

Bigshot 311

Chapter 311: The Taste of Happiness at the Expert's Place

At the Fallen Immortal Mountain.

Three figures slowly landed on clouds.

They were worried that too many people would disturb the expert. So, only Pei An, Gu Xirou, and the Holy Emperor came.

They coincidentally represented their three sects. Moreover, the Holy Emperor was at the Ganlong Immortal Dynasty, he was considered the closest with the expert. It would not be unusual for him to visit.

Of course, the opportunities were not given to them for free. They had to comfort the others by giving out treasures.

If they got something from the expert, they would also share it with the others.

They knew the importance of manners through interacting with the expert. They could not be greedy and try to be sneaky or manipulative. They were co-workers, hence they must be polite.

“I wonder if the expert would like this so-called Thousand Spell Disk.” Gu Xirou walked while looking at Pei An. She asked, “Cultivator Pei An, you’re quite knowledgeable in the Azure Ville Sect spells, right? What do you think about this disk?”

“It’s too profound!”

Pei An usually liked to boast and pretend. The disk must be truly profound since he was being humble.

He paused and continued, “You asked that to make fun of me, right? This is a Heavenly Spiritual Treasure. The weakest spell formation in it is enough for me to investigate for a long while. There are thousands of spell variations in it, it can play me to death.”

Heavenly Spiritual Treasure was an unimaginable treasure to them. Their whole net worth was not up to par with the value of one Heavenly Spiritual Treasure. However, they had no issues giving it away to the expert. They were instead worried that the expert would not like it.

Gu Xirou sighed in relief, “Good. If you think it’s easy to understand, I can never bring it out to the expert.”

Pei An did not look happy at all. “I see this as you trying to piss me off?”

The Holy Emperor immediately stopped walking. He kept his distance from the two.

'Immortals joking with each other is too scary. I don't want to be involved.'

Soon, they arrived at the four-part architecture. The three of them jolted and did not dare to speak anymore. They walked forward with devotion.

The Holy Emperor took a deep breath and walked to the door. He knocked on the door.

"Guests are here. Xiaobai, answer the door."

They heard Li Nianfan.

Then, they heard footsteps.

Creak.

The door was opened.

Xiaobai peeked out and said, "Pardon for the wait, everyone."

The three of them were instantly scared. They quickly waved, "No, no worries."

“Please come on in.”

The three of them carefully stepped into the four-part architecture. They saw Daji playing chess with Li Nianfan in the yard. They saluted and greeted, “Greetings to Mr. Li and Lady Daji.”

“Haha, it’s you guys. Welcome. Long time no see, Brother Pei An and Goddess Gu.”

Li Nianfan hurriedly said hello. He smiled and said, “You guys came at the right time. I recently invented a new Milk Cake, you’re all in for a treat.”

Immortals constantly came over to socialize. If they took too long to come for their next visit, Li Nianfan would feel rather lonely.

He created delicacies for his enjoyment, but also to impress the Immortals. Leaving them an unforgettable experience would be the best result. He did not want them to forget about the place.

The three of them were overjoyed. They did not expect to get a surprise like that when they arrived. They were utterly excited and touched, “Thanks, Mr. Li.”

‘The expert is so nice to us.’

Xiaobai came over with a tray.

A big cake quietly rested on the tray.

It was a round whole cake—not sliced, about the size of a face. It looked tidy but was brown on the outside because Li Nianfan did not go through the trouble to decorate the surface. Simple but not boring.

The three of them looked at the cake without blinking. They gulped and felt dry in the throat. It was caused by their desire for delicious food.

The three of them held their breaths. They looked at the cake as it was placed on the table. They licked their lips.

The nice smell of the cake was accentuated when they got closer. They felt that God was miraculous because eggs, flour, and milk could merge together so perfectly. It had a sweet smell that teases the appetite.

It was elegant and subtle. The smell was not as strong as the other foods but once detected, they could not get enough of it.

Xiaobai took out a small knife and sliced the cake. The cake was effortlessly sliced to even pieces. Xiaobai had precise skills, it was as satisfying as watching a flower bloom.

“Milk Cake. Please enjoy.”

“Thanks, Xiaobai.”

“Alright, dig in, everyone. Let me know how it is.” Li Nianfan smiled and said, “Milk and eggs, the perfect combination. This is the simplest version of the Milk Cake, I can add in fruits next time, or make it into a cream or something.”

The three of them hurriedly replied, “Okay, we’ll eat it now.”

‘Let you know how it is? It is delicious for sure.’

The three of them knew clearly that the cake was made from Firefinch eggs, milk from Five-Color Sacred Cows, and the special flour made by the expert.

Food like that was not only delicious, it was also a huge breakthrough. Endless Immortals would kneel and beg for that!

The three of them carefully took a piece.

‘So soft.’

That was their first thought.

The sensation was indescribable. They did not dare to be forceful, it was as if they might squeeze out liquid by accident. They were also worried that they would change the shape of the cake, they did not want to destroy the beautifully made cake.

'So soft. If it's in my mouth, then the sensation...'

The three of them were excited. They smacked their lips and could not control themselves anymore. They took a bite.

'So soft. As if biting on a cloud.'

It immediately melted in their mouths. The aroma filled up their mouths and nostrils.

"So... So delicious!"

Gu Xirou also could not control herself. She devoured the entire cake in one bite.

Most importantly, it was a big slice of cake but she did not need to chew it much. She felt the cake melted on her tongue and merged in with her body as one.

It was as if she was soaking in warm water. She felt repeatedly floating on cloud nine.

Enjoyment. It was extremely enjoyable!

The place of the expert was a paradise. Aside from the opportunities they got from the delicious food, the feeling of sheer happiness was unmatched!

Suddenly, they realized something. 'Why am I a cultivator? So what if I'm Immortal? Am I even truly happy?'

They realized that their lives were worth it because they ate the food of the expert!

Li Nianfan smiled and said, "How is it? How does it taste?"

"Delicious, too delicious! It's tasty and mesmerizing."

"Truth be told, I feel most relaxed here, Mr. Li."

Li Nianfan laughed. "Because delicious food makes us forget about all our troubles. It's the biggest enjoyment in life."

"Mr. Li, we brought something this time." Pei An flicked his wrist and out came the Thousand Spell Disk. He slowly passed it to Li Nianfan.

Li Nianfan immediately replied, "You guys came to visit every time with gifts, I feel so sheepish."

Pei An hurriedly said, "It's just a small plaything. It's not a treasure or anything."

"Thank you, then." Li Nianfan smiled and accepted it. Immortals would not take advantage of ordinary men so if he did not accept it, it would be rude.

The disk was not small, it was as big as a chessboard. It was black and looked like a compass disk. It had a stripe pattern on it. The stripe pattern would shine being touched by a finger.

"Huh? Fun."

Li Nianfan was intrigued. He tried to rub it with his hands again.

The color of the compass disk kept flickering and changing. The lights had different colors. It looked like several small colorful snakes slithered in the compass disk, creating different colorful patterns.

“This is... a Gaming Console?”

Chapter 312: My Eyes Learned It But My Hands Don't

‘Gaming console?’

‘The Heavenly Spiritual Treasure was just a gaming console to the expert?’

Gu Xirou and the others did not dare to say or ask anything. They could only quietly go along with it at the side.

They watched as Li Nianfan messed with it.

The awesome Heavenly Spiritual Treasure did not dare to resist either. It let Li Nianfan mess with it, and it had to cooperate with shining lights.

‘Life is too hard.’

Li Nianfan looked at Pei An and asked, “Oh yeah, how do you play this?”

'How to...play?'

'The expert love to joke around.'

'How would I dare to play with it?'

Pei An pursed his lips. He carefully chose his words and said, "Play by arrangement. Yeah, there are a lot of arrangement methods in it."

"I get it, no wonder it's familiar to me."

Li Nianfan instantly understood it. "It's like Rubik's Cube, you can arrange it however you want as long as you have the skills."

He got it. He simply swiped on the compass disk and it shined. Soon, a fierce tiger made from lights appeared on the compass disk.

'That...'

Pei An looked at the fierce tiger and jolted. They had cold sweat all over.

A ferocious aura knocked them in the face, it was wild.

The spell pattern was a tiger. Even powerful Immortals would be trapped to death.

‘The expert...just created an ultimate spell pattern?’

‘So casually?’

“Yo, how interesting. Looks lively. Let me try a dragon.”

Li Nianfan touched the disk again. He created a Rainbow Dragon. The dragon looked fierce like it was about to fly out from the disk.

Yikes—

‘This...’

The spell pattern became a dragon!

Golden Immortals would be jealous of that level of technique.

It also meant that the expert was not a threat to them. Otherwise, he would have simply destroyed their realm with ease.

“Fun. Let’s do a Double Dragon Playing Fireball.”

“Let’s do a Guanyin Sitting on Lotus.”

“Oh yeah, how about a Ten Thousand Swords Return to Sect?”

The three of them had their mouths wide opened. They were dumbfounded as they watched the changes of the spell patterns. They completely lost their minds.

Their hair stood on end and they could not breathe. They were as stiff as statues.

Any of those spell patterns would be the ultimate killer weapon. It was enough to let countless Immortals change their minds and beg for mercy. He showed and presented them one by one.

Moreover, they had to resist it with all their might even though the expert was not threatening them. The spell patterns were so powerful that they were under enormous pressure.

It was like dancing with death. They would not die but they were truly afraid!

Pei An went blank. He was dumbfounded.

He thought he was knowledgeable of spell patterns. He also sneakily tried to use the Thousand Spell Disk. However, the disk ignored him. The simplest spell pattern of the disk made him dizzy. He did not know where to start.

'Is it so simple for the expert?'

'He only stroke it a few times and it works?'

'My eyes learned it but my hands didn't! Life is so hard.'

His mind was buzzing. He did not understand it.

'No way, I'm such a weak chicken. Why am I still alive? I don't deserve to.'

"Huh?"

Li Nianfan suddenly arched his eyebrow. When he was arranging the Ten Thousand Swords Return to Sect, there were a lot of shiny light swords but they started to flicker. Some of it was not as bright.

“There seems to be something wrong with the gaming console?”

“Something wrong?” Pei An and the others panicked. They asked quaveringly, “Is... Is it?”

Li Nianfan carefully observed the gaming console. He flipped it around and said, “Maybe. Some of the wood parts seem to be broken, causing it to have lesser variations. I’ll fix it when I have the chance, it shouldn’t be a problem.”

He realized the gaming console was old and it seemed to be pieced together. Some of the parts were missing but fortunately the materials were nothing special, so he could patch it up with wood.

‘Too little variations in the Thousand Spell Disk?’

‘Fix it?’

‘Can a Heavenly Spiritual Treasure be fixed?’

Thankfully, they were all used to it. They still looked calm on the surface with a smile.

Gu Xirou licked her dry lips and said, "Um, Mr. Li. We didn't know that...the gaming console is broken. We're very sorry about that."

Li Nianfan hurriedly shrugged it off. "No worries. This thing is interesting, absolutely entertaining. I like it a lot, thank you so much."

'As long as you like it.'

Everyone instantly sighed in relief. No matter what, as long as the expert liked it, it was great news.

Li Nianfan suddenly smiled. He said, "I just invented a new game and you all brought me a gaming console. What a coincidence."

The three of them looked at the chessboard. They were instantly curious.

It was not much at first sight. However, on a closer look, it was fresh and entertaining. It was as if the chessboard had the Answer, they felt like they were looking at a small universe.

Most importantly, the chessboard and the chess pieces were made from Spiritual Plant. It was hand-crafted by the expert. They felt like it was holy from the looks of it.

The chessboard and the chess pieces might be as valuable as the Thousand Spell Disk.

It was just a game that the expert invented because he was bored.

‘Powerful’ was not good enough to describe the expert.

Pei An asked, “Excuse me, Mr. Li. What game is this?”

“This game is named Xiangqi. The rules are extremely simple.” Li Nianfan smiled and explained the rules of Xiangqi.

The rules were simple. They were Immortals so they naturally understood it. They thought it was very interesting.

Li Nianfan noticed that everyone wanted to try it so he invited, “Anyone wants to give it a go?”

Pei An thought about it and rubbed his hands. He said, “I should try it.”

Li Nianfan welcomed him, “You’re on the red side. You go first, please make your move.”

“Oh, alright.”

Pei An excitedly looked at the chessboard.

He widened his eyes on sight as he flinched. He could not help but get goosebumps.

He did not feel much as an observer. However, once he was the player, the chessboard felt like a neverending swirl. An endless powerful aura knocked him in the face, his mind instantly went blank.

His surroundings had changed when he woke up again.

He was no longer at the four-part architecture. He levitated in mid-air with nothing around him. He was in a muddled state.

He looked down.

He saw a chessboard. A huge chessboard!

The Xiangqi was tidy and still looked the same, but it was very overwhelming for him.

He was at the position of The General.

At that moment, he thought to himself, 'Set an array of formation with the soldiers and deploy troops to save The General.'

It was a straightforward sight. There was nothing there except for the chessboard. However, Pei An lost focus.

He was astounded by the majestic sight.

'This isn't a chess game, this is a spell pattern!'

The chess pieces they moved were to form the spell pattern. The two sides were competing for a better spell pattern.

'So deep, so incredible.'

He felt like a cell in a droplet of water and the droplet of water was in an ocean. He was insignificant at the chess game.

He already started to sweat before he began the move. He looked around with doubt and confusion.

‘What should I do to be able to manipulate such a profound spell pattern?!’

He finally calmed down and clenched his jaw. He started to make his move.

He felt utterly embarrassed of himself because of the profound chess game. He also felt a strong sense of danger. Therefore, his first reaction was to protect The General.

He started to move. The spell pattern changed. His first move was to defend The General with The Advisor.

Li Nianfan was baffled. He looked like he was in disbelief.

‘Although you’re a beginner, you’re not so dumb, right? Maybe this is how an Immortal plays chess? Is this a cool strategy?’

Li Nianfan quickly made the next move without hesitation.

Pei An felt the powerful aura of the changing realm. He was more uneasy.

Therefore, he took the defense route again. He moved The Elephant in front of The General.

Li Nianfan did not understand his moves. Therefore, he was more careful. He defeated Pei An in eleven moves.

Pei An finally snapped out of it. He was soaked in cold sweat. The hand he was using to play chess was shaking. He said in a hoarse voice, "I lost."

He was still tensed. He felt a complex emotion.

He was agitated, excited, scared, respectful, nervous, and embarrassed. He felt an explosion of emotions.

It was as if an ordinary man suddenly encountered an Immortal and got advice from the Immortal. Words could not describe how he felt, it was like looking up to a high mountain. He was kind of disappointed in himself.

Li Nianfan noticed how disappointed Pei An looked. He asked, "Again?"

Pei An was pleasantly surprised. He asked in a trembling voice, "Can... Can I? I feel like my chess skills are weak."

Chapter 313: Unwelcomed Guests

'Not only is it weak, but even newbies also would not dare to play chess like that. Your self-realization is not good enough!'

Of course, Li Nianfan only dared to roast him in his mind. Pei An was an Immortal, he had to help him save face.

He said, "You're quite alright. As a beginner, you can take it slow."

Pei An teared up. He used all his might to stop tearing up and replied, "Thanks, Mr. Li, for guiding me."

'The expert is so indescribably nice to me. The expert is willing to teach me, how lucky am I to be able to get an opportunity like this?'

Being in the chess game was like being in the Ultimate Spell Pattern. He could learn more about spell patterns with every move.

He had to say that the expert was truly an expert. He invented such an incredible game. It was unimaginable.

If the Thousand Spell Disk was used to create spell patterns and attack the enemies, then Xiangqi was used to learn about spell patterns.

In comparison, the Xiangqi was more valuable than the Thousand Spell Disk!

'It seemed like the expert is very pleased with the Thousand Spell Disk, that's why he is willing to teach me.'

He was utterly impressed by the expert and his state of mind!

So, second round, third round...

Li Nianfan could not endure it anymore after the fifth round.

Newbie, he was too much of a newbie. It was unbearably tragic.

The last time he met a chess newbie like that was when he played with Luo Shiyu. Pei An was so lousy at chess that he was lousier than Luo Shiyu.

It was hard to imagine that someone could be so lousy at chess. It surprised Li Nianfan that he was an Immortal.

It was considered torture to play chess with him.

Li Nianfan groaned for a moment and asked softly, "How about...we stop here for today?"

Pei An did not dare to refute. He hurriedly understood and nodded, he replied, "Oh, okay. Pardon for the disturbance, Mr. Li."

Li Nianfan laughed and said, "Haha, it's not a disturbance. I welcome you all to come and visit anytime."

Gu Xirou and the Holy Emperor stood up and said, "Mr. Li, we should be going now."

"Yeah." Li Nianfan saluted and glanced at the leftover cake at the table. He immediately asked, "Why didn't you all finish it? Don't save it up for me."

The Holy Emperor smiled and replied, "Mr. Li, we already tried it. We're too embarrassed to finish it all since it is so delicious."

Li Nianfan shrugged it off, "Don't be a stranger. It's not something valuable anyway. If you like it, you can bring it back as a takeaway."

He immediately packed the rest of the cake for them.

He had to make it up to them since he asked them to leave.

Gu Xirou and the other very carefully took over the cake. They thanked him in an excited voice, "Thanks, Mr. Li."

The three of them walked out from the four-part architecture, still looking grateful.

The Holy Emperor sighed, "Sigh, we get opportunities from the expert every time we come here. We eat and we take, it's so embarrassing because we can't repay him!"

He felt like he was on the verge of another breakthrough once he ate the cake. He felt like it was not hard to become an Immortal.

He would never imagine it if it happened way back then. Even becoming a cultivator from the Combination realm was a luxury back then.

It was the benefits of following a bigshot. The taste of the boot to a bootlicker was delicious.

"Not only that. Do you guys know that Xiangqi is the Ultimate Spell Pattern? It is an enormous breakthrough for me!" Pei An was in awe, "The game is too profound for me or other Immortals. Only the bigshots in the Above Immortal Realm can play it!"

He paused. He suddenly looked serious. He said, "However, I understood a new level of meaning from Xiangqi. The Soldier, The Chariot, The Horse, and The General all had their place in the game. They were responsible for attacks, responsible for defense. Every chess piece had its jobs. It turned complications into straightforward things. That's how a good spell pattern should essentially be! Therefore, as the expert's chess piece, I have to be clear of my place. After deep thought, I think we are supposed to be

The Soldiers. We are responsible for attacking in the first line, we should go forward and never look back!"

Gu Xirou nodded, "You make a lot of sense."

The Holy Emperor analyzed, "If so. If we want to help the expert, we should help the Human Sovereign to win the war. We should focus on attacking the Demons right now."

The three of them chatted and walked to the bottom of the mountain. Gu Changqing and the others waited for them. They hurriedly walked over when they saw them.

"Don't ask, don't tell. Look at what we brought you first," said Pei An as he took out the bag and waved it in front of everyone.

"Is it food? You packed this from the expert?"

"Yum, what a nice smell! It must be from the expert."

"The expert must have known that we were waiting here so he let you guys packed. He is too nice to us."

"Control yourself. Don't be touchy-feely. We have to share it evenly!"

The leftover cake was the size of a palm. They surrounded it like they were protecting the most precious treasure in the world.

Then, they carefully shared the cake in small bites. They forgot about everything else.

They finished the last piece of cake. Although everyone ate very little, they were still very satisfied. They licked their lips and reminisced in satisfaction.

However, they noticed something was off. They looked up at the sky.

A big cloud was in the sky. The white clouds cast a shadow.

A powerful aura was on the cloud. It was heading toward the Fallen Immortal Mountain.

Pei An and the others dropped everything and stopped the cloud without hesitation, they asked, "Who are you?"

The cloud slowly landed. There were about twenty cultivators on there. The weakest link was a cultivator from the Mahayala realm. The leader was an elder with white hair.

A square-faced middle-aged man sneered, “Ha, we saw your gathering from afar. You all seem to be fighting for food, we thought you were a bunch of rats. How entertaining. What’s up? Who gave you the courage to stop the Cloud Tribe Sect?”

“I see, you’re all cultivators from the Cloud Tribe Sect.”

Pei An tried hard to suppress his anger. He took a deep breath and asked, “Aren’t you all supposed to be in the Above Immortal Realm? Why are you here in the Immortal Realm?”

Pei An and the others tried to be peaceful because they did not want to affect the expert by fighting. It would not end well.

“The bridge to immortality was reconnected. Why can’t we stroll around in the Immortal Realm?”

The middle-aged man smiled. Then, he said, “We coincidentally passed by, this is a nice location. Quite beautiful. It is nice enough to be the new location for the Cloud Tribe Sect to settle down in the Immortal Realm.”

Chapter 314: Where Is the Sect Master, Why Is the Sect Master Gone

An unfriendly bunch!

Pei An and the others frowned. They had a menacing gaze.

‘A group of twenty cultivators taking a trip and just so happen to like this mountain?’

‘Who are they trying to fool?’

He said, “Excuse me. The mountain already has an owner. Please ditch this unrealistic idea, look for another place.”

The middle-aged man sneered, “If someone owned it, we shall chase them away. You all are standing here, perhaps you want to stop me?”

Gu Yuan said in a deep voice, “I suppose you are here for a different reason.”

“Move aside and it will be none of your business. Prepare to die if you don’t give way!”

They were here for a different reason and their intention was obvious.

They were commanded to investigate the place.

The mountain had a hidden expert. They did not know who or had any clues. So, they used a lousy but reasonable excuse to own the place and find out more information from there on.

They had a complete plan in their minds. They planned to execute it when they got to the mountaintop. It was going to be easy until they were stopped at the bottom of the mountain.

Pei An already guessed what they were going to do. He said in a low voice, "Let me give you all a piece of advice, it's never too late to go back! Don't die as a messenger!"

It did not matter whether they were able to fight them. He would not allow them to pass. He would not let them disturb the expert at all.

"We're here and we don't want to fight. But do you think that a few Real Immortals and Tian Immortals can stop all of us?"

The leader spoke. He slowly stepped forward to be closer to everyone. He had a nice voice, slightly coarse. He might be old but he had a powerful aura. It made him extraordinary.

He advised them, "Move! Don't be stubborn."

He was a Golden Immortal!

Pei An and the others did not look at all. They did not budge.

"Swoosh!"

Suddenly, a flash of lightning struck fast like a snake. It moved in an instant and struck in front of Pei An.

The lightning was too fast with no signs. It was too sudden. No one had time to react.

The elder seemed friendly but he was ready to attack. He could kill someone if he did not like what they were saying!

Pei An was the best amongst the others. He was an Intermediate Real Immortal. If he was out of the picture, the others could easily be destroyed. He would strike him first because it would be easier to do so.

Everyone was alarmed. Pei An felt his hair stood on end. He knew he was not able to dodge it in time.

Buzz!

It was a close shot. Static was in the air.

The lightning disappeared like it hit an invisible wall. It shot back without hitting anything.

“Too bad!” sighed the elder.

The electricity swirled in the air and returned to his side. It was a lightning dagger. Electricity swirled around it, it was a powerful lightning weapon. It was an Ultimate Lightning Spiritual Treasure.

That attack should be unavoidable with his distance but he missed. It was indeed too bad.

Pei An sighed in relief. He patted his chest and stepped back.

He was angry from embarrassment. "Low blow!"

He was distressed from shock as he almost died before he could have cold sweat.

Everyone noticed that the Fallen Immortal Mountain stopped the lightning bolt.

Pei An was standing at the edge of the mountain and dodged the attack.

The elder arched his eyebrow. "Spell?"

Pei An and the others relaxed. They were excited because they knew the expert was behind that.

Gu Xirou said, "I know you came to the mountain for the expert. But let me warn you, put your greedy little thoughts aside. Otherwise, you would die!"

"Ha, you think you can stop me with a small spell pattern?"

The elder looked down on them, slowly walked to the bottom of the mountain, and lifted his hand.

There was a shield in front of him. It did not attack him. He placed his hand on it and felt its resistance. He could not go further than that.

The elder immediately laughed. "I thought it was something special. This is just a soft defense spell."

He flapped his sleeves. "What a coincidence. My Lightning Dagger is best at breaking defense spells!"

He lifted his arm and out came the Lightning Dagger. It levitated in front of him and became three big daggers as he cast a spell.

Thunder and lightning were on the daggers. It was as if there were thousands of birds shrieking. It was deafening. Their ears hurt.

“This Mountain Defense Spell looks easy to break. It seems like the owner of the mountain is easy to defeat too. Let me break it!”

The elder held the Lightning Dagger. Lightning flew to the sky like long slithering snakes. It became an intertwined blue lightning bolt.

Then, it struck the Defense Spell...

Boom—

The cultivators of the Cloud Tribe Sect stood behind him. They were ready to cheer. They heard a huge boom, then they saw the elder ‘swoosh’ away like a bouncy ball. The elder flew by their heads, creating a beautiful curved line.

Then, they heard ‘plop’.

‘This...’

Everyone instantly went stiff.

The squared-faced middle-aged man hurriedly ran over. “Sect Master, are you alright?”

"I'm alright." The elder shrugged it off and got up from the ground. He looked calm like nothing happened, "The spell is so sneaky. It looks like a soft Defense Spell on the surface. I didn't expect it to have counter-attack properties. It snuck up on me."

He did not look happy when he saw Pei An and the others cheering and laughing. He sneered. 'Just you wait!'

He cast a spell and the Lightning Dagger levitated above him. It enlarged again. It became a Lightning Longsword. Strong electricity ran through the sword. The electricity was as huge as a tree.

It was not over yet.

The elder lifted his arm again with his face calm as ever. "Lightning Spell!"

Kaboom!

There were no clouds on sight but thick blue lightning struck down and swirled around the elder. He looked like the Thunder Man.

Split splat!

The cultivators of the Cloud Tribe Sect backed up. Bolts of lightning slithered around him like silver snakes. It looks very harmful.

“The spell will be broken after this attack! Not only that but the mountaintop will also be flattened!”

The elder looked at Pei An and the others. He smiled menacingly. “You’ll only be considered skillful if you can survive this!”

Then, he grabbed the Lightning Dagger that was as big as a small tree with both of his hands. Lightning powers flowed through him and he attacked the Fallen Immortal Mountain!

Everyone widened their eyes without blinking. They were worried that they would miss out on the exciting sight.

That was the strongest attack of the Golden Immortal while using the Ultimate Spiritual Treasure and the Lightning Spell. Very few attacks were as strong as that in the Above Immortal Realm. It was horrifyingly powerful!

‘Almost. Almost...’

Pei An and the others also felt their hearts racing as they held their breaths.

“Break!” roared the elder like he was lifting a small mountain.

He stared dead at the shield with menacing wide eyes.

Suddenly, the Defense Spell changed. It flickered with lightning. A figure of the Lightning Dragon appeared and swirled around.

The elder had a twisted facial expression, it was as if he saw something unbelievable. He was hopelessly petrified. “Oh—”

It was too late.

Kaboom—

They heard an explosion.

Everyone was blinded by the lights, their ears were ringing and numb.

They saw an ocean of lightning. Endless bolts of lightning jumped and crackled. They could not open their eyes by how bright it was.

They could not see anything apart from the endless lightning.

“Sect Master...is so powerful!”

“I’ve never seen the Sect Master attack this hard before. He probably improved.”

“Seems like they pissed off the Sect Master. That’s why he’s so ruthless.”

The disciples of the Cloud Tribe Sect discussed. They looked like they were in awe.

The strong light faded away. Everyone hurried over to take a look...

The mountain was still the mountain. The flowers and grass did not change one bit. Pei An and the others still quietly stood there. It was as if nothing happened.

‘How... How could this be?’

‘Oh yeah, where’s the Sect Master?’

‘Is the Sect Master missing?’

“Sect Master! Are you here?”

Clang!

A big dagger fell to the ground.

The dagger was bent and damaged. It lost its light but they could still tell it was the Lightning Dagger.

Chapter 315: No Way, I Have to Cultivate

It was silent.

Everyone from the Cloud Tribe Sect was dumbfounded. They looked at the Lightning Dagger on the floor—baffled, they even thought they were hallucinating.

“The Sect Master...is gone?”

They were in disbelief. He was a Golden Immortal. Was he a goner just from a ‘Duang’ sound effect?

Not only that. Even the Ultimate Spiritual Treasure was damaged. Not even their dreams were that wild.

That...was so horrifying.

“Sigh,” Pei An sighed and mocked, “I already told you so. Why don’t you guys listen to us? Isn’t it nice to be alive?”

They were not surprised at the result.

What was a Golden Immortal in the eyes of the expert? He was barely an insect. He belonged to the enemies-to-play-with group.

Gu Yuan stared at the remaining cultivator. He looked down and suddenly felt confident, “Say it, who told you to come over?!”

The square-faced middle-aged man already had clouds underneath his feet. He was utterly horrified and fled without hesitation. “Retreat, everyone. Save yourselves!”

“You critter. Where are you running to?!”

...

At the four-part architecture.

Li Nianfan was teaching Daji how to play the gaming console.

“From easy to difficult, see? That lightning was a bit too complex. I feel like you can start from the shield in the beginning. Come on, let me demonstrate for you again.”

He said while holding her hand. He started to slide along the gaming console. Her hand was soft and she smelled nice. Li Nianfan instantly felt seduced.

He leaned on Daji. ‘Yeah, so soft and warm.’

The Fire Phoenix was observing at the side at first. She attentively studied and learned how to create a spell pattern. Then, she realized she was the only one who was learning it seriously—the other two were flirting around. She instantly felt attacked so she quietly left.

‘In the middle of the day? How rude and shamelessly impolite.’

Li Nianfan finally stopped teaching when his hands felt tired.

He finally realized why emperors back in the days would love their women instead of their empires.

Daji looked at Li Nianfan and said, "I recently want to go out with the Goddess Fire Phoenix."

"Again?"

Li Nianfan arched his eyebrow. He thought of that milk cow and said, "Daji, are you trying to surprise me with a gift again? You don't need to. We don't lack anything at the house."

Daji pursed her lips. She thought about something for a long while, then she said softly, "The Fire Phoenix told me that I actually...can cultivate."

She hesitated to say this sentence for a long while.

Her Master seemed to wish for her to stay at his side. Therefore, he treated her like an ordinary mortal. However, she felt like a pretty vase, useful in appearance but empty on the inside. She just followed her Master around and ate. The recent situation was getting intense, she wanted to help him out more.

There were a lot of things she could not do as an ordinary person. Therefore, she chose to test cultivation out.

She hurriedly dropped her head after saying it and did not dare to look at Li Nianfan.

She did not know what he would think. She was scared that her Master would be angry.

Li Nianfan was silent.

He kept avoiding that issue from the moment he adopted Daji.

He wished that Daji did not have a Spiritual Root, he wished that she was the same as him so they could live ordinarily for the rest of their lives together.

Sometimes, he even purposefully avoided asking the cultivators and Immortals if Daji could be a cultivator. He was afraid that someone would mention it.

He did not dare to think what would happen to him once Daji was a cultivator.

However, the question finally came.

'I knew it. Such a pretty girl like Daji would probably be able to cultivate. She might have huge potential too. If she is in a sect, she must be molded to be a Saintess.'

Li Nianfan was slightly agitated. He avoided it because he knew that once Daji became a cultivator, they would be two different people.

Even if Daji was willing to be together with him, he would still feel bad.

Daji noticed that Li Nianfan did not speak for a long while. She instantly teared up. She hurriedly said in a quivering voice, "I'm sorry. I can continue to be an ordinary person."

"Silly, why would you want to be ordinary when you can cultivate?"

Li Nianfan concealed his sadness. He smiled and said, "I dragged you down previously. I'll now count on you to protect me after you become a successful cultivator."

Daji nodded and said, "Don't worry. I'll always be there to protect you."

Li Nianfan laughed. Then, he asked, "When are you ready to go?"

"When do you want me to go?"

Li Nianfan groaned for a moment and asked, "How about after I taught you how to play the gaming console?"

Daji said obediently, "Yeah, I'll listen to you."

Five days had passed in the blink of an eye.

Li Nianfan and Daji happily enjoyed the five days. Li Nianfan did not say it but deep down, he cherished the five days very much.

If Daji became a cultivator, or even an Immortal, he would not know how to be with her like that again. In the end, they would feel separated.

Li Nianfan was glad that Daji was following the Fire Phoenix though. If she had joined a sect, he would worry about her at all times.

Li Nianfan was at the door with Daji and the Fire Phoenix. He said, "Goddess Fire Phoenix, please take care of Daji. I heard that recently there are a lot of ruthless demons, and the sky showed weird and unpredictable signs. It's so not peaceful out there."

The Fire Phoenix nodded, "Don't worry."

Daji told Li Nianfan, "I'm going now."

The little fox blinked in her arms. She waved at Li Nianfan with her little paw.

"Go." Li Nianfan tried to look casual and waved.

Li Nianfan waited until Daji was gone. He sighed and sat on the bench. He was in a daze.

'I'm afraid Daji's trip won't be short. If she comes back and becomes an Immortal, what should I do?'

Suddenly, Blackie ran over to Li Nianfan and rubbed its head on his leg.

"Bark." (Master, you still have me. I am not a cultivator, I am just a normal dog.)

"Leave me alone."

Li Nianfan nudged Blackie on the head. He shook his head and said, "Bug off to the side. You single dog won't understand how I feel."

After a while, Li Nianfan suddenly stood up.

"No way, I have to cultivate!"

Determination flashed before his eyes like never before.

As the saying went, women were the drive of men.

In previous times, once Li Nianfan knew it was hopeless, he would have simply given up and lived a safe, simple life. However, he was about to risk it all to become a cultivator for a woman.

He immediately let Xiao Bai go to the backyard to call on Nanan and Dragin.

Nanan jogged over, "Brother Nianfan, you called for us?"

Li Nianfan looked serious. He looked at Nanan and asked, "Nanan, your Devour skills, can it be learned without a Spiritual Root?"

Nanan tilted her head and thought about it. "Devour is my power. Only a body with Spiritual Root can contain power."

That answer meant no.

"Dragin, do you demons have skills? Does it also require Spiritual Root?" Li Nianfan was desperate. It seemed like it was impossible.

As expected, Dragin shook her head and said, "Every demon cultivates different spells or skills. If ordinary people learn demonic skills, they will die."

That answer was even worse.

Li Nianfan frowned.

Dragin raised her hand and said, "Brother, I know how ordinary people can become Immortals."

Li Nianfan was intrigued, "Tell me."

Dragin started listing while counting her fingers.

"Eat flat peach.

"Eat Immortal Dan.

"Be investiture as a God."

'Okay, so you think this is 'Journey to the West' and 'Investitures of the Gods' huh?'

Li Nianfan rolled his eyes.

However, he jolted.

In 'Investitures of the Gods', it seemed like a lot of ordinary people instantly became Immortals after getting Canonization. If they were written in the plans of the Heavenly Palace, they were basically Gods.

'Too bad the Immortal Realm does not have the Heavenly Palace. Investitures are out of the question.'

'However...'

'There is no Heavenly Palace, but there is an Underworld!'

'If I can get a job in the Underworld, then I am basically an Immortal, right? This also counts as twisted progress?'

He paced in the four-part architecture. He was getting excited.

He previously thought about bathing in the Styx after death, he had not thought about getting a job in the Underworld!

'Do I need Spiritual Root to be an Oni? Maybe... not.'

He found a way. He saw some hope.

Li Nianfan felt his heart thumped. He was exhilarated.

There was fire in his eyes. He looked at Nanan and Dragin, "Nanan, Dragin, how's your cultivation? Is it great?"

Nanan was instantly excited at the mention of cultivation. She said proudly, "It is awesome. Brother Nianfan, I'm awesome. Even though I'm just an Intermediate Distraction cultivator, I can fight ten cultivators from the Combination realm! Excluding using my Immortal Items."

"Hehe, I am a cultivator from the post-Mahayala realm. I'm stuck but I'm not afraid of the Immortals I encounter," smiled Dragin. She looked at Nanan smugly.

"So awesome." Li Nianfan was thrilled. He would be safe with the two of them around.

Nanan was able to Devour. Dragin was a demon with a powerful Carp Demon family. They were also taught and advised by the Fire Phoenix and the Immortals. He did not expect them to improve so fast.

However...it was good news.

Li Nianfan did not wait. He immediately said, "Pack up, I'm bringing you out."

Dragin and Nanan were exhilarated. "Really? Out to play? Okay!"

They did not wait for Li Nianfan to nod. They already went to pack their things.

Blackie excitedly looked at Li Nianfan while wagging its tail. "Bark."

Li Nianfan thought about it and looked at Blackie. "Fine, you too."

Blackie was strong. If they ran into strong enemies, Blackie could delay them at crucial moments.

Nanan suddenly walked out of the room and said, "Oh yeah, Brother Nianfan, the wine gourd vine in the backyard grew out a beautiful wine gourd."

"It grew a wine gourd?"

Li Nianfan immediately walked to the backyard.

The wine gourd vine was long. It intertwined along the trunk of a small tree.

A purplish golden wine gourd hung from there. It gleamed under the sunlight. It was extremely eye-catching.

The wine gourd was about the size of two palms. The size was just right and it looked extremely beautiful. It was a high-end wine gourd.

He wanted to go out to look for ways to become an Immortal. He might socialize with bigshots. The wine gourd was good enough to show off.

Li Nianfan professionally plucked the wine gourd. He roughly cleaned it up and made it into a wine gourd bottle.

After a deep thought, Li Nianfan chose to bring out the red wine because he was worried that drinking white wine would cause trouble.

“Xiao Bai, guard the house. The hens and cows are your responsibilities.”

“No worries, my noble Master.”

Everything was set. He closed the door of the four-part architecture. Three people and a dog went on their journey.

Li Nianfan had a clear target. He was going to look for ghosts.

He was going with the Underworld route. He also wanted to look for ways to cultivate without Spiritual Root.

Between the two choices, looking for an Oni seemed more reliable.

Li Nianfan did not rush to his destination after he got off the Fallen Immortal Mountain. He headed toward Fallen Town to get information.

Li Nianfan would naturally avoid being clueless.

They arrived at Fallen Town. Li Nianfan said, "Nanan, do you want to catch up with Auntie Zhang? We are going out for a long trip."

"Oh, okay. Brother Nianfan, don't leave without me, you must bring me with you," said Nanan.

Li Nianfan helplessly shook his head, "What kind of person do you think I am?"

Then, they went to their familiar market.

The fishmonger had good business as usual. He immediately smiled when he saw Li Nianfan. He asked, "Mr. Li, long time no see. Are you here to buy fish?"

Li Nianfan shook his head and asked, "Nah, I'm going on a trip. I heard a lot of places were haunted?"

"I know right!"

The fishmonger instantly looked serious. "It's not a prank or anything. Our Fallen Town had ghosts recently. It's too scary. Thankfully, the Immortals were there to help. Otherwise, we wouldn't know how to handle it."

The fishmonger warned him, "Why are you going out on a trip? It's such bad timing!"

Li Nianfan smiled and said, "I had to. Do you know where the more seriously haunted places are? I'll try to avoid them."

"Southwest area!" said the fishmonger without hesitation.

Li Nianfan asked, "Why?"

"The war!" The fishmonger looked uneasy. "Too many people died there. Ghosts would naturally like to be there. I heard that even an entire city's worth of people was dead. There were ghosts and demons everywhere. Even Immortals did not dare to mess around. No merchants dare to head in that direction anymore."

Li Nianfan nodded. "I got it, thanks for informing."

'As expected, I came to ask at the right place. That's the place!'

If it was so heavily haunted, there must be an Oni there.

"Oh yeah, Mr. Li." The fishmonger warned him, "If you're going far away, you better buy some Rune Paper or Evil-Warding Jade. Protect yourself from those lost ghosts."

"Haha, alright," laughed Li Nianfan.

No wonder why he saw a lot of new items along with the stalls. The reappearance of the Underworld was a big business opportunity.

However, he did not know whether those items like Rune Paper or Evil-Warding Jade would work or not. Li Nianfan felt like they were worse than what he could make.

Chapter 316: Nameless Village

They left Fallen Town.

Li Nianfan brought Nanan and Dragin to head toward the Southwest. Blackie was responsible to lead the way.

The others were more active than Li Nianfan. They were jumping around and were thrilled like they were out on a road trip.

‘Two kids and a dog, all heartless beings. My life is the hardest.’

However, Li Nianfan felt relaxed seeing them like that.

The more they headed southwest, the more they could feel a ghastly aura.

The ghastly aura came from desolation.

They had walked for a long while but they could not see anybody. They only saw beasts occasionally.

However, it could not be helped. The traffic in the Immortal Realm was lousy. Apart from crowded areas, most places were unexplored since it was dangerous. The Immortal Realm naturally did not have tourism industries.

Nanan suddenly sparked up and said, “Brother Nianfan, a bunch of wolves are staring at us. I’ll go kill them.”

Li Nianfan could tell the little girl sounded excited.

Maybe it was because of her past but Nanan was a natural fighter. She was not scared of trouble at all.

“Don’t.” Li Nianfan looked at the sky, “The sky wants us to be nice. Just get the leader of the wolves, it’s time to eat.”

“Hehe, alright!”

Nanan could not wait. She immediately flew away.

Dragin jogged over with her short legs. She followed along with ‘tap tap tap’ sounds.

“Dragin...” Li Nianfan hurriedly called on her.

Dragin stopped and said coquettishly, "Brother, I want to capture wolves too."

"Wait until next time."

Li Nianfan said, "Don't go together... Look out for me too."

'Who would protect me if you two are gone? Do you want me to rely on my silly dog?'

"Oh, I understand." Dragin nodded and smiled happily.

'Brother is worry about us, he is scared that we will run into danger.'

Li Nianfan suddenly felt like the Monk.

He walked in the realm of ghosts and monsters and needed people to protect him because he was an ordinary man. His goal was also to go in a direction with a purpose.

The Monk relied on his students while Li Nianfan relied on two little girls. Nanan went off with the wolves.

He wondered if there would be vixens to seduce him.

Oh yeah, he seemed to be missing a ride.

Soon, Nanan came back with a big dead wolf. However, she had a huge black bear on her other hand, it was way bigger than her but she was able to carry it.

The black bear was not at peace. It was quivering in fear.

When it dropped to the floor, it hurriedly covered its head with its paws. It cowered and trembled.

Li Nianfan was taken aback. "What's going on with this bear?"

Nanan sneered, "When I'm catching the wolf, it roared at me. You wanted me to only kill the wolf but I was angry so I captured it too."

'What a...good and powerful reason. Alright, we even have a ride.'

It was a long journey so relying on feet was unrealistic.

Li Nianfan smiled and said, "Good, we can ride on it."

Everyone had a meal and then they were on the road again.

They were on the road for three days. Nanan and Dragin were busy because they kept being disturbed by demons on the way. However, they did not see any ghosts.

It was in the afternoon on that day.

Nanan suddenly flew in from afar. She said happily, "Brother Nianfan, there's a village upfront."

"Oh? Then we should hurry up. Let's be there before sunset."

Li Nianfan had sparkles in his eyes. He sat on the big bear and yelled 'go'. They immediately sped up.

After half an hour, an old village peaked from the horizon. There were thin veils of smoke over there.

They were out camping and eating in the middle of nowhere. They suddenly saw a village and felt familiarity.

The village was mostly built with wood. It had simple fencing around it. There was a big door frame at the center. The entrance did not write the name of the village. It was the Nameless Village.

The entrance was naturally not guarded. However, Dragin and Nanan were quite noisy, they attracted a lot of attention.

“Bear... Bear!”

Someone panicked inside the village. The villagers were frightened and on guard.

“Don’t worry, everyone. This bear won’t hurt anyone.”

Li Nianfan smiled and leaped down from the bear. He patted its shoulder. “Thanks for accompanying us along the way, you can go now.”

The black bear growled. He lingered then left.

Li Nianfan kept smiling as he saluted the villagers. “Hello everyone, we are siblings who passed by this area. It’s getting dark. We wish to stay here for the night, I wonder if it’s convenient?”

Li Nianfan was with two little girls. The combination easily made the villagers relaxed.

Suddenly, an elder walked out. He might be the Chief. He carefully asked, "May I ask, are you three...Immortals?"

They saw that Li Nianfan and the girls came here riding a bear. They must be extraordinary.

Li Nianfan was too lazy to explain. He said, "Not Immortals, but cultivators."

Suddenly, he visibly felt that everyone looked at them differently. It was not out of respect. It was complex. Everyone looked at them with various emotions.

The vibe was instantly weird.

"Since you're cultivators, please, welcome in."

The elder moved aside with a friendly attitude. He said, "My humble village does not have inns. I can only find somebody's place for your temporary stay."

Li Nianfan said, "No worries, thanks."

However, no surrounding villagers responded. A lot of them stepped backward.

Li Nianfan felt awkward.

“Hmph!”

Nanan scrunched her nose and sneered. She did not look happy at all. She was about to jump on it. “I’ll go find a place!”

A thirty-year-old woman walked over to say, “I have rooms in my house. Why don’t you all stay at my place?”

“Thanks...lady!” Li Nianfan immediately saluted.

“Please follow me, cultivators.” The lady walked to lead the way.

Li Nianfan followed and asked quietly, “May I ask you something, lady? Is your village in trouble? My two sisters and I have been powerful cultivators since young, we can deal with some small demons.”

Li Nianfan felt more like the Monk.

The lady went pale. She shook her head and said, "No, don't overthink it."

Li Nianfan did not say anything else.

Soon, they were at a village house. The house was built from soil and wood. It was simply built but it was nice. In comparison with the other houses in the village, the house was considered half a mansion.

Creak.

The door opened.

It smelled like alcohol.

A middle-aged man laid on the floor, pouring alcohol into his mouth with his face flushed. He was quite drunk.

He saw that the lady had returned. He stared at her and asked, "Did you bring the stuff back?"

The lady passed over a small package to him. Li Nianfan noticed that it had a small Ginseng in it.

“Why so little?”

The middle-aged man instantly looked displeased. He then noticed the outsiders. He frowned and asked, “Who are they?”

The lady looked uncomfortable. She hurriedly replied, “Passerby, they are here to stay for the night.”

“Stay for the night? Are they going to pay?”

Li Nianfan took out a crushed piece of silver without saying anything.

Silver money was nothing to him. There were too many ways to get it.

“That’s better.”

The middle-aged man was instantly pleased. He took the money, held the alcohol jar, and could not wait to get out.

Chapter 317: Encounter, Brothel Female Ghosts

“Cultivators, I really am sorry.”

The lady hurriedly apologized to Li Nianfan and the girls. Then, she said softly, "I wasn't trying to hide the truth on purpose. It would be bad if my husband knew that you guys are cultivators."

Li Nianfan asked curiously, "Why? Perhaps your village is discriminative against cultivators?"

"Ha, nothing like that. Please feel free to stay." The lady avoided the topic. She helped Li Nianfan tidy the room.

Soon, a bedroom was ready for them.

"I won't be disturbing you all anymore." The lady closed the door.

Nanan immediately pouted and sneered, "Hm, this village is super weird. I feel like everyone here has issues."

"It is indeed problematic. Why would ordinary people be repulsed by cultivators?"

Li Nianfan scratched his chin and frowned. "Also, on our way here, everyone looks like they had something on their minds. That guy was weak and fragile too. It is indeed abnormal."

He had medical skills so he knew the villagers were weak. Some men were weaker than the ladies.

'That guy is weak and wanted to eat Ginseng to make up for it?'

Li Nianfan could not understand it. 'Was the guy trying to rely on Ginseng to look better?'

Nanan glanced at something. She suddenly said, "Brother Nianfan, wait for me."

Then, she energetically went out the door.

Li Nianfan could only remind her at the back. "Don't go anywhere too far!"

Soon, Nanan was back.

She could not stop smiling.

She had a package in her hand. She gave it to Li Nianfan, "Brother Nianfan, look."

He opened the package. There was a palm-sized Ginseng inside the package.

“Where did you get this?” Li Nianfan arched his eyebrow. He already guessed it.

“Hehe, that fella took the silver and went to buy Ginseng instantly. I saw that he went into the alleyway. I easily took it. No worries, I’m a professional.”

Nanan joyfully said, “I’m not going to let him spend our silver. He’s not a good fella!”

Li Nianfan asked, “You didn’t hurt anyone, right?”

“No.”

“Good. Be civilized.”

Li Nianfan nodded. He thought it was weird.

‘He took the silver to instantly buy Ginseng? Did he like to eat Ginseng that much?’

It was unusual.

Creak!

The door opened. Then, they heard the middle-aged man in a scolding voice, "Damn unlucky, I'm so pissed off! My Ginseng was gone just like that!"

He was not sober yet. He could not walk straight, he did not know what happened.

The lady held a cup of tea. "Drink some tea to sober up first."

"Move, it's all your fault, you unlucky lady! Stop bothering me!"

The middle-aged man did not even look at her. He held the alcohol jar again and laid on the floor, living a wasted life.

"That b*stard!"

Nanan rolled up her sleeves. She was going to punish him but she was stopped by Li Nianfan.

"Mind your business, we are just overnight stayers."

It was soon dark.

The lady came over and knocked on the door. "Cultivators, do you need to eat?"

"No, thanks, lady."

The lady left.

They were about to eat in the yard. The food was simple, it was mainly steamed bread.

The middle-aged man crawled up from the ground and simply ate some steamed bread. His drunken face suddenly became shocked. It was as if he was expecting something.

Slowly, it was nighttime.

Layers of dark clouds covered the sky like a curtain, engulfing the small village.

The bright moon was high up in the sky with decorative stars around it. It was as if it became the only light source of the realm.

The night was chilly.

Li Nianfan was feeling slightly troubled in the room. He was thinking of where to head next.

The Southwest area was too wide and vague. The Immortal Realm did not have maps either, it was worse than his past realm.

Li Nianfan looked at the night sky and yawned. He was ready to sleep.

'I can only plan as I go.'

Nanan and Dragin were practicing their cultivation at the side. He felt very safe.

Li Nianfan was woken up by some bickering at midnight.

"Where are you going? Don't leave!"

"Move aside, stop minding my business!"

"Don't go. Are you crazy? I forbid you to go!"

Then, it ended with a 'slap'.

They heard the sound of the door being opened and footsteps leaving.

Li Nianfan was not as sleepy anymore.

Nanan looked livid. "Brother Nianfan, that guy is so horrible. He hit a lady. Can we teach him a lesson?"

Li Nianfan noticed something was off. "Let's wait and see."

The lady looked like the passive type. The situation must be very serious for her to fight with him like that.

"Easy, check this out!"

Dragin smiled, exposing her two pointy canine teeth. She pointed with her two fingers and created two thin veils of ripple waves.

Then, she drew in the air. A circular water ring was formed in thin air.

She cast a spell and pointed at the water ring.

“Look at my Water Mirror Spell.”

A thin layer of bubble covered the top of the water ring. It gleamed and became a mirror. Images started to appear in the mirror.

The middle-aged man was in the mirror.

‘F*ck, that is awesome!’

Li Nianfan was astounded. His first reaction was of the legendary skill, the Otaku Gospel!

He could see anything at any angle. Wait, ew...

He was being perverted, he had to snap out of it.

Dragin tilted her head. She was waiting to be complimented, “Brother, am I awesome?”

“Awesome, super awesome.”

Li Nianfan was super envious. It was too nice to be a cultivator. He wanted to become a cultivator more than ever.

He focused on the Water Mirror.

The middle-aged man hurriedly walked on the village roads. He looked like he was anticipating something.

He went to a place where a lot of men gathered. They were all chased out from their houses.

They all looked pale and scrawny. They were lethargic in the daytime but they were energetic at night.

“Everyone is here, right? Let’s go. Let’s not be late!”

“Yeah, don’t keep the beautiful ladies waiting. Hurry up, I can’t wait any longer.”

“Oh yeah, Dashan. Your house has three cultivators, do you know that?”

Dashan was the name of that middle-aged man. He had a change in the face and scolded, "What? That b*tch. Why would she let cultivators stay at the house for no reason?"

Everyone was slightly concerned. "You didn't attract the attention of cultivators, right?"

Dashan brushed it off. "Don't worry. I didn't. Also, those three don't look all that to me. They won't pay attention to us."

Somebody asked, "Will your b*tch beg for the cultivators' help and ruin our fun?"

"If she dares to, I'll rip her skin off!" Dashan sneered, "Stop talking. Let's go."

"Wait for us."

They heard someone calling them from behind. An old man and a youngster walked over.

"Chief?"

Everyone was stunned. Then, they all smirked perversely. "You're an old man, won't you be shocked to death over there?"

The old Chief replied, "I'm old, but I got a son to help me out."

"What a good son! Having a son is nice, like father like son."

Everyone hurriedly walked out of the village. The visuals suddenly stopped after they walked out.

Li Nianfan was enjoying the show. "What happened next?"

Dragin pursed her lips and said, "The Water Mirror Spell only works in the areas I set watermarks on. I felt like the village was odd so I set watermarks all over. I didn't expect them to exit the village.

'I see. No wonder the two kids were outside so long, they must be out to set the watermarks.'

Li Nianfan realized that the two kids could be playful at times but they were still alert and careful. They would not be easily tricked. The Fire Phoenix was such a good mentor.

Nanan excitedly said, "Those guys are up to no good. Brother Nianfan, let's follow them."

Li Nianfan groaned. Even if they wanted to meddle, they had to ask that lady first. They needed to understand what was happening.

Knock knock.

Meanwhile, they heard a knock outside their room. "I humbly request to see the cultivators."

'What a coincidence.'

Nanan immediately ran over to open the door.

The lady immediately wept when she saw the three cultivators. She cried and sobbed. Her face had a red slap mark, she looked pitiful.

"Please help me, cultivators." She knelt on the floor to beg.

Li Nianfan looked calm. He asked, "What happened?"

The lady sobbed and took a deep breath. She said, "In our village, the men will plant crops and the women will sew. We have houses and lands, and we are living happily. However, five female ghosts suddenly showed up and cursed the village. Every household was ruined."

"Female ghosts?" Li Nianfan was intrigued. They finally encountered ghosts.

The lady continued, "Those female ghosts feed on masculine energy. They entranced the entire village. Now, the men don't care about anything. They only waited until nighttime to let them feed on their masculine energy. Our village will soon be gone."

Nanan frowned. She said in a cynical voice, "The female ghost is so evil. Don't worry, we will help you get rid of them!"

The lady was overjoyed. She hurriedly kowtowed and thanked them, "Thank you, little cultivator. Thank you."

"Brother Nianfan."

Nanan instantly looked at Li Nianfan with puppy eyes. She was waiting for his order.

Li Nianfan patted Nanan on the head. He smiled and said, "Let's go. Blackie, come along too."

The three of them followed the directions of the lady. They walked out of the village and walked to the right. There was a forest at the side of the village.

It was dark at midnight. It made the place more isolated and creepy. They could barely see the dark shadow figures of huge trees, swaying in the wind.

They kept walking. They heard subtle zither sounds out of nowhere.

The zither sounds were soft and tragically enchanting.

The three people and a dog quickened their pace.

They saw a white light when they entered the dark woods. However, it was hazy.

All the men were there. There were also five other figures.

There were five ladies. They were wearing white, long-hanging chiffon dresses. White ribbons blew in the wind.

They were all beautiful ladies.

One of the five ladies was playing the zither. Another one was playing the flute. The other three were dancing.

They were elegant dancers. Their bodies looked as light as the wind, their feet did not touch the ground. They were floating in between a lot of men, enchanting them under the moonlight.

The three dancers would circle the men. Then, they would suck their masculine energy out of them through their faces.

A dancer went over to the Chief.

She sucked but soon realized the old man had no masculine energy left. She could not devour it.

A youngster next to the Chief chuckled and said, "Goddess, I'll help my father out. You can suck mine instead."

Li Nianfan felt his skin crawl at that. 'This stuff can be considered a stand treat? The more you know.'

He also finally realized why the middle-aged man wanted to eat Ginseng. It was to please these b*tches.

"Stop it!"

Nanan did not understand what was happening, she jumped out and said, "You all are a bunch of cheaters and sl*ts. How dare you all gather here to do 'marriage stuff'? Justice will be served!"

She looked honorable. Too bad her choice of words was poor, she ruined the moment.

“Cultivators?!”

Zither music stopped. The five ghosts frantically shrieked. They alarmingly looked at Nanan.

The men suddenly snapped out of it. Their dazed state was interrupted. They were immediately angry from embarrassment.

“Mind your own business. Scram, don’t ruin our fun!”

“Don’t be scared, Goddesses. We will protect you.”

“Yes, unless we’re dead!”

“So what if they are cultivators? What’s so good about cultivators?”

Those men were determined to protect the female ghosts.

“Scram!”

Nanan yelled and punched a big tree at the side.

Suddenly, a whole row of trees was flattened with a 'boom'. About ten trees were knocked down with shattered trunks.

"Alright, we'll scram."

The men instantly fled without another word. They quivered in fear.

The five ghosts floated in front of Nanan and knelt on the ground. They frantically kowtowed, "Spare our lives, cultivator! Please have mercy on us ladies."

Nanan said, "You all messed with the ordinary villagers, it is unforgivable!"

"Cultivator, we five sisters have never killed or harmed anyone. They all consented. Please have mercy on us, cultivator."

Li Nianfan shook his head and said, "Devouring masculine energy shortens their lives. It is the same as killing."

"We have no other choice. That's why we do this." One of them cried and said, "We're five lone ghosts. If we don't devour masculine energy, our souls will soon fade."

Dragin said, "You can go back to the Underworld."

"We can't go back to the Underworld."

The five of them quickly shook their heads. They seemed horrified.

"You don't know this, cultivator. But the Underworld doesn't allow us to reincarnate. We will spend all year in the Styx without daylight. We were also tortured by the Ghost King. We don't dare to go back."

"We five sisters were sold to a brothel at a young age. We pleasure men for a living, we have no freedom, no life. Living was worse than dying. So, we committed group suicide at the lake. We thought death would set us free. Who knew we ended up like this?"

"Even though our lives are hard, we had never wanted to harm anyone. We thought about karma, we thought we could be happier in the next life. We don't want this to happen either."

"Please have mercy on us, cultivators. We don't want our souls to fade away."

"Sob—"

The five of them felt miserable from talking about their sad past. Plus they did not know what was going to happen to them. They could not help but cry and sob.

Chapter 318: Awesome to Be Cultured

“Boohoo, Brother Nianfan, they are so pitiful.” Nanan and Dragin also cried.

Li Nianfan sighed softly and shook his head.

The five female ghosts were indeed tragic. They were tortured and abused, it was surprising that they were still kind.

Actually, what they did was kind of like brothel business—they were ghosts and masculine energy was their payment.

They were truly pretty, aside from the life-absorbing part.

He looked at the sobbing ghosts and said, “The shyness of the daytime’s covered by a silken sleeve; the melancholy of springtime makes it hard to rise and dress. A priceless gem is more easily found than a man who has a heart.”

The five female ghosts suddenly stopped crying. They jolted. They dazedly looked at Li Nianfan with teary red eyes. They reminisced the poem.

‘A priceless gem is more easily found than a man who has a heart.’

That sentence perfectly described their situation. It went straight to their hearts.

Those men were obsessed with them. They swore to protect and die for them, but they fled faster than a rabbit when they were in danger.

As a prostitute, they were already used to it. Otherwise, they would not be so much in despair that they committed suicide at the lake.

That cultivator knew them best!

Suddenly, they did not feel afraid to look at Li Nianfan. They felt touched. They blushed with tears in their eyes.

They felt like it was all worth it to meet such a man like that and to hear that poem.

A lady composed herself and got up. She bowed at Li Nianfan and said softly, “Sir, please accept my respect.”

The other female ghosts followed. “Please accept our respect.”

“It was too bad that I did not meet you earlier. Otherwise, I would have done anything to satisfy you, sir.”

“Only you understood me in the entire realm.”

“Sir, if you can be a guest of my opening show, I will be happy to death.”

The five of them spoke while leaning close to Li Nianfan. They looked at Li Nianfan admiringly.

Since the beginning of time, women have loved talented men, even prostitutes, and especially when his poem resonated with their weak spot. They could not help themselves.

Li Nianfan was inspired to recite the poem. He did not expect the poem to be so powerful. He basically got the pass for free prostitutes.

Nanan and Dragin leaped in front of Li Nianfan at the same time. They opened their arms like chicken protecting their food. “What are you all trying to do to Brother Nianfan? Don’t come near us, back up. Back up!”

The five female ghosts immediately snapped out of it. They said, “It is an insult to be near him as prostitutes. We are truly embarrassed.”

Li Nianfan softly coughed. He changed the topic and said, "Ladies, I have a few questions."

The five ghosts said sincerely without a second thought, "Please ask us, sir. We will tell you anything."

They looked happy to be able to help Li Nianfan.

It was awesome to be cultured, even ghosts could be impressed.

Li Nianfan smiled. Then, he asked excitedly, "Can ghosts cultivate?"

"Yes."

A lady nodded. Then, she shook her head and said, "However, we don't cultivate. Our feeding on masculine energy is like ordinary people eating meals. We don't grow from it, it's not considered cultivation."

Another ghost said, "Sir, usually, ghosts don't cultivate. The more powerful or vengeful ghosts can devour other ghosts to be stronger. But it's also not proper cultivation."

Li Nianfan nodded and furrowed his brows. "That means only Onis can cultivate."

'Of course. Why would ghosts be able to cultivate? If that was the case, anyone could kill themselves to become cultivators. It was outrageous.'

Li Nianfan continued to ask, "Can ordinary people cultivate?"

The five ghosts shook their heads simultaneously. "We don't know that."

Li Nianfan was slightly disappointed.

"Mr. Li, I was previously at the side of the Ghost King. I did hear something," said the lady who played the flute.

Li Nianfan arched his eyebrow. "What is it?"

"They seemed to be looking for a book. They said that whoever got the book can be cultivators. They can become the Ghost God. I guess that it might be a way to cultivate."

"A book?" Li Nianfan was intrigued. He saluted and said, "Thanks for the info, lady."

He was curious about the book but did not think much about it. He knew he had no right to have any ideas about it.

Li Nianfan continued to ask, "Ladies, do you know where I can run into an Oni?"

"Sir, you can go to Sapphire City. We escaped from there. They are forming a ghost army there to fight back with the Onis."

Another ghost said, "Sir, that place is a ghost town. Countless ferocious ghosts. If you go there, it would be dangerous."

Li Nianfan asked for directions. He nodded and said, "I got it, thanks."

The five ghosts looked at each other when they realized Li Nianfan had no more questions. They bit their lips and bowed at Li Nianfan. They said in a low voice, "Sir, we should go."

Li Nianfan was slightly surprised. "You are planning to... go back?"

"We are delighted to talk to you today, sir. If we can reincarnate, we hope to be by your side to serve you, sir."

"Sir, before we go, please allow us to dance for you."

They played the zither and flute again.

The five female ghosts were flaunty in their breezy chiffon dresses. They danced under the moonlight.

The dance was no longer the dance of prostitutes. They danced like elegant snowflakes.

Gradually, the zither and flute faded out. Their figures also started to fade.

“Farewell, sir.”

The five figures vanished with a farewell.

The moonlight was still bright, the night was still chilly. It was as if what happened was just a dream.

The men became sober when the music faded away. Then, they hurriedly knelt on the ground. They said fearfully, “We were entranced by ghosts. Please forgive us for disrespecting you, cultivators. Please spare our lives.”

Li Nianfan shrugged it off. “Go back to your lives.”

He did not return to the village. He walked toward Sapphire City with Dragin, Nanan, and Blackie.

At the Above Immortal Realm, Cloud Tribe Sect.

A lot of clouds flew around in mid-air. It was very chaotic.

Someone frantically yelled from within, "Quick, quick, activate the Defense Spell. Get in position, everyone!"

"Where is Taishang Elder? I'm asking you, where is Taishang Elder? Hurry up and go get Taishang Elder!"

An elder walked out from the Cloud Tribe Sect, he did not look happy at all, "Why do you need to disturb the Taishang Elder? Where is the Sect Master? Isn't the Sect Master with you all? Why isn't he back yet?"

"Big Elder, the Sect Master is goners!"

"Goners?" The Big Elder was taken aback, "What do you mean?"

"He evaporated. Not even a hair was left!"

"He's dead?"

His jaw dropped. The Big Elder was in disbelief. “How did that person in the Immortal Realm do that? What’s going on? Who is that person in the Immortal Realm?”

“No time to explain. They are incoming. Get the Taishang Elder.”

“Taishang Elder cannot be disturbed. Don’t panic, tell me how many people we are dealing with.”

“A few Taiyi Golden Immortals, and a lot of Golden Immortals.”

“How many people do we have?”

“We have three Golden Immortal elders and...”

“Alright, say no more. I’ll go get the Taishang Elder!”

Chapter 319: Compare the Abilities of Our Bosses

At the back of the Cloud Tribe Sect.

An elder was sitting properly on a futon.

His skin was wrinkled. His figure looked dehydrated. Even his hair was dried like weeds. He looked like a dying, dried tree.

The elder was covered in dust. He was barely breathing. If you got closer, you would smell a decaying stench.

Those were the symptoms of the Five Decays.

Once they became an Immortal, they would shed their old skin to have a clean one. Dust would naturally fall off their skin. Even if Immortals walked barefoot in the dirt, their skin would not be dirty at all.

However, once they have the Five Decays, they no longer have clean skin.

The first sign of the Five Decays was old and torn clothes. The second sign was dried hair. The third sign was sweaty armpits. The fourth sign was a smelly and dirty body. The fifth sign was having no signs of life as if it was a natural death.

He had crossed legs. He was squinting. His mouth moved as if he was having a conversation with someone.

On a closer look, there was a puny black dot in front of him. It was a tiny black mosquito.

The mosquito flew around the elder. Then, it slowly landed on his neck. It easily pierced his skin with its mouth.

Then, the wrinkly skin of the elder started to relax and tighten. The decaying stench was gone. He looked energetic again.

The elder looked excited. He said, "Thank you, Immortal, for blessing me with a new life."

The mosquito said, "We failed but you did a great job. I just gave you five hundred years. Next up is a new mission. If you also do it well, you can have another five hundred years!"

The elder was overjoyed. He hurriedly said, "Yes, sir!"

Suddenly, the Big Elder hurriedly ran over. His calm façade was crumbled. He said frantically, "Taishang Elder, it's bad, it's bad! The enemy is upon us!"

The Big Elder actually had a grudge against the Taishang Elder.

He thought the behavior of the Taishang Elder was nonsense. 'Was it not nice to chat, brag, be cool and awesome? Isn't it nice to live for thousands of years?

‘Why did he have to face the unknown?’

‘What is the purpose, man?’

The Big Elder thought that the Taishang Elder was out of his mind. However, the Cloud Tribe Sect was at the edge of damnation, they were under attack!

‘Now that the Sect Master is gone, how can we fight them?’

“Why are you panicking?” sneered the Taishang Elder. He was very calm, he said in a calm voice, “I’m here. The Cloud Tribe Sect is going to be fine!”

“But the Sect Master is dead, we...”

The Big Elder did not finish his sentence. He looked at the Taishang Elder with extreme shock. He felt tongue-tied. “Taishang Elder, you, you...”

He became young. The Taishang Elder became younger!

Although he still looked like an old man, his skin was flourishing and glowing.

Taishang Elder smilingly looked at the Big Elder. He said coldly, "Ha, so the Sect Master dead. It's not a big deal. You should know, the Cloud Tribe Sect relies on me!"

"Let's go, take me to the enemies."

"Yes, yes."

Outside of the Cloud Tribe Sect.

Clouds slowly flew in from afar. Daji looked calm. She looked forward with her pretty eyes. A creepy aura slowly covered the Cloud Tribe Sect.

Most of them rode on clouds. Only one of them rode on a flying sword. The sword was fast, and he was laughing maniacally. He could not wait to attack the Cloud Tribe Sect.

He was riding on a flying sword with black robes on. He was unstoppable.

He...was Xiao Chengfeng.

"Kids of the Cloud Tribe Sect, come out and meet me, Xiao Chengfeng. Hurry up and bow down to me!"

His voice was loud, kind of like thunder. It matched his lightning-like sword. He was like a holy Sword Immortal.

Kaboom!

A literal thunder replied to him!

Lightning struck down from the sky like a shiny silver snake and came down on Xiao Chengfeng.

Xiao Chengfeng squared up and cast a spell. A long sword figure appeared in front of him. It was just as fast as the lightning. It swooshed through the sky.

It clashed with the lightning when it was visible again. It created a loud boom.

Xiao Chengfeng was smug. "That's it? Come on!"

A cold, old voice was heard within the Cloud Tribe Sect. "You foolish kid. When I ruled the Above Immortal Realm, you weren't even born yet!"

Xiao Chengfeng levitated in mid-air. He roasted, "You're right, because at that time I was too busy being your daddy! What's up, now that you're a Taiyi Golden Immortal, you don't recognize your daddy anymore?"

“Die!!!”

He yelled in the Cloud Tribe Sect. A neon blue Lightning Dragon was formed in the sky with crackling noises. It was in front of Xiao Chengfeng in a flash.

Xiao Chengfeng wanted to dodge it but the Lightning Dragon swiped its tail to whip him.

The lightning hit the longsword. Xiao Chengfeng spat out a mouthful of blood. His body was numb and charred.

Then, the Lightning Dragon opened its mouth. It was about to devour Xiao Chengfeng.

Xiao Chengfeng was reduced in speed. He fled while yelling, “Save me, Brother Urchin!”

“Sigh, I don’t actually want to save you.”

Urchin sighed. He transformed into a dragon and protected Xiao Chengfeng. He clashed with the Lightning Dragon.

Then, he turned back into human form again. He frowned.

He could feel that the Lightning Dragon...was very powerful.

“Who gave you all the courage to mess with Cloud Tribe Sect?”

Taishang Elder levitated on top of the Cloud Tribe Sect. His demeanor was cool and his robes were flowing in the wind. He looked powerful.

The disciples of the Cloud Tribe Sect suddenly felt hopeful at that cool appearance. They stopped panicking and even felt excited.

“That’s Taishang Elder?”

“I’ve been in this sect for five thousand years. I have only heard of him but never saw him before. Who knew he was so awesome?”

“Our sect has such a secretive bigshot. We will surely win.”

Urchin and Xiao Chengfeng backed up at the same time. They looked at Taishang Elder with seriousness.

“Han Mofeng?”

Goddess Ziyue furrowed her brows. She was mystified. "You're not dead?"

Han Mofeng laughed. "Goddess Ziyue, you're older than I am. You're not dead too either, right?"

Ziyue frowned. "You know me?"

Han Mofeng replied, "You're the Seventh Princess of the Heavenly Palace. Of course I'm familiar with you!"

Everyone looked at Ziyue weirdly, including Xiao Chengfeng. He knew she was from the Heavenly Palace, but he did not expect her to be a princess.

"Who told you so?" Ziyue had glints in her eyes. "Since you knew who I am, you should know that you don't deserve to talk to me. Let me talk to your boss!"

"If the Heavenly Palace still exists, I will agree with that statement. However, it's a new generation now!"

Han Mofeng smirked. "Moreover, my boss is unimaginably powerful. You don't deserve to meet my boss."

“Ha, nonsense!”

Xiao Chengfeng laughed. He proudly lifted his head, “Do you know who our boss is? Our boss is a Godly expert, he can scare you to death!”

“Ridiculous, my boss is the best!”

Han Mofeng sneered, “We should compare the abilities of our bosses!”

“There’s no point talking that much. Kill him!”

Daji pointed at Han Mofeng to attack him!

Her Xuan Water Bracelet shined like a halo. It flew away from her hand and became a huge silver ring. It rolled toward Han Mofeng!

Meanwhile, the Xuanyin Immortal Water came out from the Xuan Water Bracelet like wild ocean waves. As if it was an angry dragon, as if a tsunami, about to devour the Cloud Tribe Sect.

“Be in spell formation!”

Han Mofeng cast a spell. A neon blue light appeared on top of the Cloud Tribe Sect. Then, the light spread and covered the area. Electricity was suddenly at every corner.

Sizzle!

The lightning struck the Xuanyin Immortal Water. It splashed everywhere.

At the same time, the lightning also continuously struck at everyone.

Daji frowned and said, "Delay him. The Fire Phoenix and I will break the spell!"

"One Leaf Blindfold!"

Immortal Linzhu took her leaf out. It grew with the wind like a green ribbon. It wrapped up Han Mofeng.

Urchin and Ziye went after Han Mofeng at the same time.

Daji looked at the sky. She reached out and swiped on the Xuan Water Bracelet.

Then, the Xuanyin Immortal Water became countless water snakes. They slithered toward all directions and gradually froze.

From afar, it looked like a long, icy ribbon across the realm. It gleamed. It was extremely majestic.

The ice kept growing with the Xuanyin Immortal Water. The lightning attacks were powerless.

Suddenly, the surrounding temperature dropped. Snowflakes were floating in the sky. Even the Immortals felt cold.

The spell was half frozen. It slowed down like it was about to break.

“Watch this!”

The Fire Phoenix was on fire. A fire lotus quickly formed around her. The fire lotus spun fast with golden fire at its center. Then, it attacked the center of the spell!

Kaboom!

The Fire Lotus smashed the air. A layer of cracks started to appear. Then, it shattered like a mirror.

“This...”

The Big Elder who was battling Xiao Chengfeng was stunned. His eyes almost popped out of his skull.

‘What’s happening? The spell was activated for how long? It broke in seconds?’

‘That was the Endless Lightning Spell that could trap a Taiyi Golden Immortal to death. It is known for having no weaknesses. How can the opponents break it in seconds?’

“Losing focus while battling me? It seems like you are not a good opponent!”

Xiao Chengfeng sneered and pointed at the Big Elder. His point became a sword, “Sword Point, take this slaughter!”

Spurt!

The Big Elder spat out a lot of blood. He fell from the sky like a kite with snapped ties.

Daji and the others went after Han Mofeng.

“You dare fight us on your own?” Urchin laughed, “Say it, who’s your boss?”

“He’s not on his own, we are here!”

A few figures shined out of thin air. They had a menacing aura. Daji and the others stopped in their tracks.

Then, five figures rode in slowly on clouds.

The five people all had Immortal Qi on them. They had not released it yet but it was already overwhelming.

Everyone went silent.

Mainly because it was too stunning.

Five other Taiyi Golden Immortals!

The Above Immortal Realm had been quiet for years. They had never seen a crowd like that. That team was extremely majestic.

Ziye frowned hard. She felt heavy. "Another bunch of old dudes who should be dead by now."

They had five Taiyi Golden Immortals in total on their side. Ziye, Linzhu, the Fire Phoenix, Urchin, and Ye Liuyun.

Daji and Xiao Chengfeng were Expert Golden Immortals. The rest of them were allies, a few Golden Immortals too but they were not as strong.

Most importantly, including Han Mofeng, the six Taiyi Golden Immortals on their side were made up of three Experts and three Intermediates. Their level was much higher than theirs.

They thought they were sure to win. They did not expect the turn of events.

Immortal Linzhu flinched. She asked meekly, "Sis... Sister Ziye, I won't pay with my life because of something I ate, right?"

She already took out a few oranges while talking. She stuffed them into her mouth.

Chew.

She mumbled, "I have to eat all the delicious saved food. The worst thing in life is still having delicious food when you die."

“The Seventh Princess of the Heavenly Palace, the Dragons, the Fire Phoenix, and the Nine-Tailed Fox. Damn, the victims of the big tribulation.”

A tall and slim elder smiled and said in a hoarse voice, “Our boss wants me to give you all a message. Hurry up and turn around, switch to our side. We can spare extinction of your species!”

“Hey, aren’t you missing someone? I’m here, the sword cultivator, Xiao Chengfeng!” Xiao Chengfeng jumped out with an unhappy face. “Are you guys ignoring me?”

The tall and slim elder glanced at Xiao Chengfeng. He did not acknowledge him.

He said, “If you all are trying to rebuild the Heavenly Palace, wanting to recreate the eldritch eras, forget about it. It is common knowledge that once the balance is broken, you all cannot afford to bear the consequences!”

Ziye asked, “Why?”

The elder smiled creepily, he replied, “Our era right now is named the Absolute Era! A few Saints opposed it and then they died. Is this a good enough reason for you?”

Ziye was shocked. However, she said through her teeth, “I won’t dare in the past, however, now...I want to try it.”

The tall and slim elder looked at the others. "What about you guys?"

Daji replied calmly, "All I can say is your question is very dumb."

The elder laughed. He said cruelly, "Then... die!"

Boom!

Everyone attacked at the same time.

The sky was covered by endless light. Powers were everywhere. The Power of Law was swaying in the air. The sky even started to crack. An endless strong wind blew.

It was just the first wave of attack. But it erupted like a volcano. The surrounding area was destroyed.

The Cloud Tribe Sect was abolished like it was paper.

Some lucky disciples that survived were scared out of their souls. They ran and fled with all their might.

Ice, fire, lightning, wind, flying swords, Immortal Items...

Everyone was doing their most. It was like fireworks in the sky. The huge crater beneath them kept expanding. The nearby mountains were obliterated!

Everyone in the Above Immortal Realm felt anxious. They were uneasy.

However, their enemies were prepared. They had their items too. Their items were also better. Daji and the others were at a disadvantage.

Clang!

Xiao Chengfeng was suddenly flushed. He ran his hands across his longsword and spat a mouthful of blood on it.

The longsword instantly shined. There was a sharp aura in the air. The area was surrounded by millions of swords. The swords would instantly be turned to ash once they were near any spells from the opponents.

"Go, I got this!" Xiao Chengfeng roared. His longsword was instantly turned to endless sword figures. It rained down on the opponents like a meteor shower!

“No you don’t, I’m with you!” yelled Urchin. He transformed into a pale dragon. His huge body could protect three people.

Xiao Chengfeng said, “You don’t get it, that fella ignored me just now. I naturally have to show him how powerful I am! I am going to go solo today and end six Taiyi Golden Immortals on my own. It will be legendary, don’t ruin it for me. Hurry up and leave!”

Urchin chuckled, “Lady Daji has to be safe. I have to stay for extra safety! You can’t take all the credit!”

“Leave? How naïve!”

The tall and slim elder smirked coldly. “None of you are leaving today!”

He had a golden rope in his arm. He tossed it at Daji.

Suddenly, the rope slithered like a snake. It went after Daji.

The rope was not fast but it was odd. It seemed unstoppable. It ignored every incoming spell and went toward its target.

Ziye realized and quickly said, “That’s the Immortal Trap Rope! Lady Daji, run!”

She tossed her hair accessory at the rope but it was blocked by someone else.

Daji raised her eyebrows. She froze the Immortal Trap Rope with her Xuanyin Immortal Water from her Xuan Water Bracelet.

However, the Immortal Trap Rope broke free in three seconds. It continued swimming toward her like a parasite.

Daji had a light shield around her. The Immortal Trap Rope could not get close to her. However, the light shield was visibly fading.

“The Immortal Trap Rope will not stop unless it traps its target. It also has power binding properties. Once trapped, even Daluo Golden Immortals could not escape!”

The masterful elder chuckled, “Since the lady has a special status, she will be our best bargaining chip as our hostage!”

“Sister!”

The little fox was worried sick. She wanted to seduce the rope, but the ropes did not have any feelings at all.

Daji was pale. She felt like she was in extreme danger. Her nine tails swayed behind her. She showed her true form. She leaped away on all fours. No one could visibly see her.

However, the Immortal Trap Rope chased after her. It was about to get Daji.

Han Mofeng laughed. He mocked everyone, "It seems like your expert is not that big of a deal. You are all one step behind!"

Buzz!

Suddenly, a powerful aura appeared out of thin air. The aura was not overwhelming, but they felt fearful respect.

A light shined on Daji on her chest area. The shine was not blinding, it was quite subtle.

However, the Immortal Trap Rope went soft when it touched the light. It fell to the ground like it was a normal rope.

"That..."

Everyone was perplexed.

“Sculpture?”

No one could believe their eyes, especially the tall and slim elder. They looked like they were in disbelief.

His facial expression was twisted. “How is this possible? What kind of Immortal Item is that?!”

“Leftover Powers? Signs of Wisdom?”

Han Mofeng started to feel his skin crawl. His hair stood on end. What happened in front of him was beyond his knowledge.

The Immortal Trap Rope was a Superior Heavenly Spiritual Treasure. It was a tried-and-true useful item, it was incredibly powerful. How did it go soft because of a sculpture?

Meanwhile, the Phoenix sculpture that the Fire Phoenix wore on her chest was also flickering. It was as if the two sculptures were communicating.

The two sculptures slowly flew out and levitated above Daji and the Fire Phoenix. A mysterious aura was emitted. It was as if everything stopped.

Then, Daji and the Fire Phoenix became visibly powerful. The sculptures helped them become twice as powerful!

“This is impossible. How can this be?”

The tall and slim elder stared with wide eyes. His forehead had a cold sweat. He leaned backward then fled as fast as he could.

‘Unimaginable, incredible!’

‘These people are too good at hiding their real abilities!’

Daji and the Fire Phoenix looked at each other. They temporarily put aside their feelings of respect and admiration. They focused and chased after the elder!

Xiao Chengfeng stepped on his longsword and rode on it. He yelled smugly, “Why are you running? Seems like your boss is not that big of a deal!”

Han Mofeng and the others have no time to acknowledge him. They were trying their best to escape.

However, their speed was reduced because of the One Leaf Blindfold Spell by Immortal Linzhu.

Daji looked as cold as ever. She stepped out and was behind the tall and slim elder.

The tall and slim elder attacked but it had no effects on the sculpture defense. Even his items would lose their shine once it was near the sculpture. The light shield from the sculpture was the most solid light shield in history. Nothing could break it!

He felt truly helpless.

The masterful elder was deranged. He yelled, "We are all hard working cultivators here, why the ruthless extermination?"

Daji replied with a spell. Endless Xuanyin Immortal Water covered him. He turned into a running ice statue in an instant!

Chapter 320: Ghost Town Near Us

"You dare look down on our expert? If I let you escape today, I would spell my name backward!"

Ye Liuyun yelled in power. He was indescribably thrilled.

They were ready to die in battle since losing a few chess pieces was normal in a chess game. However, they did not expect the expert to have a hidden move. He was truly awesome.

'The expert is truly an expert. I'm a man with a bigshot behind my back!'

The fire was as long as a dragon. It quickly surrounded the horrified Taiyi Golden Immortal. The Taiyi Golden Immortal burned to ash in despair.

The battle was soon over.

The area was destroyed. The Cloud Tribe Sect was also demolished to bits and ashes.

Daji slowly reclaimed the sculpture. She cupped it with her hands and looked at it with admiration.

Ziye looked at that sculpture bewilderingly. She asked, "This sculpture...was made by the expert?"

"Yeah." Nodded Daji.

"So scary, this is invincible!" Xiao Chengfeng looked envious.

Urchin said, "Stop looking at it, this sculpture is not something that belongs to you."

Xiao Chengfeng felt a sting in his heart. "I know that. But can't I look at it?"

"Awesome. The sculpture is stronger than a Heavenly Spiritual Treasure. What kind of treasure is that?" Immortal Linzhu stared at it with wide eyes. Then, she suddenly burst out crying.

"Boohoo, I ate all my delicious food. The worst thing in life is that you finished all your delicious food but you are still alive. Boohoo, I saved it up for a long time..."

As teammates, they should say something like, "Don't cry, I'll give you some of my delicious food."

However, they were rational cultivators. More importantly, they did not want to say anything like that.

Therefore...they naturally changed the subject.

The Fire Phoenix asked, "Goddess Ziye, are you the Seventh Princess of the Heavenly Palace?"

"Yeah, sorry to hide my identity previously, it's not on purpose. But it doesn't matter anymore since the Heavenly Palace is gone."

Ziye paused. She looked a bit sad. She said in a low voice, "I am adopted by the Queen of the Heavenly Palace. There are seven princesses in total, my siblings and I were all created from flowers or plants. Now, it's just me."

Ye Liuyun asked out of curiosity, "Then you should know a lot of secrets of the eldritch eras, right?"

Ziye shook her head and said, "All I know is from the expert's 'Journey to the West'. When the big tribulation occurred, I was just a puny Golden Immortal. I was weak and only knew limited things."

Xiao Chengfeng looked like he did not want to speak.

She used 'puny' to describe Golden Immortal, that was a personal attack.

Daji said, "Goddess Ziye, you gathered us for the Heavenly Palace, right?"

"Yeah." Ziye nodded. "I kept thinking about revisiting the Heavenly Palace. I've always felt like my six sisters are not dead yet. I know where the Heavenly Palace once was, but I need all of your help."

The Fire Phoenix said, "No worries. We are all teammates, plus the expert always wanted to check out the Heavenly Palace."

Daji touched her sculpture. She looked troubled. "I can only be with the expert later then. I wonder what the Master is doing right now."

...

At the Immortal Realm.

Li Nianfan was riding on a Colorful Tiger.

The huge tiger was three meters tall. It was like a small building. Li Nianfan could see widely up there. It was nice.

Nanan and Dragin flew at the sides to guard Li Nianfan. They followed his directions. Nanan would discover the roads while Dragin protected at the side. If the situation was out of control, Blackie was responsible to protect Li Nianfan with its life.

The Colorful Tiger was quick as the wind. That was their fifth ride on the way.

They changed rides at each stop. They had already ridden on a bear, a tiger, a leopard, a wolf, and an elephant. Dragin and Nanan also killed demons on the road. Plus, the unique sceneries of the Immortal Realm were sights to behold. Li Nianfan felt that the trip was interesting and fulfilling.

“We are reaching Sapphire City.”

Li Nianfan looked upon the horizon. He stopped his leisure attitude because it was about to get real. They heard that Sapphire City was already a ghost town. It was very scary, they were unsure if there would be Onis.

The weather started to change as they went into the area. It was a sunny afternoon, but the sky was gloomy and dim. The sunlight went away and it was breezy. It felt depressing.

He reminded, "Nanan, be careful. Take notice of Onis. If the Onis are not here yet, we should find a safe spot to settle down. Don't be casual about this."

"Brother Nianfan, it's easy. Check this out." Nanan smiled and flew far away.

Li Nianfan once again felt like he was the Monk, he yelled, "Be careful. Also, don't hurt the innocent..."

Nanan was out for a long while. She returned after slightly over an hour. She was grabbing a female ghost with a white shirt.

Nanan looked thrilled. She said, "Brother Nianfan, I'm back."

The female ghost with a white shirt dropped to the ground. She looked like she was in despair. She cried, "Sir, please spare my life, woo—"

Nanan lifted her and slapped her twice. The ghost was instantly quiet.

“Why are you whining? Stop pretending to be pitiful, I’ll hit you again if I have to!”

Li Nianfan suddenly felt a déjà vu. If he was the Monk, that would be an excerpt story.

“My evil student, how can you be so rude? My dear lady, are you alright?”

Too bad he was not the Monk.

“Where did you get her?” asked Li Nianfan.

Nanan smirked. She said in a smart voice, “Hehe, I pretended to be a lost kid, crying loud on the streets. She took the bait. She was so evil, she tried to eat me.”

“Sir, I didn’t. I wasn’t. She is falsely blaming me! Woo—”

“Ghostly nonsense. Nanan, shut her up.”

“Slap.”

She was quiet.

Li Nianfan would be a fool to trust the female ghost.

Li Nianfan looked at her and said, "Answer our questions properly, we'll let you return to the Underworld safely. You won't get your soul shattered."

"Dragin, cast a spell!"

"Alright, brother." Dragin smiled. She cast a spell on the female ghost, "Water Smoke Spell. If you lie, the bubbly water on you will be very sensitive and hot."

"What is your name?"

"I am Ruby."

"Where are you from?"

"Sap... Sapphire City."

“How’s the situation in Sapphire City?”

“The ghosts are, most, mostly gone.”

Sizzle.

Bubbly steam appeared on her. She was shaking from the burns.

“Argh— I’m sorry.”

The ghost frantically screamed. She said, “Sapphire City is filled with ghosts. I heard that the Onis arrived. The Ghost King is forming an army. A lot of ghosts were scared so they escape from there.”

“Can the Ghost King win against the Onis?”

“That... I don’t know.”

Li Nianfan frowned. He felt that the situation was not good. It would be nice if the Fire Phoenix was with him.

'Safety first. Safety first.'

He reminded himself.

"How far is the Sapphire City from here?"

"Less than ten miles."

Li Nianfan waved. "Alright, go back to the Underworld."

The ghost jolted. She seemed unwilling but she just bowed and left in the end. The Immortal Realm was too interesting, she did not want to leave!

If a ghost was killed, that meant they were gone for good. They would not have a chance to reincarnate. Li Nianfan was naturally not that cruel.

"Next up, stay beside me, you two. Don't go away."

Li Nianfan was serious. Nanan and Dragin nodded. They continued forward.

More ghosts started to appear after a few miles. Their surrounding aura was getting darker and creepier. Ghost Fire appeared from time to time. They could hear howls and cries from afar. It was unsettling.

Li Nianfan jumped down from the Colorful Tiger, "Big tiger, go."

The Colorful Tiger was too huge. It was too eye-catching. They also did not need a ride anymore.

"Roar." It growled softly. It leaned down and rubbed its head on Li Nianfan. It did not want to go.

Li Nianfan patted the tiger. "Go. Be careful on your own."

The ride was quivering in fear when it was captured. However, after tasting the delicious food, it started to play its role obediently.

Of course. They had never tasted food that delicious before. They must have thought they were in luck.