

Ancient ST 1911

Chapter 1911 - Kissing Tantai Lingyan

After hearing Tantai Lingyan's words Qing Shui smiled: "The situation with The Great Confucian Dynasty is already like this, there's not much we can do, might as well do some things for pleasure."

Qing Shui said that playfully, along with that exaggerated tone, anyone could have guessed what he meant. Of course Tantai Lingyan knew, and looked weirdly at him: "What things for pleasure?"

Although she wasn't as cold now, her look in addition to her aura made Qing Shui a little uneasy. This was even under the strength boost that he had, making him feel very weird that Tantai Lingyan's presence was so strong.

Although she wasn't as strong as Qinghan Ye, her strength after learning the Glacier Divine Sword was still very powerful.

Seeing Qing Shui like this, Tantai Lingyan smiled, turns out there were times that that man was uneasy. She then reached out and lightly shook his large hand.

This was as though she was encouraging him. Qing Shui rubbed his nose, then carried her like a princess, making Tantai Lingyan gasp a little, who then rebuked him, but didn't struggle. This time Qing Shui didn't feel like he was stepping over his boundaries, and looked at her with a soft smile: "Am I nice to look at?"

Tantai Lingyan said seriously: "Not at all!"

Qing Shui slowly walked with her in his arms. He really enjoyed the situation now. The surroundings were very beautiful, and the woman in his arms was even more so. Add on the fact that she was his woman, whose change he could feel as time passed, he didn't feel that she was that different from other women in front of him.

But Qing Shui didn't dare to have any presumptuous thoughts, at least he hadn't up until now. At first, he wasn't sure whether he left a bad impression on her, so he slowly worked to open her heart, allowing himself to go closer to her, and for her to come closer to him.

"My woman is such a jokester."

Hearing Qing Shui's words, Tantai Lingyan also smiled: "You really don't get embarrassed, unless you know that you're actually very handsome."

"Would it even be otherwise?" Qing Shui asked, exaggerating his question.

"But you're really pretty handsome, your face is also white," Tantai Lingyan said with a smile.

"Alright, you would go so far as to say that I have a little white face. It seems that you have to serve the family again," Qing Shui said menacingly, then patted her shoulder.

Pat!

It wasn't loud, but was very clear in the serene surroundings. Qing Shui also didn't use much strength, but the flexible skin gave him an unexplainable feeling that also made her heart jump.

In an instant she buried her head in his chest, staying there. Qing Shui looked at Tantai Lingyan worriedly. It couldn't be that she was angry, but he was always excited towards this woman, and was afraid that he made her angry.

The reason why he dared to do this this time was that he could normally do these types of lovey-dovey things without her resisting. Just like how he was able to hug her like this.

"What's wrong, silly?"

Tantai Lingyan didn't say anything, and also didn't look up.

Qing Shui was a little scared: "Are you angry?"

Tantai Lingyan still didn't talk.

"My dear, don't be angry, I promise I won't hit your butt again, I won't ever do that again, do you want me to massage you?" Qing Shui said seriously.

Once she heard this from Qing Shui, Tantai Lingyan quickly pressed his arm: "No way!"

Watching the blushing princess, who didn't seem to be too mad, he relaxed a little.

"Don't lie to me," the sword that was in her hand wasn't there anymore, she must have hidden it in the space in her bracelet, and two jade arms hugged Qing Shui's neck.

"How would I even let that happen, with me loving you so dearly," Qing Shui hugged her arms tightly.

"I know, meeting you was the happiest moment of my life," Tantai Lingyan smiled widely at him as she rose her head.

This was the most beautiful smile that Qing Shui had seen, having an indescribable feeling, as though the fleeting feeling of lotus petals bloomed all at once. What surprised him was that she said about the happiest moment of her life, which was the time that they first met. All in all he didn't violate her, but no matter what, now that she's seen him more and more naturally she'd be happy.

"You admitted that you're my woman," Qing Shui said, surprised.

Tantai Lingyan lowered her head: "Did you think that you would be able to have your way with me otherwise?"

Qing Shui rubbed his nose. True, although Qing Shui had treated her as one of his women long ago, but she only just said it herself. Even though it was a little soft, she still recognized it.

"I'm just too happy today," Qing Shui kissed her on her forehead.

After she recognized herself as one of his women, Qing Shui felt very lucky in an instant. Kissing her like this should be fine.

"Little Yan, don't worry, even if the situation was worse before I still would be able to take you away from here. Now that my strength has increased so much, even they might not be able to do anything," Qing Shui told her about his strength improving, and pretty much told her everything.

"I trust you. I feel safer with you here. No matter what happens, I still feel that you would be able to deal with it," Tantai Lingyan said with a smile, she truly felt that way.

Qing Shui didn't think that he mattered that much to her, and laughed: "It seems that even my little Yan can praise people."

Qing Shui loved teasing this woman, he liked seeing that little attitude coming from this cold woman, or catching her embarrassed face, that type of stimulation to the senses was much more satisfying than a cold popsicle in the summer.

"You are really a little bastard," Tantai Lingyan got down from him, and patted him on the head.

Qing Shui furrowed his brow into a dark line. He couldn't say that he didn't like that, because that was something that only his mother and aunts did.

That's why Qing Shui became excited, and immediately hugged her, then kissed her sexy lips. A cool feeling went through into his brain, which brought him back to consciousness, leading him to release her promptly.

"Lingyan, I..." Qing Shui was afraid that she would be mad.

But then what surprised him was her hugging his neck, whispering into his ear, her face red: "I like you kissing me, kiss your little Yan more."

Qing Shui was no longer surprised, and hugged her tightly, this was like being given a "license to kill". He then kissed her succulent lips once more, and put one hand on her powdery back.

Her light, sweet smell was like an orchid and musk deer, that was a type of light but soothing taste, an ultimate beauty, as he put his hands over the shoulders of her love struck body, Tantai Lingyan relaxed the teeth that she had kept shut, and Qing Shui expertly inserted his tongue.

Coiling around the sweet tongue that made him crazy, he greedily sought the jadelike substance in her. The Qing Shui now felt even more satisfied than when he was drinking the plum blossom wine in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

He kept like this until Tantai Lingyan began to be a little annoyed.

Chapter 1912 - Qing Shui's satisfaction

Tantai Lingyan pouted, and didn't dare look at Qing Shui while her two hands grasped Qing Shui's own. Because Qing Shui's hands had already reached into the folds of her clothes, and one was already placed on the part of her breast that stuck out.

Qing Shui was a little absent minded before, and only just realized what he was doing, in addition he pushed a little unconsciously, and in that moment her tenderness made him almost call out coolly, at the same time making Tantai Lingyan shudder a little with a : "Don't move!"

Qing Shui was a little scared for a moment, and thought of a phrase that he had said often in his previous life, and a smile unconsciously spread across his face. However, he felt that Tantai Lingyan was not resisting because she didn't throw his arm back immediately, which was something that was very rare.

Although she didn't move, he could feel a hint of an indescribable cuteness. His palm could feel the change in those peaks, and with his other arm he embraced her tender waist, tightly, and Qing Shui's body naturally reacted to it, and tightly pressed against a soft part.

He wasn't sure whether what happened before was because she couldn't breathe or because of this reason. Tantai Lingyan released Qing Shui's kiss, but it most likely wasn't because she couldn't breathe, all in all this shouldn't be able to choke a martial artist of her level, so it must be because she felt violated by Qing Shui.

Alright, alright, I'm not going to move," Qing Shui said with a soft smile, and blocked her forehead with his own. The heights of the two were similar, Tantai Lingyan was less than two inches shorter, her extremely lanky body harmonized with Qing Shui's own as they stood.

Looking at Tantai Lingyan from this short distance there was some sort of earth-shaking beauty. Her skin as exquisite as jade, to be specific, white jade, and the eyes filled with beauty had lost the coldness of the previous day, but was just as fierce as before. That was a sort of indescribable aloofness.

This type of aloofness was a sort of spirit, it wasn't purely arrogance, but that type of innocent pride, just like and unyielding character and energy.

Her fine eyelashes were just like little fans, opening and closing faintly. She didn't dare share eye contact with Qing Shui, as though she were a little nervous. But with each opening and closing of her lashes it moved people indescribably, and her straight nose was just like that of the most beautiful person in the world, as though it was the pride and joy of the sculptor of the heavens. With each of her facial features together she was even more beautiful.

"Can you take your hand out now..." Tantai Lingyan said this lightly, but her voice seemed to flutter a little.

Qing Shui went right by her ear and said bravely: "Why don't you tell me whether what you felt there was a good feeling, if it was then I'll take it out."

"You liar," Tantai Lingyan said lightly.

"I'm just teasing you," Qing Shui hugged her tighter as he said this, catching a drift of her intoxicating smell.

Tantai Lingyan felt that she was surrounded by a man's aura, and found out that she didn't hate this feeling. But she knew that it was only this man that she could allow herself not to hate, just that she was a little scared, and there was a feeling that they were about to go into unexplored territory.

"Do you really need me to say that it felt good before you will be satisfied?" Tantai Lingyan asked seriously.

Qing Shui didn't think that Tantai Lingyan would say something like this. Actually, it really was this way. When a man is praised by a woman he loves it was automatically great, especially on things like this. If someone like Tantai Lingyan would say something as bold as that it would make him very excited and fulfilled.

"Hai hai, there's no need to say it then," Qing Shui said embarrassedly.

“Your little Yan likes you kissing me,” there was a slight smile spreading across Tantai Lingyan’s face, the beauty of the corners of her mouth extremely exciting.

This was the second time she said this, being able to make a woman of her stature refer to herself like that, along with her saying something that she didn’t even want to say before, was something that you’d be lying about if you didn’t like it. Actually he was already extremely satisfied, all in all having a woman as wonderful as her being this way in front of him only was very hard to say otherwise.

“If you like it so much, then I’ll go again.”

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Qing Shui had already savored this taste for a long time, and was also extremely fulfilled. However, he was stopped before he could go to the last step, seeing Qing Shui’s face obviously being inflamed: “Qing Shui I...”

“There’s no need to think anymore, I am very satisfied now, I will wait until you’re ready to return my kiss,” Qing Shui smiled and put his hands back on her waist.

“I don’t know why but my heart keeps jumping,” Tantai Lingyan said lightly.

“From my understanding, you have already changed a lot, since you did all that for me, aren’t I just so handsome,” Qing Shui slowly strolled with her, taking her hand.

Tantai Lingyan’s face became red, but was very happy: “Yeah, it’s really showy, but I don’t hate it.”

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Qing Shui was already satisfied, it must be noted that he had actually reached a huge milestone with her. Today could already be counted as though two fortunes had come to the door, well, more like three. (“two fortunes coming to the door” is a rough translation of a saying that is usually used to describe a fortunate event, usually weddings)

The strength of the demonic beasts of other people in Luoqing City had also increased by a lot, Qing Shui’s medicinal pills seemed to be very effective. Of course, his own demonic beasts have increased quickly in strength, but with the strength that he was at now, they were far behind.

The Hell Nightmare Beast was a shield, absorbing attacks to create an even stronger defense. It could be even said that it was a mountain. Not only did it not get any bigger, it seemed that it needed to be refined even more, its ink black body just like black diamond, and now a light fog lay over it. It seemed that there was some sort of symbol on it.

The Hell Nightmare beast was a demonic beast that was evolved. It had a large potential for growth, and Qing Shui normally didn’t summon it too often, all in all it was most useful for foolish loyalty, which in turn gave Qing Shui a strong resistance. He only summoned it this time against the Poison Dragon King, and that was the first time he had ever done so.

Other beasts that grew quickly were the Golden Dragon and Dragon Slaying Beast. The Dragon Slaying Beast grew a little faster, but it was weaker. At the same time, it was also the scariest with its strong speed, strong body, unblockable sharpness, if given the opportunity it would be extremely deadly.

Qing Shui actually didn't quite understand this Golden Dragon. At first it could only be counted as an Earth Dragon, not really a true member of the dragons, but after consuming the "Treasure" it became a Golden Dragon. However, it was still not mature, it only had two front claws, whereas a mature one would have four, and the Golden Dragon King would even have five.

The bloodline of the Golden Dragon was even stronger than that of the Poison Dragon, but if they were compared in terms of raw strength, the outcome would be hard to predict. But if it became a Golden Dragon King, then that Poison Dragon King wouldn't even be in the same league as it.

Qing Shui's Golden Dragon had the bloodline of the five-clawed Golden Dragons. It hadn't matured yet, but dragons had a long lifespan, so Qing Shui was gloomy all along since he didn't know how long it would be before it would turn into a Golden Dragon King.

Qing Shui was thinking how he would be able to get a medicine that matured it, but as he thought he shook his head. All in all that medicine would have to be one that increases the strength of the dragon, as their maturity wasn't only determined by their age, but more importantly their strength. It took time for the dragon to grow into a five-clawed one, but it would be even more representative of its increase in strength. Even without the extra claw older dragons were very strong, because they were mature, but they weren't as strong as the immature Golden Dragon that Qing Shui had.

There was a great disparity between time in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and the outside. The Golden Dragon was in the Realm all this time, but Qing Shui could feel that the Golden Dragon would grow to the age it needed to be in about five years without complications.

Chapter 1913 - What Will Come Would Eventually Come

Unconsciously, three days had passed. It was peaceful during this period of time, which surprised Qing Shui quite a bit. Even though the news of the Grand State Master's death would not travel to the Great Confucian Empire that quickly, it wouldn't take more than three days for the news to spread to their ears—that was if the other party had not taken any action yet.

However, Qing Shui did not believe that they would not take action in regards to the current incident. The more likely situation was that they hadn't taken any action yet. Perhaps the Great Confucian Empire wasn't that affected by the loss of one Grand State Master. Despite that, dignity was extremely important to the Great Confucian Empire. Furthermore, they still had the Five Poison Immortal Palace despite the death of the Grand State Master.

Within these three days, Qing Shui would cultivate whenever he had nothing to do. He did not have to familiarize himself with this sort of power after going through the breakthrough this time, as if he was born with it. Because of that, Qing Shui was in disbelief that he had a terrifying resistance to the damage received.

200 Million Dao Force!

Qing Shui stood there motionlessly and thought about how both the Grand State Master and the Poison Dragon King weren't able to cause any damage to him. Because of these thoughts, he developed an impulse to look for the Great Confucian Empire and the Five Poison Celestial Sect for a fight.

If he was to fight based on his current power, his prowess should have crossed several thresholds as compared to before. Even so, his wives would have to train themselves harder. Their power had been growing increasingly fast, but still much slower than Qing Shui's.

Lan Lingfeng and Yi Tong, on the other hand, had fallen behind in terms of their strength. Most of the ladies had already preceded the two of them, which included Yiye Jiange, Qing Hanye, Tantai Lingyan, Muyun Qingge, and Qin Qing.

Despite the fact that their powers were inferior to the others, the rate of their progress had always been steadily increasing over time. The speed of improvement was decent, which was why Qing Shui decided not to hasten their growth for the time being. There were advantages and disadvantages to that. Normally, he would only employ such method when it became impossible for one to increase their power, or that they had not been improving for a very long period of time.

If Qing Shui was to use such method, their power would increase within half a year to a year or so, but they would never be able to enhance their strength by themselves, unless they were able to receive an enlightenment or some sort of Heavenly and Earthly Treasure.

Due to the fact that their powers had been increasing, Qing Shui decided that he would not use this method on them, unless they found themselves unable to break through the bottleneck of their cultivation.

Qing Shui felt relieved when he thought about his fortuitous encounter. It would be impossible for everyone to be like him as everything would require time to bear fruit. A watched pot never boils and he was the one being impatient anyway. They were already considered exceptionally lucky. He was the problem—he whose heart wasn't content was like a snake that tried to swallow an elephant.

He had been spending days being precarious, but now he felt like there was nothing to be worried about. Even so, the others remained on edge. Despite the trepidation, they knew that Qing Shui was their rock and backbone. Upon seeing that Qing Shui was fine, they knew that his strength had grown, but to what extent, they had no idea.

Qing Shui had been living like a fish in a water for the past few days. Qing Hanye was now yearning for more after her first time having sex with him. After getting her first taste in sex, she would leave the door unlocked so that they would be able to linger until midnight. Both of them were in possession of Nine Yang and Nine Yin body respectively. Not only was it perfectly safe on their bodies, their powers would become more refined as well.

Even though Qing Shui's nameless technique would have a profound growth in the beginning, there would still be an obvious growth following the subsequent period of time. Normally, it would be the same as the ladies after half a month—there would be a boost but it would be more of a slight change to the body, including nerves, bones, blood vessels, as well as vital organs. This type of boost was considered insignificant, and the benefit wasn't that obvious.

Upon becoming closer in their relationship, Qing Shui discovered how charming this obsequious woman was. If it wasn't for his strong physique, he might not be able to keep up with her. Beautiful women would definitely bring calamity to the country and its people. Men would lose their lives because of them.

Those who did not possess special vitality were definitely incompatible with women who could bring disaster to a country. Otherwise, they would have lost their lives fairly quickly. This was also the reason why a myriad of beautiful women became a widow, and perhaps the most important reason why women often met with tragic end.

Dongfang State Master seemed to have become part of the community within the Imperial Cuisine Hall by forging closer bonds with the other ladies. Their relationship had grown better with each passing day. This sometimes perplexed Qing Shui. Women were indeed strange creatures, didn't they say beautiful women were natural enemies to one another?

Yiye Jiange did not plan on returning to the Sunset Sea King Palace for now; Qing Hanye did not even think of going back to Dragonwolf Palace either. It seemed like they were outnumbered should they wish to contend against the Great Confucian Empire. Truly, they had lost in terms of quantity. Of course, this was the same for their strength as well. But in this case, Qing Shui would be the only exception.

If his opponent was at the strength of the previous Grand State Master, then he had nothing to worry about because it would be easy for him to kill the enemy based on his current strength.

Qing Xiu would now spend most of the time staying with Qing Shui. The little kid had already begun hobbling and walking by himself. Due to Yiye Jiange's cultivation, Qing Shui took up the responsibility in taking care of Qing Xiu. Of course, he had some help from the ladies too. Whenever they were free, they would take care of the kid with Qing Shui together.

The little kid would not cry easily and he could play all by himself. He was quite gluttonous too, and because of that, Qing Shui felt at ease. Besides eating, the kid would spend much of his time sleeping. Over the course of time, Qing Shui realized that taking care of kids wasn't that difficult after all. Moreover, he was a doctor, which meant that it would be more convenient as the most difficult part of raising kids during his past life was that they would become ill easily. Furthermore, they couldn't exactly talk, so they would not be able to cooperate with him on the appropriate treatment.

Everything was alright now. Qing Xiu's body constitution was excellent as he had never been sick before. On top of that, Qing Shui would always be there for him, so there was really nothing to be concerned of.

When Yi Tong realized that Qing Shui had been taking good care of Qing Xiu, he would sometimes hand over his son for Qing Shui to look after as well. Qing Shui wasn't playing around when it came to his role as a godfather.

In actuality, Yi Tong and Ling Fei would only allow Qing Shui to look after their son when they were focusing on their cultivation, which wasn't a frequent occurrence. Due to the existence of the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal, Qing Shui wouldn't need to cultivate during the day most of the time. Aside from spending some time to guide them, he would make time for Yiye Jiange as well.

Before this, Yu Niang had always been the one looking after their children and Yiye Jiange would be the one to look after his child at the Sunset Sea King Palace. The nannies could never receive Yiye Jiange's approval for nursing the child. She had everything planned out to the tee. During these few years, she would focus on taking care of her son and nothing else.

But now Qing Shui was there to look after their son, so Yiye Jiange was ecstatic about it. Whenever she saw the happy expression on Qing Shui's face as he held his son in his arms, an extremely warm feeling would envelop her body.

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The days of respite ended in just one week. This morning, Qing Shui continued to cultivate his Taichi fists in the Imperial Cuisine Hall as usual. He faced the east, but there was no sun. The sun in Linhai City could only be seen once in dozen days after all.

Just when Qing Shui had stopped his cultivation, he noticed a group of black dots flying toward his direction rapidly.

Even though Qing Shui's eyesight was exceptional, he still couldn't see the entities clearly. After all, the black dots were still far away. Despite the ambiguity of the dots, he had a feeling that the moment had finally arrived. What would come would eventually come.

Qing Shui had a change of thought and quickly glided around the Imperial Cuisine Hall, his hands continuously scattering a few flags around the area. The Nine Palace Eight Trigrams Formation has begun activating.

All of that occurred in only a few moments, which was less than three breaths of time. Qing Shui was also preparing the formation just in case something might happen as formations were considered to be Qing Shui's greatest life-saving ability. Although some formations were highly lethal, Qing Shui felt that he could rely most on his Guardian, Trap Formation, and a few other formations that the enemies would have a hard time to break once they had been set up. Meanwhile, Qing Shui could utilize the formation to seek chances to retreat or counterattack.

The ladies, Lan Lingfeng, Yi Tong, and the others were already outside. Qing Shui could see those black dots at the distance much clearer. The distance between Qing Shui and the black dots were less than 10 li away.

Chapter 1914 - There's a Hidden Knife Behind Your Smiling Eyes

When the ladies, Yi Tong, and Lan Lingfeng came out, they did not ask about the situation because they already knew what this was about. They were suffering more than Qing Shui was during these few days. Of course, had Qing Shui's power not abruptly improved, he would be suffering the same fate as them right now. However, this was nothing to be too concerned of as it wasn't that big of a deal.

"Everyone, you mustn't take a step out of the Imperial Cuisine Hall." Qing Shui told them with a smile.

"We can't do that!" Qing Hanye was the first one to protest.

"Brother Shui, Little Sister Ye'er and I should be able to protect ourselves. Let us come with you!" Dongfang Zhiqiu added.

This State Master surnamed Dongfang was called Dongfang Zhiqiu. Qing Shui remembered that she didn't introduce her name to him last time, but only came to learn that she was called Dongfang Zhiqiu recently.

Qing Shui felt that the name 'Dongfang Zhiqiu' sounded very weird. However, this name was just a code name, so he couldn't care less about it. Despite it being a code name, the name sounded average. In this world, people had peculiar names with two characters, three characters, four characters and even characters beyond five and six. Some didn't even have a surname, which applied to one of his women, Yehuang Guwu. The surname Yehuang didn't exist in his past life. On the other hand, Mingyue Gelou's name gave him an impression of a landscape, but hers was a proper name. He wasn't sure whether Canghai is a surname either. Because of that, Qing Shui would never investigate on these names any further than that.

Qing Shui pondered for a while and smiled, "Alright. But if the first sign of danger shows up, you must return to the Imperial Cuisine Hall immediately. It's absolutely safe inside."

The ladies nodded in agreement and did not argue with him this time. Yiye Jiange held Qing Xiu in her arms, said nothing more and only smiled at Qing Shui. She was the one who knew most of Qing Shui's affairs with exception to the fact that Qing Shui's spirit wasn't from this world, as well as the detailed secret of the Realm of the Violet Jade. Besides those facts, other matters were known to her.

Other than those undisclosed facts, Qing Shui would not hide other matters from this woman, who was his teacher, friend, and wife to him. For example, he had already revealed to Yiye Jiange about his exact power without twisting the details.

If he were to reveal some of the things to them, it would be quite unbelievable. Moreover, there wasn't any benefit in telling them the truth. The more people knew about the secret of the Realm of Violet Jade Immortal, the worse it would be for him. If the news of that were to spread, it would bring some unknown danger to the ladies.

When Qing Shui saw the people appearing nearby, he could not help but frown. There were a lot of people in that group. Qing Shui could estimate about 30 people coming toward him. Each of them was mounted on a giant ferocious beast of different colors. Their features were different too. The only similar trait these beasts had was the size of their body.

If he counted 30 people as a mere figure, then it wasn't really that much, but if they possessed the strength akin to the Grand State Master, and if they possessed strength more powerful than that of a Grand State Master, then the amount of 30 people would be considered as populous.

These people seemed old too. Most of them were almost at their elderly stage. Some looked like they were middle-aged men and only a handful looked young. However, there were some who looked older than Qing Shui. This particularly had attracted Qing Shui's attention.

Qing Shui was only able to notice the youngest and seemingly the oldest amongst the group. The youngest possessed an unfathomable potential that would be considered more dangerous than most. His power would mostly be attributed to the priceless treasures equipped on his body. The reason Qing Shui was focusing on the older one was because he possessed the strongest power among his peers. Moreover, he was also the leader of the group.

The five old men in the foremost line all had white hair, yet they had straight and strong physique. All of them were wearing long robes with the exception of the two old men with slightly plump physique, the

remaining three were slim. These three exuded an air of an immortal as they wore the slightly loose robes on their bodies.

They had a straight expression as they exuded Nature Energy and an air of prestige toward their surrounding while standing in mid-air. The Nature Energy formed within their surroundings had connected both the Heaven and Earth.

Great Confucian!

This was the true Great Confucian!

Qing Shui straightened his expression when he saw these old men. He would not dare to underestimate them. The aura they exuded was undeniable—that was the true Nature Energy that resulted from the cultivation of their arts. One should know that those of dubious nature would never be able to cultivate Nature Energy no matter how much they pour their energy into their cultivation.

Furthermore, because of this Nature Energy, some of Qing Shui's outlook toward this Great Confucian Empire had changed. However, after taking a cursory glance at these old men, he realized that only the three in front possessed such strong energy while the others did not, just like the Grand State Master from before, yet that still could not be considered as the true Great Confucian.

Qing Shui's silhouette shifted and appeared in the air atop the Imperial Cuisine Hall. Basically, he had stepped out of the Nine Palace Eight Trigrams Formation.

Qing Shui did not utter a word either as he continued to look at the old men in front of him. To be precise, he was only focusing on the one in the middle amongst the five of them.

This old man was moderately tall and had a straight body figure. He had a wide forehead and smelled of scrolls. The Nature Energy emitted from his body was strong too. He had honest, deep eyes that were full of dignity and authority. He seemed like an imperceptible mountain just by standing there.

"May I know what matters motivate the elderlies to come here?" In the end, Qing Shui was the first to break the silence. Since the other party continued their silence, he decided to initiate the conversation first.

Qing Shui's tone was gentle and respectful. He spoke with absolute calmness, as if undisturbed by the presence of these old people in front of him.

"Young man, are you the master of this Imperial Cuisine Hall?" The old man standing in the middle began to speak with a distinct voice. He sounded benevolent, yet there was some sort of prestige and oppression emanating from his voice. This wasn't intentional as he was able to sound like that with spontaneity.

"I am. What business does the elderly have with me?" Qing Shui asked with a smile.

"I came here to look for the person who killed the State Master of the Great Confucian Empire. Are you that person, young man?" The old man retained the gentleness in his tone, which still sounded amiable. Despite the amicable tone, there was a sense of righteousness radiated through his persisting prestigious aura. This sort of prestige would not make one feel disgusted as people would be convinced by his words instead.

“I don’t know about State Masters, but I did kill a scumbag a few days ago. Old man, you have no idea how absurd this scumbag was. He’s already so old yet disrespectful to others by bullying them with his power.” Qing Shui said with a serious expression as he looked at the old man.

“Kid, how dare you say such things after killing the State Master of my Great Confucian Empire. You are the first person to ever do that.” One of the plump elderly beside the old man in the middle said.

This elderly could only be considered as slightly obese, yet his figure was symmetrical from head to toe. Like a column, he looked like he had neither a waist nor a shoulder. Even his legs looked like a pillar while being clad in a robe.

The old man cracked a sneer, which was more apparent when he narrowed his small eyes akin to that of a poisonous snake.

A murderous intent behind his smile—this was the expression Qing Shui remembered the most when he gazed at this old man. He had an innocent appearance but his heart was cruel. Qing Shui could never understand why the previous wise elderly men would associate themselves with a person like this old fool.

Between the five old men, three of them were considered as wise Masters of Great Confucian. Not only were the features of the remaining two, who were slightly heavier, quite similar to one another, but they also had an appearance of an innocent man with a hidden agenda. Naturally, such people like them would exist. One of them would tell a lie, but the other could not lie through his eyes. Qing Shui could tell the difference just from looking at their eyes.

Could it be that the Great Confucian Empire was also divided into several forces?

The possibility of that was actually high. Where there were people, there would be conflict; where there were people, there would also be an underworld; where there were people, there would be profit.

“Sir, did someone ever tell you that there’s a hidden knife behind your smiling eyes?” Qing Shui felt annoyed when the old man sneered at him. Naturally, he did not show any courtesy toward those two old men. He would only show his respect to those who deserved it.

Chapter 1915 - Who Do You Think You Are To Consider Yourself As My Senior?

Qing Shui naturally wouldn’t care about that old man’s last remarks. Despite those words sounding a bit savage, the other party was just an old man, so it didn’t seem too much coming from him. However, the reason Qing Shui came to this conclusion was because of the other party’s expression and look on his face. Qing Shui’s spiritual sense would not lie to him. This speaking old man was not a good person.

The old man was clearly shocked upon hearing Qing Shui’s words as he never had anyone talked to him like that before. Indeed, he had never heard of such things before, yet he was aware of his smile of treachery and whatnot some of the old men spoke of. However, none would dare say it in front of him, much less a junior like Qing Shui.

To be ridiculed by a junior in front of so many people, the old man was still furious despite his self-proclaimed virtue of patience. Moreover, those words were quite lethal to his heart. One would not take notice to an ant no matter how much it tried to demonstrate its prowess, but Qing Shui was no ant. No matter how many times the old man tried to look down on him, he could not ignore him.

Because of that, he was enraged!

“You little swine. You seem like you lack some manners. Don’t you know how to respect your elders? Since it has come to this, I will represent your senior and teach you a good lesson.” The old man said in a cold tone with a terrible expression on his face.

“Who do you think you are to consider yourself as my senior?” Qing Shui asked, smilingly.

Even though a smile was plastered on Qing Shui’s face, it was a disdain smile. He disliked looking at people who became self-conceited because of their seniority the most. “Do I even have a relationship with you?” thought Qing Shui. Besides, the other party was not worth Qing Shui’s respect. This type of people did not have the rights to clamor in front of him.

If it were those three Masters of Great Confucian, Qing Shui might not have felt disgusted or found them resentful. Those two sinister old fools with murderous intent behind their smiles, on the other hand, were never worth his attention.

Qing Shui also took notice of the expression on the three Masters of Great Confucian while he was speaking. There wasn’t a change in their expression as they continued to observe Qing Shui. Because of that, Qing Shui’s previous speculation was affirmed to be true. These three old men were definitely in bad terms with these two sinister-looking fellows.

Qing Shui’s words upset this old man even more.

“Hahaha!”

The expression on the angry yet laughing old man was now livid. The eyes that were originally narrow became even smaller, exuding a cold light akin to that of a ferocious poisonous snake. A person from his past life would most certainly lose half of their soul should they gaze upon such an expression.

There were such vicious people in his past life too. Others could turn pale from fright upon gazing at their expression. Some would say that eyes were the window to their souls. Through the eyes could one directly tamper with the soul. For example, one would feel extremely uncomfortable upon looking at such terrifying expression in their eyes.

“A young man requires a capital in order to be arrogant. Without capital, you would be a fool to become arrogant.” The old man was truly upset as he cursed without restraint.

If Qing Shui were to scold other old men, they might not lose their temper easily. Most importantly, Qing Shui had mentioned in the beginning that the old man’s thoughts and behavior did not match together—there was treachery beneath his mask of friendliness. One should know that this trait was his weakness. He was very superstitious of it. On top of that, he became more livid because of Qing Shui’s last remarks. If Qing Shui were to say those words at the beginning of the meeting, the old man would not have been enraged like he was now.

“I am still young and there’s still a chance to amend my mistakes. Even if I become a fool just once, it wouldn’t even matter. But you are different. You are already this old and if you continue to be ignorant and blind to a lot of things, it will be inevitable for you to become an old bastard.” Qing Shui coldly said as he retracted his smile.

The meanings behind these words were too obvious. The old man twitched his expression once again and said, "You're dead!"

This time, the old man blurted out two words before rushing toward Qing Shui with his palms facing him.

Hands of Sage!

Two giant, jade-white handprints that were struck from the palms emitted a pure halo light, which was incomparably dignified. Even though the light wasn't massive, the density of the light was high. There was a kind of aura that would propel others to worship within that light, as well as a sense of unconcealable murderous intent exuding from within.

Qing Shui shook his head, "If a person's heart is evil, then that person is questionable. Your Hands of Sage will never achieve its great success."

Taichi Single Whip!

Qing Shui's palms also became white jade in color, as if they were crystals. The palms emitted an intense saintly energy as well. But as he struck against the gigantic palms of his opponent, his strength seemed powerless and feeble in contrast.

Bang!

Even though Qing Shui was slightly knocked a few steps backward, his step technique was not disturbed. It was more like his silhouette backing away instead. This was also considered as a way to generate power through the assault. Next, Qing Shui began to move again, his silhouette shifting smoothly like floating clouds and flowing water.

Cloudhand!

Angle!

The angle in which Qing Shui chose to strike was crafty, as was his step techniques. The timing he used to strike his opponent was during the moment his enemy had exhausted his power and before his strength had been reinvigorated. It was quite ingenious for Qing Shui to strike at that precise moment.

This time, Qing Shui did not back away. Instead, the old man was knocked backward by a step.

From then onward, this stance persisted.

Qing Shui's silhouette moved continuously under the effect of the Nine Palace Steps. Even though his movement seemed unhurried, his pace was undisturbed without ever ceasing.

Qing Shui main focus was the cultivation of his fists, which caused his power to greatly surge. His Taichi cultivation had entered a completely new realm too. An actual battle would be the best way to consolidate a realm, which was why Qing Shui planned to use the old man as a way to consolidate and upgrade his cultivation realm.

From the beginning, the old man had already underestimated his opponent, which led to his complete loss on the first strike. Moreover, the old man did not place Qing Shui in the same and correct level as

him. His subconsciousness assumed that Qing Shui would be able to compete against him in the first place.

Because of this mentality, his aura was disrupted after being knocked back by Qing Shui again. Once the disruption occurred, Qing Shui was able to suppress the old man completely with his own aura. Just like strangling someone's neck, it felt extremely uncomfortable. Should Qing Shui decided to use additional force, the old man would be deprived of his physical strength.

Cloudhand, Taichi Single Whip, Hammer Explosion Technique!

Qing Shui continued to use his Taichi techniques with grace and vigor. The technique that seemed powerless at first was actually quite potent. Each time the opponent was at the brink of exhaustion or retreating, he would always strike at the point of weakness without fail.

Not only that, Qing Shui had Inch Force within his power. Moreover, the Inch Force could unleash three consecutive strikes, which were also considered a type of instant attack that deals direct damage, resulting in inner injuries.

The old man continued to move backwards.

Bang!

Within the time for an incense to burn, the old man was quickly knocked away as he was in the midst of retreating. Qing Shui did not approach him any further this time. However, he continued to watch while feeling immensely satisfied, as the old man was being blasted away.

An actual combat had a miraculous effect on the balance of one's cultivation realm, as well as being the only path toward raising the experience of battle. Without an actual combat, one would not be able to unleash the might of a technique no matter how strong they were. If a person were to discover the might of his or her own technique, then that person would be able to boost the prowess of this particular unmenacing technique and in turn, the technique would allow that person to possibly achieve a swift kill toward his or her enemies.

A martial cultivator once said that there was no such thing as useless techniques, only incompetent people. The same technique would reflect a tremendous difference of prowess on different types of people.

Qing Shui didn't think he could defeat someone with the power of a Grand State Master with his recently boosted Taichi without the use of any weakening skills on him. He didn't use Nine Continents Mountain on him either. Of course, there was also the fact that the Grand State Master did not actually unleash his full potential of power, not even beyond 70%.

This prompted Qing Shui to realize the importance of Qi dynamic, morale, and psychology. As they said, one must do their utmost even when dealing with a minor problem, which was to say that one could never underestimate their opponent. Otherwise, the situation of a rabbit killing an eagle would arise. There wouldn't be a chance to feel remorse by then.

Chapter 1916 - They really Had Problems

The old man who was beaten up by Qing Shui pressed on his chest, looking pale. His lips trembled as he looked at Qing Shui. Then, fresh blood spurted out from his mouth. The final hit injured him terribly and with the accumulated damage from the previous hits, just as the saying went, 'the last straw collapsed the camel'.

"Second brother, second brother!" Another plump old man came forward and supported him.

Everything happened in split seconds. Nobody expected that Qing Shui would be able to beat the old man. After all, the old man seemed invulnerable to Qing Shui's attacks. Qing Shui could only make him retreat but the current ending was unexpected.

"Elder brother, I had underestimated him. This little bastard is very strange. He has extreme speed and mysterious techniques. He has mastered the Qi usage. Don't act recklessly." The small-eyed looked at the three Masters of Great Confucian.

The old man spoke very loudly initially and it became as soft when he passed the message to this old man. His sight was blocked by his eldest brother.

"I know, second brother. I will seek the justice for you." Said the old man slowly.

The injured old man waved and two big guys came over to his support. Then, he turned around to look at Qing Shui, "Evil practices are no match for the Great Confucian. Today, I shall show you the power of the sacred Confucian."

Qing Shui remained silent. Though this old man was very powerful, Qing Shui did not take him seriously. The old man was not made for this path, albeit being the Great Confucian. Despite his current powerful strengths, he was unable to maximize the potential of the Path of Great Confucian.

The old man was not enraged to see Qing Shui's disdainful eyes. However, his tiny eyes became colder and condensed into a fine line.

"Narrow-minded, nasty character, evil mind, and treacherous. You are nothing compared to the sacred Confucian with such a manner. If I am not mistaken, you didn't even advance a tiny bit in a hundred years. You can't change who you are. As long as you don't step out of your comfort zone, you can never break through. Besides, your manner would only worsen your cultivation. You are not made for the Path of Great Confucian." Qing Shui provoked.

Qing Shui was not absolutely confident. He was merely guessing. Since they were brothers of similar manners, it was worth a try.

The old man shivered uncontrollably. He almost fainted out of extreme anger when he heard Qing Shui's words. These two brothers held high positions and nobody would point out the truth despite knowing their true identities. On the contrary, most people had only said flattering words to them.

In front of such a big crowd and the colleagues, this was a brutal and fierce attack which they had to take head-on.

Furthermore, the fact that his brother was injured also gave him a slap in the face. His own brother, a Grand State Master was defeated by a younger junior. If it were the three stern-looking old men, the mental shock wouldn't be this great.

“Elder Brother Cheng Yuan, this young man is taking the Great Confucian Empire too lightly!” Said the plump eldest brother to the leading Master of Great Confucian.

The old man named ‘Cheng Yuan’ said calmly, “State Master Tai Zhai, this young man has indeed gone too far and hurt your brother. Your brother is the State Master of the Great Confucian Empire. Does he really think that our State Master is so easy to take on?”

Cheng Yuan sounded just and righteous but his hidden meaning was obvious enough. He was implying that the State Master of the Great Confucian Empire was far too weak for his position. His last statement also suggested that State Master Tai Zhai ought to lend a hand. As a brother and the State Master at the same time, he needed to get involved for both official and personal reasons.

Qing Shui figured out the hidden intent. This Master of Great Confucian looked old-fashioned and serious but he was not pedantic. Qing Shui’s instinct told him not to fight with this old man but it was not for his unpredictable strength.

“This is really infuriating. How dare he humiliate our Master of Great Confucian. Elder Brother Cheng Yuan, you are one of the best of the Great Confucian Empire. This young man has no idea of his limitations and he’s insulting you. We must not let him go.” Said Grand State Master Tai Zhai furiously.

It was clear that the Grand State Master Tai Zhai was an egocentric person who did not care about others as long as his goal was achieved. He knew that the old men would stand out to uphold their reputations despite knowing that it was reverse psychology.

The old man watched Grand State Master Tai Zhai with the same peaceful look before turning around slowly and talked to Qing Shui, “Young man, you have a unique physique. You are a rare genius of martial arts. There is the purest energy in your body. Are you perhaps interested in joining the Great Confucian Empire?”

The old man’s words were out of Qing Shui’s expectations. The old man must have yet to find out his true strength and the Nature Energy in his body. Or else, the old man would not have invited him.

Grand State Master Tai Zhai was stunned and replied hastily, “What do you mean, Elder Brother Cheng Yuan? He killed one of our Grand State Masters and injured another. Don’t you feel humiliated when you invite him?”

“I feel like you’re the one who is humiliating the Master of Great Confucian. It would be truly shaming the name of ‘Master of Great Confucian’ if everyone acted like you. What’s your say, Master Tai Zhai of Great Confucian?”

Qing Shui emphasized the last few words clearly and sharply. Anyone could sense his sarcasm.

“How imprudent. Let’s kill him together, Elder Brother Cheng Yuan. We can’t bring down the fame of the Master of Great Confucian.” Said Grand State Master Tai Zhai outrageously.

The old man frowned. He seemed to abhor the Grand State Master Tai Zhai’s attitude who tried to win over a young junior with a majority. As the young man said previously, he really did not deserve the name of ‘Great Confucian’. In fact, they had known him long enough. However, this annoying fellow had a powerful backup. Only a few people could deal with him.

“There is no need to form an alliance. How about this? You can fight for your younger brother first. I know you won’t watch him get hurt and do nothing. I shall not take your duty as an elder brother. We would definitely get ridiculed for forming an alliance against a weaker junior,” Replied Cheng Yuan, relaxing his frowned brows.

Grand State Master Tai Zhai was startled and secretly cursed this old guy for acting differently today. At the current situation, he would be regarded as a loser if he continued further.

“It is as easy as a piece of cake to kill him. Elder Brother Cheng Yuan, watch as I make him regret his actions.” Grand State Master was not pleased, his smile appeared sinister and hypocritical.

Chapter 1917 - The Powerful Parry Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda, Kill

Qing Shui could vividly feel the more prominent strength of this Grand State Master Tai Zhai compared to the previous man. However, it was not a big threat to Qing Shui since he owned a treasure which would be greatly effective as his strength increased.

Parry Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda!

Cancel the same amount of attack as own strength!

Qing Shui’s item could resist up to 25,000,000 Dao as of now. Previously, it might not be too useful when it could cancel off an attack of about 4,000,000 Dao. Now that it could cancel off 25 million Dao, it was quite intimidating. As his strength increased later on, it would become even more daunting.

Previously, it was not fully the Parry Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda’s credit when Qing Shui defeated the Grand State Master with ease. After all, Qing Shui’s resistance power was something to be ignored. Frankly speaking, it would not differ much without the Parry heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda. Still, its function was distinct and outstanding.

By canceling the damage, it could guarantee the shielding function of Qing Shui’s strong defensive power, especially against the opponent’s sneak attacks and weak point attacks. After all, there would be relatively weaker spots despite his high defensive power.

The Parry Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda could completely cancel the damage, including the vital areas. Besides, it could be applied at any time without any consumption. Qing Shui had no idea how strong the old man’s attack was, but he knew that after canceling 25 million Dao worth of power, there would not be much left.

This explained why Qing Shui was not too overly concerned. After canceling 25 million Dao, the damage that he would sustain was negligible. Even the Sure Kill Heavenly Technique could not harm him since Qing Shui had 20,000 Dao resistance power.

The old man took out a long, white sword which was four inches wide and four feet long. It was carved with the pattern of four arts, very realistic and spiritual, giving out a profound righteous energy. At that moment, the hypocritical, old, and fat guy had a righteous aura.

Three Ability Steps!

The old man dashed towards Qing Shui, leaving behind a discontinuous trace of images. These images showed different movements, which then converged into an ample spiritual energy and filled the old man's body.

At once, a formidable Nature Energy or something similar exploded from the Grand State Master Tai Zhai's body. It was comparable to the few Masters of Great Confucian. The extent of their energy in a battle, however, remained unknown.

Sword of Justice!

A three feet long and white ray radiated from the sword in his hand, similar to white flame. It was crystal clear, bright and extremely sharp. Rumour had it that this ray could burn through everything, especially the evil forces. It was almost invulnerable.

The shining reflection of the sword slashed against Qing Shui like a silver lightning.

Soul Energy!

Qing Shui sensed a familiarity in this force. It was similar to but not as genuine as his Nine Yang Dragon Soul. Qing Shui despised this treacherous fatty. He instilled the Force of Dragon Soul into the Golden Battle Halberd at once.

Qing Shui learned this from Dongfang Zhiqiu. Without hesitation, he used the Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique and River Breaking the Shackles.

Bang!

As expected, the overbearing force combined with Nine Yang Dragon Soul clashed with the white sword of Grand State Master Tai Zhai.

It was not correct to say that Qing Shui's attack had improved tremendously with the Nine Yang Dragon Soul. To be precise, he was aided by the Nine Yang Dragon Soul. For example, the passive effect of the Nine Yang Dragon soul could increase the strength by nine times. The biggest ability of the Nine Yang Dragon Soul was the collision with Force of Soul. It could destruct the forces of a similar type even if they were several times stronger.

The collision of Nine Yang Dragon Soul and the opponent's Force of Soul was an attack of defense cancellation. The effect was not absolute but the damage was definitely extensive unless the opponent's Force of Soul was several times stronger than Qing Shui.

Qing Shui stood still while the Grand State Master was thrown away in a loud explosion. However, he was not badly injured.

The Grand State Master Tai Zhai was only inviting troubles when he used a force as such against Qing Shui. It was hard to tell if Qing Shui could beat him if he did not use it.

Spiritual force attack could only resist the same kind of force. The rest depended on one's existing resistance power. There was no other way out. This was how great it was. Once the Force of Soul and one's existing strength were used in combination, the opponent could only confront it with endurance. The opponent's body would be bombarded if he had no Force of Soul.

This was the reason why one who owned the Force of Soul could easily win over a same-leveled warrior without it.

There was no mercy in a battle. Qing Shui could attack with the least of his worries since he would never get hurt. On the other hand, the Grand State Master could only apply his greatest strength, which was to merge the spiritual attack with the Path of Great Confucian.

To nobody's surprise, it got him thrown out again and again.

A cloud of smoke floated over the battlefield as Qing Shui attacked relentlessly like a Battle God and forced the Grand State Master Tai Zhai to retreat every time.

Snap!

After countless attacks, the Golden Battle Halberd had finally broken the precious white sword before piercing through the Grand State Master Tai Zhai's chest.

Puff!

This strike gave a penetration effect under the Nine Stances of Ancient Divine Battle Technique. It happened several times before snapping the opponent's sword. The broken tip stabbed in the Grand State Master Tai Zhai's chest with a massive penetrating force.

The penetrating power was a defense-canceling attack. It was also a dreadful ability of the Golden Battle God who led the Battle Gods. Although it was not the sharpest attack, it could cancel off the defense and target the target's inner body while also destroying their weapon. Penetrating the muscles and bones, the attack was almost a direct hit on the heart regardless of the opponent's inner body strength.

Fresh blood spilt out of the Grand State Master Tai Zhai's mouth. Qing Shui heaved a sigh as he confirmed that the strike was deadly and had burst his heart. Now, even the Daluo Golden Immortal could not save his life.

Qing Shui did not actually mean to mortally wound the opponent. This attack was out of his expectation as the penetration effect was unforeseen. It was hard to control the penetration effect when Qing Shui went all out. Perhaps the idea of refraining did not cross his mind at that moment.

The Grand State Master Tai Zhai stared at Qing Shui in disbelief during his last moments. He gazed at Qing Shui as if looking at a frightening existence. Pressing his chest with one hand and pointing at Qing Shui with another, he slowly collapsed without saying a word.

"Eldest brother, eldest brother.....!"

"You have killed my eldest brother. The Great Confucian Empire will not go easy on you." The previous Grand State Master glared at Qing Shui in resentment. He craved to chop Qing Shui into pieces. If looks could kill then he had already killed Qing Shui many times.

"Blood will have blood. A warrior must be prepared to die. Don't take this as a child's play and keep mentioning the Great Confucian Empire. Do you really think you are that important? The Great Confucian Empire might not even fight for you." Qing Shui was annoyed when he looked at the two brothers. They did not behave like seniors despite their old ages. With their small eyes, they pretended to be treacherous and deep. Most of all, they carried the name of the Masters of Great Confucian.

Chapter 1918 - Fox Wolf Immortal Master, Little Prince, Great Emperor

Qing Shui knew that what he said was too good to be true. After all, the Great Confucian Empire would not be unconcerned after such a huge humiliation. Even if there were only a few Masters of the Great Confucian left, they would not let it go.

“Young man, What do you think about my previous suggestion?” The leading old man spoke calmly. It was not gentle but very serious and yet, it did not sound imposing. In fact, it was comforting.

Qing Shui took a look at the surrounding. It was the middle of the sky, the countryside residences below extended boundlessly. Most of them were houses arranged orderly. It was a phenomenon of natural progress.

Qing Shui retorted back at the old man, “The Great Confucian Empire was worse than I expected. I have no interest in the Great Confucian Empire.”

The old man was not surprised by Qing Shui’s reply as a rare smile crept on his face, “What you said was indeed the truth. The Great Confucian Empire is actually divided into three sects. The one you killed belonged to one sect. Three of us belong to one sect, and another sect between us and them.”

“Cheng Yuan, they had just killed my elder brother. What do you mean by that? Aren’t you afraid that the Fox Wolf Immortal Master would get involved with this?” The injured Grand State Master Tai Zhai roared in rage.

“Do I need you to tell me what to do? The Fox Wolf Immortal Master is your master. That is none of my business. Go seek revenge from this young man if you can.” The old man was expressionless, but it was obvious that he was irritated.

“Regardless of our own positions, we are from the Great Confucian Empire. You are now being hostile to your own kind by colluding with the enemies.”

“Taizhai Zhu, don’t be petty on me. It doesn’t work. The Little Prince believes me. On the other hand, Do you really think that the Fox Wolf Immortal Master has the full authority in the Great Confucian Empire? How ridiculous.” The old man seemed to despise his arrogant and bossy manner.

“Fine. I will surely inform the Fox Wolf Immortal Master about today’s incident. Hopefully, the Little Prince can defend you by then. Let’s go,” Taizhai Zhu planned to leave after finishing his line resolutely.

“Did I allow you to leave?” Qing Shui called out abruptly.

Taizhai Zhu shivered and turned around to look at Qing Shui. Keeping the same expression, he said, “What, you want to take my life?”

“It would only take the slightest effort to kill you. As it stands, you came to murder me today. It would be too easy if I were to let you go.” Qing Shui stared at Taizhai Zhu with a cold gaze.

“Bastard, you’ve already killed my eldest brother. Don’t get too ahead of yourself. I would certainly come back for justice in the future.” Said Taizhai Zhu while trembling.

“Is that so? In that case, why don’t I settle this matter today instead of waiting for you to come back? I have other things to do in the future.” Qing Shui’s eyes lit up with a burning desire to murder. He dashed toward Taizhai Zhu at once.

Qing Shui knew very well that they were completely at feud now after killing Taizhai Zhu’s eldest brother. Besides, it was clear that these two brothers were not up to any good. They would go all means to reach their goals. Also, they were capable warriors. Qing Shui felt uneasy to let this man live.

Qing Shui did not encourage anyone to be ruthless but he was not against it at the same time. Under special occasions, it was necessary to kill to be the last one standing.

“What a malicious bastard, trying to kill me. Cheng Yuan, do you really intend to watch this happen as he kills our men from the Great Confucian Empire? Even if we don’t get along, we are unanimous against the outsiders. If today’s incident reaches the Great Emperor, not even the Little Prince could defend you.” Taizhai Zhu yelled loudly.

This time, Cheng Yuan’s expression had finally changed. In split seconds, he appeared between Qing Shui and Taizhai Zhu. Taizhai Zhu was right. They were all from the Great Confucian Empire no matter what. Though opposing each other, the force behind them was the only justification. The Great Emperor would not want this to happen. Internal conflicts were fine, but this situation was not allowed in the presence of outsiders.

“Young man, what do you think of my previous suggestion? The Great Confucian Empire is not as unbearable as you thought. It will only benefit you to join the Great Confucian Empire. Besides, your movement will not be restricted and you can enjoy convenience in this area that you can’t imagine.” Cheng Yuan seemed to have a preference for Qing Shui and tried to persuade him to the best of his ability.

“Old man, why would you defend this kind of man?” Qing Shui ignored Cheng Yuan’s question.

“I actually want him to die as well, but not now. For my sake, everything will be settled if you can join the Great Confucian Empire. You don’t have to worry about your friends’ safety. You are currently strong, but still far behind and cannot go against the Great Confucian Empire all alone.” Cheng Yuan was straightforward.

Qing Shui clearly knew the eminence of the Great Confucian Empire. Or else, it would not take a leading role in this region. An Empire that was stronger than the Immortal Sect, it was nothing weaker than the Immortal Palace as well.

Qing Shui recalled the Five Tiger Immortal Sect. He wondered if the Five Tiger Immortal Sect could be compared to the Immortal Palace. Maybe, he was capable of handling Tantai Lingyan’s affair but unfortunately, he could not find the location of the Five Tiger Immortal Sect.

“Old man, I really don’t think so. You are not the chief of the Great Confucian Empire. If you were the chief, I might consider. However, you’re not. I am really not interested,” Qing Shui shook his head.

Qing Shui did not want to join any force at the present. Though the forces he joined were not absolutely strong, they were like an eagle spreading wings and soaring up high. They would certainly be one of the rulers in the sky someday.

Qing Shui was confident. Without forming his own sect, he was the Patriarch of the Heavenly Palace. Both Sunset Sea King Palace and Dragonwolf Palace were associated with Qing Shui but those were not considered his own sect.

Qing Shui's forces were fully formed but still far behind the Great Confucian Empire's level. However, together with the few women, Qing Shui had gathered enough strength. He would be able to take charge soon.

"I understand. What about this, young man? You can take a few days to consider the proposal. Let's stop here for today, alright?" Cheng Yuan said after a brief moment of thoughts. He knew that he could not force Qing Shui as it would only bring the opposite outcome. Cheng Yuan thought he had a good intuition and that this young man definitely had a great future potential.

Qing Shui nodded after thinking for a while, "Sure. I'll think about it, old man."

Qing Shui thought it would be for the best to avoid the irreconcilable adversaries with the Great Confucian Empire for the time being, regardless of the upcoming situation. Besides, Qing Shui trusted the three actual Masters of Great Confucian.

There was an internal conflict in the flourishing Great Confucian Empire currently. As Cheng Yuan said earlier, the Great Confucian Empire was divided into three sects, the Fox Wolf Immortal Master, the Little Prince, and another unnamed one. It would not be easy to stand a place between these two men. From the admiration and respect of the Taizhai brothers to the Fox Wolf Immortal Master, Qing Shui knew that he was no piece of cake. To be able to match with such a person, the Little Prince and another man would surely be tough as well.

Chapter 1919 - Half-Mountain King Lin Clan, Barbarian Emperor

After the others had left, Qing Shui and the gang returned to the Imperial Cuisine Hall. Everyone's morale was great as Qing Shui's performance proved that he was able to stand a place in the battle. However, they were a little upset that they could only watch without helping.

Qing Shui knew their thoughts by seeing their expressions. He asked, "What's wrong? Aren't you happy that we chased them away?"

"Qing Shui, we weren't able to do anything. Are we useless?" Lan Lingfeng sounded demotivated.

The others stayed quiet and looked at Qing Shui since Lan Lingfeng had asked the question on behalf of them. After all, Qing Shui had to bear the responsibility alone. It was normal for them to think this way.

"You've been overthinking. Each of you has your identity. Mr. Lan, you're the Battle God Inheritor. This situation was trivial. In the future, you will certainly fight together with me. You can even do so now, although you're lacking in strength." Qing Shui encouraged.

"I will train hard for sure. I will strive to be alongside with you as soon as possible." Lan Lingfeng's eyes rekindled with his fighting spirit as if he had found hope again.

"That will happen for sure, but you still need time." Qing Shui patted his shoulder while smiling.

“Little Sister Dongfang, how is the Great Confucian Empire? What do you know about the Fox Wolf Immortal Master, the Little Prince, and the third man?” Qing Shui and his men sat in the living room of Imperial Cuisine Hall.

Dongfang Zhiqiu looked at this man, feeling speechless. She knew that Qing Shui was younger than herself now. She had actually sensed it since the beginning. Yet, she preferred to address him as ‘Elder Brother Shui’. Previously, this man had called her ‘Younger Sister Dongfang’, and now it became ‘Little Sister Dongfang’.

Qing Shui gazed at her bitter eyes. Or perhaps, Qing Shui was the one who felt so. Smiling at her, he appeared quite handsome. It was warming as he showed a bright smile.

“I had met the Great Emperor once. He is the chief of the Great Confucian Empire. He looks like a middle-aged man who rarely gets involved in the empire’s affairs. Currently, the Barbarian Emperor is the one in charge. However, he is physically strong but mentally weak, so the Great Emperor ordered his followers to assist him. The three of them stand out among the most, including the youngest son of the Great Emperor. He is smart, witty, and gifted. The Great Emperor likes him a lot. He is known as the Little Prince.”

Dongfang Zhiqiu paused a moment before she continued, “The Crown Prince is another one besides the Little Prince. He is supposed to inherit the crown of the Great Emperor. However, Little Prince is a huge threat to his inheritance. The Fox Wolf Immortal Master is the Crown Prince’s father-in-law.”

Qing Shui had some questions he wanted to ask but he held his tongue, knowing that she had yet to finish her line.

“Also, there's someone who does not belong to the royal family, the Half-Mountain King. That means he owns half of the Great Confucian Empire from the Lin clan. The Great Emperor may look fine now but he already has one foot in the grave. He might not even live for another ten years. Somebody had begun to itch for some actions since more than ten years ago.”

Qing Shui frowned, “Who is the Barbarian Emperor?”

Dongfang Zhiqiu was not surprised as she saw it coming, “The Barbarian Emperor is not from the royal family. He is a follower of the Great Emperor. He had followed the Great Emperor for several hundred years after being saved by the Great Emperor. This man is extremely strong physically. Though he is less witty, his abilities are absolutely powerful. He is very devoted to the Great Emperor.”

“How could someone slow-witted handle the state affairs?” Qing Shui wondered.

“All decisions are results of the discussion of the people below, the three forces.”

Qing Shui had understood by now. The three forces were about the same, pinning down one another. This would not work in the long run, he believed. “Since the Great Emperor is not going to live long, who will he pass his crown to? Who will become the Great Emperor of the Great Confucian Empire?”

“The Half-Mountain King does not own half of the Great Confucian Empire, despite his title says. Still, he is really strong. Even the Great Emperor is afraid of him. The Fox Wolf Immortal Master and the Crown Prince are in an advantageous situation since they are the royal close relatives and the Crown Prince is supposed to be the heir. However, the Crown Prince is treacherous and cruel. Though he appeared

cultured and elegant, he is actually deceitful, evil, and brutal. He is also very lascivious. He did countless evil deeds but no one could stop him.”

“Interesting. It seems like internal fights are common everywhere.”

After listening to Qing Shui, Dongfang Zhiqiu continued, “The Little Prince is the Great Emperor’s youngest son and also the most popular among the public. Most importantly, his strength is unrivaled with his royal inheritance. This man is schematic but righteous. He has a lot of powerful followers too. He has the most optimistic prospects and the biggest threat to the Crown Prince.”

“The royal inheritance, interesting.”

Qing Shui knew the royal inheritance was actually about the born-to-be Emperor. This royal inheritance usually happened in the royal family with an immense Royal’s Qi. Qing Shui recalled that he had the Emperor’s Qi. That meant he was even greater than the royals.

However, the Masters of Confucian bothered Qing Shui the most. The Little Prince seemed tough to handle, having these people around him. After all, he must be extraordinary to make Cheng Yuan and others follow him willingly. One question suddenly popped out in Qing Shui’s mind, “Is the Little Prince an adult yet?”

Dongfang Zhiqiu rolled her eyes at Qing Shui, “ Do you think everyone is like you? The Little Prince has already been a centenarian thirty years ago.”

“Little Sister Dongfang, I'm an adult too!” Qing Shui stared at Dongfang Zhiqiu seriously.

The others stifled their laughs while Lan Lingfeng was impressed by Qing Shui. He self-regarded as a Casanova but he felt the huge gap from Qing Shui now. For example, he would never have the courage to call the Grand State Master Dongfang as ‘Little Sister Dongfang’. It would be good enough to act like his usual self in front of her.

It was not Lan Lingfeng’s fault to feel so. The strength discrepancy brought out his inferiority complex as she gave out an aura subconsciously. That was an awe-inspiring and magnificent charisma, similar to a ferocious man who could frighten someone with a stare.

Everyone stayed up late chatting whereas Qing Shui had a lot of thoughts. He was reluctant to get into the mess of Great Confucian Empire but he was also worried about the affairs here even without getting involved. After all, Lan Lingfeng and the women were here. It would not work unless everyone leaves. That was impossible since the Sunset Sea King Palace and Dragonwolf Palace were based here. Besides, Yu Niang and the rest stayed here as well.

Most importantly, avoidance was not Qing Shui’s practice. One might be able to evade some things safely, but it should be avoided unless in desperate conditions as it could largely influence his temperament.

Otherwise, he would have to choose between the three forces. By joining a camp, he would be against the other two. If he chose not to join, he would be up against all three of them. Moreover, Qing Shui needed to expand his strength by befriending powerful forces. Hence, he planned to assist one of them.

Which one to choose among them was still a question. He could not simply decide after listening to one side. Apart from that, the Heavenly Chess Immortal Palace and Five Poison Immortal Palace were coming soon, so there might be other changes. However, Qing Shui could foresee an upcoming chaos in the Great Confucian Empire soon. This was an irreconcilable internal conflict.

Chapter 1920 - Eldest Brother of Dongfang Zhiqiu, Reality?

Qing Shui regained some confidence and worried less about the matter. He kept himself occupied by refining medicine and carrying out bizarre experiments. He also instructed in others' training, improved their constitutions and strengthened their foundations with his Art of Healing and other abilities.

One day, as the sun was well up, a big group of people came. They were dressed uniquely, apparently from the same place. Their shirt was silver-colored with a hand-sized checkerboard on its lower left corner. It was finely decorated with some chess pieces on top. Some of them had similar checkerboards, with a different number of black and white chessmen.

Heavenly Chess Immortal Palace!

Needless to say, the Heavenly Chess Immortal Palace was here. The leading one was a middle-aged guy who was lean and appeared tall. His hair was messy. He appeared seemingly experienced in life but neat-looking.

His deep and sorrowful eyes were strongly pressuring just by being there. His exact age was unknown, but he shouldn't be too old.

Qing Shui figured out that cultivation was essential from a very young age. One must be absolutely talented during their youth to go places as they grew up. Time was crucial, but the natural quality was even more vital. Hence, one would be deemed to be worthless if they had no achievements before the age of 100. Late bloomers weren't a frequent thing.

After 100 years, one could still improve rapidly, but they would often reach their peak at 200 years old. After that, their advancement depended on accumulation and great fortune. Thus, some powerful warriors were very young, around 200 years old. Yet, a 1000-year-old senior monster would have his own dreadful abilities under years of intensive study. His experiences would lead to specialized and might have a miraculous effect.

At around 200 years old, a warrior was usually tenacious. At that time, they would have a matured mind, a developed strength, and probably at their peak stage of life. Later on, they would reach a peaceful stage with or without breakthroughs due to a different state of the realm. That was common when they had owned whatever they desired and gained all the satisfaction. They would finally settle down gradually and that would be after 300 or 400 years.

At this stage, it was very critical to cultivate one's moral character. To be open-hearted towards conflicts, and to understand things in life thoroughly was necessary. Some would start feeling pessimistic in this phase when they could no longer find their life pursuits. With powerful strengths, loads of properties, plenty of wives, and many attendants, they had the absolute power and full control of life.

In Qing Shui's view, the man before him was slightly older than 100 years. He looked unspirited yet slick. It was hard to define his stand between good and evil. His messy, long hair gave him an unspoken charm of a matured man.

Qing Shui discovered that this man looked alike with Dongfang Zhiqiu and reckoned they were somehow related. The man led more than a hundred men and was accompanied by roughly ten elderlies behind him. Those old men were not inferior to the Taizhai Brothers in any aspects.

The Heavenly Chess Immortal Palace was indeed generous. They seemed to send many capable men this time.

"Eldest brother!" At that moment, Dongfang Zhiqiu stepped out and shouted out happily. Soon after, she walked over in a hurry.

"Xiao Qiu!"

Dongfang Zhiqiu hugged the man joyfully while he patted her head affectionately.

Qing Shui observed by the side. Dongfang Zhiqiu was a matured and domineering beauty, but she acted like a little girl in front of this man.

After some time, she separated herself from the man and looked at Qing Shui bashfully, noticing that she had forgotten herself earlier on. Pulling on the man's hands, she said, "Eldest brother, let me introduce. This is Qing Shui. He has saved my life several times."

"Hello, Mr. Qing. I thank you for saving my little sister. I shall greatly reward you later." Said the man out of courtesy.

Qing Shui smiled and shook his head, "Hello, Mr. Dongfang. I didn't save your sister for the rewards. We were just on the same team at that time. It was my duty to help. You're welcome."

"Xiao Qiu, Father had asked you to go home. Don't join in any other affairs here." The man told Dongfang Zhiqiu after nodding to Qing Shui.

"Brother, I won't leave. The Great Confucian Empire has their sights on this place. The Five Poison Immortal Palace will probably come too. I owed my life to them. I have to face it with them." Dongfang Zhiqiu's expression became serious after listening to the man.

"The Great Confucian Empire and the Five Poison Immortal Palace are no weaker than our Heavenly Chess Immortal Palace. You can't help with anything here. Go home. I will stay here in your stead. Come and be nice." The man said in a gentle tone with his deep stare.

"I'll stay along with you to fight them." Dongfang Zhiqiu looked uneasy and continued appealing.

Qing Shui smiled calmly, "Listen to your brother and return to your home. It will be fine here."

The man was surprised after hearing Qing Shui's words. He wondered how this young man could be so confident. The main reason he came today was only to bring Dongfang Zhiqiu home. Others' fate was really none of his business.

He was not a cold-hearted person but it was the survival of the fittest. Under certain circumstances, one should be more resolute and relentless. Or else, he might not be able to sustain the resultant loss. The man admitted being a loyal person. However, it was too knotty in this case. Both the Great Confucian Empire and the Five Poison Immortal Palace were not to be trifled.

“Elder Brother Shui, you had offered to rescue me many times. I would rather die than to leave now. I will not return.” Dongfang Zhiqiu firmly asserted. By now, anyone knew that it would be impossible to convince her to go home, except by using special measures.

“Xiao Qiu, listen to me!” The man said, while tapping on the side of Dongfang Zhiqiu’s neck. This action made her faint immediately.

Qing Shui simply looked at the man. Neither did he stop him nor say anything. He could see that this man had no bad intentions to Dongfang Zhiqiu. Instead, he treasured her very much. Qing Shui knew that they were blood siblings, based on their powerful strengths.

“Mr. Qing, I might be selfish, but I have no other choice. I can’t make the decision in a big Sect. You’ve saved my sister. I will try my best to satisfy your requests. What would you want?” The man asked Qing Shui.

Surprisingly, he was straightforward and seemed to be leaving. Qing Shui had nothing to say to a man like this. Though knowing that he had come here to take Dongfang Zhiqiu back, Qing Shui thought that it was rather inappropriate for him to simply leave after he had completed his objective. However, the current situation and the people behind him essentially forced him to.

Qing Shui was not moved, so he nodded calmly, “I don't need anything and you owe me nothing. Wake her up and I will make her go back with you willingly.”

The man hesitated a while before tapping Dongfang Zhiqiu’s body. Not before long, Dongfang Zhiqiu came back to consciousness. She was agitated the moment she woke up. She struggled away from the man when she noticed Qing Shui’s presence.

“Go back with your brother. You can't help me with anything even if you stay. After going through these days, you should know that I am capable of protecting myself. It's meaningless to insist. You'll only leave without awareness. Listen to me and go back. We will meet again in the future.” Qing Shui said, leaving no room for an argument.

Dongfang Zhiqiu wanted to continue but Qing Shui waved, “ Go. It's the right timing to leave now.”

After finishing his line, Qing Shui turned around and walked to the Imperial Cuisine Hall, followed by the rest.

The man’s eyes shifted to the Imperial Cuisine Hall, “Little sister, you really don't have to worry about him. He has no problem in protecting himself at all.”