

Ancient ST 2251

Chapter 2251 Demon Gate Wants to Destroy the Taiyi Immortal Palace. Confronting Her

The Ancient Demonic Fruit was great, almost comparable to the Sacred Fruit and the attraction demonic beasts had for it was even more remarkable.

The item that Qing Shui gave Shen Huang had the elements of the Ancient Demonic Fruit. When the Black Ice Divine Worm saw it, her eyes lit up instantly.

Qing Shui's medicinal pill was mighty as always. It healed the Black Ice Divine Worm instantaneously and greatly improved its might. The Black Ice Divine Worm was quite formidable strength-wise, but its venom-related attribute was undeniably stronger. Qing Shui could, on the other hand, craft toxin pills and was able to increase their abilities to their fullest.

Qing Shui's unique Constitution Nurturing abilities were able to stabilize a poison beast's foundation and increase its toxicity. The Gold Needle could unleash its powers and increase lethality.

About four hours later, the Black Ice Divine Worm's power startled even Shen Huang. Now she was the owner of two terrifying beasts, the Rainbow Divine Dragon and the Black Ice Divine Worm.

The Rainbow Divine Dragon cycle was a tad long. While it could battle now, there was a drastic discrepancy between the two creatures.

The Black Ice Divine Worm was terrifyingly powerful now, even the Diamond White Tiger King wouldn't necessarily be its match. Even though the Diamond White Tiger King was a saint-type Beast, it could not counter poison. Based purely on the attributes, it would be suppressed by the Black Ice Divine Worm.

Qing Shui kept the nine spawns of the Black Ice Divine Worm in the Treasure Basin.

Living things couldn't be placed inside, but the current state of the Black Ice Divine Worms should be fine. If the Treasure Basin doubled their quality now, Qing Shui expected them to be able to greatly surpass their mother in terms of strength.

Moreover, they would be nurtured from young, and Qing Shui had a few valuable items which could be used for such cases. These spawns of the Black Ice Divine Worm would be equally intimidating in the future.

Shen Huang was now a custodian at the Divine Palace along with Beihuang Fan, and they had the power to live up to their titles. They both even had exceedingly strong demonic beasts.

As predicted, they were just in time for dinner by the time they returned to the Divine Palace.

Beihuang Fan was aware of Qing Shui and Shen Huang's whereabouts and spoke up. "Be sure to give me a few of them next time."

"Of course, I'd be fine with giving all of them to you too." Qing Shui smiled.

"Forget it then. It doesn't sound like it's anything valuable in this case," Beihuan Fan reciprocated with a laugh of her own.

Qing Shui was rendered speechless. After cooking some dishes, the three had a gleeful meal together. They had a mutual understanding that nothing could happen in the presence of all three of them. Qing Shui wouldn't make a move when both women were there.

The two women approached Qing Shui. He didn't look as though his soul had been robbed anymore. They knew how important Tantai Lingyan was to Qing Shui, and these things could only be dealt with by himself.

"Qing Shui, there's something I have to tell you," Beihuang Fan said after careful thinking.

Qing Shui was startled and asked, "What is it?"

"Demon Gate is planning on attacking the Taiyi Immortal Palace," Beihuang Fan replied gently.

She was the Young Mistress of the Beihuang Clan, and the Beihuang Clan was the leader of the Taiyi Immortal Palace.

"When?" Qing Shui asked after an elongated pause.

"She said she'd give the Taiyi Immortal Palace three days. She will attack the Taiyi Immortal Palace by then," Beihuang Fan stated.

Qing Shui nodded. "Don't worry. It'll be alright."

Beihuang Fan watched Qing Shui and said, "Don't go there, Qing Shui."

"If there aren't any invincible warriors at the Taiyi Immortal Palace, then they won't be able to fight against them. That's right, what's the Taiyi Immortal Palace's Guardian? How is it?" Qing Shui asked.

"It's a sword, an ancient sword. I'm not sure about the details but according to my father, the ancient has grown too old and long past its prime years." Beihuang Fan didn't seem to know much about the Guardian Sword either.

Once it was settled, Beihuang Fan made her return to the Taiyi Immortal Palace.

When the old Golden Battle God left, anything regarding the Divine Palace had naturally fallen into Qing Shui's lap.

While the Demon Gate wasn't weak, Qing Shui thought that the scariest existence among them was Tantai Lingyan. No one else there posed a threat to Qing Shui. The thought of it made him feel bitter; to have your lover become your worst enemy. He still couldn't get past the fact in that short while.

Shen Huang stood beside him and could feel Qing Shui's train of thoughts. "Don't think too much about it. We'll take a look in three days' time."

Qing Shui nodded. He wouldn't allow her to hurt him as she pleased again. This time, they would be battling until the very end with neither showing mercy to the other. The people there would die for nothing otherwise. She wasn't who she was before and the person he missed was all in the past.

Qing Shui could understand that; nevertheless, it was still hard to accept.

Time flew by and the day Qing Shui dreaded the most was here. Qing Shui arrived a day before to establish the formations. Regardless of good or bad, formations were mandatory. In fact, he had done up a chain formation. He still hadn't heard or seen the Taiyi Immortal Palace's Guardian Sword.

All formations were ready, just needing activation. Dozens of people from the Divine Palace came, leaving the common folk behind. There wouldn't be any use in them coming anyway.

Three days went by in haste. On that day, the sun was shining bright with thousands of golden rays penetrating the haze above the Taiyi Immortal Palace. Beihuang Liefeng was aware that the Demon Gate was a formidable opponent, and while he seemed full of excitement, he still felt the immense pressure. If the Taiyi Immortal Palace lost their current generation, he wouldn't be able to answer to their ancestors even if he died along with them.

"They're here. The people from the Demon Gate are here!"

"There aren't many of them!"

"They don't need the numbers. That woman, who is as beautiful as Young Mistress Beihuang, would be enough to suppress us all. It matters not how many of them come, but whether she comes with the entourage. Else, the Taiyi Immortal Palace will have nothing to fear."

"Hmm, It wasn't just the woman from the Demon Gate who's as beautiful as Young Mistress Beihuang. Look at the woman beside the Divine Palace's Palace Lord. She's not inferior to the other two."

"That's right. Why do I feel as though all the beautiful women are related to him in some way?"

"Exactly. Wasn't the woman at the Demon Gate together with him before they separated due to the pressure? To take revenge on him..."

"Oh, so this was instigated by relationship issues. Women sure are terrifying, especially the beautiful ones. I'm not going to look for beautiful women anymore."

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It was a given that Qing Shui could hear the commotion, but he didn't say a word. That was how rumors were like, able to spin facts into all sorts of other stories. With a little of each individual's creative additions, the rumor suddenly became a fact when it had been told to a hundred others.

Right now, Qing Shui was focusing on the faraway sky. The one leading the entourage was a woman in red attire; it didn't conceal her ice-cold demeanor. You couldn't conceal an aura like that; it could be felt from thousands of miles away.

There were about twenty to thirty of them, each riding their own demonic beast in an imposing manner. Traces of their movements dragged out behind them.

Activate formations!

Qing Shui activated the formations at once, but he, Beihuang Liefeng, and some others were outside of it. They were standing in mid-air, facing off with those from the Demon Gate.

"We meet again." Qing Shui stepped out and looked at Tantai Lingyan.

“You are...? You are Qing Shui. How did your hair turn white?” Tantai Lingyan might have been cold, but she seemed more natural than the last time they had met. Though she was surprised, her tone was still calm.

Chapter 2252 Her Self-Inflicted Injury

“You are...? You are Qing Shui. How did your hair turn white?”

Qing Shui was filled with mixed emotions at her words. She had completely forgotten who he was, only that he was Qing Shui from their previous encounter. Even then, it was Old Turtle who told her of his identity. If it hadn't been for Old Turtle, Qing Shui might have already been killed by her hands.

Clearly, Qing Shui wouldn't divulge that he changed because of her. She was no longer the same person whom he had been familiar with. What should he do? Could he really treat her like a stranger?

“Give it up. This place is not your battlefield. What's the point even if you razed it to the ground?” Qing Shui persuaded.

He was not afraid of the battle. But of course, he was afraid that his kin and friends would die in her hands. If that were the case, then they'd be forced to fight until their dying breath. Even if he could kill her, she'd still leave him wounded. Qing Shui couldn't bear to imagine that scenario.

Qing Shui didn't spare a glance at the Demon Kings behind her. He had never cared about them.

“Who do you think you are? Why should I listen to you? Even if it's not my battlefield, I'd still need to take this step at a point in time. Taking over this place is a step for the Demon Gate into entering the depths of the Nine Continents World,” Tantai Lingyan looked at Qing Shui and spoke seriously.

“Who do I think I am? That's right... Who am I indeed,” Qing Shui replied bitterly.

“Why did you seek revenge? How did you wake up? You were sealed away for a hundred years, do you not remember how you came to?” Qing Shui watched her.

Nobody had told her about these before. She did ask but didn't receive an answer. Old Turtle wouldn't tell her in fear that she couldn't handle it and kill off Qing Shui. If that was the case, then he'd rather not speak a word about it. This version of Tantai Lingyan couldn't be treated like her in the past.

“Sure, I am curious. Why wasn't I able to recall all those muddled memories yet retain the memories of Demon Gate? I want to strengthen the Demon Gate, that's my destiny.” Tantai Lingyan kept her eyes on Qing Shui. She had the Demon Saint Blood flowing in her; this was indeed her destiny.

“You were awakened by me thirty years ago in the Greencloud Continent. I spent the next twenty years training and catching up to you, and I did it. We are a married couple, but you disappeared two years ago. We met during our previous encounter when I heard you've returned. I've always been preparing to avenge you. Never did I expect you to do so before me,” Qing Shui stated calmly.

Everyone fell into silence. Meanwhile, Beihuang Fan and Shen Huang looked from Qing Shui to Tantai Lingyan.

Although Qing Shui had explained it in simple terms, everyone could feel his love for the woman through the misery in his voice. He had contributed a lot yet was nearly killed by the same person. After all, he fell into isolation after being hurt.

“Lingyan, you may not recognize me anymore. Qing Shui became this way during his return previously. You might not have struck him hard, but he was so heartbroken he fell into isolation. He was low in vitality at that point. You’re very important to him and loved him so much. Yet, how could you bear to kill him now?” Beihuang Fan spoke softly as she looked at Tantai Lingyan.

Beihuang Fan didn’t like Tantai Lingyan much at this point. The latter hurt Qing Shui to the extent of nearly losing his life and wanted to attack her Taiyi Immortal Palace. Beihuang Fan wasn’t a pushover.

Tantai Lingyan wore a strange expression. She observed Qing Shui, not able to believe what she just heard. This stranger was her man, and she was married to him?

“It is true. He was indeed your husband, and you were happy with him for many years. Those years represent your happiest period. I had once asked you if you would kill him someday, do you know what you said to me?” Old Turtle said sadly.

“What did I say?” Tantai Lingyan was perplexed.

“You said that you’d rather kill yourself than hurt him. Now that this day has come, you drew your sword of death towards him without hesitation. The sword in your hand was gifted to you by him. He refined that Coldfrost by himself. Even your footwear was done by him, as was your previous outfit. There were many things you owned which were gifted by him.” Old Turtle realized that this was his chance.

Tantai Lingyan paled. She knew that the old man wouldn’t lie to her. No matter how much she had changed, her respect for Old Turtle was unwavering; he was her senior after all. She raised the sword slowly; there was a slight tremble to her hands.

The Demon Kings at the Demon Gate weren’t void of emotions. They were sincere towards true friends and their family members. She couldn’t believe it. If they were speaking the truth, then this was all too terrifying for her.

“You may not believe it, but I want to persuade you nonetheless. Yan’er, I’d never hurt you. If you kill these people here today, you may commit suicide from despair in the future. Even then, it might not cleanse you of guilt. He’s the most important person in your life,” Old Turtle continued.

Tantai Lingyan fell into silence. She had Demonic Saint Blood and wouldn’t be completely controlled by the tendencies and logic. She didn’t know why she had forgotten so many things from the past. Was this amnesia or were there other reasons?

“How could it be? I’m a Demon King, and you’re a Battle God.” Tantai Lingyan muttered in disbelief.

“You were kind. I helped you understand the demon attributes in the Demon King’s blood and thought nothing would happen. I didn’t expect that you were of Demon Saint Blood,” Qing Shui said; he was embarrassed. How he wished Tantai Lingyan had the generic Demon King blood instead.

“Am I ruthless now?” Tantai Lingyan watched Qing Shui.

“You’re a stranger now. My Lingyan wouldn’t have behaved this way. I’m upset that I didn’t take better care of you. How I wish you could recall a portion of our memories.” Qing Shui answered, his voice laced with both disappointment and anticipation.

“I can’t remember them. Regardless whether it’s real or a farce, you’re not dead. If it’s the truth, then it hasn’t led to disaster yet. I’ll not look for you any further and hope the same sentiments are reciprocated for the Demon Gate.” Tantai Lingyan softly spoke these words to Qing Shui.

“Whatever that is between us is separated from your destiny. They wouldn’t conflict. The Divine Palace and the Demon Gate would surely clash in the future, and I wouldn’t be able to stay as a bystander with my position as Palace Lord. You won’t have to show mercy. It’s fine even if you attack today. It’s better to face some things sooner than later.” Qing Shui shook his head.

Tantai Lingyan frowned. “I really can’t remember, and I may never will. I’m afraid I’d kill you.”

“Death isn’t scary, and you may not be able to kill me either. I’ve thought it through. The person you are now is not my Lingyan. If tragedy was to play out, then perhaps it’s because we aren’t fated.” Qing Shui’s voice was hoarse and deep. It was difficult for him to say these words.

“In that case, then let’s battle then. You didn’t retaliate when I struck you before, so you can do the same to me now. This way, I wouldn’t owe you a thing,” Tantai Lingyan said, as calmly as usual.

“There’s no need,” Qing Shui rejected.

Chapter 2253 Despondent Divine Mountain, Training to the Extreme

“I’ll return this debt to you on your behalf then. You gifted this sword to me, so let’s just use this.” The sword in Tantai Lingyan’s hands pierced through her own shoulder. Her eyes remained fixated on Qing Shui.

Qing Shui wanted to stop her, but he was too late. He felt a stab of pain shooting through his chest, his face paled and his body was trembling.

“Why did you have to do that?” Qing Shui struggled to get the words out.

Tantai Lingyan was startled. She had inflicted an injury on herself, but the man opposite her was just as wounded. He coughed out a mouthful of blood. She could vaguely feel that what they had said had been the truth. Could it be that the part she was missing in her memories was really him?

“Take care. We may just battle when we meet again next.” Tantai Lingyan looked at Qing Shui one last time before leaving.

Qing Shui didn’t say a word and watched as her beautiful silhouette grew smaller until it was gone.

At a distance, Beihuang Liefeng and the others didn’t breathe a word either as they approached. They sighed inwardly; relationships between youths were truly complicated.

Regardless, this incident had concluded. For the Taiyi Immortal Palace, they had escaped a crisis; they might just have been destroyed otherwise. The Demon Gate really had the ability to do so.

“As a man, you’ll need to learn to let go. Sometimes, it’s useless to feel hurt. You might as well worry about how to get her back instead.” Beihuang Liefeng patted Qing Shui’s shoulder.

Qing Shui heart skipped at Beihuang Liefeng’s words. He had been so entangled in the fact that she had forgotten about their memories, that they’d have to fight to their deaths if she couldn’t recall them. Why not start afresh and change her?

He had once been so weak when they were together, but he didn’t retreat even after knowing that she was the Demon King, even the Demon Lord. Yet, even though he had grown stronger, he didn’t have the same dedication when he found out that she had the Demon Saint Blood.

“Thank you, I understand now,” Qing Shui replied seriously.

“Haha, that’s good. Let’s go, let us have a drink.”

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Just like that, the incident at the Taiyi Immortal Palace concluded and the Demon Gate calmed down as well without further expansions. However, the strength within the Demon Gate continued to increase. He didn’t know the reason why, but many Demon Kings began to approach the Demon Gate. Perhaps it was the might of the Demon Saint Blood which made them willing to serve under her.

Compared to the Demon Gate, the Divine Palace’s expansion was much slower but with great improvements.

Under Qing Shui’s guidance, the Beast King Battle God’s abilities received a significant boost. The Eight-Headed Golden Lion grew a ninth head which had the horns of a dragon. The Beast King Battle God was exhilarated by the progress.

The Golden Lion had the blood of a Suanni Lion, one of the strongest existences according to rumors. It had true dragon blood, a purebred demonic beast.

The Nine-Headed Golden Lion’s value and abilities increased in multiples. The Beast King Battle God was elated; perhaps he could rely on the Nine-Headed Golden Lion to admonish for justice in the future.

The Iguana King’s abilities increased by much also, as did the three Moonwolf Kings. They had each grown a head and entered the later stages of their evolution, with abilities increased by a lot compared to the past.

The Buddha Battle God’s power also improved after studying the Buddha’s True Eyes Battle Technique. Under its effects, many aspects of his combat increased substantially.

Qing Shui helped to unleash 20% of the Mighty Strength Battle God’s potential. The former didn’t find it tedious at the start, but the latter suffered much to attain this. He practiced to the limits every day. Not everyone would be able to tolerate it.

The Mighty Strength Battle God was young but resilient. He wasn’t afraid of suffering. Compared to the first time they had met, his abilities had now doubled. There couldn’t be a happier news for a warrior, and any suffering was well worth it.

The other battle gods received much help in improving from Qing Shui as well. At the very least, Qing Shui had placed several Spirit Gathering Formations on the mountain, allowing people in the Divine Palace to train faster.

Apart from that, he also planted Spirit Grass, increasing the Spiritual Qi around the mountain.

When Qing Shui headed to the rear mountain, the Sky-Obstructing Crow nodded at him in acknowledgement and said, "Not bad. If only your caves could turn to gold."

"These caves can also change?" Qing Shui asked curiously.

"There were rumors that they could, but it was unclear as to how. In any case, It's time for you to train your physical body and open new caves until you reach the Nine Caves Realm," the Sky-Obstructing Crow said.

"I seek your advice then." Qing Shui replied sincerely.

"There's a mountain stream, a hundred miles North from here, with an enormous waterfall. Don't use any Origin Qi when you're there and make use of only your physical body to withstand those powerful currents. There may be boulders as big as hills which will roll down with the current. That's the only place to achieve the desired effect. It'd be even better if you could walk up the stream while carrying the giant rock but remember you can't use your Origin Qi," the Sky-Obstructing Crow emphasized.

Qing Shui nodded and thanked him. He left after checking the skies. It was still early in the day, so he could experience it now.

The mountain was huge, as was the waterfall. Qing Shui took in the view and realized just how majestic the scenery was. The mountain reached for the skies, and there were rumors that it was still rising. Watching the world from atop the mountain, he realized just how tiny humans were.

The giant water screen gushed down from various streams. It was just a waterfall that hung from above; there were several power currents among them.

The powerful currents were multiple times scarier than the biggest river he had seen in his previous life. Many stones were wedged among the rolls of currents, with each the size of a small hill. They rumbled as the currents rolled, with debris chipping off into smaller pieces. The huge rocks gradually became smaller in this manner.

Qing Shui stripped himself of his powers as he walked into the current, drenched by it in an instant. Thereafter, he felt the huge boulders and smaller rocks smashing down relentlessly. It was terrifying enough when it was rolling down a normal mountain, but with the help of the currents, he could feel pain all over his body.

Qing Shui's body was strong, and he felt fine at first. However, he soon realized that this wasn't the case. There was seemingly a layer of restrictions around the area. The moment he stepped into it, half of his abilities seemed to have been confined.

Qing Shui understood it quickly and realized why the Sky-Obstructing Crow had told him to go there. It seemed as if the reason it suited him was precisely because of this.

Gritting his teeth, Qing Shui slowly walked up the currents as he carried the boulder.

Qing Shui intended to carry one that was as big as a small hill at first, but it seemed he had overestimated his abilities. Carrying this up was already tough, but he could still manage it.

Bruises must have filled his body by now. This was a difficult feat considering Qing Shui's constitution.

Thump!

Chapter 2254 Maximum Grand Perfection, 700 Billion Dao Defense

Just like that, Qing Shui advanced and retreated for a long time before he reached the peak. His body was aching all over, and he was exhausted. It had been a long time since he felt this exhausted, but he realized during the process that his fighting spirit was strong. He reached his goal.

When he returned, he thanked the Sky-Obstructing Crow once more and trained his body there every day thereafter.

A month passed in the blink of an eye.

Qing Shui could block the rolling boulders which were as big as a small hill now without moving. He could reach the peak of the mountain without a single backstep and there weren't many bruises on his body anymore. At this moment, he knew that it was time for the next step.

He began to carry a huge boulder that was also the size of a small hill. With its size, it was awkward for Qing Shui to carry it on his back and so he held it up instead. The moment he carried it, he sensed the increase in difficulty.

Thump!

After a distance, a dull thumping sound rang out. Qing Shui maintained a death grip on the mountain peak but was still cast aside from the impacts. Both Qing Shui and the boulder he was carrying were thrown back to the starting line.

After two days, his arms were incomparably tired and swollen. Reaching the peak was difficult enough, and with the terrifying clashes, Qing Shui wasn't able to keep his hold.

Qing Shui's perseverance was unquestionable. Lifting the boulder again, he proceeded forward once more before being knocked back again. Without realizing it, half a day passed as Qing Shui went to and fro. The first day was spent just like that.

As soon as he reached the surroundings of the peak, Qing Shui felt a surge of strength. Qing Shui deliberately stripped himself of Origin Qi when he started, just as the Sky-Obstructing Crow reminded. He knew now that he wouldn't be able to use it even if he wanted to. He supposed the Sky-Obstructing Crow only reminded him in case he was able to use it.

Everything regarding the Divine Palace was on the right track. Qing Shui would help to tend to some medical consultations from time to time but not for long. He spent the majority of his time at the giant waterfall as half a year went by.

Qing Shui was able to carry a giant boulder and reach the peak of the mountain now.

This was an improvement. A tiny silhouette was seen carrying a giant boulder as it went towards the peak step by step. If anyone were to find out that this was possible, they would be startled beyond words.

This was an abandoned Divine Mountain. It retained a type of restrictions which confined the powers of people within it to a certain degree. Origin Qi couldn't be used in here no matter how strong it was outside. It was extremely difficult to walk against the strong currents. Perhaps only selected purebred demonic beasts would be able to.

Qing Shui withstood the enormous current which defied nature, like a huge wave in the ocean. His silhouette was tiny amidst it, yet he carried a huge boulder which peeked out from the water. Half of it was submerged, resisting against the currents. How much strength was needed to pull this off...

Step by step without retreat. No matter how big the rocks which fell from the currents were, Qing Shui refused to let them push him back. He had faith and his feet stayed rooted to the ground. He took each step bravely on the endless route towards the peak. The mountain there was infinitely taller than the tallest mountain he had seen in his previous life.

Standing atop the peak, Qing Shui was calm. He threw the boulder down. At the start, Qing Shui wasn't be able to reach the mountain peak in just a day of walking due to its height. Then, he could do it faster, with bigger strides.

Qing Shui could now run up the mountain, each step requiring an immense amount of effort.

His body glowed like pure gold now with a soft golden ray illuminating around him. Qing Shui felt an explosive amount of power. The moment he stepped out of the Despondent Divine Mountain, it surged through his entire body.

In just half a year, Qing Shui's strength increased tremendously.

This sort of training suited Qing Shui best. Not only had his physical strength improved, but his cultivation also broke through by two realms. Another cave opened, and the eighth cave seemed to be opening soon.

The increase in his potential made Qing Shui feel deeply moved as well. Only his Nine Yang Body would be able to achieve this.

His caves increased much in strength too, but the greatest improvement was his maximum power.

Qing Shui had 55 billion Dao of attack power, and 550 billion Dao of defense.

With the Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda of defense, it increased 20% of defense, resulting in 660 billion Dao.

The Heavenly Fate Treasure Pagoda of Violence and Parry increased it by 55 billion, so now Qing Shui had 715 billion Dao of defense.

Qing Shui found it surreal. He had Emperor's Might now, resulting in not finding many experts being able to suppress him. Without the suppression, how strong would he have been? How strong would an attack by Stellar Transposition be? An instant kill?

Other than that, there was the Nine Continents Mountain. Its basic attack had 270 billion Dao of power, and it was a type of 100% probability of shield attack.

Qing Shui knew that he didn't have to go back to the Despondent Divine Mountain anymore; he had already reached his limit. When his physical body reached its limits, his potential would naturally be forced out. Any techniques would need hundreds of years to increase in strength by 1% or 2%, hence there was no use in wasting time.

Although he could be considered as a human desolate beast, his resistance to attacks wouldn't be broken even when confronted by those in the same realm as purebred, violent desolate beasts. Qing Shui had the mighty Flying Sword after all, which could greatly reduce attacks. If it was layered on by Emperor's Qi, he wouldn't be able to find a match for him. And Qing Shui didn't even need to use his greatest Battle God Halo or formation's strength.

Qing Shui felt that Tantai Lingyan might not even be able to win against him now. After all, he couldn't be suppressed.

With a gleeful heart, he returned to the Divine Palace and went to the rear mountain with Waft of Fragrance to drink with the Sky-Obstructing Crow.

The Waft of Fragrance was the Sky-Obstructing Crow's favorite drink made by Qing Shui. The last time they had drunk together was about a year ago. And since then, Qing Shui had finished brewing the wine; it should have been ready by then. The year it was made wasn't too long ago, but it had already aged for two thousand years. With the combination of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal and the increase in quality, it had two thousand years worth of quality.

"Not bad. Grand Perfection. You can go on a rampage now," the Sky-Obstructing Crow laughed and said.

Qing Shui was very thankful to this senior of his. He had provided him with immense help. There was a saying that an elderly at home was equivalent to a treasure, and it couldn't be more accurate. A sentence from a senior could help you get through ten, maybe even twenty years of life. It could even be life-changing.

"I seek your guidance," Qing Shui said politely.

"Haha, to be able to produce such a character like yourself, the Divine Palace would surely shine in the future. However, perhaps it would be better if you don't go up against that lady," the Sky-Obstructing Crow laughed and said

Chapter 2255 Learning Through Experience in the Northern Death Demon Mountain

"I don't plan on going up against her anymore. And I'm going to win her back," Qing Shui declared confidently.

The Sky-Obstructing Crow's words allowed Qing Shui to think it through. If he could do it before, why couldn't he do it now? Qing Shui was able to see the trace of light in the darkness. Even though Tantai Lingyan had attacked him and hadn't hesitated to kill him, she didn't remember her past either. That was forgivable.

“If you truly want to win her back, then why don’t you take a trip to the Northern Death Demon Mountain? Perhaps you’d be able to see things even clearer when you come out from there,” Sky-Obstructing Crow said as he put down the wine cup.

“Where is that?” Qing Shui asked.

“The Northern Death Demon Mountain is directly due North, around 80 million miles away. It’s crowded with Demon Mountains in that area, densely packed with Spiritual Qi. There are invincible demonic beasts there, including pure-blood desolate beasts among them. It’s their territory there. There are some spirit bodies there which are just as terrifying,” the Sky-Obstructing Crow explained slowly.

“Spirit bodies? What are they? Are they strong?” Qing Shui realized that there were many things he was unaware of.

“You’ll find out about that in the future. However, since you’ve asked, I can explain now. You are aware that besides humans and demonic beasts, there were also other types like the Aquatics. There are other species as well, such as the spirit race. These people are self-proclaimed God’s descendants. They look just like humans, but they have a stronger aptitude than humans. While they are fewer in numbers, each of them is a prodigy. They are a strong race, with both looks and abilities. Hence, they slowly became the divine race.” Sky-Obstructing Crow explained with a smile.

“So, while they are divine, they’re really just humans too. Then, they’re not much different compared to the demonic beasts, aren’t they?” Qing Shui was an atheist. He believed that these so-called gods were really just humans.

“Don’t underestimate them, they’re a race to be feared,” the Sky-Obstructing Crow reminded him once more.

“I understand. Thank you. I’d have to trouble you with the Divine Palace.”

“It’s my responsibility. My abilities have grown during this period as well. You don’t have to worry about the Divine Palace,” the Sky-Obstructing Crow reassured him confidently.

Qing Shui could feel that the Sky-Obstructing Crow had grown stronger as well. It was subtle, as though it carried a sort of unique power. With a nod, Qing Shui left the rear mountain.

Even though Qing Shui had spent much of his time at the Despondent Divine Mountain, he returned home every day. However, he was going to leave for a place 80 million miles away this time. That was not a distance which would allow his daily-return routine to be executed. The Earth in his previous life was only tens of thousands of miles in circumference. This was like the distance of going a full circle around his past life’s Earth.

The distance wasn’t far for Qing Shui, and it wasn’t that far away from the Taiqing Immortal Palace either. However, distance had nothing to do with it. He was there to learn through experience.

Beihuang Fan and Shen Huang stayed by Qing Shui’s side, but they slept in different rooms. Still, they were under the same roof and in the same living room.

Dining together.

“The Northern Death Demon Mountain is a dangerous place. Flee if you can’t win when you’re training there.” Beihuang Fan smiled.

She was different from the past now. After she had broken through and had been staying with Qing Shui recently, her mind had changed completely. Her desires had been fulfilled as well, and her heart was completely devoted to Qing Shui.

“Why don’t we get married when I’m back?” Qing Shui asked.

Beihuang Fan was startled while Shen Huang lowered her head.

“Young Mistress too. I want to marry both of you.” Qing Shui didn’t know where he got the guts. He reached for both of their hands.

Even though it was apparent to everyone, no one had once clarified it. Qing Shui knew it as did the women, and since they all knew, what was the point of hiding? He felt himself grow courageous.

The two women didn’t say a word. It may not be a rejection, but rather, they were too shy to say anything.

“I’ll take it as your consent if you don’t say anything.” Qing Shui laughed but didn’t dare to go overboard. These women weren’t ordinary women. Even he was surprised at his own gestures. Thinking back about it, perhaps it had something to do with what he had gone through. After an experience in between the lines of life and death, he was clear on what he cherished.

Qing Shui headed for the Northern Death Demon Mountain the next day using the Nine Continents Steps and arriving within three days. Even though the Northern Death Demon Mountain was in direct North, it had a slight tilt to the East.

The Taiqing Immortal Palace was located at the Taiqing Mountain, which wasn’t a great distance away from the Northern Death Demon Mountain. The area near the Northern Death Demon Mountain was one of the most dangerous lands.

Qing Shui wore a simple white outfit. With his youthful looks and outfit, he looked exceptionally young. A subtle purple seal decorated the area between his brows, exuding a feminine, yet strange and devilish aura. However, his eyes were bright and radiant and didn’t feel like he had a lack of masculinity.

He landed in a city about twenty million miles out.

This was the first time Qing Shui had been there. The Nine Continents Steps would go past many cities, and he had casually landed in one of it.

It was a huge city filled with ancient architectures. It flourished in a different way, with inns, medical halls, and some stores which sold huge demonic beasts. It included those which were still alive, others dead. The city was bustling.

Qing Shui landed here precisely because of this. The ground beneath his feet was made up of granite and was incomparably sturdy. Many of the buildings were penetrating the skies. With a careful look, the structure seemed to include the bones of huge demonic beasts, just like reinforced concrete in his previous life. The architecture here used bones of demonic beasts as their version of reinforced cement,

and it was naturally much stronger this way. Even some powerful warriors may not be able to break it down.

Besides that, there were also runes in its structure. These were part of the unique culture of this city. Otherwise, the buildings would collapse easily.

A flash of silhouette went by in the distance; a blood red attire, scarlet hair. Qing Shui was far too familiar with the figure and was momentarily stunned.

“Why is she here?”

Qing Shui didn’t expect to see Tantai Lingyan here, and she was alone. Qing Shui followed behind her slowly, wanting to see what she was up to. Why was she there?

Qing Shui didn’t think of it as fate. He was just surprised to have bumped into her here. How coincidental was that?

Tantai Lingyan didn’t seem to be running any errands but merely shopping around. She strolled along the street and took a casual look around.

“What a beautiful chick. I didn’t expect to meet such an extraordinary woman here,” a voice reached Qing Shui’s ears.

“Bing Shao, take a careful look. She could freeze someone to death. How can she be considered extraordinary?” Another voice joined the first.

“You won’t understand it. With such woman making you happy from down below, won’t you feel a sense of accomplishment?” Bing Shao replied, his eyes lighting up.

“Stop looking for trouble. I have work to do,” a young man spoke up. He had stayed silent while the other two were going on about it.

“Yang Shao, what’s there to be afraid of? What would happen even if we do this? We’re from the Nine Continents Food Residence, we aren’t afraid of anybody.” Bing Shao retorted nonchalantly.

Chapter 2256 Valuable Ingredient, Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken

“Capture the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken first before anything else. This is critical to the Nine Continents Food Residence. You can talk about whatever else later,” said Yang Shao gravely.

The words got Qing Shui’s attention. These people were from the Nine Continents Food Residence but that wasn’t what he was surprised about. The person named Yang Shao brought up the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken. That was great stuff. Legend had it that Ninth-Grade Divine Chickens were raised by Gods.

The important element to the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken was its eggs. Of course, its meat was tender and contained a divine element. It could be used as medicine or consumed directly. However, it was too luxurious to consume it like that. Even Gods didn’t do it so. Hence, people usually ate the eggs.

Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken's eggs were not ordinary. It could increase a child's aptitude and cultivation. It could be used for Constitution Nurturing, healing, and more than nine other uses. This was why it was called the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken.

Eggs of Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken were also delicious. After all, only Gods could use them according to legend. The Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken could be labeled as a miracle medicine, and even its eggs were extremely valuable with many willing to pay much money for it. As a result, competition for the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken was ruthless.

Qing Shui was excited about the news. Since he had found the opportunity, then he must acquire this Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken. He was in for a treat now, and its eggs could replace any non-main medicinal ingredients, as well as to improve and maintain a youthful look.

"Yang Shao, the news about the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken might not be true. Look at that woman. I really can't control myself. If I miss the chance today, I'm sure I won't have another in the future." Bing Shao kept a blazing gaze at the beautiful silhouette from afar.

"When are you going to break this habit of yours? You can't move on once you set your sights on a woman; you dare to provoke any woman you see. Have you forgotten the lesson learned?" Yang Shao knew that Bing Shao succumbed to lust as though it was his fate. Once a woman got his attention, he'd use every way to have her. Those women he had toyed with could amount to a thousand.

At this moment, two men walked over and said something to Yang Shao. Yang Shao spoke out soon after, "Let's go. We can't delay any longer."

Bing Shao took one last longing look before following Yang Shao and the other men's steps reluctantly.

A smile decorated Qing Shui's facial features before he left as well, tailing the few men. About Tantai Lingyan, he could only let it go temporarily. In any case, there weren't many who could hurt her with the strength she currently had.

What a dense amount of Spiritual Qi.

They arrived at a huge valley with rubble littering the place. The vegetation was thick and incredibly lush, with innumerable branches, leaves, as well as blooming flowers. The place seemed to be thriving.

Mountain Boar Spirit!

Qing Shui spotted a pig that was approximately a foot long in size. It looked like a wild boar with stripes lining its body. Although it was small, the muscles on its body were well developed. It just looked small, but it was actually already an adult.

The Mountain Boar Spirit was quick and had sharp teeth, but they could only be considered as wild beasts. The only thing about them was that they were valuable food ingredients. Though it still wasn't a match for the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken, it was still one of the premium ingredients within the Main Continent.

This place was truly a paradise. Qing Shui spotted a Wild Phoenix Chicken right after, another premium food ingredient. He heard that this beast had just a tiny bit of phoenix blood in them...

Qing Shui stopped moving. Proficient in remaining unseen, Qing Shui easily camouflaged into the surroundings.

There were many delicious things there, and it was secluded, deeply hidden. If he hadn't followed the few men, Qing Shui reckoned he wouldn't be able to find it either.

The five men were advancing with caution as well, placing some medicinal powder around the surroundings. With just a sniff, Qing Shui could tell that they were strong, incapacitating medicines.

Kuku...

A string of chicken cries rang out, but it was as reverberating as a tiger's roar.

Qing Shui had never witnessed a Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken and hence, he didn't have any idea in mind. When he would soon see it for himself, he exclaimed, "This is a chicken?!"

The Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken was about the height of an adult with three meters in width, wearing a five-colored, dotted tail. Its eyes were sharp and alert as it observed its surroundings. When the wings opened, it was about fifteen meters wide.

Qing Shui had no doubt that it could fly.

It was no wonder that the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken carried the word divine in its name. Its alertness had detected that something was wrong, and it fled in the other direction, expanding its wings.

Warriors could fly too, but when skills are comparable to it, those without wings would be three times slower than those with wings. This was a type of natural balance.

Just like how winged beasts would be less efficient fighting on land.

The Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken didn't count as a demonic beast, hence it was a given that its abilities weren't great. However, since it had divine in its name, it possessed a strong ability. The strongest ability which the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken possessed was fleeing. Its flying speed was remarkable, faster than many other demonic beasts. The mystical ability seemed to leap in longitude and latitude, and in an instant, it had moved thousands of meters away.

This ability was similar to Qing Shui's Nine Palace Steps. Therefore, Qing Shui didn't panic either. If he wanted to catch, then it wouldn't be able to run from him. His only problem was the few men. Qing Shui deliberated over killing them.

Thinking back to that Bing Shao fellow who wanted to make a move on Tantai Lingyan, Qing Shui decided to keep them alive.

Nine Palace Steps!

Qing Shui appeared by the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken's side in an instant. The Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken shifted and attempted to flee, but Qing Shui knocked its head with his knuckles at almost the same time.

The Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken fainted, and Qing Shui threw it into the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

All of this happened within a split second. Those people had already caught up to them. “Who are you? Put down the chicken.”

Qing Shui smiled at the person speaking, Bing Shao, then laughed. “Why should I?”

“Young lad, don’t you know who we are? You better not offend us,” Another man spoke up.

“Who are you? You’re just a chicken-catcher for others!”

“You have a death wish!” Bing Shao bellowed before launching his slap towards Qing Shui.

A blood red imprint of his hand covered Qing Shui.

Bing Shao abilities were decent. It was a pity that Qing Shui’s abilities were far different from a year ago. Bing Shao and the others were not a match even for the past him, let alone now.

Dragon-capturing Hands!

Roar!

Qing Shui strangled Bing Shao as he smiled. “I don’t care who you are. What do you think? Would it be a waste if I strangled you to death here? I was just passing by.”

Qing Shui’s words sent a shiver down Bing Shao and the other’s spines. If they were killed here and burned, who would ever know that they were killed?

It was that thought that sent chills through them, and Bing Shao was still being strangled.

At that moment, Yang Shao’s eyes flashed with determination. With a raise of his hand, he threw something towards Qing Shui. It was quick and as big as a person’s head.

Qing Shui was stunned at the sight as well. To think that such a thing existed.

Exploding Crystal!

This was made using a strong a demonic beast’s core and blood to refine. The energy itself had been filled. Once it was thrown out, any disturbance or energy collision against it would cause an explosion in a split second. Such an explosion would cause great damage.

Chapter 2257 Primordial Golden Bear’s Tomb, Secret of Skull

The power of this Exploding Crystal was correlated to its materials. Qing Shui could feel approximately 350 billion Dao of attack power in it. That was a terrifying amount of damage. Qing Shui might not have been able to guard against it in the past, and even if he could, he might not have risked it.

But he didn’t have a problem with it now. Qing Shui didn’t move and stopped strangling Bing Shao.

When Bing Shao saw the thing that Yang Shao threw, his face became ashen and looked at the latter in disbelief. He understood where this was going, but everything was too late. There was a hint of misery in his heart, but it only lasted for an instant.

Boom!

A sound of explosion rang out, followed by Yang Shao's maniacal laughter. "You want to fight? I'll see how you can fight now."

It wasn't long after his words that he watched the man in front of him in disbelief. Qing Shui was practically unscathed while Bing Shao had disappeared. He had been blasted into smithereens.

His voice came to an abrupt stop as if he had been strangled. He couldn't even feel amazement as his brain stopped working at that moment. That was his strongest weapon, the Exploding Crystal. It was something he used to save his life. The man in front of him should have perished.

"I had been deliberating over killing you all. Seem like it's the only choice I have left." Qing Shui raised his hand with Stellar Transposition. In a flash, all the men disappeared.

Qing Shui captured a number of Mountain Boar Spirits, Wild Phoenix Chickens, and others. There were numerous valuable food ingredients here, and they were all pretty decent. However, not many people recognized their value. Otherwise, this area wouldn't have been so empty.

Qing Shui pondered over creating a village within the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal to grow these valuable food ingredients.

There weren't many selections of valuable food ingredients within Qing Shui's Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, but there were still a few such as the Rainbow Trout Fish. While they were decent, they couldn't be regarded as valuable.

He gathered a good amount of ingredients, reaping a good amount of gains from the trip. It was a pity that he didn't manage to find the nest of the Ninth-Grade Divine Chicken. He wanted to check if he'd be able to find its eggs.

Qing Shui didn't take long before he returned to the city, but Tantai Lingyan was nowhere to be found. He didn't know if she had left or if she had entered a shop.

Qing Shui searched again on the second day but still didn't find a trace of her. Eventually, he used Nine Continents Steps and left.

Fourth day!

Qing Shui was standing at the entrance of the Northern Death Demon Mountain. The name was intimidating enough, but there was still a crowd which had gathered. Qing Shui couldn't understand why there were so many people.

"Why are there so many people here, old chap?" Qing Shui approached a stout man.

"You're not from here right? You don't even know about such a huge event!" The man shot an odd look at Qing Shui, as though questioning why he was even here if he didn't know what was happening.

"That's right. I came here to train through experience but didn't expect the crowd, so I grew curious. I saw your strong and domineering figure and assumed you should know, so I came to ask," Qing Shui nodded and said.

The man was pleased with Qing Shui's compliment about him being strong and domineering. If Qing Shui had called him good-looking, he reckoned the man would be furious. The man's looks were

average, edging towards being ugly but his body was tall and sturdy. These were the words which would please them the most.

“Haha, you’ve come to the right person then! To be honest, I’m not too sure why all these people have gathered here...”

After listening to the man ramble on for ages, Qing Shui finally knew what was going on. As it turned out, a treasure appeared around the area. It was said that it had been the tomb of an invincible beast, and everyone came in search for it.

An Ancient Primordial Golden Bear’s tomb. According to rumors, it had 70% of a Primordial Bloodline.

This startled Qing Shui. The demonic beast which had 20% Primordial Bloodline was already so mighty. After refining demons, he had a half-blood Primordial Boar which he had gifted to Qing Xuan. He was sure it would make a name for itself in the Main Continent some day.

Yet, there was now a dead Primordial Golden Bear which had 70% Primordial Bloodline. That must have been terrifying.

“Old chap, the people here don’t seem too strong though? Are they here to try and snatch it too?” Qing Shui questioned curiously.

“Ah you don’t know about it, right? The scariest thing about the Northern Death Demon Mountain is that everyone’s strength would be reduced to Martial Saint Realm upon entering. At the very most, you’d reach Peak Martial Saint. Of course, for anyone who hasn’t reached Martial Saint Realm, their abilities wouldn’t be suppressed but neither would they increase.” The man chuckled.

Qing Shui watched the gleeful look on the man’s face. He was at the Peak Martial Saint level, so his abilities wouldn’t be suppressed when he entered. Additionally, anyone stronger than him would be reduced to the same level.

Qing Shui recalled the Sky-Obstructing Crow’s words. The reason he wanted Qing Shui here was precisely because of this suppression. It was no wonder the place was named Northern Death Demon Mountain. With the restriction on power, demonic beasts should also be affected. However, some pure-blood desolate beasts were much stronger than humans when they were on the same rank.

Qing Shui was well-acquainted with the man by now. Out of curiosity, he asked again. “What good stuff is there at the Primordial Golden Bear’s tomb?”

“There’s plenty. The Primordial Golden Bear was one of the strongest demonic beasts outside of the top ten. Moreover, it had 70% Primordial Bloodline, which was rumored to be the strongest demonic beast around. With such a powerful existence, its skin, bones, core, blood, and flesh would be considered treasures. Even so, we don’t know how long this tomb has been around for. There might not be any flesh left, but the others should still be around. In addition, the Primordial Golden Bear’s Battle Technique must have been left behind too.”

“The Primordial Golden Bear’s Battle Technique?” Qing Shui was startled.

“It’s powerful to an extent. For example, only demonic beasts with their own inheritance would have something like that. Their inheritance would be imprinted on their bodies in the form of a skull. If they

wish, it could be broken down at the moment of their deaths. If it's not destroyed, then the person who retrieved this skull could infuse his spirit energy and learn the Primordial Golden Bear's Inheritance. That's the principle of it, but whether the person could learn it would depend on talent." The man was like a familiar friend to Qing Shui now as the latter had given him gifts.

The people at the entrance had all entered the Northern Death Demon Mountain on the second day. There was a tunnel that was mandatory to pass through. And from there on, there was a suppression on Heavenly Dao. As long as the suppression remained, they would be stuck in the Saint Realm.

This was a broad tunnel, and they moved through it without control. Their bodies didn't seem like theirs to manage.

After about thirty minutes, everyone regained their consciousness and emerged in an icy world. Everything around them was snow white. The snow was thick and hard, and with a feel, Qing Shui could tell that it was about 100 meters thick...

There weren't any snowflakes in the air. The sky was bright and there were rays of multicolored sunlight, but the sun was nowhere to be found.

There were many people around and increasingly so as Qing Shui looked around them. There were no limitations and since anyone of any level was free to come, tens of thousands of people filled the space in a short time, with more of them coming in.

Chapter 2258 Frail Battle God, Wang Ping, Future Battle King

Even though his might was reduced to the level of Peak Martial Saint, Qing Shui's physical body was still strong. Besides, his Flying Swords and Stellar Transposition could still be used without disturbances. Qing Shui had not met a match from people on the same level as him and below. Even a pure-blooded desolate beast wouldn't scare him; he was confident that he could defeat it.

On the contrary, Qing Shui was elated. Perhaps he would be able to obtain the skull of the Primordial Golden Bear at this rate. Qing Shui came to train initially. As of now, not only was it crowded with people, but there were many demonic beasts as well. Demonic beasts were also fighting to get their hands on the Primordial Golden Bear's skull. Once they had it, they would be able to get the Primordial Golden Bear's mighty Battle Technique Inheritance. This would allow their strength to increase tremendously.

"Younger Brother, did you see? These people are all here in groups. That's the Beiming Clan, and the Xigong Clan over there. There's the Sea Moving Immortal Palace, as well as the Moon Plucking Immortal Palace there..."

Qing Shui listened to the man's introduction as he looked over. The people were all Peak Saints in might. Rather, since everyone here had been reduced to the Peak Saint level, the number of people present was crucial. After all, they were trying to suppress others of the same level.

Within the same realm, it was natural that their might would differ. However, the discrepancy wouldn't typically be too drastic and could be mended through quantity. Therefore, no matter their strength, they came in big groups, bringing everyone from Peak Saint and above.

The people were foreign to Qing Shui; he didn't recognize any of them. Even with the man whom he had referred to as brothers, their relationship was nothing more than ordinary. However, after a whole day of interaction, their relationship had improved.

His name was Wang Ping, a name that was not at all exceptional, and he was part of the Wang Clan. The Wang Clan was a huge clan in Kaoshan City, not far from here. They had a few hundreds of members and were decent in strength.

"Why are you alone? Where are the others from your clan?" Qing Shui asked curiously.

"The others?" The man clicked his tongue, then continued. "They looked down on me. They thought I would only drag them down, so I'm here alone."

Qing Shui was startled by this. Did the Wang Clan have such a strong foundation that they didn't even need a warrior of the Peak Martial Saint level? What was this? Qing Shui observed the man and understood right away.

While the man was a Peak Martial Saint, he was the weakest among the rank. However, his fragility was because 80% of his Meridians were clogged. Qing Shui was surprised by this. Innately, the man had decent potential. It was then when Qing Shui realized another issue; the man was a Battle God Inheritor.

Frail Battle God!

Adding on to the surprises, Qing Shui was shocked that such Battle God existed. In addition, he understood its existence; the man qualified for the prerequisites to be a Frail Battle God Inheritor because his body had been harmed by others, clogging 80% of his Meridians.

He supposed this was a form of blessing in disguise as well. For that very reason, combined with fated coincidences, the man attained the Frail Battle God Inheritance.

Being a Frail Battle God didn't mean that it wasn't strong. The Frail Battle God had a mighty ability; it was able to unleash an attack with greater damage than normal. Additionally, it could reduce the battle prowess of the opposing warrior. It was a type of balance.

However, it was difficult for a Frail Battle God to break through. For those in the same ranks, it would be difficult for them to win against a Frail Battle God, even though the latter had a handicap.

This was the unique point of its inheritance. Only those with a handicap could attain the Frail Battle God's Inheritance and practice its Frail Battle God Battle Technique.

Even so, the man's handicap was severe. Even with the Frail Battle God Inheritance, he was still weaker than those in the same rank. It wasn't because he was laying low. Once he got out of here, his abilities would be even less impressive.

Of course, for a normal person, the man was a Battle God. For those in the realm of Peak Saint and above, he was weak. Anyone around his realm would be able to win against him. Hence, giving birth to the nickname he had in Kaoshan City: The Weakest Saint.

The nickname was an embarrassment to the Wang Clan. Within the clan, Wang Ping was a joke. Many thought that it was mere luck that he had managed to attain Peak Saint with his aptitude, like a blind cat stumbling upon a dead mouse.

“Brother, you’re a Battle God,” Qing Shui said with a smile.

Wang Ping was stunned momentarily before flashing Qing Shui a smile. “I guess you’re one too. It’s a pity that I don’t really count. A Frail Battle God, I might as well have been a normal warrior.”

Qing Shui noticed a hint of disappointment behind Wang Ping’s eyes and chuckled. “There’s a Divine Palace at the Northern Emperor Domain. You can head over there when we get out of here. It should be a huge help to you.”

There was a glimmer in Wang Ping’s eyes. He knew about the existence of the Divine Palace there but with his Peak Saint status, he was too embarrassed to head over. For this very reason, he had never planned to go there. Not until now, when Qing Shui told him that it’d be a great help to him to go.

Anything beneficial for a warrior would naturally be due to an increase in power.

Qing Shui watched the surrounding crowd as they proceeded further in. “Let’s go to somewhere secluded. Let me help you a little first.”

The man had an unexplained faith towards Qing Shui and nodded.

It was a small mountain here, covered densely with plants. Now that the sun had risen, thousands of golden rays illuminated the place. They were surrounded by a forest and couldn’t see anyone when they looked down.

Qing Shui used the Gold Needle and cleared around 10% of Wang Ping’s Meridians within half an hour and increased the man’s powers by leaps and bounds. Don’t belittle this 10%, it wasn’t as simple as being proportionate to the powers it increased upon clearing.

Wang Ping could feel his abilities increase by a lot. More importantly, he felt different, even his vision was different. Even within the Northern Death Demon Mountain, Wang Ping could feel his powers increase by at least 30%.

That wasn’t the most critical point. Wang Ping had broken through. It was a pity that his powers were being suppressed here, but once he got out, he would have entered the Martial Emperor realm.

A Martial Emperor was a strong existence within the Wang Clan, especially Peak Martial Emperors. There were only about a dozen warriors who attained the Peak Martial Emperor state and they were all the older generation warriors. There was only one person who exceeded the realm of Peak Martial Emperor, but they weren’t even sure if the person was still alive.

Wang Ping was now a Martial Emperor, and most importantly, the clogging of his Meridians had improved by 10%.

“Younger Brother, your medical skills are unrivaled. I didn’t expect to meet a benefactor here.” Wang Ping was ecstatic, but he didn’t express much.

Chapter 2259 Seven Stars Herb, Xigong Clan, Xigong Duzai

Qing Shui laughed. “A Frail Battle God’s constitution can’t be perfect, but I can recover your Meridians to at least 80% with time. By then, the Frail Battle God’s potential would make its appearance and you would have no problems countering those on the same level.”

His words weren't just for laughs nor were they for humility. It was destined for Frail Battle God Inheritors to have an imperfect body; this fact couldn't be changed no matter how skilled Qing Shui was. The handicap for Frail Battle Gods was about 20%.

How much damage was that 20%? It was about the same as losing a limb, half a leg, or damage to your viscera and bowels, etc.

These clogging and damages couldn't be lower than 20% either. Even if it could be miraculously cured, the Frail Battle God's unique abilities would be lost if it dipped lower than that. For example, the increased damage of its attacks, the damages their body could withstand, increased speed and tolerance would all be negatively affected by it.

This was a type of balance, a restriction. The weakness of a Frail Battle God could weaken their opponents even more. It was a pity that Wang Ping's frailness was too severe. He had lost 80% of his battle prowess, an extreme handicap even with all things considered.

However, there was a point to note. The higher the handicap, the more powerful his Frail Battle God Inheritance would be. This was why Qing Shui was surprised to see Wang Ping before. Wang Ping might be weak now, but with Qing Shui and time, he would be able to restore Wang Ping's strength, enabling him to catch up to people like Yin Tong, Lan Lingfeng and the others in no time.

Besides, the Frail Battle God would be part of the Divine Palace's main force in the future. Hence, Qing Shui would have to keep Wang Ping at the Divine Palace and get his help in managing and lifting the Divine Palace even further.

"Alright, let's go. You have the Battle God Palace's mission as well. We'll have to fight together in the future. Remember what I just said." Qing Shui smiled.

"I know, I'll be there. I didn't think of it before because I didn't think I was capable enough to lend any help. I've become a joke in Kaoshan City and didn't even dare to tell others that I'm a Battle God Inheritor." Wang Ping said, embarrassed.

"The Frail Battle God is one of the most powerful Battle Gods, especially in its later stages. Your power will grow exponentially along with the increase in your realms. At that point, you would be able to unleash the terror of the Frail Battle God."

The pair walked as they conversed. They had already been lagging but they were in no hurry. The tomb of the Primordial Golden Bear couldn't be entered that easily due to the strong natives around. Even the person who managed to get in would become a live bait and get killed in an instant.

"Look, there's an enormous image of a Primordial Golden Bear there." Someone exclaimed.

Qing Shui looked to the distance in the direction of the voice. There was a gigantic mountain range ahead, and above it was the Golden Bear. The image of it was exceptionally realistic, standing at dozens of miles in height. It was almost the size of a hill. The highest mountain in his previous life was about eight thousand meters in height, yet this image was already more than five thousand meters high.

Its muscular body emitted a glow akin to the sun. It stood between Heaven and Earth, small in comparison to the boundless skies but it was enormous compared to the humans around it. Even just standing there, it looked horrifying.

Its body was fully covered by golden fur. Even its pupils were golden, shining brightly like miniature suns.

This was the Primordial Golden Bear. Even though Qing Shui could only see its image, he could imagine how terrifying it must have been. That incredible body, its thick claws would be able to flatten a mountain with just a strike. That huge skull, the sharp teeth... He wondered how many victims it could capture with just one bite.

There were many around who stood there watching. Some couldn't withstand it and paid their respects while others were drenched in their cold sweat. This was just an image, yet it yielded such aura around it. It was a type of Divine Sense. The fact that it had such terrifying remnants of it reflected, just how unimaginable it would be to meet the real Primordial Golden Bear.

"Go in, everyone. This is the Primordial Golden Bear's tomb."

There was a change to the mountain peak. A giant golden door appeared, its width no smaller than a hundred miles and its height no shorter than fifty. It exuded a mighty and pressurizing aura.

Qing Shui stood there and observed with his Heavenly Vision Technique. Qing Shui had seen a lot previously. He saw a Primordial Golden Bear running, jumping, and swimming across the sea with a mountain in tow. It was an extreme training. This caused a surge of emotions in Qing Shui. The method which the Sky-Obstructing Crow had him train was the same as an ancient, pure-blooded murderer.

He saw the gory scene of the Primordial Golden Bear's thick paws destroying a mighty dragon head. After a smack of its paws, it destroyed a white-headed, heavenly tiger.

That was the brute force of it. Its terrifying bear cries dissipated the clouds above. Its immense power could surmount any obstacles; this was the scene of a Primordial Golden Bear hunting.

Even though it wasn't anything too valuable, it was still a type of vision. It opened his eyes to the world, and it was the first time he felt this much. Furthermore, he understood a lot deeper about the usage of power, allowing it to be unleashed to its full potential.

Many people rushed towards the door and nothing happened after they entered one by one. Hence, Qing Shui and Wang Ping followed behind.

"Spirit Grass. There's so much of it."

This was a tunnel that was filled with valuable golden stones. It shone brightly all around, engulfing them in golden light.

How extravagant, Qing Shui thought. This tunnel was built with the strongest and most resilient gold. Golden stones were more valuable than gold.

The two sides of the tunnel were covered by rocks, with herbs appearing from time to time.

"Seven Stars Herb!"

"It's really Seven Stars Herb! It already has six leaves."

The Seven Stars Herb was only about three inches tall. It looked like a miniature tree with one leaf on each branch. The leaves were shaped like stars, emitting a snow-white glow.

The Seven Stars Herb was valuable. It was a pity that it only had six leaves. Those with seven leaves would have multiplied in value by several times. Even though it couldn't revive the dead, it could keep a life that was hanging by a thread.

There were some who had begun to snatch them up until several swords sliced through from the side.

"These Seven Stars Herbs belong to the Xigong Clan. If you understand the consequences, then step back. Otherwise, don't blame our Xigong Clan for being impolite," A voice traveled to them, the arrogance in his voice flooded the space.

Qing Shui watched the arrogant man, about thirty years old with a pair of sly eyes. He was demanding, very tall and had a long, black sword in hand.

"That's Xigong Duzai. There's no point fighting with them over Seven Stars Herbs, let's back away," Another man frowned as they spoke.

There were many who retreated. Xigong Duzai was the Xigong Clan's prodigy. He was proficient in poison, and even those who were more powerful than him wouldn't choose to provoke him easily.

Xigong Duzai watched as the people backed away reluctantly and looked happy but not surprised. He looked normal, as though this wasn't the first time he did this.

Chapter 2260 Young Black Ice Divine Worm, Nine Continents Martial Association

The spawns of the Black Ice Divine Worm that Qing Shui had obtained previously were now still weak and small. Qing Shui left it to the Dragon Spider to take care of them. After all, he wouldn't be able to stay in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal every minute of every day. On the contrary, he spent more time away from it.

A day away was about a year or more in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal.

This was the strength of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal. They aged within the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, but the time passed was calculated based on the outside world, such as lifespan.

Qing Shui could only spend about six hours in the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal daily which equated to about three months.

No matter how strong demonic beasts were, their younglings were weak, especially the period right after birth. Some pure-blooded desolate beasts could be strong in their early stages but fragile as usual in their infancy stage. However, the wild beasts were still cautious of being near them. Those without intelligence would be suppressed and startled by their aura, to the extent where they wouldn't be able to stand.

With intelligence though, comes risks. After all, strong demonic beasts were filled with nourishment. Once devoured, it could improve cultivation. The stronger and valuable the demonic beast, the higher number of treasures to be found with it. It could replenish Origin Qi, which was the most basic, and it could increase strength.

In the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, the Black Ice Divine Worm's younglings wouldn't be preyed on. The newborn Black Ice Divine Worm was about the size of a fist, its body sparkling and translucent, the pair of black eyes were filled with spirit. They were the result of rounds of strengthening.

Not just that, Qing Shui had used his Nine Yang Force on them as well. These things were stronger than the usual younglings of the Black Ice Divine Worm. Their innate skills and aptitude doubled from the normal.

Once they had been born, Qing Shui used several valuable medicines and soaked them in the Heavenly and Earthly Treasures. He built a strong foundation for them since their weakest period.

After a few days, and a few years in terms of the Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal, the Black Ice Divine Worm grew to the thickness of an adult's waist. It was about five meters in length, filled with power and spirit.

Qing Shui didn't panic. He decided not to use medicinal pills to rush their growth. The Realm of the Violet Jade Immortal was the best method for that to happen.

Snapping back to reality, Qing Shui hoped the Black Ice Divine Worm's younglings could mature in haste. It would be a terrifying existence to his advantage by then.

The Xigong Clan shifted the Seven Stars Herbs away without anyone speaking another word. Many had left in search of other medicinal herbs. After all, the Seven Stars Herb weren't the only things to be found; there were other panaceas which were just as good.

The Sea Moving Immortal Palace managed to get their hands on a stalk of Scarlet Fruit without anyone breathing a word either. Even the rude and unreasonable Xigong Clan stayed silent.

"Give up the Nebula Flower and we'll spare your life." A voice sounded from ahead. There were five people surrounding a cool and nonchalant young man.

The young man was holding onto a stalk of herbs which looked akin to clouds. Its aroma filled the space all around them, like something out of a dream. With just a look, it was obvious that it wasn't anything ordinary. He was now crowded by five other men.

"Who's the young man?"

"I don't know, but the five men are the Five Dragons of Kaoshan City's Cheng Clan." Someone else piped up.

"Five Dragons? More like Five Worms. Strutting around Kaoshan City using their long distant relatives' reputation," Another spoke up in disdain.

"Quiet down. The five of them would take revenge on any grudges. Anyone who speaks badly of them would suffer when they're found out. They could do anything; they've done many terrible things over the years, but no one has been able to do anything to them."

"Spare my life? What are you?" The young man was good-looking and wore ordinary garb. He raised his brows and the corner of his lips, seeming disrespectful.

"Don't blame us for seeking your death," The man who spoke up earlier signaled the other men who surrounded the young guy.

The five of them charged towards the young man in perfect synchronization. They were quick and belonged to the Peak Saint level. Each of them unleashed their killing techniques. Two of their

silhouettes were exceptionally faint with black daggers in their hands, emitting a magnificent black radiance.

A sound akin to explosion reverberated around them, lingering in the air. The air around them seemed to have been suppressed.

With a glint in his eyes, the young man moved in a flash, raising his leg before slicing out huge silhouettes of his kick as he swept.

This startled the spectators. It was as if a hurricane had struck.

“That’s the Wind Dragon Kick.” Someone exclaimed aloud.

“That young man was Old Man Yun’s successor?”

Qing Shui didn’t know of any Wind Dragon Kick or Old Man Yun. However, the kick held a profound mystery. It seemed to combine both attack and defense and was explosive in brutality. It was surrounded by a mysterious power.

Thump!

One of the men was flung aside from it.

With a strange leap, the young man kicked again, the same as how he did previously. Blood sprayed uncontrollably from another, and his victims were beyond salvation. The young man’s eyes were stern and the remaining three men panicked. Unfortunately, the young man didn’t have any intention of letting them go.

After a moment, all five men were killed. The Cheng Clan Five Dragons were history. As for their distant relatives, no one mentioned a word about them but kept their attention on the young man instead.

“Who is Old Man Yun?” Qing Shui turned his curious gaze towards Wang Ping.

“I think Old Man Yun is a member of the Nine Continents Martial Association. The Divine Wind Kick and the Wind Dragon Kick were his signature techniques. Old Man Yun was well-known here because of his relations with the Yun Clan. He doesn’t seem to be returning to the Yun Clan in any case and had always remained with the Nine Continents Martial Association.” At the mention of the Nine Continents Martial Association, Wang Ping’s eyes brightened up. It was a yearning; it was where he wanted to go.

“No need to be envious of the Nine Continents Martial Association. You’ll realize that there’s nothing much to it.” Qing Shui laughed.

Wang Ping laughed along. He didn’t dare to dream of it now. He assumed that he would be of Martial Emperor rank when he got out of here, but that was still a huge discrepancy against those at the Nine Continents Martial Association. How much more powerful must this young man be to feel that the Nine Continents Martial Association wasn’t much at all...

“Don’t provoke that kid. He’s part of the Nine Continents Martial Association. He will surely destroy an entire clan if provoked.” Someone warned in haste.

The young man swept a cold gaze towards the crowd before turning his back and leaving the scene to head deeper in.

Qing Shui felt like he had gained new knowledge. The Nine Continents Martial Association just appeared and he didn't know who else was here. Qing Shui could feel the strength of the young man previously but knew that he would still be able to defeat or even kill the latter easily. However, the same feat wouldn't be that easy if not for his strenuous training from before.

The young man wasn't too far off in age compared to Qing Shui. To be regarded with importance by the Nine Continents Martial Association, it must mean that his innate skills were decent too.

This was especially applicable for a sect like the Nine Continents Martial Association. Every disciple could be considered a prodigy and to outshine the others in the Nine Continents Martial Association, one must be the prodigy among prodigies.

Several battles occurred along the way with more deaths added to the pile, but no one felt uncomfortable. This was far too normal. Now that everyone was advancing in this passage, they might need to work together to fight on some occasions. However, they'd be enemies in an instant when treasures were the prize.

Roar, roar...

A low grunting sound rang from the side. Qing Shui was startled as he turned towards Wang Ping. "Could it be that this isn't a passage?"