" Everyone was stunned for a moment upon hearing the baby-like voice of Little Rascal. However, they soon recovered and started laughing uproariously.

"Brother Qin, your pet still hasn't fully weaned yet?"

"Haha, this pet is truly too adorable. It doesn't even know what fear is? It probably has no idea our powerful demonic beasts would be able to devour it in a single gulp." Everyone was laughing, staring at Little Rascal like they would look at an interesting clown.

"Ai, this little fellow is still too young and insensible, everyone please don't blame him." Qin Wentian clasped his hands to everyone. He then ruffled the fur on Little Rascal's head, "Little Rascal, seems like I have to give you better food after we return and hope that you can grow up faster."

"All of you go to hell..." Little Rascal's baby-like voice whined in a low voice, angrily glaring at the demonic beasts surrounding it. Although these demonic beasts were mounts, they all had intelligence. They were now all showing malevolent expressions on their faces while facing Little Rascal, as though intentionally wanting to terrorize it.

"Don't try to frighten me, this baobao ain't afraid of you all." Little Rascal waved its paw threateningly towards those demonic beasts while inclining its head proudly. All those demonic beasts had expressions of interest on their faces. What an interesting cub this white puppy is.

The whole lot of them then arrived at the Qi King Manor. There were guards who escorted them in and when Qin Wentian surveyed the surroundings, a majority of these people were all at the Celestial Phenomenon Realm. However, there were a few at the immortal foundation level, possessing outstanding talent.

Within the Qi King Manor, the banquet was already set and many people had already arrived and were already seated. Qin Wentian stared at the person in the lead. That man in the lead seat had a face resembling a king and was in glowing spirits. His eyes shimmered with a faint sharpness and although his aura was retracted, Qin Wentian could still sense an extraordinary aura that bespoke of one breaking through the Celestial Phenomenon Realm and stepping into the immortal foundation realm.

"After the crown prince of the Qi King Manor exited the City of Ancient Emperors, he has been in closed-door seclusion ever since. Seems like he has already established his immortal foundation." Qin Wentian mused.

Many people also sensed the aura from the crown prince, Yang An. Somebody then asked, "Crown prince, you ascended to immortality?"

"That's right. The crown prince has already broken through. Our Evergreen Immortal Empire has yet another character below 100 years of age that became an immortal." Even before Yang An could speak, someone else already replied on his behalf.

"Congratulations, congratulations!"

"The crown prince is too strong. If he continued remaining in the City of Ancient Emperors and didn't exit early, he would surely already become the #1 ranker on the Immortal Ascension Rankings." Everyone offered their congratulations, yet there were some with jealousy in their hearts. Immortal foundation was a threshold. Being able to become an immortal before the age of 100 was yet another threshold within the threshold. Since Yang An managed to become an immortal before 100 years old, his achievements would definitely be extraordinary and he would be heavily recognized and thought of highly by the elder generations.

Someone casually glanced at Qin Wentian. Seems like Yang An exiting seclusion wasn't purely because of Qin Wentian but was just a coincidence. He had broken through to immortal foundation and Qin Wentian was invited because he was coincidentally here in the royal palace at this time.

"Everyone is too polite, please enjoy the banquet." Yang An smiled as everyone sat down. Qin Wentian randomly found a seat at the extreme ends of the room and sat down carefreely. Since he was invited, it didn't matter what Yang An's cultivation was. He couldn't be bothered at all. He would just act the part of a guest and enjoyed the good food and wine here.

"Everyone, what were you guys chatting about earlier? You all seemed very happy." Yang An spoke.

"We are talking about brother Qin's pet. That demonic beast cub is too adorable, it even said that our demonic beast mounts would taste delicious. Hahaha!"

"This is the first time I met such a silly fellow. It doesn't even know fear, simply not knowing how high the heavens and how vast the earth is." Somebody glanced at Qin Wentian, his words clearly shooting bullets at both him and Little Rascal.

"Oh?" Yang An turned his gaze onto Qin Wentian. He then smiled, "So this gentleman is none other than brother Qin. I've been hearing your name ever since I got out of my closed-door seclusion. Qin Wentian's fame can only be described as legendary and since you are able to become the #1 ranker on the Immortal Ascension Rankings, brother Qin must surely be an extraordinary individual.

"Crown prince is too polite." Qin Wentian replied.

"I wonder, when brother Qin exited the City of Ancient Emperors, who were the top few rankers of the Immortal Ascension Rankings? Back then during my time, all the top rankers were exceedingly powerful characters. An example was the son of the Violet Emperor Zi Daoyang, and when I exited the city back then, he was the undisputedly ranked #1. Most probably, he should have also already left." Yang An smiled. Qin Wentian merely nodded politely. He knew if Zi Daoyang didn't die, he should have also already broken through to immortal foundation just like Mo Xie. After all, even Yang An has already established his immortal foundation.

However, breaking through to immortality early wasn't an indication of strength. For some, although they weren't at the peak of the ninth level of Celestial Phenomenon, their combat prowess was still able to sweep aside peak ascendants. An example was like Zi Daoyang and Mo Xie. At that time maybe their cultivation levels were lower than him, yet they were able to easily defeat him. Yet, Yang An broke through to immortality before them. Other than this, one still had to depend on luck, their state of heart, their personal target as after all, immortal foundations can be divided into six grades and three tiers.

However, Yang An's words were like doubting the power of him, the current #1 ranker of the Immortal Ascension Rankings!

"Even for characters on the level of brother Yang, are you unable to defeat Zi Daoyang of that year?" Qin Wentian smiled as he replied.

"Zi Daoyang and Mo Xie both have fearsome combat prowess, they are simply tyrannical. Back in the day, the competition in the City of Ancient Emperor was too intense." Yang An calmly spoke, causing the others to be excited. One of the experts asked, "The ranking in the City of Ancient Emperors cannot represent everything. Sometimes, when the strong meets the strong, the rankings might be unfair."

"That's true." Many nodded.

"If crown prince and brother Qin enters the City of Ancient Emperors in the same era, it would surely be a fight of tigers and dragons." Someone intentionally stated.

"No, no, how can I be compared to brother Qin? Although there are many experts in my time, I'm merely ranked #5." Yang An sounded very modest, yet he was not humble at all.

"During your time, do you really think the experts there are very strong? You simply have no idea of the immensity of heavens and earth." Little Rascal was eating food at the table as it spoke in its baby-like voice, causing many to be startled as they turned their gazes onto him.

"Haha, this little fellow is simply too adorable."

"This pet actually wants to talk about the strength level of experts? Simply laughable."

"When Qin Wentian was in the City of Ancient Emperors, Zi Daoyang originally was ranked #1. But after a few years, Zi Daoyang slipped to the #3 ranking. What do you think of the strength level of experts in the City of Ancient Emperor during Qin Wentian's era? You guys are really funny." Little Rascal was chomping down on fruits as it stared at the crowd with contempt.

Zi Daoyang was ranked #3?

"Little fellow, you must be kidding right. Zi Daoyang is the son of the Violet Emperor, how would he drop from the #1 ranking to the #3? Even if Mo Xie surpassed him, Zi Daoyang would at most drop to the #2 rank." Yang An narrowed his eyes as he spoke.

"I still thought you were modest." Little Rascal stared at Yang An with disdain. "This baobao didn't lie to you, you can ask Qin Wentian about it. After he heavily injured Zi Daoyang, Zi Daoyang's ranking dropped to the #3. Back then you was #5 right? If you still didn't leave the City of Ancient Emperors, I'm afraid in this era, you wouldn't even be ranked within the top ten."

Chapter 997: Crown Prince Yang An

Everyone was momentarily startled by Little Rascal's words. Yang An wouldn't even rank within this era's top ten in the City of Ancient Emperors?

Qin Wentian defeated the son of the Violet Emperor, Zi Daoyang?

Not everyone here was that familiar with Zi Daoyang. After all, the immortal realms were too vast, and the immortal kings and emperors simply had too many descendants. But even so, they were still familiar with the name of the Violet Emperor. Throughout the vast realms, the Violet Emperor was a peak-tier immortal emperor character. He was well-versed in many secret arts and also tyrannically powerful. It was considered normal that his son could become the #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings.

Yet, Qin Wentian's pet said that Qin Wentian had defeated Zi Daoyang? Wasn't this too much of a boast?

"The little fellow is getting more and more adorable. It's so good at boasting." A young lady giggled.

"Brother Qin, your pet is truly interesting."

"Brother Qin." At this moment, Yang An glanced at Qin Wentian and smiled. "Brother Qin is the #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings with an extraordinary disposition, so naturally I believe in your outstanding talent. However, I'm unclear about Zi Daoyang. Previously during my time he was able to rank #1 based on his supreme combat prowess and two overwhelming secret arts. If he didn't leave the City of Ancient Emperors, I'm afraid even with Brother Qin's talent, you might still not be able to match up to him."

A faint smile flickered in Qin Wentian's eyes as he glanced at Yang An. It looked like Yang An had personally witnessed Zi Daoyang's strength and knew how powerful he was.

"Little Rascal loves to brag when he's drunk. Crown Prince, please take no offense." Qin Wentian patted Little Rascal on his head, only to see Little Rascal grabbing more wine cups with his paws and then drinking them all up. Its intoxicated appearance made it look even more adorable.

Upon hearing Qin Wentian's words, Little Rascal stared at him with disdain, before sweeping his eyes over to the others.

"Back then, this baobao back was only ranked at #7. Hmph." Little Rascal inclined his head and snorted, causing everyone around him to burst into laughter.

"Brother Qin, your pet's mouth is even more awesome than yours," Someone declared, causing the people around them to laugh even louder.

"Little fellow, do you want my roc to accompany you to play?" The beautiful young lady's Crimsonblood Roc stood beside her as she smiled, letting out shrill screeches as it stared at Little Rascal.

"Yes, yes. That little fellow is just too cute. How about letting our demonic beasts accompany it to play?" Everyone wore wide smiles on their faces.

Little Rascal's eyes glimmered with light, glancing disdainfully at the demonic beasts before he turned to Qin Wentian. This caused Qin Wentian's eyes to flicker—he naturally understood that these people all had malicious intentions. But this Little Rascal truly had a head filled with evil tricks. He really wanted to eat these demonic beasts to boost its own strength.

"Ai, this pet of mine has too many problems. It loves to brag and even loves to bite other demonic beasts, so it's better not to play around with him. It would be really bad if he bit some of your esteemed demonic beasts," Qin Wentian rejected politely with a wave of his hand

"No problem. If this little fellow truly has the capability, it's fine if he wishes to take a few bites out of my mount."

"That's right, if it has the capability, I don't mind even if my mount is eaten." That young lady from before continued to smile. The Crimsonblood Roc beside her stared imperiously at Little Rascal, with eyes filled with provocation. Little Rascal had returned to his ordinary tiny size after arriving here, and seemed just like a cute and harmless puppy. No one here knew of his extraordinary strength, and they treated him just like a pet.

"Let's speak of this again later." Qin Wentian continued shaking his head.

"Haha, let's drink up as we chat." Yang An raised his wine cup and spoke. "This time, I would like to thank the Brothers and sisters who have given me face by showing up at my banquet. I, Yang, shall drink up as a sign of respect first."

"Crown Prince is too polite. This time, your success in breaking through to the immortal foundation realm is really an event worthy of celebration. We shall toast Your Highness in congratulations."

"That's right, how many geniuses are there in the immortal realms? However, the immortal foundation realm is like a watershed. Even those with high talent would find it hard to break through the threshold. Crown Prince managed to step into the immortal foundation realm after a few short years. You must be a chosen of the heavens, exuding boundless glory and isn't a character who could be compared to those who stand at the peak of Celestial Phenomenon. After ascending to immortality, a fascinating life awaits you after," Somebody spoke, his words were clearly filled with thorns, causing many to glance at Qin Wentian.

"Everyone, drink up." Yang An openly smiled, draining the contents of his wine cup in a single gulp.

Everyone sat down. The geniuses gathered together and chatted leisurely, praising the each other's strengths. Frequently, their gazes would shift to Qin Wentian. These gazes were sharp, filled with jealousy and envy. With so many talented descendants of nobility, Princess Qing`er had ended up choosing an outsider. How could they not be jealous?

"Brother Qin." At this moment, the crown prince of the Qi King Manor turned his gaze to Qin Wentian. He lifted his wine cup in a toast. Qin Wentian smiled and nodded, mirroring his actions, when Yang An slowly said, "Yesterday I came out of my seclusion and not only did I hear the news about Brother Qin being the #1 ranker of this era on the Immortal Ascension Rankings, effortlessly defeating plenty of elite talents in our royal palace, you also obtained the favor of Princess Qing`er. Truly, everyone is envious of you."

"Crown Prince is too polite." Qin Wentian smiled.

"However, I also heard that Brother Qin came from a particle world and climbed up based on your own efforts until this point today. This is truly an extremely difficult task," Yang An continued, apparently giving praise to Qin Wentian. However, after a moment, Yang An then spoke again, "However, Brother Qin, do you have Princess Qing`er's best interests in your heart? Brother Qin's talent is outstanding, but talent isn't the only thing of importance on the path of cultivation. It will only get more and more difficult as you proceed onwards. The immortal foundation realm is like a huge barrier, and there will only be more dangers after passing it. I'm sure Brother Qin understands this point clearly."

Qin Wentian smiled and didn't deny anything. Although Yang An's words made sense, his tone resembled that of a senior reprimanding a junior. It felt like because he succeeded in breaking through to the immortal foundation realm, it made him more superior than all the ascendants here.

"Princess Qing`er safety is invaluable. I'm afraid that with Brother Qin's strength, you are still unable to protect her from danger. What's even more important is that your clan and status can't even match up to hers. Princess Qing`er has feelings for you, to the point where she's willing to give up everything, even her reputation. Luckily, His Majesty dotes on the Princess too much, so he hasn't administered any punishments. Hence, I truly feel that if Brother Qin sincerely cares and is in love with the princess, you shouldn't be so selfish."

Yang An continued to speak with a straight face as though he was really concerned for Qing`er. There were no flaws in his words, and it wasn't easy for Qin Wentian to refute them.

"Hmm... What does the Crown Prince think I should do?" Qin Wentian smiled.

"If Brother Qin truly loves the princess, you would leave her of your own volition. In the future, when Brother Qin has truly achieved overwhelming strength, then it wouldn't be too late for you to return," Yang An said slowly, his wine cup still raised in his hand. The entire banquet turned silent, but smiles could be seen in everyone's eyes. It had finally been revealed... Yang An's true purpose in throwing this banquet.

In the royal palace, it was no secret that Yang An admired Princess Qing`er. Everyone knew about it.

Qin Wentian put his winecup down. A cold smile curled his lips as he spoke, "Crown Prince, what identity are you using to 'persuade' me?"

After he spoke, he turned his gaze back to Yang An. "The matters between me and Qing`er, I'm afraid it is still not the Crown Prince's role to interfere in them."

Yang An's words were extremely vicious, like a needle hidden in cotton. If he truly loved Qing`er, he should leave her of his own volition?

In that case, if he refused to leave Qing`er, it not only meant that he didn't love her, he was also so greedy for power and authority, wanting to ascend to the heavens with a single step.

"Hehe." Yang An laughed, as though he didn't mind Qin Wentian's words. "I'm merely considering what's best for Princess. If my words are too blunt, I hope Brother Qin won't fault me. I will punish myself with a toast."

After speaking, Yang An drained the contents of his wine cup in a single gulp, his behavior indicating his extraordinary state of heart.

"Brother Qin, the Crown Prince's words aren't without logic." Someone smiled.

"Who doesn't know that Princess Qing`er is doted on by his Majesty? What good fortune one must have to be able to marry her? Clearly one would instantly ascend to the heavens after this single step. By that time, regardless of talent, identity or status, Brother Qin will possess it all. This is why everyone here wanted to urge Brother Qin to reconsider. We are absolutely not trying to make things difficult for you." Someone laughed. Since the crown prince Yang An had already led the spear charge, they naturally wouldn't fail to gang up on Qin Wentian.

"The thoughts of everyone present has truly broadened I, Qin's, horizons." Qin Wentian said. "Sons of nobility, so it turns out that you're all pursuing Princess Qing`er to increase your authority and status. No wonder Qing`er is so filled with contempt towards all of you."

"What do you mean by that?" someone asked icily.

"What do you think I meant?" Qin Wentian stared at the person who spoke.

"Truly, your mouth is as sharp as that vile creature you call a pet," another person commented.

"You're the vile creature. The people in your clan are nothing but a bunch of bastards!" Little Rascal inclined its head and spoke in a drunken manner.

The young man's eyes narrowed. He stared at Little Rascal, "Oh, this vile creature is not only stupid, its mouth is filthy too. It simply doesn't know the meaning of death."

"I want to challenge you." Little Rascal stretched its paw and pointed at the person who'd spoken.

"You must be courting death." With a wave of his hand, an incomparably baleful-looking white tiger walked towards him. "I can allow my demonic beast to play with you a little."

"Little Rascal, what are you butting in for?" Qin Wentian's tone sounded panicked as he held Little Rascal protectively.

"I want to challenge him," Little Rascal murmured as he shrugged.

"Haha, Brother Qin, don't worry. I will allow my white tiger to play a little with your pet." The young man started laughing when he saw how worried Qin Wentian was.

"Brother Qin, this pet of yours is too adorable. Just let our demonic beasts play around with it for some fun and laughs. In any case, my demonic beast would like to join in too."

"Yeah, it's so boring now. Why don't we let our demonic beasts spar a little, and we can play with Brother Qin's pet at the same time?"

However, nobody knew that Qin Wentian was laughing coldly in his heart. These people were truly quick to change their faces. Since that was the case, then he would let their demonic beasts 'play' with Little Rascal.

"Okay then... Little Rascal. In that case, just accompany these friendly demonic beasts and play around a little. Don't bite them, alright?" Qin Wentian acted as though he was very troubled. Little Rascal's chubby body lazily walked out to the public square ahead as he said, "This baobao will show you guys how awesome I am."

"What a truly interesting little fellow that puppy is." Everyone waved their hands as their demonic beasts flew over and completely encircled Little Rascal, as if preparing to 'play'. The aura of that white tiger surged up into the sky as killing intent flashed in its eyes. Qin Wentian turned his gaze onto the young man who'd spoken earlier. He could see a cold light gleaming within, and it was apparent that the young man had just sent a command to the white tiger to kill Little Rascal. How could things possibly be so simple as they said? Getting their demonic beasts to 'play' with Little Rascal?

Chapter 998: Violent Rage

Qin Wentian stared at the demonic beasts surrounding Little Rascal and sighed. "Why must you all do this? My puppy is still young and immature. It wouldn't be too good if he injures all your mounts."

"No problem, no problem. Our demonic beasts would love to play with Brother Qin's pet." The owner of the white tiger laughed.

"Your puppy is truly too small in size. My roc's sharp talons can easily rip apart his head, hahahaha." The beautiful young lady smiled.

"You bunch of fools." Little Rascal cursing in his baby-like voice, raising his head to stare at the demonic beasts surrounding him.

—ROAR!— The white tiger's baleful aura was extremely terrifying as it towered up into the sky. Its sharp claws shone with a fearsome glint, as though it could lacerate everything with indomitable force.

"Ooo, so scary, I'm so frightened now. If you come near me you'd better prepare to die. This baobao wants to know what tiger flesh tastes like," Little Rascal scolded, stretching out his paws to point at the white tiger.

The white tiger let out a thunderous growl as it rushed over. The baleful air transformed into a fearsome windstorm, and its large claws gleamed with a resplendent light as it swiped down at Little Rascal. The white tiger's strike could even rip stones apart. Qin Wentian narrowed his eyes when he saw this, his gaze flickering with coldness as he sent a command to Little Rascal to kill the white tiger.

—ROAR!—A startling roar shook the sky, causing the hearts of the crowd to tremble. The crowd saw Little Rascal abruptly becoming gigantic, and his body was covered in the glow of fearsome runic light. His paws pressed down on the white tiger's head and a fearsome rune of darkness manifested, transforming into a vortex that devoured everything. The body of the white tiger trembled violently under the attack, and it kept convulsing as it roared with extreme agony.

In an instant, the white tiger slumped to the ground with a boom, causing clouds of dust to fly up. It simply lay there as though in peaceful slumber, no longer moving.

Everyone's gazes had frozen, and they were all taken aback by this sudden scene. It was inconceivable to imagine that the harmless looking puppy who'd spoken in a baby-like voice would suddenly become such a demon, transforming into a ferocious desolate beast.

"Ai, I already said it wasn't a good idea." Qin Wentian sighed, sounding depressed. Everyone's eyes gleamed when they heard his words. They couldn't help but grit their teeth in frustration. This bastard... They had all thought that he was trying to politely reject them, but it turned out that he truly meant what he said when he told them his pet might injure their mounts. How dare he?!

The other demonic beasts rent the air with their howls and roars—they could clearly sense the towering baleful aura exuding from Little Rascal. It felt like Little Rascal was a king-type species with royal blood in its race, and they actually hesitated, not daring to move forward. Bright light flashed, and Little Rascal transformed into a gigantic golden-winged roc. Its pure golden wings flapped in the air, and it shot through the sky like a bolt of golden lightning, shooting straight towards the Crimsonblood Roc.

The Crimsonblood Roc trembled, and its eyes flashed with terror. It rushed out as well, sweeping its wings. The two silhouettes were akin to bolts of lightning as they collided. Their speed was so fast that the crowd could only see two blurs. An instant later, the wings of the Crimsonblood Roc were completely torn apart, and they could see Little Rascal's golden talons grabbing onto its head. The vortex of darkness manifested once again as the Crimsonblood Roc convulsed violently before dying.

"My Crimsonblood Roc!" The beautiful young lady's expression drastically changed. She stood up, watching as the life of her demonic beast mount was snuffed away.

"Rush at it together!" someone roared. A moment later, all the demonic beasts lunged out towards Little Rascal. Little Rascal's speed was simply too fast, soaring into the air and instantly lengthening the distance between himself and the other beasts. Abruptly, he turned and spread his wings. Each of his golden feathers were like sharp swords, and they immediately erupted downwards like a storm of hail. The feathers shot towards the demonic beasts below, penetrating their bodies.

Little Rascal, who had transformed into a golden-winged Great Roc, had reached a speed that was simply inconceivable. He was like the king of rocs, and his feathers had the power to crush anything.

At the banquet, many figures stood up with darkened expressions. The pet that they'd earlier humiliated had turned out to be this terrifying. It seemed unrivaled among beasts at the same cultivation realm, a similarity it shared with Qin Wentian.

"Everyone, I apologize. I already said that this wouldn't be a good idea, but everyone was so keen on it and kept pressing me. And so, I, Qin, could only accept despite feeling reluctant at heart." Qin Wentian's eyes were apologetic as he smiled at everyone. The geniuses all stared coldly at him, their eyes gleaming with sharpness. This bastard truly knew how to act as he smacked all their faces.

"QIN WENTIAN, HOW DARE YOU?!" the beautiful young lady shouted coldly. "This place is the Qi King Manor, and you actually allowed your demonic beast to freely slaughter our mounts just to establish your dominance?"

"That vile beast is simply lawless. He should be killed."

"Qin Wentian, why aren't you controlling your demonic beast yet? TELL HIM TO SCRAM OUT FOR DEATH!"

Qin Wentian's countenance abruptly turned sharp. He stared at everyone. "Before this, weren't you the ones who wanted to send your demonic beasts to 'play' with Little Rascal despite my numerous attempts at rejection? If I recall correctly, someone even said that she wouldn't mind if her demonic beast is eaten as long as my puppy had the capability to do so? Yet now you guys are saying something different?"

As he spoke, Qin Wentian's eyes turned to the beautiful young lady. The one who said this was none other than her.

"It was merely a joke, yet you took it for real? You actually dared to begin a slaughter at a banquet. Truly, you don't have any of us nobles in your eyes, and your actions have even shamed the crown prince of the Qi King Manor," the lady argued strenuously, ignoring all logic as she tried to pin the blame on Qin Wentian.

"Brother Qin, your actions show no regard for us at all. Although she did say it was fine for her demonic beast, your pet actually began the slaughter," coldly spat the owner of the white tiger, and at this moment, everyone seemed to condemn Qin Wentian and Little Rascal. It felt like Qin Wentian had suddenly become a great villain that had done something so evil that it angered the heavens.

"HAHAHAHA!" Qin Wentian suddenly started to laugh maniacally, causing the others to go silent as they stared at him. All of them were radiating with coldness and were all extremely angry.

"Before this, who were the ones who said they wanted their demonic beasts to play with my companion? Who said he didn't know what death is and even showed killing intent? Now the tables have turned and your useless beasts were actually counter-killed after ganging up on my companion. Doesn't that make your earlier words nothing but a big joke?" Qin Wentian stood up, exuding an aura of loftiness. The wine cup in his hand cracked and eventually shattered.

"A bunch of shitheads that only know how to use the name of nobility to suppress others. You're all nothing but a bunch of useless trash. Are any of you even worthy of pointing your fingers at me and Qing`er? Given how thick your skins are, do you still need me to slap your faces? Do you guys even know shame?"

The anger Qin Wentian accumulated all exploded out in this moment, mocking and humiliating these people.

He came to this banquet today to see exactly what tricks these people wanted to play. Since they wanted to stir things up no matter what, there was no longer any need for him to remain tolerant.

"Qin Wentian, you..." The young lady's countenance turned ashen. She was unable to swallow her anger and could only feel incomparable rage,.

He was simply too arrogant. Qin Wentian had completely insulted them and tore their faces. He was just too lawless. He had dared to curse at them, the descendants of nobility in the Evergreen Immortal Empire.

"Shut your mouth." Qin Wentian's gaze was incomparably sharp, seemingly able to pierce through her heart as he stared at the young lady. He spoke coldly, "You still have the face to speak? Before this, you were the one who cheered the loudest. As part of the nobility, you showed no restraint in your actions and acted like a shrew at a wet market. The face of your elders has all been thrown away by you."

"What a sharp-tongued fellow. Qin Wentian, you truly have none of the empire's nobility in your eyes." One person's aura intensified, surging forth towards Qin Wentian.

"So what? At the very least my strength and talent can match up to my words. Trash like you only knows how to talk, and you even dare to bring out the word 'nobility.' Are you a king or a marquis? You are not only slapping your face, you are throwing the face of the true nobility as well. If this were the outside world, just on account of your filthy mouth, I would have smacked trash like you to death with a single slap."

Qin Wentian's voice was like thunder, seeming to roll through the heavens. It was highly likely that everyone in the Qi King Manor had heard what he'd said. The marquises and kings who were silently monitoring the banquet with their immortal senses would also have seen what happened. The person who had just been humiliated felt the burning sensation of shame on his face. He glared ruthlessly at Qin Wentian and almost coughed out a mouthful of blood from sheer anger.

Qin Wentian's tongue was as sharp as swords, and he could drive people crazy with anger through his words alone.

"Qin Wentian, you go too far!" That person roared in rage as a terrifying aura gushed forth. The wine table before him instantly shattered. He lifted his palm and blasted out, manifesting an extremely terrifying gigantic beast that rushed towards Qin Wentian.

"I came here to attend the banquet, but all of you have endlessly tried to humiliate me. Now, you even want to act to kill me? Who are the overbearing ones?" Qin Wentian roared, as though he wanted everyone here, as well as those observing this place with their immortal senses, to know that he was not the one who'd made the first move.

He lifted a palm shimmering with runic light, then blasted out and effortlessly smashed apart the manifestation of the gigantic beast. After that, his hand stretched out towards the young man who attacked.

The young man howled in anger and frenziedly attacked, but nothing he did could halt the advance of Qin Wentian's hand. In an instant, all his attacks disintegrated, and the palm that had the power to seize the moon and stars grabbed hold of the young man.

Qin Wentian's other hand swung out. With a loud smacking sound, a five-fingered imprint was branded onto the face of his opponent, slapping him senseless. Right now, everyone's eyes were all on that young man, watching as Qin Wentian slapped him left and right.

"Qing`er brought me here to be a guest. I came to attend the Qi King Manor's banquet, yet you guys all intended to bully me because I have no one backing me up. You all joined forces to humiliate me, so I have no choice but to act to defend myself!" Qin Wentian shouted, as though he

were suffering in great torment. The others all stared dumbfoundedly as the young man being grabbed coughed out blood from the pain and shame. Qin Wentian had grabbed him and publicly slapped him in mid-air. Who was the one tormenting who? Qin Wentian was actually still acting like he was the one being bullied.

—bang!— With another deafening blast, Qin Wentian slammed the body directly to the ground. He spoke icily, "Descendants like you are nothing but trash. You only know how to use the name of your clan and seniors, throwing their face away. I was compelled to act, and I believe the kings and marquises won't fault me for this."

The young man moaned miserably. Under his heavy injuries and the overwhelming humiliation, he finally fainted into unconsciousness!

Chapter 999: Clashing Against Immortal Foundation

Qin Wentian was infuriated, and it appeared as though he was ready to start chaos.

In the royal palace, he'd done his best to endure as much as he could endure. However, these people were clearly targeting him intentionally. No matter what, since these people wanted to create trouble, he might as well blow up the entire matter. What did he have to fear?

Everyone was stunned when they saw how enraged Qin Wentian was. Indeed, Qin Wentian wasn't only sharp-tongued, his strength was truly overwhelming. This point was proven by the young man currently lying on the ground. His reputation as the #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings wasn't false. Such combat prowess made him invincible against those in the same cultivation realm as him.

"You are too arrogant. Qin Wentian, stop your nonsense." The beautiful young lady shook with fear. How lawless. Qin Wentian was simply too lawless. No matter what, this place was still the royal palace of the Evergreen Immortal Empire. He had moved to attack, slapping that young man until he lost consciousness. What a humiliation.

Qin Wentian's cold eyes swept over to her. "If you want a piece of this action, just scram the fuck over. What's the point of mouthing off words? I can crush you with a single strike."

"You, you..." The young lady now visibly trembled from anger as she clenched her fists. Even so, she managed to endure it. She knew of Qin Wentian's strength, and he was too powerful. She wasn't a match for this #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings.

"If you don't dare, just shut the hell up. Other than taking out the name of nobility to suppress people, what else do you have?" Qin Wentian said icily. Even a mud man has three points of fire. After enduring the humiliation and their insults for so long, it was about time to make them realize who they were talking to.

"Qin Wentian, how dare you?!" a low voice rang out. Everyone turned their attention to the figure of a young man who was still sitting down. This young man slowly stood up, radiating an unfathomable dazzling light. This was immortal light.

Immortals could produce their own light. This person was intentionally emitting their immortal light. Evidently, he was telling Qin Wentian that he was an immortal foundation expert.

"Finally, unable to endure any longer?" Qin Wentian coldly laughed in his heart. The majority of youngsters here today were all at the Celestial Phenomenon Realm. To him, people of such strength couldn't pose a threat to him at all. Naturally, these descendants of nobility knew it clearly in their hearts; the only thing they could do was use words to suppress him. If they wanted to suppress him in strength, they could only depend on immortal foundation characters.

Qin Wentian had retaliated in anger, and there was no one in the Celestial Phenomenon Realm who could block him. For the sake of their faces, these descendants of nobility could only send out immortal foundation experts. However, he also wanted to see what this group of people could do to him. No matter how he chose to act today, 'logic' would still be by his side. These descendants of nobilities had nothing to say.

"How dare I?" Qin Wentian coldly laughed.

"Your demonic beast started a slaughter in this august banquet that the crown prince organized. It clearly intended to ruin the event. Your arrogance knows no bounds, and you've even dared to humiliate the nobility. If that isn't insolence, what is?" That immortal foundation young man coldly spoke. Little Rascal had already killed all the demonic beasts that had attacked him.. He transformed back to his original chubby-looking, white puppy form and returned to Qin Wentian's side. He stared at the immortal foundation young man and asked, "Are you retarded? Earlier, all of them wanted to kill me. You mean it's only logical for this baobao to just allow them to do as they wish?"

"Are you blind?" Qin Wentian stared at the young man as he coldly added, "They're the ones who started the demonic beast battle. And earlier, who was the one who made a move first?"

"That's because of your impertinent words," the young man icily replied.

"Looks like you're not only blind, you must be deaf as well. You couldn't hear their impertinent words to me and I can't even retaliate? I must allow them to humiliate me and allow my demonic beast to be killed? So if they attack me, I'm not allowed to defend myself. Today, the descendants of nobility have truly broadened my horizons with their shameless behavior."

"Hehe." That young man didn't seem to be angry. He coldly smiled. "Who's right and who's wrong, this is something everyone knows clearly in their hearts. There's no need for you to argue."

"Brother Qin, I invited you here for the banquet, but I didn't think you would be so excessive. To think that I once respected you, I'm truly disappointed now." Yang An, the crown prince, also spoke. It was as though Qin Wentian's actions had antagonized the entire crowd.

"The moment you came here, none of them had any good intentions towards you," Little Rascal told Qin Wentian.

Qin Wentian ruffled the fur on Little Rascal's head and he smiled, "Aren't you the intelligent one?"

After he spoke, he turned his gaze to the others and stood with his hands behind his back. "Apparently, I exist only to be cursed at and beaten up by you guys. And the moment I retaliate, it becomes a crime? There is no point in dragging things on with words. What do you all want?"

"Your actions damaged the prestige of the nobility of our Evergreen Immortal Empire. Apologize now for your actions and leave the empire immediately. This isn't a place you can stay," commanded the immortal foundation young man.

"Apologize? Ridiculous." Qin Wentian commented sarcastically. "As for leaving the royal palace? Do you all treat the royal palace as your own home? The Evergreen Immortal Emperor hasn't issued any orders and now you all want to take things in your own hands? Could it be that my staying at Princess Changping's estate also concerns you guys as well?"

"In that case, Brother Qin plans to ignore our advice?" The immortal might exuding from the young man further intensified, causing the immortal light radiating from him to glow even more brilliantly.

Qin Wentian stared at him, "Who do you think you are? Why must I listen to you guys?"

"What a brazen fellow. I want to see what capabilities you have to be so arrogant." That immortal foundation young man walked out as a halo of immortal light circulated around him. The power gushing forth from him caused everyone else to retreat. Only Qin Wentian stood unmoving at his original location as he stared at his immortal foundation opponent. At this moment, thunderous rumbling sounds could be heard echoing from his body. Right now, Qin Wentian was already at the peak of Celestial Phenomenon. He had also begun preparations to establish his immortal foundation. Since there was an immortal foundation opponent before him, he might as well use the chance to test the strength of immortal foundation experts.

The people here were all from the younger generations. Although his opponent was in the immortal foundation realm, his cultivation level probably wouldn't be too high. Maybe just at the initial first level. This opponent was the most suitable way for him to temper himself.

The immortal foundation young man gradually walked closer to Qin Wentian. Everyone's eyes gleamed with sharpness as they watched on. The aura gushing forth from Qin Wentian grew vast and more majestic, as though there were terrifying rumbling ocean waves within his body. Feeling the aura from Qin Wentian, the countenances of those present had all changed. Qin Wentian was truly powerful, and the state he was in now was simply terrifying. He could crush any ascendants before him. Given the strength he exuded now, even peak-level ascendants wouldn't be able to withstand a single strike from him.

Law energy circulated around the palm of that immortal foundation young man, and a bright light flashed. Immortal law energy was the basis of transformation, and it was incomparably profound. Every particle of energy contained terrifying might, and it was on a complete different level compared to the Celestial Phenomenon Realm. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say immortal foundation experts could insta-kill ascendants.

—BOOM!— The immortal foundation young man took a step forward. Qin Wentian only felt a terrifying formless energy boring down directly on him.

Qin Wentian didn't dare to underestimate his opponent. He circulated all the energy in his body to its limits, activating the immortal battle art. His entire body glowed with boundless runic light, resembling an indestructible body covered in layers of platinum armor. He appeared like the ultimate god of battle.

~RUMBLE!~ Qin Wentian's form expanded by over ten meters in size, resembling a young fiend-god.

"You actually want to fight against an immortal foundation expert? You're overestimating your own capabilities. I will allow you to understand the might of the immortal foundation, and it's something no Celestial Phenomenon Ascendant can ever stand against." The immortal foundation young man took a step forward. The immortal might enveloped Qin Wentian, seemingly drilling into his heart. The strength of his immortal might was extremely terrifying.

Qin Wentian's heart trembled. That formless might felt like the power of the heavens and earth, immediately pressuring his heart. Despite his vast life force and strong physique, the formless immortal might was capable of injuring him.

He folded his hands to form incantations, causing a startling runic glow to cover his hands. He emanated a might so fearsome that the countenances of the geniuses spectating all changed as they stared at Qin Wentian's palms. They gave off a feeling of indomitability, as though this pair of hands were capable of destroying everything.

Qin Wentian was covered in a terrifying surge of aura from Greater Demons. A gigantic elephant silhouette appeared, formed from countless particles of divine energy, each containing the strength of an elephant within.

Dragon Elephant Force—the power of dragons and elephants combined would undoubtedly be overwhelming. A demon god from the primordial era, the Dragon Elephant had enough strength to break the heavens.

The immortal foundation young man could sense the increasing amount of power brewing in Qin Wentian. In fact, he even felt slightly threatened despite being at the immortal foundation realm. Coldly snorting in response, he finally acted.

He threw out a seemingly simple and unadorned punch, yet it was filled with immortal might. Terrifying energy waves swept over everything, and the law energy contained in that fist pierced through the void, manifesting golden fist shadows that covered the surroundings. In an instant, the fist shadows enveloped the entire sky and each and every one of the fist shadows was strong enough to kill a peak ascendant, let alone the true punch itself.

"As expected of an immortal foundation expert. I would surely be killed if I were hit by that."

"After stepping into immortal foundation, it's truly a completely different level compared to the Celestial Phenomenon Realm." At this moment, a thought flashed through everyone's mind.

Qin Wentian didn't retreat. He similarly punched out with his fist, imbued with the power of the God's Hand. The sound of a trumpeting elephant rumbled the sky as the manifestation of a gigantic elephant appeared. Qin Wentian blasted out every particle of divine energy in one of his Yuanfus. All of them transformed into indomitable elephants that rampaged with utter dominance, possessing boundless might that could even devastate the heavens.

The two energies surged and collided in mid-air, and the aftershocks ravaged the surroundings. The tables and chairs all around them disintegrated into dust, and the gusts of wind resulting from the impact was so strong that it felt it could lacerate the bodies of the spectators. The crowd couldn't help but retreat as they lengthened the distance between them and the battlefield.

—BOOM!—

Another ear-splitting boom rang out. The two of them exchanged another blow using the most savage and violent method: fighting directly head-on. At this instant, Qin Wentian and the immortal foundation young man were forced to retreat from the other person's terrifying strength.

There wasn't a second exchange. The immortal foundation young man was stunned by what just happened. His attack was actually blocked? He was an immortal, and by logic, all Celestial Phenomenon ascendants should be nothing but ants before him. Yet, he'd actually been blasted back from the impact?

The surrounding people were also stunned as they stared at Qin Wentian's figure, which resembled a god of battle. Qin Wentian stood there arrogantly, his cold eyes staring ahead. He then spoke in a glacial tone, "You only have this much strength even after breaking through to the immortal foundation realm? How ironic. Do you even know how weak you are? If I was at the immortal foundation realm too, killing you would be as simple as stomping ants."

Chapter 1000: Yang An's Killing Intent

The arrogant words reverberated through the heavens and earth. The two of them stood facing each other from among the crowd—the banquet had long collapsed.

That strike had truly caused everyone to feel Qin Wentian's power.

To be able to clash with an expert at Immortal Foundation while he was still at the Celestial Phenomenon Realm? What glory was this?

In addition, Qin Wentian didn't seem to be at a disadvantage. Although he was forced back from the impact, his opponent was as well. With just this strike, he already possessed the capabilities that gave him leave to be arrogant.

Immortal foundation experts were those who completed establishing their immortal foundations, and were existences who could wield law energy. They could then infuse this energy into their immortal arts. They contained boundless strength, and if one ascended to immortality from Celestial Phenomenon, that would be a qualitative transformation that no ascendant could surpass. Regardless of how outstanding you were at the Celestial Phenomenon Realm, it would be impossible to win against immortal foundation experts. In fact, immortal foundation experts could effortlessly kill ascendants. These two existences were not on the same level.

This was public knowledge and common logic to all cultivators. But at this moment, Qin Wentian had actually broken that logic, shocking everyone here.

"His palm is too terrifying! And the power of his innate techniques seem to contain traces of law energy, and the law energy isn't merely a faint wisp. Like the Dragon Elephant he unleashed—it actually contained boundless might." The crowd mused in their hearts as they stared at the God's Hand. Exactly what sort of power did one need before they could contend against immortal foundation experts while at the Celestial Phenomenon Realm?

"What innate technique is that?" asked the immortal foundation expert as he stared at Qin Wentian's palms. Regardless of his palms or the gigantic elephant innate technique he'd earlier unleashed, both were extremely terrifying. Both must be a product of a supremely strong innate technique or art for sure.

The name of this immortal foundation expert was Mu Feng. He was the son of a king-ranked character in the empire. With his outstanding talent, he had already established his immortal foundation for quite some time, and his cultivation was relatively stable. There was no doubt that he was a powerful person in his own right. How arrogant was he? He'd wanted to punish Qin Wentian, forcing him to apologize and leave the empire. But after that one exchange, he'd actually been forced back by Qin Wentian, losing all face and damaging his prestige.

"You are not worthy to know." Qin Wentian laughed coldly. "If I break through to the immortal foundation realm, I don't even need to depend on innate techniques to kill you. You want to blame my innate techniques as the reason you were forced back? Don't you have any shame?"

"These people are all shameless. Sending out ascendants failed, so they sent out an immortal foundation expert. If that fails too, they will start crying for their parents and grandparents," Little Rascal said in his baby-like voice, directly smacking the faces of the entire crowd. Everyone in this banquet was evidently targeting Qin Wentian, but none at the Celestial Phenomenon Realm could do anything about him. Hence, immortal foundation experts like this young man had no choice but to act. That in itself was already reprehensible; no matter what, this was still the royal palace.

"Brother Qin, the mouth of your vile creature is too filthy. You had better manage it," The crown prince of the Qi King Manor said coldly. Right now, they were mounted halfway on a tiger and it was impossible to get down.

"Wow, how imposing!" Little Rascal's voice sarcastically rang out once more. He stared at Yang An as he said, "A mere #5 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings, so in your eyes, Zi Daoyang is like that of a God. You regard yourself as inferior to him and assume that others would be too. But the truth remains; Qin Wentian defeated the current Zi Daoyang, who had cultivated for several years in the City of Ancient Emperors after you left. To think that even the likes of you would dare to say that I'm bragging. If this baobao was you, I would have already committed suicide out of shame."

"Little Rascal, better save some face for these people. After all, they are the descendants of nobility and have such lofty statuses. They may be utter trash, but their statuses alone can crush you to death." Qin Wentian patted Little Rascal on his head as he spoke, evidently he had completely disregarded the experts surrounding him.

"Do you really believe you can stand against an immortal foundation expert? Earlier, Brother Mu was merely playing with you. If Brother Qin still wants to obstinately persist in going about things the wrong way, I'm afraid I'll be forced to show Brother Qin the real strength of immortal foundation." A fearsome aura gushed forth from Yang An as a startling immortal might radiated forth from him. It was terrifying to the extreme.

"Didn't you guys plan to come at me together?" Qin Wentian gave a mocking laugh.

"You really like to overestimate your own capabilities. Just one of us is enough," Mu Feng said coldly. He radiated a might that grew even more savage. Resplendent light shone around him as his

immortal foundation emitted a rumbling sound. In the air, Qin Wentian saw a constellation of a golden fist so gigantic that it blotted out the entire sky.

No, that wasn't just a constellation. It was the qualitative evolution of a constellation—an immortal constellation. They were much stronger than any constellation an ascendant could conjure. That flowing fist light was like a meteor shower, emitting boundless rays of runic light that shot down meteoric fists containing immortal law energy and might.

"Once immortals have established their immortal foundations, their constellations will undergo an evolution. The immortal foundation can directly control the evolved constellation, allowing them to absorb the immortal energy radiating from it. This will slowly strengthen their immortal foundations, causing their constellations to continue their evolution until they become supreme laws." Qin Wentian stared at the immortal phenomena caused by his opponent's constellation, sensing the pure strength within. This time, fighting an immortal foundation expert would offer him quite the experience.

Mu Feng stretched his hands, instantly transforming his arms into a replica of his constellation, then fusing them together to become one entity. It was easier for him to use the immortal energy from his constellation while in this state and every punch he threw out had the power to tear apart the skies. Although he hadn't left his original location, the immortal fist was already blasting towards Qin Wentian. If an immortal foundation expert acted, they could effortlessly slaughter anyone within a 100-mile radius just by standing there.

Qin Wentian's aura intensified. He stepped out, causing the earth to rumble with the force of his step, and he blasted out with a punch. His divinity of suppression appeared behind him, and the power of his blows were augmented by supreme demon might. Countless explosions happened due to the collision of energies, and the power from the aftershocks ravaged their surroundings.

Mu Feng's expression grew unsightly. Both his palms shimmered with an even more intense immortal might as they blasted out together. The immortal foundation caused the light from his body to grow even more resplendent, flaring brilliantly in response. The light enveloped him protectively as he channeled the might into his fists. Every punch he threw out could shake the heavens, and there was nothing that could block it.

Qin Wentian activated the God's Hand on both palms. This was the first time he'd done so, and it exhausted astronomical amounts of energy. If it weren't for the fact that he had plenty of Yuanfus—as well as a vast amount of astral energy contained within him—it would basically be impossible for him to make it through such a tyrannical battle. How terrifying was he now? Two palms imbued with the God's Hand immediately smashed out, fighting head on with an immortal foundation expert. The space cracked as the sky changed color. Those in the surroundings all retreated far

away, feeling more and more perplexed in their hearts as they watched Qin Wentian fighting against Mu Feng.

Qin Wentian was simply too strong, and he possessed perfect control of his movements. His body was seemingly indestructible, with a supreme glow circulating around it. His attacks could shake the heavens and earth, and could resist the immortal might. Evidently, Qin Wentian's attacks also contained law energy. Given how talented he was, it was impossible for him not to have comprehended the existence of laws.

However, it was also impossible for Celestial Phenomenon Ascendants to absorb immortal energy from their constellations. Even for ascendants who had comprehended law energy, they would still be limited by this. They could never wield the same vast amount of law energy that an immortal foundation expert could. The immortal foundation within them was like a vault that they drew energy from. It contained endless might and allowed them to last through many rounds of combat. Although Qin Wentian was someone that could defy the heavens, it was clear that he would eventually be defeated.

But even so, Qin Wentian could already be proud of what he'd accomplished. At the very least, his strength had stunned all these descendants of nobility, allowing them to clearly see the distance between them and him.

The #1 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings, an expert who had defeated Zi Daoyang. Right now, none of them doubted this.

"Qin Wentian, have you shown us all your trump cards?" Mu Feng asked coldly as he continued attacking.

"You talk so arrogantly when your opponent is merely at the Celestial Phenomenon Realm? I truly feel sad for you," Qin Wentian replied domineeringly. The two of them fought from the ground to the air.

"Oh, how embarrassing. I assumed that immortal foundation experts would be very powerful." Little Rascal inclined his head and sighed. He appeared extremely adorable, yet his words caused numerous cold gazes to land on him. They wouldn't spare this vile creature.

"What do you all want to do?" Little Rascal stared at the experts gazing at him with hatred and enmity, and he expanded his form. After which, he said, "If you all want a fair fight with me, at the same level of cultivation, this baobao will accept a match from you sorry losers any time."

"Vile creature, what impudent words. Who has the time to fight fairly with you? I organized this banquet, yet you chose to devour all the demonic beasts here. Since it has come to this, leave your life behind as repayment." Yang An's eyes flickered with coldness as he walked out.

"Using immortal foundation experts to bully ascendants again?" Little Rascal transformed back into a golden-winged roc, then soared into the air and stared sharply at Yang An.

Yang An's gaze was extremely terrifying as it flickered with killing intent. He had always been in love with Qing`er and had tried to pursue her. The sole reason he had invited Qin Wentian here today was to make him understand his unworthiness and voluntarily withdraw. However Qin Wentian had caused chaos in the banquet, and nobody had enough power to stop him. He was so strong to the extent where he could even exchange blows with an immortal foundation expert. What did this make him? As the #5 ranker in the Immortal Ascension Rankings, he had been shuttled to the side like some insignificant being, making him extremely resentful in his heart.

Given the talent Qin Wentian had displayed, and the fact that Qing`er was in love with him, everyone present understood that it was probably impossible for Yang An to compete with Qin Wentian for Qing`er's love. Yang An was an intelligent man, and although Qin Wentian kept saying he had no background, it was evident he had the support of either an immortal king or emperor or he wouldn't have been able to enter the City of Ancient Emperors. In this royal palace, where the elites of the Evergreen Immortal Empire gathered, there was really nothing special about an ordinary immortal king or emperor. Hence, it was normal that Qin Wentian had refrained from mentioning it.

And given Qin Wentian's talent, once he stepped into immortal foundation, it was very possible for him to find another strong supporter.

This made Yang An jealous. Was there really no fate between Princess Qing`er and him? No matter what, he would make Qin Wentian pay the price for his loss of face today.

"We are leaving." Little Rascal suddenly transformed into a golden bolt of lightning, streaking through the air. He knew that Yang An wanted to kill them. He didn't have the confidence to fight against an immortal foundation expert.

"Do you think you can escape?" Yang An stepped out, his entire being glowed with immortal light as waves of immortal might gushed forth from him. Law energy enveloped him, and he moved like a gust of wind chasing after Little Rascal.

—BOOM!— The entire area was instantly enveloped by a surging tornado formed from immortal energy. Little Rascal's body was forcibly halted, locked in place by that terrifying immortal law energy tornado that could lacerate everything. Yang An radiated a terrifying law energy—his talent was of a higher level than Mu Feng. Although he had just entered immortal foundation, his strength wasn't in any way inferior to Mu Feng's.

"DIE!" Yang An shouted coldly. Boundless law runes transformed into wind blades that contained boundless might. They ripped through the sky, aiming for Little Rascal.

Little Rascal spiraled frenziedly about, and he released large amounts of golden light that enveloped him protectively. Those wind blades actually had no way to penetrate his defense. And after that, Little Rascal spun even faster as he soared further up into the sky, transforming into a whirling golden tempest that could lacerate everything wanting to rush out of Yang An's windstorm by force.

"What a powerful defense." The killing intent in Yang An's eyes grew even more pronounced. No matter what, this vile beast had to die here today!