

Black Iron 1611

Chapter 1611: The Royal Prince's Sincerity

If Zhang Tie had not fully recovered, he could ignore the black invitation cards aboveboard. However, Zhang Tie had not imagined that the fact that he had fully recovered in the Dongtian and carried out a performance with Yun Zhongzi inside there provided a chance for the three top sects to attack him.

The honor and fame of Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace didn't belong to Zhang Tie alone. Therefore, Zhang Tie would not do anything to ruin the fame of Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace, as which would turn those people on his side into a laughingstock.

After looking at Zhang Tie, Mr. Fang sighed inside as he thought Zhang Tie didn't understand at all, saying, "Superficially, the black invitation cards indicate that the three top sects are going to end the animosity between you and them. In fact, they have long been intervening with the war for the throne of Taixia Country by choosing the third prince or the ninth prince for usurping the throne. Because you root for His Majesty, you became sore in their eyes. Therefore, they want to defeat you. Although His Majesty doesn't know which prince is the three top sects colluding with, he's already been investigating it. We would get the answer soon."

'I knew the existence of Imperial Alliance by accident; however, Mr. Fang could catch the secret behind the even of the delivery of black invitation cards from the three top sects through speculation. The royal prince really has a subordinate powerhouse!'

As Zhang Tie thought, he revealed an amazed look as if it was his first time to hear that news, saying, "You mean there's a war for the throne of Taixia Country behind this event?" Zhang Tie performed so vividly that even Mr. Fang couldn't find any loophole from his performance.

"Right, therefore, the event of black invitation cards is not your personal affair. The so-called black invitation card is neither an imperial decree nor a law. To be honest, it's just an unwritten folklore rule between sects in Taixia Country. If immortal could stand it and give way to it this time, even though you're mocked, you would regain your respect one day. As a hero, you should be flexible. You should bear the humiliation of passing one's crotch sometimes, not to mention such a bit of trouble. When immortal promotes to a heavenly knight or a sage-level knight, you would be unrivaled. Immortal, as you're free to make the choice, Taiyi Fantasy Sect and Heavens Holding Pavilion wouldn't want to attack you..."

Zhang Tie watched Mr. Fang calmly, asking, "His Majesty wants me to escape?"

"Not escape; just evade its sharpness for the time being. Similarly, when two armies were fighting, when the enemy outnumbered our party, it's great for us to fight them like an animal in a cage; however, it's also wise for us to judge the current situation and evade their sharpness. His Majesty regards immortal as his good master and friend. In this case, His Majesty doesn't want immortal to be involved in the conflict with the three top sects, nor does he want immortal to be in danger; therefore, he sent me here to persuade immortal!" Mr. Fang continued, "As long as immortal agrees to leave for the time being, His Majesty would deal with the rest for you!"

“I wonder how His Majesty plans to deal with the rest for me.”

“First, the result of the investigation about the extermination of Great Wilderness Sect would be a piece of His Majesty. If immortal leaves, His Majesty has his way to frighten the three top sects using this case!”

“What else?” Zhang Tie asked Fang Qingming with interest.

“His Majesty has a daughter who’s 16 years old. His Majesty loves her pretty much. His Majesty knows that immortal has three sons in Heavenly Fortune Sect who’re all getting mature. Therefore, His Majesty would like to marry his daughter to one of your sons. By then, Zhang Clan of Jinwu Palace would be the relatives of the royal prince. Even though immortal leaves Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace for the time being, the three top sects dare not do any harm to Iron-Dragon Sect or Jinwu Palace!”

Zhang Tie was really shocked by the second trick of His Majesty. To marry the daughter of a prince was always a big deal, not to mention that of the royal prince. According to the rule, when the royal prince ascended to the throne one day, it was equal to marry the daughter of the will-be Emperor Xuanyuan, which would have a great influence. As long as Jinwu Palace became the relative of the royal prince of Taixia Country, it would be unrivaled across the country.

Zhang Tie didn’t answer him immediately; instead, he just watched Mr. Fang with a smile, saying, “Is the royal prince sure that I couldn’t win the combat 100 days later?”

After throwing a glance at Zhang Tie, Mr. Fang took out a beautiful case out of the void. There was a bizarre piece of black crystal in the case on which hung a small symbol by a golden wire.

Mr. Fang then gave the case to Zhang Tie. Zhang Tie took the piece of crystal as he found it was like secret knowledge crystal; however, it was a bit heavier. One end of the crystal was covered with mithril, on which were the runes of master-level consolidating skill. The runes could prevent the crystal from being destroyed. The symbol and the golden wire were tied to the mithril through a small hole.

Zhang Tie saw three lines of tight, decent and clear words on the symbol.

The first line was——Pavilion 360, Building Mou, Departure Secret, Treasures and Rune Items Center, Imperial Palace of Emperor Xuanyuan, Taixia Country.

The second line was——The Combat of Taiyi Old Man in the Deities Region, Earth-elements Realm on the 763rd year of Black Iron Calendar.

The third line was——Sage-level Knight’s Aiding Strength, Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Real Sun Flame.

At the sight of the words, Zhang Tie had known that it was a classified file collected in the Archives of the imperial palace in Taixia Country. ‘Mr. Fang might take it here at the request of His Majesty.’

Like reading a secret knowledge crystal, Zhang Tie penetrated his spiritual energy into it. Closely after that, he saw a dynamic picture in his mind as if he was watching a film before the Catastrophe.

The picture was vivid as it was from a person’s angle of view——It’s a flight at a high speed; actually, it’s more like a chase. Because Zhang Tie saw another figure wrestling with the main character at the same high speed. After flying across tens of thousands of meters in the air, the strong sword qi missed its

target and finally struck against the ground, causing a huge ravine as long as thousands of meters, despite it could move thousands of meters in a split second in an overwhelming manner.

Watching such great battle strength, Zhang Tie was full of excitement and shock.

Given the anxious look of the one in the latter, Zhang Tie found it was a demon; given its battle strength, Zhang Tie confirmed that it was a sage-level demon knight.

Of course, the one in front of it was also a sage-level knight. After evading one stroke from that sage-level demon knight, the main character rubbed his hands, causing a thunder-like rock in the air. At the same time, numerous, dense starlights besieged the demon knight behind him before striking it like tens of thousands of meteors.

Meanwhile, the sage-level demon knight used a full moon to confront with those meteors.

A heavy explosion was dazzling within 0.001 seconds. Flying starlights, 360-degree rolls, earth-shaking wrestles, strikes and collisions.

The scenes changed so fast that commoners would definitely feel dazzled at the sight of it. Even ordinary knights might not catch up with its speed.

Except for Zhang Tie; instead, Zhang Tie just felt a bit thirsty as it was combat between sage-level knights.

The two sage-level powerhouses wrestled and moved fast. Only after a short while, they had flown over thousands of miles and entered another battle region.

With the move of the angle of view and attention in the picture, another picture appeared, enlarged and was focused on...

It was an old sage-level human knight in silver hair and gloomy face. He was fighting a sage-level demon knight in the air. At the same time, a heavenly demon knight was flying towards the battle region from hundreds of miles away. When the old man was focused, he suddenly gave out light. Closely after that, the entire sky became crimson like a furnace. In the crimson, the sage-level demon knight and that heavenly demon knight were flying back at pretty high speeds. Additionally, the elements realm appeared having been broken beside the old man as numerous berserk fire elements were pouring out like halos and storm, rocking the entire space. Even the angle of view from hundreds of miles away rocked two times out of control...

After the halos of fiery elements rolled over, the sage-level demon knight instantly released a shrinking black light curtain, which wrapped it like a huge cocoon. Zhang Tie knew that the light curtain was a performance of sage-level realm.

The fire element didn't stop pouring down. Element storm was just the first round of strike. Fire element constantly gathered and finally realized a qualitative change. Closely after that, a burning blue sun appeared behind the sage-level human knight, whose high temperature appeared to be able to twist the space...

The sage-level human knight pointed at the heavenly demon knight was escaping away over 60 miles away. Almost at the same time, the heavenly demon knight gave out a dazzling light as he had already been caught by three blue flames.

The heavenly demon knight released its protective battle qi in vain. Facing the blue flames, even its protective battle qi caught fire along with his black outfit and zigzag weapon.

The heavenly demon knight cried miserably as it shot into a bizarre, green lake. However, closely after that, it flew out of the green lake while still burning all over. It then hit itself against a mountain range and penetrated through the cliff. However, the flames didn't die out either...

The sage-level human knight in silver hair and gloomy face threw a cold glance at the escaping sage-level demon knight while flickering his eyes.

The entire process only took a few seconds; although it was hard to describe.

The picture was still rolling. After a few minutes' wrestle, the angle of view finally caught the heavenly demon knight who had been caught by three blue flames. However, it had already deteriorated into burning ash on the ground...

The picture then turned into dark.

Zhang Tie exited his spiritual energy from that piece of crystal with a great shock as he asked, "What's this..."

"As long as one promotes to a sage-level knight, he would be able to duplicate what he see in form of this kind of crystal for the sake of memory. It records the scene that an employed sage-level human knight in the imperial palace of Xuanyuan Hill saw in the Earth-elements Realm. Less than 10 people could see this scene. Additionally, the items in the Treasures and Runes Items Center are forbidden to leave the imperial palace. However, His Majesty let me hand it to you, immortal!" Mr. Fang said calmly as he gently shook his feather fan. After that, he took a cup of tea and had a sip. At the same time, his frown relieved as a shocking look flashed by. He glanced at the teacup for two more times before transfixing onto Zhang Tie, saying, "Immortal, what you watched just now was the power of the aiding strength of Taiyi Old Man of Taiyi Fantasy Sect; it's called Real Sun Flames. We've received the intelligence that the three top sects would recommend a sage-level knight to fight you. The one who was recommended is Taiyi Old Man. Immortal, do you think whether you could escape safe and sound facing such a sage-level knight..."

Closing his eyes, Zhang Tie knocked at the table, sending the room into an absolute silence at a stroke. A few minutes' silence was as long as a few hours.

The tea water tasted special. Therefore, Mr. Fang couldn't stand having a few more while waiting for Zhang Tie's decision.

After a while, Zhang Tie finally opened his eyes. He stopped knocking at the table as he pressed his hand onto the table, saying, "Please tell His Majesty, Zhang Tie extends his sincere thanks to His Majesty and would pay for His Majesty for sure. However, now that his opponents have come for him by force, it's hard to avoid it; Zhang Tie would not retreat!"

Mr. Fang watched Zhang Tie with a bit dumbfounded look as he saw Zhang Tie's unwavering decision and will from his eyes...

...

Half an hour later, Mr. Fang boarded on the airboat with five kgs' tea leaves produced especially in Iron-Dragon Sect. Meanwhile, he felt confused, 'Why didn't Immortal Qianji scare when he saw Taiyi Old Man displaying his aiding strength?'

It was the first time for Mr. Fang to feel confused about someone. Zhang Tie had become a hot, hard mist in his heart...

Chapter 1612: Returning to Castle of Black Iron

Besides failing to accomplish a task requested by His Majesty, Fang Qingming left Iron-Dragon Sect with a puzzle.

Actually, Fang Qingming had prepared well for this task as he had considered well for Zhang Tie. He didn't know that Zhang Tie had wavered his mind for a second because of the condition provided by His Majesty and the scene in the memory crystal. Pitifully, when Zhang Tie closed his eyes and considered it, he further fixed his decision.

Imperial Alliance had their conspiracy and methods. Zhang Tie had his decision and trump cards too.

Imperial Alliance regarded this event of black invitation cards as an opportunity to deal with Zhang Tie; however, Zhang Tie also treated it as a chance to dissolve the threat of the Imperial Alliance.

Through the event of Zhang Taixuan, Zhang Tie had been clear that he had long become sore in the eyes of the Imperial Alliance. He didn't have the way to retreat at all. The contraction between both parties could barely be reconciled. Imperial Alliance had planned to frame Zhang Tie since he got acquainted with His Majesty.

What was intolerant and annoying was that the Imperial Alliance also involved Zhang Tie's family in the case and arranged a piece beside Zhang Tie's elder brother, targeting at their parents. This violated Zhang Tie's bottom line. Given this point alone, Zhang Tie would turn hostile against the Imperial Alliance. Therefore, Zhang Tie just treated the black invitation cards from the three top sects as an excuse and figleaf of Imperial Alliance, which was nothing but sh*t. When powerhouses above heavenly knights were needed to solve the problem, this excuse could be ignored as powerhouses on this level would always regard laws and imperial decrees as waster paper, not to mention unwritten folklore rules. Whereas, since Zhang Tie was too well-known and enjoyed an increasingly higher honor across the country, the Imperial Alliance had to find such an excuse for the sake of the condemnation from the public.

Standing in an attic of Xuantian Peak, Zhang Tie squinted at the airboat disappearing in the skyline, hands back while his tender face revealed some resolute muscular lines.

At this moment, he heard fine footsteps on his back, which were caused by Yan Feiqing, Bai Suxian and Guo Hongyi.

“Did you refuse the help of His Majesty?” Yan Feiqing asked Zhang Tie as she heaved a sigh slightly while Bai Suxian and Guo Hongyi were watching Zhang Tie with concerns.

Although Bai Suxian and Yan Feiqing and Guo Hongyi disliked each other, they didn’t make any trouble any more at this moment.

After turning around, Zhang Tie watched the three women while slightly raising his mouth corners, saying, “Do you think the three top sects would not deal with me after I evade from facing the black invitation cards from them? They would find me trouble whether there are black invitation cards or not. They would fight me for sure no matter whether I choose to confront them this time or not. It’s not a matter of black invitation card; but the fundamental conflict of interest between me, Iron-Dragon Sect and the three top sects, which couldn’t be reconciled at all. We have to face it!”

“But I think His Majesty’s concern is right!” Bai Suxian opened her mouth.

“It’s right from his point of view. But it’s wrong from my perspective. Do you think that the top three sects have not considered that I might evade from confronting with their black invitation cards?” Zhang Tie shook his head as his eyes turned sharp, and he said, “The Great Wilderness Sect was much more powerful than Iron-Dragon Sect in South Border; however, it was still exterminated overnight. Although the three top sects look decent verbally, nobody knows how many dirty things have they done secretly. If I treat them as disciplined gentlemen, I would be the No. 1 idiot in this world. In the eyes of the three top sects, there are only life or death and the great plans of their sects. Do you think they would value Taixia laws or black invitation cards? Even if they couldn’t fight you aboveboard, they would also find you trouble secretly...”

Zhang Tie’s words shocked the three women at the same time.

Yan Feiqing said after being silent for a while, “But you have time!”

“You know that, His Majesty knows that, the top three sects know that too. Therefore, I couldn’t give a compromise to them or escape this time. Time wouldn’t stand on our side unless we defeat them and have them feel the pain, making them restless. This time, I would strive for 2 decades for Iron-Dragon Sect, Jinwu Palace and our kids!” Zhang Tie moved two steps forward as he pulled the hands of the three women.

“What? You mean we’ve got pregnant...”

Bai Suxian and Guo Hongyi widened their eyes with excitement at the same time.

“Yes, you have got pregnant on the airboat when we came back two days ago. You would feel it in a few days!” Zhang Tie watched Bai Suxian and Guo Hongyi with a faint smile. Closely after that, he took off the snake-shaped bracelet and put it on Yan Feiqing’s wrist, saying, “I am still 3 months away from the duel on January 29. I need to enter secluded cultivation and would leave the backroom through a secret tunnel to do something outside during this period. Therefore, you will be responsible for Iron-Dragon Sect!”

The bracelet represented two heavenly powerhouses. With their help, Iron-Dragon Sect would be much safer even though Zhang Tie was absent.

Yan Feiqing nodded.

The snake-shaped bracelet understood Zhang Tie. When Zhang Tie handed it to Yan Feiqing, he delivered an order to the two snakes—to follow the order of Yan Feiqing from now on in his absence.

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One hour later, after handling the affairs of Iron-Dragon Sect and leaving some words to Lu Yishan and Li Su, Zhang Tie frankly entered his backroom under the respectful gaze of the disciples and elders of Iron-Dragon Sect.

After entering the backroom and closing its gate, Zhang Tie heaved a sigh in that tranquil environment as he turned calm at once.

Since he returned to South Border with Bai Suxian, Zhang Tie had been surrounded by a lot of people. Therefore, he had not entered the Castle of Black Iron for over two months.

After throwing a glance at the backroom, Zhang Tie triggered his spiritual energy and returned to Castle of Black Iron.

As he had not been back to Castle of Black Iron for a long time, when he stood in the hall of the palace tree and sniffed the fresh air full of Reiki, Zhang Tie felt as safe and relaxed as being back home.

“Welcome back, Castle Lord...”

Heller’s familiar and intimate voice sounded in Zhang Tie’s ears at once...

Chapter 1613: Fiery Lotus Roots

The lobby of the palace tree was almost as large as a football field. Although it looked a bit desolate because of less population, as the most hidden nestle and shelter of Zhang Tie, it felt safe and tranquil for Zhang Tie.

It was absolutely a private space of Zhang Tie. Perhaps each man would like to have such a place where he could do whatever he wanted. In this place, he didn’t need to disguise, be scared, care about others’ eye lights and gossips, or wear thick outfits. It could be his base, harbor for relaxation and playground. Zhang Tie would not see any annoying people here; if there were, they must stay in the underground prison. Unless he agreed to let them free, they would not appear in front of him for real.

Heller smiled and behaved as modestly and gently as usual. In black swallowtail, white shirt, golden collar, bright leather shoes, plus his look which could match that of Apollo, Heller looked perfect.

Zhang Tie felt like meeting a long-awaited friend and partner; instead of treating Heller as an “artificial intelligent being”. Therefore, he gave a big hug to Heller as he patted the latter’s shoulder forcefully.

“Thank you, it’s great for me to come back!”

Heller was not used to Zhang Tie’s passion as he turned a bit stiff when being embraced. He didn’t recover his composure until Zhang Tie loosed his grip. “Castle Lord, it’s been 120 days since you came to South Border...”

“Aah, really?” Zhang Tie was shocked by Heller’s good memory.

"It means that Castle Lord is growing more and more powerful and doesn't always need Castle of Black Iron anymore!" Heller said with a smile.

"Haha, I've not forgotten about you. I've not taken enough fruits from the small tree!" Zhang Tie said as he burst out laughing.

"Castle Lord, you might have forgotten one thing in Castle of Black Iron which perhaps helps you this time!"

"What's that?"

"Castle Lord, have you forgotten about the fiery lotus in the magma lake in the underground karst cave?"

Patting his head, Zhang Tie instantly recalled it, "I almost forgot it. The seeds of fiery lotus could constantly strengthen my lotus-flower eyes! Are the new batch of seeds of fiery lotus ready?"

Heller couldn't stand heaving a sigh, "It seems that Castle Lord has forgotten it. The new batch of seeds of the fiery lotus is ready. But there's something more important..."

"What else?"

"The root of fiery lotus!"

Zhang Tie goggled his eyes at a stroke as he patted his head again. He finally remembered that Heller told him that at least earth knights who had formed earth chakra could absorb the effect of root of fiery lotus. After taking it, an earth knight would enjoy an unimaginable resistance to high temperature and lava. Additionally, the earth knight's protective battle qi could also see a new round of evolution and carried the feature of fiery flame slightly. After that, he could do harm to his enemy when defending the opponent.

"Castle Lord, when you promoted to an earth knight in the Earth-elements Realm, there were not enough roots of fiery lotus in Castle of Black Iron; nor did Castle Lord take them. After a few years, there have been many roots of fiery lotus here. I thought Castle Lord ignored it for the time being as you were busy. Therefore, I didn't warn you. It turns out that Castle Lord has forgotten it for real..."

"Heller, thank you. Without your warning, I wouldn't have remembered it!" Zhang Tie patted Heller's shoulder again as he added, "If roots of fiery lotus could greatly improve my resistance to fiery flames, I would have one more trump card when I face Taiyi Old Man of Taiyi Fantasy Sect..."

"Castle Lord, do you want to take a look in the underground karst cave?"

"You bet!"

Zhang Tie threw a glance at the small tree when he entered the underground tunnel leading to the underground space of the Immortal Mountain with Heller.

The small tree didn't disappoint Zhang Tie as Zhang Tie saw over 100 fruits of redemption from golden uangs, gulf shrimps and hairy shells. It appeared that Paul and his team were still working diligently.

When Zhang Tie came back two days ago, he contacted Paul by remote-sensing communications finger ring. Paul was in Huizhou Province, Taixia Country and couldn't go back to meet Zhang Tie right away. However, Paul told Zhang Tie that he was brewing a big action.

When Zhang Tie thought about the steady improvement of his overall strength, Zhang Tie instantly felt good as he paced up, not to mention those roots of fiery lotus.

A few minutes later, Zhang Tie and Heller entered the underground karst cave beneath the Immortal Mountain again.

The space of this karst cave had expanded many times than that Zhang Tie saw last time. It was fiery all over while the lava in the magma lake was flowing slowly.

The temperature in the karst cave was above 60 degrees Celcius. It smelt like sulfur in the air. However, a special fragrance was drifting in the space which was full of Reiki like a fresh brook in the desert. The moment Zhang Tie sniffed it, he had been highly spirited.

The entire magma lake was covered with dense fiery lotus. Looking into the distance, Zhang Tie saw golden light sparkling in the lake. Like a legendary world, it was full of open fiery lotus flowers. Even Zhang Tie couldn't count the fiery lotus.

The extremely rare fiery lotus in the outside world realized quantitative production in Castle of Black Iron.

Even Zhang Tie felt dazzled about this scene.

Who could imagine that Zhang Tie was racking his mind to take out the fiery lotus which was rare for others?

"How many roots of the fiery lotus are there?" Zhang Tie asked Heller as he swallowed his saliva...

Chapter 1614: Ice and Fire

"Fiery lotus roots keep growing every day in this magma lake. Therefore, its quantity is rising. If you need it, as long as you input sufficient aura value and moral value, I could increase the number of fiery lotus roots by two times within a short period. Even now the number of fiery lotus roots have already surpassed your absorptive capacity as a shadow knight!"

"You mean I couldn't eat all of them?"

"Of course, fiery lotus root is the most powerful medicine to a certain degree. Nobody could eat them limitlessly. Due to the difference in physical condition, cultivation method, spiritual energy and level, knights would see different capacities in absorbing fiery lotus roots!"

Zhang Tie nodded as he said, "I see. How do I eat them? Soak them in liquor like seeds of the fiery lotus?"

"No!" Heller shook his head as he explained, "If you insist on taking them in that way, you could absorb them well for real; in fact, if you want fiery lotus roots to play its effect to the utmost, you have to take them in a special environment!"

“A special environment?”

“Yup, you should freeze and soften these fiery lotus roots in an environment under minus 100 degrees Celcius before consuming them!”

“Under minus 100 degrees Celcius?”

“You bet. In natural environments such as underground world or where fiery lotus grows, when these fiery lotus roots are picked, they always carry the best effect. However, you couldn’t eat them right away when they’re so hot; whereas, you couldn’t find such a cold environment to take them so as to absorb their effect to the utmost. After being picked, if these fiery lotus roots could enter a super low temperature within a short period, their essence would not escape and one could absorb them easily and gain a great effect! To be honest, Castle Lord’s master might have taken some fiery lotus roots somewhere; however, the environment where he took them was not perfect. As a result, a greater part of the effect of those fiery lotus roots that he had taken was wasted...”

“Don’t I worry about this issue?”

“Sure thing. Castle of Black Iron could provide the best environment for Castle Lord. Therefore, Castle Lord could play the effect of fiery lotus roots to the utmost and absorb them well. As to how many could you take, it depends on you.” Heller said confidently.

Zhang Tie didn’t worry about it for real because he had long got a super large freezer for storing food in Castle of Black Iron. He even froze the flesh of the huge deep sea monster there. The temperature in that freezer was fully under Heller’s control. He could have Heller adjust its temperature for free. What was more, the freezer was right above this karst cave. It was just a few minutes’ walk from here. If he ran or move using his ability as a divine dominator, Zhang Tie could move faster.

Zhang Tie sighed, and said, “I’ve not imagined that a fiery lotus root would play its utmost effect at such a low temperature!”

“Fiery lotus grows in such a high temperature; especially its root which is soaked in the high-temperature lava all day long. If you want to fully absorb its effect, you need an utterly different environment. It’s like how water and fire, yin and yang mend up each other!”

“After hearing your words, I couldn’t wait for it!” Zhang Tie said as he rubbed his hands, watching the fiery lotus over the lake with gleaming eyes.

“Castle Lord, you don’t need to wait anymore!” Heller said with a smile as he pointed at the lava lake full of fiery lotus, continuing, “Castle Lord, you could use your ability as a divine dominator to cut off those fiery lotus roots and take them out of the lake. After that, you could take them to the freezer above us and enjoy their unusual effect!”

“How long do I have to wait to consume them after moving them to the freezer?”

“About 30 minutes. When these roots gradually lose their glow and start to freeze, you could take them one after another. Since each fiery lotus root starts to freeze, Castle Lord had better take them within 1 hour. If it’s too long, their effect might decline. Castle Lord, you could cut off one section of root and take it to the freezer first. After eating it, you could come back for the second section. That would preserve its effect...”

“Fine!”

After figuring out its usage, Zhang Tie couldn't wait to move his index finger. Soon after Heller's words, Zhang Tie had fixated onto a fiery lotus not far from him. Under his lotus flower eyes, the high-temperature magma under it instantly became as transparent as water that Zhang Tie could clearly see each root under fiery lotus.

The roots, being golden all over, were giving out the glow, like gold growing in the magma, large or small, long or short, thick or thin. Those fiery lotus roots were as same as ordinary lotus roots in shape and size.

The entire magma lake had been covered with fiery lotus roots under its surface, which couldn't even be carried away by trucks.

“Split...” Zhang Tie murmured as strong spiritual energy penetrated through the magma and reached over 10 m deep. After cutting off a section of golden fiery lotus root as thick and long as a kid's arm, Zhang Tie had it fly out of the lake and float in the air while giving out a brilliant glow.

After making a hand gesture to Heller, Zhang Tie instantly caught that section of golden fiery lotus root and flew towards the freezer above.

The fiery lotus root was as hot as the magma like a piece of hot iron sheet. Commoners would be scorched for real. However, as a powerful knight, Zhang Tie only released some protective battle qi before taking it easily by hand.

Strangely, previously Zhang Tie thought this section of fiery lotus root would be very heavy, after taking it, he felt that it was just as heavy as ordinary lotus roots. What an amazing creation!

Chapter 1615: A Bizarre Capacity

At the speed of divine dominator, Zhang Tie flashed across the underground tunnel as fast as a lightning bolt. Only in less than half a minute, he had flown out of the scorching karst cave and entered the freezer.

The freezer was very large. For the sake of its effect, Zhang Tie didn't stop at the edge of the freezer; instead, he came all the way into the center of the freezer where the temperature was stable. After that, he suspended the section of the root in the air using his ability as a divine dominator, having it bathe the cold.

As a knight, Zhang Tie had the great cold-resistant ability, plus the assistance of the effect of fruits of redemption; Zhang Tie's cold-resistant ability became much greater than that of ordinary knights.

The temperature in the freezer had been declined to minus 100 degrees Celcius by Heller while a wisp of frost had already covered the center of the freezer. Rolling over there, the frost felt heart-piercing. Only by releasing a bit protective battle qi, Zhang Tie had not sensed the cold anymore.

Widening his eyes, Zhang Tie watched the section of fiery lotus root suspending in the air.

In the freezer, the glow over the section of fiery lotus root was gradually disappearing. At the same time, Zhang Tie sensed the cold qi gathering towards the section of fiery lotus root in a weird way.

It felt like throwing a piece of dry sponge into the water as water would be automatically absorbed by sponge; it also felt like black holes in his mind sea and qi sea engulfing the surrounding energy. How amazing it was!

Zhang Tie thought that even his master Zhao Yuan might not have a chance to see this.

As cold qi was gradually gathering around that section of fiery lotus root, an icy swirl slowly came into being around it which rotated in a close-wise manner. The shape of the icy swirl was extremely similar to that of the Taiji diagram, which stunned Zhang Tie again.

As time passed by, the glow over the section of fiery lotus root gradually faded away while the golden root slowly turned conspicuous. As smooth as polished metal surface, the section of the fiery lotus was clean and bright, having no trace of magma.

After over 20 minutes, the glow over the section of fiery lotus root had completely disappeared. Zhang Tie then widened his eyes and watched it for 7-8 minutes more. Then, the golden section of fiery lotus became transparent while a pale layer of frost gradually froze over the root. Right then, Zhang Tie stretched out his hand and had the section of fiery lotus root fly into his hand.

After throwing the last glance at it, Zhang Tie gave it a bite at once.

Previously, Zhang Tie thought it would be hard; unimaginably, the section of fiery lotus root tasted very soft, even a bit crispy. Besides, it tasted icy and fragrant. However, before Zhang Tie started to taste the fragrance carefully, the section of the root had already turned into liquid and flown all the way into his stomach from his throat.

Zhang Tie's stomach felt warm and comfortable. At the same time, bizarre energy instantly spread over Zhang Tie's body like how a leakless fruit usually did. The greater part of its energy finally gathered in the void of his qi sea and was absorbed by the battle qi sun. The rest part scattered into his bones, meridians, muscles, blood, even guts.

The process was as comfortable as taking a sauna bath.

After taking this section of root for less than 5 minutes, Zhang Tie licked his lips as he felt a bit change in his qi sea and his body for real. However, he wondered whether it was because of King Roc Sutra and his strong physical condition as the change was too small, which was far away from the situation where he couldn't absorb any more. Additionally, the root appeared to be unable to make him feel full. After taking the section of fiery lotus root and absorbing its mysterious energy, Zhang Tie still felt hungry.

Closely after that, Zhang Tie flashed into the karst cave below. In the blink of an eye, he had brought back another section of fiery lotus root, which was much bigger than the first one.

As Zhang Tie waited for the second section of root to turn cold, he sat on the ground with crossed legs as he ran his battle qi to digest and absorb the energy of the former section of root.

After almost half an hour, the second section of the root was just frozen. Only after a short while, it had been engulfed by Zhang Tie. After that, Zhang Tie rushed towards the karst cave below for the third time.

Later on, Zhang Tie kept traveling between the karst cave and the freezer with high spirit. He kept digesting the energy of the former section of the root while waiting for the next one. Basically, he could take and digest one section of the root in every 40 minutes. He was so interested in doing that he almost forgot time.

...

After many hours, when Zhang Tie hurriedly flew towards the freezer with a section of fiery lotus root, he suddenly threw a glance at his hand. Closely after that, he became still in the air.

At this moment, the section of fiery lotus root was still giving out sparkling glow with a pretty high temperature, just like a steel mold. However, Zhang Tie realized that he didn't even release his battle qi at all; instead, he just held the section of high-temperature fiery lotus root by hand.

Not until he moved his eyes onto his hand did he feel a bit warm. However, it was still acceptable.

Zhang Tie's palm was stuck to the section of root. After losing his grip and having it float in the air, Zhang Tie took a look at his hand as he found no scald on his palm at all; not even a blister; instead, he only found his palm a bit red like how it looked when he took a bowl of hot soup from the kitchen to the table when he was young. Additionally, his hand didn't see any change. Neither it turned into a terrifying monster's claw, nor it produced any surplus skin layer. His fine hair could still be seen clearly like before.

Zhang Tie held it by another hand as he felt the same. That hand was not scaled either; instead, it just felt a bit warm.

The fiery lotus roots had already started to change his physical condition and resistance to high temperature and flame.

...

After almost 40 minutes, when he finished that section of root, Zhang Tie came back to the bank of the magma lake. Squatting down, Zhang Tie directly put his left hand into lava while stroking his forehead using his right hand with releasing any protective battle qi.

His right hand felt as warm as before; instead of being icy or uncomfortable. His body temperature remained 35.5 degrees Celcius.

He stirred his left hand in the lava like how he stirred warm water before. However, he didn't feel uncomfortable at all. He only felt warm although Zhang Tie was clear that the lava's temperature was 968 degrees Celcius.

When his left hand was in the lava, bizarre energy in all the cells of that hand appeared having been activated by the high temperature. Closely after that, that hand could fit high temperature. When he pulled that hand out of there, the bizarre energy among those cells slowly recovered.

The special energy in his cells was like mercury in a thermometer, which could adjust the energy level of his cells when feeling the change in temperature so that his body cells could bear it easily.

When the temperature was high outside, the bizarre energy level in his body cells would rise for real; when the temperature outside was normal, the bizarre energy level in his body cells would recover.

'F*ck, it turns out that my sense and tolerance of temperature has been updated to an unimaginable degree. Fabulous!'

Watching his hands, Zhang Tie squatted down there for a while. After that, he stood up as he found that he could take many more roots; therefore, he cut off another section of fiery lotus root before running towards the freezer above...

Chapter 1616: Zhang Tie's Confidence

Zhang Tie didn't know how many fiery lotus roots had he eaten. When he felt full and the sun above his qi sea couldn't absorb the special energy from fiery lotus roots anymore, Zhang Tie finally stopped. Zhang Tie didn't know how many days had passed. When he felt that he couldn't absorb the special energy from fiery lotus roots anymore, Zhang Tie also felt very sleepy and tired. Closely after that, he rushed out of the freezer all the way to the lobby of Palace Tree before returning to his own bedroom and throwing himself onto the bed.

Even knights needed sleep to recover their energy and physical strength.

When Zhang Tie woke up in about two days, he became energetic again.

After having a bumper dinner in Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie called Heller, Aziz, Edward and Agan to test the effect of fiery lotus roots in Edward's workshop beneath the Palace Tree, which could spout fire from the ground.

...

"Wait a moment..." Edward hurriedly stopped Agan when Zhang Tie stood straight and had Agan pierce at him by a fine steel long sword so as to test the strengthening effect of his protective battle qi. Closely after that, Zhang Tie handed a pair of thick gloves to Agan, saying, "Here's a pair of asbestos gloves. After putting on it, you would not be scalded..."

After taking the pair of gloves, Agan put it on before holding the fine steel long sword again.

"Come on, no worry..." Zhang Tie told Agan.

Agan nodded as he threw a glance at Zhang Tie. Gritting his teeth, he then pierced his long sword at Zhang Tie's shoulder.

Before the fine steel long sword touched Zhang Tie's shoulder, Zhang Tie's protective battle qi had quivered as a glow flashed by. "Aah..." Agan screamed. With a crashing sound, he dropped his long sword while he was sent flying backward.

The fine steel long sword, lying on the ground, turned pretty red just like having been taken out of the furnace while its tip had almost melted.

After taking so many fiery lotus roots, Zhang Tie's protective battle qi finally accomplished a powerful evolution and carried a bit power of the fiery flame. When his protective battle qi encountered a strike, as long as Zhang Tie ran his spirit, it would be able to bounce back the high-temperature strike.

Agan, Aziz and Edward were all petrified by the red fine steel long sword, lying on the ground.

"Hahaha, that's unimaginable..." Zhang Tie couldn't stand bursting into laughter as he watched them and that fine steel long sword.

When Zhang Tie saw his master Zhaoyuan turn a LV 10 strong fighter's arm into ash when being hunted by people in the Dragon Island, he was pretty shocked. Unimaginably, he could make it one day too. Additionally, Zhang Tie was confident that the anti-strike ability of his protective battle qi was much greater than that of his master Zhao Yuan after such a powerful and effective evolution.

The fiery lotus roots that his master ate ought to not match him in quantity and quality.

Protective battle qi was a pattern for a knight to apply his battle qi, which originated from the sun above one's qi sea at one's lower abdomen.

At this moment, the sun above Zhang Tie's qi sea appeared to have changed too—it was more brilliant than that before and had expanded by two times. Not only that, the sun was surrounded by a bizarre golden flame which looked like a corona.

Besides the power of his protective battle qi, Zhang Tie felt that his battle qi had grown more powerful too. After looking around, Zhang Tie flicked, sending a bit meteor-like battle qi towards the set of navyblue iron outfit on the rack and directly penetrating the location on its breast.

Edward ran over there and got back the broken breast armor. There was a thumb-sized hole on the armor as the metal over there had been melted.

Although Zhang Tie's same trick could also penetrate through this armor easily several days ago; it would not be such easy. Several days ago, his battle qi couldn't melt metal as it didn't have the function of high-temperature destruction. Today, Zhang Tie had grasped this trick for real.

Undoubtedly, fiery lotus roots helped Zhang Tie to accomplish a round of evolution of his protective battle qi and his aggressive battle qi. After that, flame and high-temperature destruction were not exclusive to others.

There were some vents of eruption in different sizes and temperatures within Edward's workshop. At this moment, the vents were still erupting high-temperature flames. After coming to one side of a vent, Zhang Tie felt as comfortable as the warm wind. By contrast, he felt pretty hot before.

Watching the 1.7 m high red flame, Zhang Tie became hesitant for a second before putting his two feet on two sides of the vent above the flame.

Under the high temperature, Zhang Tie's boa silk robe and shoes turned into ash in a split second. However, Zhang Tie was safe and sound above the flame, while being naked...

If outsiders saw this scene, they must have taken Zhang Tie as a fire god as it was too amazing.

Zhang Tie stood in the flame for five minutes without releasing his protective battle qi. When his skin started to turn red like taking a bath, Zhang Tie walked out of it.

After moving his hand, Zhang Tie took a robe out of his portable space-teleportation item and put it on.

Although he wondered the power of the Real Sun Flame of Taiyi Old Man, Zhang Tie had strong confidence because of the power granted by fiery lotus roots. As long as he didn't turn into ash in a split second under the so-called Real Sun Flame, he would be able to deal with the sage-level knight. No matter what, Zhang Tie had the greatest trump card——Castle of Black Iron.

Heller's control of Castle of Black Iron was also unimaginable. Almost everything lifeless in this space was under his control.

"If I catch fire and enter Castle of Black Iron, could you die out the d*mn Real Sun Flame for me or lower the temperature in the freezer so that the flame would die out itself?" Zhang Tie asked Heller "shamelessly"...

Chapter 1617: Preparation

If Taiyi Old Man heard Zhang Tie's question after taking such a pile of fiery lotus roots, he must have burst into tears.

It took Taiyi Old Man hundreds of years to promote to a sage-level knight with aiding strength. However, Zhang Tie intended to deal with him using endless trump cards and cheats. Taiyi Old Man's feeling could be imagined if he knew that.

After hearing Zhang Tie's question, Heller gazed at him for quite a while before asking Zhang Tie, "Castle Lord, could you enter Castle of Black Iron in combat?"

"You bet. Why not?" Zhang Tie said as he shrugged, "Over these days, I'm actually pondering and deducing the tactics facing a sage-level knight. Facing a sage-level knight, the safest way for me is to extend the distance between us using my ability as a divine dominator. At the same time, I would strike him by golden spears so that he couldn't catch me. In the worst scenario, we would confront each other and enter a stalemate. It depends on who could bear it in the end. If the old d**chebag treats me by Real Sun Flame, I would rapidly drill into earth or water before entering the Castle of Black Iron as soon as possible when he couldn't see me!"

"That's a good method!"

"Of course, I could enter Castle of Black Iron within 0.001 seconds. At the same time, I would release my duplicate for escaping outside on behalf of me. In that case, even if my opponent is a sage-level knight, as long as he doesn't have lotus flower eyes, due to the long distance and the existences of rocks and water, he couldn't discover that I've been substituted by my duplicate at all. Even though he could, he must think that I'm performing another weird hiding trick. Even though the Real Sun Flame couldn't be seen on my duplicate, he must think that I have the special item or method to deal with it. I don't need to explain it to anyone!"

This was the benefit brought by the fame of Immortal Qianji. Given his rich achievements and military exploits and trump cards, in many cases, as long as Zhang Tie didn't reveal too many loopholes, he would win proper reasons from others even if he was cheating.

"Any flame should have its material foundation. As for ordinary flame, it could die out when it's isolated from oxygen. Similarly, Real Sun Flame also needs a material condition and media. Given the material that His Majesty showed you, Real Sun Flame is completely under the control of the sage-level knight of Taiyi Fantasy Sect. It probably needs to withdraw the fire element from Elements Realm. It doesn't need oxygen; instead, it only needs fire element from Elements Realm. Therefore, it could burn everything and is hard to die out. In the outside world, nothing could be used to fully isolate Elements Realm; however, in Castle of Black Iron, when in combat, I could have all the four elements in Castle of Black Iron gather around the Abyss of Elements; instead of spilling over. Additionally, I would build a super low temperature isolation zone for elements. No oxygen could be found there, nor the four elements. As long as Castle Lord's body didn't burn, you could take off all your clothes when you enter the super low temperature isolation zone. In that way, the Real Sun Flame should die out..."

"Should?"

'Yup, it's just my theoretical guess. After all, I'm not a sage-level knight. Nor do I grasp the aiding strength Real Sun Flame!' Heller said calmly, "Even if my guess is wrong, Castle Lord, you don't need to worry about that either. Because as long as Real Sun Flame enters Castle of Black Iron, I would know its condition. Closely after that, I would invalid its burning condition!"

"Good. I believe in you!" Zhang Tie nodded. After that, he thought up something as he told Edward, "As those fiery lotus leaves could be made into a top-class heat-resistant outfit. When I'm absent in the following days, you could build some more outfits with face masks for me!"

After feeling his value, Edward instantly became thrilled as he replied, "As you wish, my master..."

Fiery lotus was nice. Its roots could improve his heat-resistant capacity and help Zhang Tie accomplish the evolution of his battle qi. Additionally, its leaves could be made into a heat-resistant outfit. What was more, Zhang Tie had Castle of Black Iron. Therefore, Zhang Tie didn't worry about the Real Sun Flame of Taiyi Old Man anymore.

Although Zhang Tie wondered about the aiding strength of a sage-level knight, he confirmed that the implementation of aiding the strength of a sage-level knight must consume one's strength greatly and couldn't be applied limitlessly. Otherwise, a sage-level knight grasping aiding strength would solve the problem at the bank of Weishui River. With the above three trump cards, if Zhang Tie really encountered the Real Sun Flame from Taiyi Old Man, as long as he could stand it for a few times until Taiyi Old Man couldn't use it anymore, Zhang Tie would take advantage of his speed as a divine dominator and his kinetic strike to push the combat into a stalemate.

That was Zhang Tie's plan.

Even at this moment, Zhang Tie was still not presumptuous and felt that he could defeat a sage-level knight.

...

After that, Zhang Tie returned to the lobby of the Palace Tree and started to take those fruits on the small tree.

Over these days, there were many more fruits on the small tree, all of which were fruits of redemption.

Accurately, there were over 140 fruits of redemption from the gratitude of golden uangs and over 20 fruits of redemption from hair shells and gulf shrimps.

Only after taking over 140 fruits of redemption from the gratitude of golden uangs, Zhang Tie's strength had surged by 10 more tons which meant more powerful kinetic strikes.

However, as Zhang Tie took more and more fruits from the gratitude of golden uangs, he felt all the weapons were growing lighter. How boring it was!

Zhang Tie felt "boring" pleasantly...

Besides, the small tree gave Zhang Tie one more surprise—a fruit of redemption from the gratitude of earthworms that he had not seen for a long time.

Realizing that Paul's team had found a steady channel for setting free earthworms, Zhang Tie felt excited once again.

"Fruits of redemption from the gratitude of golden uangs could increase Castle Lord's strength, which is the most effective way to improve your battle strength. However, Castle Lord, your explosiveness couldn't match the growing strength well as the explosiveness of humans is not very high among all the animals. If Castle Lord could find a fruit of redemption which could increase your explosiveness, Castle Lord would realize a great leap for real..."

Heller's voice sounded when Zhang Tie was about to put the first fruit of redemption from the gratitude of golden uangs into his mouth. Zhang Tie stopped what he was doing...

'Explosiveness!'

Zhang Tie was startled by this word...

Chapter 1618: The Stimulative of Xuanyuan Wuji's Death

Zhang Tie had soon stayed in secluded cultivation for over one month.

During this period, the three black invitation cards constantly fermented, causing greater popularity across the forum of Mountain of Brightness and a hot discussion among the people. Even the censorate in Xuanyuan Hill was condemning the three top sects for neglecting the righteousness and the crisis from demons for the sake of their own interests. In this case, the black invitation cards became the accomplice of demons for real. That was too shameless! Some leftish imperial censors even requested His Majesty Xuanyuan Changying to go on a punitive expedition against the three top sects.

All the people, the knights and the officialdom of Taixia Country were rooting for Zhang Tie. As a result, the three top sects had to bear great stress from them.

In the same month, the mountain gate of Iron-Dragon Sect was always crowded with knights and major clans. After knowing that Zhang Tie was in secluded cultivation, all of them left messages that they would cheer for Zhang Tie in the Yinghai Region, Gobi Desert on next January 29. Additionally, they left some gifts or contact information before leaving.

At the critical moment, someone would sail with the wind and despise the future of Iron-Dragon Sect; some righteous and faithful ones who befriended and cooperated with Zhang Tie and Zhang family would stand on Zhang Tie's side.

The broad human relationship that Zhang Tie and Jinwu Business Group had established these years started to play its role.

Guan Clan, Heavenly Fortune Sect, Lord Guangnan's Mansion, Zuoqiu Clan of Biyong Palace, Demons-kill Valley, major clans within Northeast Military Region, provincial governors' clans and sects, over 10 billion soldiers and officers within the territory of west theater of operations, even knights in the Earth-elements Realm, the censorate of Xuanyuan Hill, the officers of the top four armies and the barbarians in the South Border propped for Zhang Tie as they condemned Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Heavens Holding Pavilion and Qionglou Pavilion severely.

Furthermore, due to the black invitation cards, Zhang Su and Zhang Tie's old mansion suspended the chakra rotating ceremony for Zhang Su. These days, Zhang Su had already left his troop, which didn't arouse any chaos in the troop.

Nevertheless, Zhang Tie didn't know anything about all these; instead, he just stayed in Castle of Black Iron and enjoyed his fiery lotus roots, fruits and gradually improved his overall strength. Nobody would disturb him at this critical moment.

...

The first snow in Youzhou Province fell on December 4. After the heavy snow, the entire ground of Youzhou Province, including Iron-Dragon Sect's territory was snow-white.

On the evening of December 5, heavy snowflakes were falling in the wind, covering starlights and moonlights. As a result, it was dark all over. Nobody could be seen in the Wild Duck Lake over 60 miles away from Xuantian Peak. There were only reeds covering over 6 million square meters on the bank of the lake. Swaying in the desolate and cold wind, those reeds were wailing like ghosts.

It had already become frozen near the bank. Of course, nobody would come here at this moment, except for one person.

Right then, the water in the middle of the lake suddenly rippled and separated into two halves as Zhang Tie walked out of the lake.

It was one of the three exits leading to the backroom of Iron-Dragon Sect. This lake connected to a subterranean stream through which Zhang Tie came all the way here.

As Iron-Dragon Sect was eye-catching, Zhang Tie didn't want others to know his trace; therefore, he chose to leave there through a secret tunnel when everybody else thought he was still in secluded cultivation.

The cold wind and the dark didn't influence Zhang Tie at all. After looking around, Zhang Tie instantly rushed into the sky and entered clouds. In the wuthering north wind, he flew towards south at a speed of almost 30 times that of sound wind.

In the air, Zhang Tie activated his super hiding skill as he turned looming like mist, leaving no sound in the flight at all.

When he was at the bank of Weishui River, he could already reach above 8221 m per second after promoting to a shadow knight; after full recovery; especially after promoting to three change realm of shadow knight in the tower of time, Zhang Tie had gained an overall improvement greatly.

Each round of overall strengthening would mean a pretty sharp increase in his flight ability as a divine dominator. Actually, his flight ability would strengthen by almost 13% in each round of overall strengthening. Zhang Tie had not imagined such a high increase.

According to his guess, perhaps shadow knight had formed a complete water chakra while the air was full of vapor which would be helpful to flight. What was more, shadow knight should form his wind chakra if he wanted to promote to a heavenly knight while wind chakra was related to speed. Therefore, whenever he formed 36 scales of wind chakra, he might get a great sharp increase in flight ability.

After lighting 108 scales, Zhang Tie's flight speed had easily broken 10,000 m per second.

These days, Zhang Tie had taken a lot of fruits of redemption in Castle of Black Iron. As a result, he had gained a further improvement in his strength, resilience and his resistance in extreme situations. It could be said that Zhang Tie reached a new height and was full of confidence about the future.

Heller's words in Castle of Black Iron warned Zhang Tie. As he was taking fruits and adapting to the new strength brought by those fruits and fiery lotus roots, he continued to think about this question these days.

To put it simply, the relationship between strength and explosiveness was like that between gunpowder and the burst time of gunpowder after being lit. The greater one's strength was, the more "gunpowder" he would carry. The shorter the chemical reaction was after gunpowder of the same mass was lit, the greater the explosiveness of the gunpowder would be. The destructive effect for one barrel of 100 kg gunpowder to explode in one day after being lit was completely different than that of being exploded within 0.1 seconds. The so-called explosiveness referred to the release of one's greater power within the shortest period. Although the golden uangs had great strength, they didn't have great explosiveness. Similarly, although elephants had great strength, they didn't have great explosiveness either.

Theoretically, if Zhang Tie could increase his explosiveness by two times, he would increase the destructive effect of his kinetic strike by two more times even if he didn't increase his strength anymore...

Zhang Tie knew that many animals had great explosiveness, such a flea or mantis. Pitifully, flea or mantis was not sold in the market in Taixia Country. Even though pharmacists didn't make pills using the two animals. At least now Zhang Tie couldn't find anything that could cater to his condition of redemption and carry great explosiveness. Therefore, he could only imagine the fruit of redemption from the gratitude of an animal which could increase his explosiveness. Perhaps, it was a matter of karma.

Heller's words broadened Zhang Tie's vision greatly. Now that the fruit of redemption could increase his strength and explosiveness, it would also increase his defensive capability. In other words, the fruit of redemption from the gratitude of an animal which could increase his defensive capability would definitely serve as new iron-body fruit. As long as the small tree could continue to produce the fruit of redemption, Zhang Tie would blaze a new trail and find another special route to improve his overall strength.

Although Zhang Tie was really thrilled about this discovery, he couldn't get those fruits easily.

However, it was just an imagination. As for some things, they wouldn't happen no matter how many times you imagined about them. For instance, if you wanted to kill someone; even if you had imagined about his death for 10,000 times, he would still not lose a fine hair in reality; instead, he might live better. If you insisted on waiting for karma, you might have to wait for hundreds of years before knowing that your opponent was dead.

Even though you cursed your opponent to die for 10,000 times, it couldn't be as effective as directly slaying him over his neck by a saber.

Therefore, Zhang Tie silently left the backroom where he entered secluded cultivation and flashed southwards in the heavy wind and snow.

The cold wind was bone-piercing in the high altitude; however, Zhang Tie felt his blood boiling as he was full of killing intent.

Since the beginning, Zhang Tie had not seen his enemy.

As for Zhang Tie, it was his first time to kill someone tentatively whom he had not even seen before. However, this person had to die. If not, Zhang Tie would be sleepless. Additionally, he would feel sorry about himself and Huaiyuan Palace as a whole.

The one that Zhang Tie intended to kill was one son of Emperor Xuanyuan, the younger brother of His Majesty, the key figure of Imperial Alliance and the third prince of Taixia Country—Xuanyuan Wuji!

After the event of Zhang Taixuan, Zhang Tie had known that Xuanyuan Wuji was framing him by arranging a mole on his elder brother's side. From then on, Zhang Tie had intended to kill the third prince. However, Zhang Tie didn't fully recover at that time; therefore, he could only stand it for the time being.

After returning to Iron-Dragon Sect from South Border, Zhang Tie had fully recovered. Therefore, when he received the three black invitation cards, he had determined to kill Xuanyuan Wuji.

Xuanyuan Wuji thought that Zhang Tie didn't know the relationship between him and the three top sects as he was hiding behind Imperial Alliance and the three top sects. Therefore, he held that he could make Zhang Tie his steppingstone towards his ascension to the throne by playing his tricks presumptuously. However, he couldn't imagine that Zhang Tie had long known his existence and those tricks he had played. In Zhang Tie's eyes, the three black invitation cards were stimulating his death for real.

Chapter 1619: A Long-Distance Raid

If Imperial Alliance knew that Zhang Tie had known the identity of Xuanyuan Wuji in Imperial Alliance...

If Xuanyuan Wuji knew that Zhang Tie dared kill him...

If Xuanyuan Wuji knew that Zhang Tie dared turn completely hostile against his opponents when he was weak in Blackhot City...

If Xuanyuan Wuji still regarded the word Qianji with a bit reverence...

...

The three top sects might not deliver the black invitation cards and everything in the future might change greatly.

Pitifully, none of the above conditions were real.

Xuanyuan Wuji and those sage-level knights in Imperial Alliance had realized the necessity, urgency and benefits of cracking down Zhang Tie. Additionally, even a sweet rabbit would bite people, not to mention Zhang Tie, who was a divine dominator. If Zhang Tie was driven mad, many people would die for real; instead of only be bitten.

They felt that they could defeat Zhang Tie for sure. Therefore, they didn't spare any chance to survive Zhang Tie. Whereas, they didn't know that their choice didn't spare any chance to themselves either as Zhang Tie would not wait for the offense.

Actually, the raid of Xuanyuan Wuji was an act of revenge and counter-strike for Zhang Tie; besides, the Imperial Alliance would be completely collapsed.

Without third prince, Imperial Alliance would lose its largest reliance for fighting for the throne of Taixia Country. Except for rebellion, the three top sects had no other means to fight for the throne anymore. However, if they did that for real, they would become the public enemy of Taixia Country as a whole.

After the two holy wars in the past 1,000 years, Taixia Country had not fallen facing the attack of demons, not to mention the attack of the three top sects whose total strength was weaker than demons. How could 3-4 sage-level knights and over 10,000 human knights become overwhelming among billions of humans and hundreds of thousands of Taixia knights?

Don't be naive!

The three top sects were so presumptuous now; whereas, as long as they dared lift the banner of rebellion, they would face a completely different result.

The third prince was a talented one among so many princes of Taixia Country surnamed Xuanyuan. He could match Xuanyuan Changying for real. If third prince died, of course the Imperial Alliance could collude with another prince. Nevertheless, even though the new prince could match third prince in ability, reputation and available resources and would like to collaborate with Imperial Alliance, it would take them at least 20 years to establish mutual trust and recover their existing power. Otherwise, it would only be a joke for the two forces to combine with each other to fight for the throne. However,

within 2 decades, Xuanyuan Changying might have long ascended to the throne and Zhang Tie might have promoted to a heavenly knight.

By then, Zhang Tie would be afraid of nobody.

Therefore, now that Xuanyuan Wuji chose it, he had to die!

However, Zhang Tie was suffering a high risk by intending to kill Xuanyuan Wuji. As long as his identity was revealed, he would be accused of intending to kill a prince, which was nothing different than being involved with a rebellion. By then, even His Majesty couldn't protect him and speak for him. As both Xuanyuan Hill and Imperial Alliance would kill him, Zhang Tie would become the public enemy across the country; the undertakings of Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace would be destroyed overnight; his friends and family members would also be involved. Therefore, Zhang Tie behaved pretty meticulously this time. Although he had long intended to kill the third prince, he didn't tell it to anyone else. Additionally, he chose to leave Iron-Dragon Sect during the period when he entered secluded cultivation secretly.

When he was flying at supersonic speed, Zhang Tie's eyes gradually turned into spiritual and bright amorous eyes with inclined eyebrows, thinner lips, white skin and long hair. At the same time, his face shape also adjusted...

Only after a short while, Zhang Tie had turned into a handsome youth at his 20s. To be honest, his new look was like Han Yuantu, the second abnormal prince of Han Zhengfang that Zhang Tie had killed on the airboat. His eyebrows looked debonair and would always be favored by women.

Han Yuantu was eaten by mutated rats. Besides Zhang Tie and Zhang Gui, nobody in this world knew that Han Yuantu had died. Before the event of Han Zhengfang, Han Yuantu had already "disappeared". After the event of Han Zhengfang, Han Yuantu was also wanted by the Supreme Court of Taixia Country. However, over so many years, Han Yuantu didn't show up in any continents or Heavens Reaching Empire. Therefore, few people could remember Han Yuantu's look. Even if someone remembered the look of Han Yuantu from his wanted order, they would at most look at Zhang Tie for a few more seconds; instead of regarding Zhang Tie as Han Yuantu. No matter what, Zhang Tie was just like Han Yuantu.

Of course, it depended. If Zhang Tie killed the third prince in this new look and performed some tricks of Bloody Soul Sutra in the process, this new look and the name of Han Yuantu would soon rise to the top of the name list of criminals in the Supreme Court of Taixia Country as everyone would take this new look as Han Yuantu which had undergone delicate disguise. By then, nobody would believe that this murderer was the famous Immortal Qianji Zhang Tie.

——It was the largest mistake that Imperial Alliance and the third prince had made by turning Zhang Tie into their enemy.

Zhang Tie moved at 6 miles per second, namely 36,000 km per hour. That was to say, he could fly across many provinces in one hour. This speed could already match that of the fastest supersonic ballistic missiles when they returned to the atmospheric layer.

At this speed, it was as difficult as a kid threw a copper coin into the slot of a piggy bank from over 20 m away if he wanted to arrive at a big city precisely over 120,000 miles away after penetrating through the greater part of Taixia Country, except for Zhang Tie.

In the flight, Zhang Tie visualized the panoramic map of Taixia Country in his mind as he kept glancing over the 600 miles' land using his lotus flower eyes. Through matching the cities, mountains and rivers with those in the map in his mind, he could fix his location and direction. In this case, even though Zhang Tie detoured some sensitive regions of major clans, after over 6 hours, he still entered the territory of the top nine immortal provinces outside Xuanyuan Hill. After less than half an hour's flight, he finally saw a magnificent Class A city...

Chapter 1620: Datang City

Wind and snow had disappeared soon after Zhang Tie left the territory of Northeast Military Region. At supersonic speed, only after 6-7 hours' flight, Zhang Tie had already traveled across many climate zones. The southern it was, the high the temperature would be and the more tender the north wind would be. When Zhang Tie arrived at Jinghe Prefecture, Jiangzhou Province, the air was still a bit cold; however, it was warmer than that in Youzhou Province.

The Class A city in Zhang Tie's vision was many times larger than Youzhou Province.

Xuanyuan Hill didn't have a city wall; however, the Class A city in Zhang Tie's eyes had eye-catching red city walls. From the sky, the 70-m higher red city wall was like four arms of a giant or four fortresses which surrounded the entire city.

Given the prosperity of cities in Zhang Tie's memory, besides Xuanyuan Hill, this city could rank among the top ten for sure.

There were dense, high buildings inside the city and dotted towns outside the city. The broad Jinghe River was flowing by this big city from west to west. There were crowded ships at the wharf in the north bank of the river and endless field in the south bank...

This city was Datang City, the private city of Xuanyuan Wuji the third prince of Taixia Country.

It was still dark all over. Although it didn't snow in Jiangzhou Province, the sky was still a bit gloomy due to weak starlight when winter was near. As the day had not broken, Datang City in the north bank of Jinghe River was still in a dream. Few people had woken up, except for the airships that took off from the airport and the steamers which were docking at the wharf outside the city while turning on lamplight, which indicated the diligence of crew and sailors.

It only took Zhang Tie a few minutes to enter 120 miles of this city since he caught sight of it.

The traffic in Datang City was pretty complex, which included water, land and air. When Zhang Tie was in the air, he saw crisscrossed roads and railways on the land like a cobweb; especially the latter. There were six railways connecting to Datang City as the hub of Jinghe Prefecture.

When Zhang Tie was flying at a high speed, he saw a steam train moving towards Datang City at a speed of about 48 miles per hour while giving out steam and white smoke.

Previously, Zhang Tie planned to fly all the way to the center of Datang City. When he saw the passenger train, he instantly lowered down and dove downwards from over 100,000 m high before landing on the staircase outside the end of the train.

Nobody was monitoring the back of the last carriage. The train just kept running on the rails with clacking sounds. However, nobody discovered the stranger at the end of the train.

As for passenger train, its last carriage was always used to store luggage. There was a door at the end of the train, through which, people could load and unload luggage. Additionally, the last carriage was also connected to other carriages. That was to say, he could enter the train through its end.

Although the door was locked, it was a piece of cake for Zhang Tie. Only after throwing a glance at the lock, Zhang Tie had unlocked the door. After pulling open the door, Zhang Tie entered the carriage.

Being filled with luggage, this carriage smelt like leather grease.

The carriage was isolated like a can. Therefore, it was a bit breathless. There was an ordinary fluorite lamp above the aisle in the middle of the carriage, which gave out dim light. On both sides of the aisle were two-story racks, which were occupied by leather cases and crates in various sizes.

Zhang Tie walked forward towards the other door along the aisle, during which process, he saw a corella. The moment the bird was going to chirp at the sight of Zhang Tie, Zhang Tie made a hand gesture as he said, "Shh...". Closely after that, the parrot closed its mouth and eyes.

The door in front was also locked. However, it opened itself like a humble servant when Zhang Tie came to its front.

At this moment a fat male train attendant in dusty blue was snoring on the seat near the door. After leaving the last carriage, Zhang Tie continued to move forward.

Most of the people were sleeping at this moment while all the curtains were closed. Few people were walking in the aisle. Zhang Tie could only hear monotonous and snoring sound from rails. The moment Zhang Tie passed through the two carriages, he had met the train conductor who was inspecting the train.

With an evident mark on his clothes, this train conductor was almost as old as Zhang Tie's dad.

Zhang Tie instantly caught the attention of the middle-aged man. The train conductor walked towards Zhang Tie with a bit alert as he wanted to say something...

"It's not comfortable here. May you take me to my compartment?" Zhang Tie watched and told the train conductor by battle qi as a bizarre light flashed across his eyes.

After receiving Zhang Tie's order, the middle-aged man's alert instantly disappeared as he revealed reverence and passion to Zhang Tie like meeting an old friend.

"Aah, childe Liu. Follow me please. I've been keeping the luxurious compartment for you. It's right in front of us. Please follow me..." After leaving the words, the train conductor turned around and led Zhang Tie to an empty compartment in front of them.

“Sorry to trouble you!” Zhang Tie turned around and put a gold coin into the train conductor’s hand when he entered the compartment.

“You bet. Childe Liu...” the train conductor smiled brilliantly. After declining it for a second, he had taken the gold coin as he said, “Childe Liu, just let me know if you have any need...”

After closing the door of the compartment, Zhang Tie smiled and lay on the bed, eyes closed...

When the train conductor left the compartment with a smile, a train attendant asked him out of curiosity, “Aah, head, who’s that guy...”

“It’s Childe Liu!” the train conductor replied as he shook his head. After that, he foisted that gold coin into his own pocket under the gaze of that train attendant, continuing, “This childe from a rich clan is really special. When in Feiyu City, he wanted to try hard seat; however, he couldn’t stand it anymore in midnight. Therefore, I led him back to his compartment...”

“Ohh!” the train attendant nodded as if he had understood it. At the same time, he admired that the train conductor acquainted with so many noble people. What a quick tip!

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Three hours later, the day broke. Zhang Tie also got off the train at the station of East Datang City...