

## **Black Iron 1991**

### **Chapter 1991: The Catastrophe (I)**

On April 16, one day before the Opening Stele Festival, the entire Morality Prefecture of Gobbling Province had been boisterous before sunrise.

Actually, Morality Prefecture was called Safescreen Prefecture before the 687th year of Black Iron Calendar. However, after that year, Safescreen Prefecture became Morality Prefecture, because an earthquake took place in Safescreen Prefecture on April 17, the 687th year of Black Iron Calendar. As a result, Vast Universe Mountain had collapsed, exposing the far-ancient mortality stele, which shocked the entire country.

15 years later, a teenager, who was born on the same day as far-ancient morality stele, realized the truth and cultivated 3 years in front of the stele. He then promoted to a black iron knight at 18 years old. From then on, the far-ancient morality stele became an immortal item in the hearts of many people in Safescreen Prefecture. 30 years later, when the teenager became a middle-aged man, he promoted to an earth knight. Then, the influence of far-ancient morality stele covered the entire Gobbling Province and aroused the attention of all the people across the country. From then on, Safescreen Prefecture gradually became Morality Prefecture. Later on, Meng Shidao started to write books and set up his theory and win popularity across the country. As Gobbling Party gradually came into being, of course, Meng Shidao became the leader of the Gobbling Party.

In the following 200 years, with the increasingly greater cultivation base and meritorious deeds of Meng Shidao, he finally became famous across the country. When Meng Shidao became the crown prince's teacher and the premier, one of the top three counselors of the state, the influence of the Gobbling Party spread across the country and almost matched that of the top six sects...

Like how natives in Youzhou Province treated Zhang Tie as the pride of Youzhou Province, Meng Shidao was also taken as the pride of Gobbling Province by natives in Gobbling Province. Since the founding of the Gobbling Party, the entire Gobbling Province had been covered with thousands of morality agencies. Each city in Gobbling Province contained dozens of morality agencies. Morality agencies could even be seen in towns and villages outside cities. All the morality agencies were united under the control of the backbones of Gobbling Party. In the beginning, people joined morality agencies voluntarily. Later on, as more and more morality agencies were founded, the influence of the Gobbling Party gradually expanded. As a result, those who didn't join morality agencies would gradually be repelled by Gobbling Party and morality agencies as heretics. They would have trouble, no matter what they did. On this occasion, those people and families who didn't want to join morality agencies had to leave Gobbling Province and find somewhere else to live.

During the past over 200 years, with the promotion of Meng Shidao, almost nobody could live in Gobbling Province without joining morality agencies from officials in major clans to small tradesmen and porters.

On April 16, one day before Opening Stele Festival, many capable men had arrived at Morality Prefecture by airboat or airships with piety, as if making a pilgrimage. The entire Morality Prefecture

was filled with human exclamations and horse neighs. All the hotels and inns had been occupied. More people were heading for Morality Prefecture from surrounding cities and prefectures, rubbing shoulders and following the steps. As a result, all the official roads had been occupied.

...

At 1 am of April 17, Zhu Laosan, the boss of a bean curd workshop in the east street of Zhujia Village outside Yellowrock City of Morality Prefecture had got up. After lighting the oil lamp, he woke up his 13-year old son who was sleeping in the same room with him.

“Guangsi, get up...”

The 13-year old boy was having a sound sleep at 1 am. Zhu Laosan called him twice and pushed him by hand before waking him up.

“Ah, papa, what’s up...” Zhu Laosan’s son finally opened his eyes; however, his eyes were sleepy. Therefore, Zhu Guangsi didn’t know why his father woke him up.

“Did you forget what I’ve told you? The Opening Stele Festival starts today. We’re going to “touch the Morality Stele”. We have to arrive at Vast Universe Mountain before daybreak. Hurry, get up. Wash your face and rinse your mouth. Put on the new clothes that I’ve prepared for you!” Zhu Laosan’s tone instantly turned strict. After hearing his father’s strict words, Zhu Guangsi who was usually strictly taught by his father rubbed his eyes and hurriedly got up. He started to prepare for the trip.

Zhu Laosan was a widower. Since his wife died of complications during pregnancy, he didn’t marry any other woman. He and his son survived on the ancestral skill of making bean curds in Zhujia Village.

Last night, Zhu Laosan almost stayed awake. Although he was also lying on the bed with closed eyes, he became sleepless with excitement before attending the Opening Stele Festival.

Actually, since the director of the morality agency in Zhujia Village, also the police inspector of Zhujia Village gave him a piece of big ceremonial plate and told him that he could take his son to “touch the Morality Stele” seven years ago, Zhu Laosan had been sleepless.

Zhu Laosan had been waiting for this day for 10 years. During the past 10 years, he almost donated half of his annual revenue to the morality agency of Zhujia Village in order to get a piece of huge ceremonial plate one day and “touch the Morality Stele” together with his son on the Opening Stele Festival.

Perhaps it was pious and sacred for someone to “touch the Morality Stele”. However, as for Zhu Laosan who lived at the bottom of the society, he joined Morality Agency because all the others in Zhujia Village had joined it. If he didn’t join it, he couldn’t live in Zhujia Village. Even though he sold bean curd, he might also be in debt. Additionally, he might have a lot of trouble. By insisting on accomplishing the rite of “touch the Morality Stele”, he was courageous and realistic. He wanted to take his son to try their lucks. He wanted to scramble for an opportunity for his son to make his ancestors illustrious. But, he didn’t want his son to stay at Zhujia Village and sell bean curd for the rest of his life like him.

Zhu Laosan didn’t attach any extravagant hope that his son was favored by Meng Shidao. Although, 7 or 8 kids would be favored by Meng Shidao annually, given the number of kids who came to Morality Prefecture to “touch the Morality Stele” from the other places across the country annually, the possibility for them to be favored by Meng Shidao was less than 1/10,000. Besides Meng Shidao, the

chief directors of morality agencies across the country would also come here on the same day and take back some qualified kids for cultivation.

Zhu Laosan hoped that his son could be favored by chief directors of morality agencies in the other big cities. Otherwise, he hoped that his son could find a reliance in the morality agency of Yellowrock City after coming at with the experience of “touch the Morality Stele” at this young age. As a person who only knew how to make bean curds since young could only try his best to help his son become outstanding in this way.

In less than 30 minutes, Zhu Laosan and his son had prepared it well. They put on new clothes. After taking some food that they prepared last night, Zhu Laosan carried some dried rations and a utility box. After that, he carried a fluorite lamp in one hand and his son in the other before leaving their home.

It was midnight with bright moons and sparse stars illuminating the sky. Meanwhile, the lotus-covered pond near Zhu Laosan’s home was reverberating with the croaking of frogs; crickets were singing in weeds nearby.

When Zhu Laosan and his son left their home, they saw many villagers had prepared to leave their homes too, old and young.

When they spotted Zhu Laosan and his son, many people greeted him as they watched Zhu Laosan with admiration in their eyes. The news that Zhu Laosan acquired a piece of big ceremonial plate for attending the Opening Stele Festival had spread across Zhujia Village. Besides the director of the morality agency in Zhujia Village and Zhu Laosan, only two more families had received one big ceremonial plate respectively.

Watching the admirable eyes and hearing the passionate greetings of those people in Zhujia Village, Zhu Laosan felt inspired. Pinching the big ceremonial plate close to his skin and holding his son’s hand, he walked out of Zhujia Village, chesting out.

Thankfully, it was nice weather today. Even though there was no fluorite lamp, they could also see clearly the road. After a short while, Zhu Laosan and his son had walked out of Zhujia Village and come to a path on a mountain slope outside Zhujia Village which connected with an official road.

From the mountain slope, although it was midnight, they found the entire official road downside there was already brightly lit. It was even more boisterous than the most boisterous night market. So many people were walking on the official road with portable luggage on their backs and lanterns or fluorite lamps in hands, no matter male or female, old or young. Some youths took nothing at all. They just walked on the road jubilantly in groups towards the same direction.

Zhu Laosan and his son also entered the great stream of people and hurried on with their journey.

Zhujia Village was about 33 miles away from Vast Universe Mountain. As long as they kept going, they would almost arrive there before daybreak.

In order to display their piety, nobody took any traffic tools like horses or carriages any more from 60 miles away from Vast Universe Mountain. All of them were walking towards Vast Universe Mountain on foot.

“Papa, my feet hurt...” After walking about 13 miles, Zhu Laosan’s son couldn’t move anymore.

“Take a short break. Drink some water. Then we have to continue...” Zhu Laosan took off the utility box and passed it to his son.

A few minutes later, although Zhu Guangsi had not recovered, he was already encouraged by his dad to continue. When his son really couldn’t walk anymore, Zhu Laosan’s face turned gloomy as he even dragged his son forward.

On the way, Zhu Laosan was tired and thirsty; however, he still arrived at the foot of Vast Universe Mountain before daybreak with his persistence.

The greater part of people who came here stopped around the Vast Universe Mountain. After that, they all gathered on dozens of huge squares over there. Each square could match a large airport in size and could hold hundreds of thousands of people. These squares led to roads towards Vast Universe Mountain. In normal times, there were not so many people on these squares; however, on the day of the Opening Stele Festival, all the squares around Vast Universe Mountain would be fully crowded.

With the big ceremonial plate, Zhu Laosan and his son Zhu Guangsi passed two checks under the admiring eyes of many people and entered Vast Universe Mountain along the well-paved road. After walking another a few miles hardly, they finally saw a 7-mile long team in front of them which was twisting like a boa. The end of the team was right in front of them while the head of the team had come to the back of a mountain ridge.

They were all waiting there. Therefore, Zhu Laosan and his son had to stop there.

All the people here were going to “touch the Morality Stele” when the first ray of sunlight cast on the far-ancient morality stele. As it was still a few hours left from daybreak, they were all waiting there quietly...

## **Chapter 1992: The Catastrophe (II)**

When Zhu Laosan and his son caught sight of the far-ancient morality stele from afar, it was already the afternoon of April 17. The sun that rose from the east had already been hanging over the sky, scorching Zhu Laosan’s head. As he had walked and stood too long today, Zhu Laosan’s soles had been stinging like standing on a hot-red iron plate. If not he had prepared some dried rations and water in advance, he might not stick to it.

His 13-year old son’s face had turned dreadfully pale. If not Zhu Laosan supported him with one hand, Zhu Guangsi had long fallen to the ground.

Zhu Laosan felt distressed about his son; however, he couldn’t allow his son to sit on the ground. Otherwise, they would be regarded as impious or indecent. In that way, all the efforts that he had made over the past 10 years would be in vain.

However, even though they couldn’t bear it anymore, they must keep standing; because the long team had already nipped Zhu Laosan and his son like a twisting giant boa. Therefore, Zhu Laosan and his son could only slowly move forward with the others of the team.

“Son, hold on. When we come back, I will let you eat half a month’s sugar-coated haws...” Zhu Lan could only comfort his son in this way; meanwhile, he secretly took out a slice of ginseng and put it in his son’s mouth. In this way, they finally negotiated the mountain ridge and caught sight of the far-ancient morality stele.

When Zhu Laosan caught sight of the far-ancient morality stele, he was instantly fascinated by it although Zhu Laosan was an atheist.

The far-ancient morality stele was 210 m in height and over 50 m in width. It was pitch-dark and smooth all over like a mirror. Standing in a basin of Vast Universe Mountain, it was lofty, cold and fierce and looked a bit mysterious. Although sunshine shone on the high far-ancient morality stele, the smooth stele was still pitch-dark as if it could absolutely absorb sunlight.

At the sight of the far-ancient morality stele, Zhu Laosan had felt that it was not an artifact. Meanwhile, he held the huge, black stele in great awe even a bit fearful. Additionally, all the tiredness had gone.

When the far-ancient morality stele was discovered at the beginning, it was not like this. At that time, it was inlaid in a cliff which had collapsed. However, over the past 200-odd year, through the Gobbling Party’s renovation, all the terrain and landforms within 6 miles had been changed. As a result, this place became a vast, open square, which could almost hold over 1 million people. When far-ancient morality stele was discovered, this place was completely open to the public. Anyone could come to see it whenever they wanted. But now, this place had become the sacred land of the Gobbling Party. In normal times, only some backbones of the Gobbling Party could enter this place. Ordinary people couldn’t have a chance to watch this far-ancient morality stele which shocked the entire country unless the annual Opening Stele Festival.

There were totally 4 teams who came here to ‘touch the stele’ like Zhu Laosan coming from east, south, west and north. Each team was crowded with people. Far-ancient morality stele was girdled with a four-storey viaduct. People from different directions could enter different corridors to ‘touch the stele’. After that, they would enter different areas on the square.

It took Zhu Laosan about one hour to come to the front of far-ancient morality stele from he caught sight of it. Those people, who came from the same direction as Zhu Laosan, entered the second corridor. The surging people slightly cut their own fingers with their teeth as they reached out their hands and painted their blood on the smooth surface of the stele. After walking around the far-ancient morality stele in an anti-clockwise manner, they left the corridor and entered the square.

Some fanatical followers and backbones of Gobbling Party even pierced their own palms with sabers and painted their entire bloody fingerprints on the stele so as to display their piety.

It was said that Meng Shidao slightly cut his own fingers and painted his blood on the far-ancient morality stele every day when he realized the truth in front of it. Finally, Meng Shidao established a relationship with the far-ancient morality stele. As this legend spread over, it gradually developed into the ‘touching the stele’ rite today.

From the visual angle in the second-storey corridor, far-ancient morality stele became a black wall. When he Zhu Laosan watched the blood and bloody fingerprints over the ‘wall’, he didn’t feel pious at all; instead, he felt cold all over. He even shuddered with fear.

Zhu Laosan also imitated the others to slightly cut his own fingers. Additionally, he asked his son to do it like him. Then, he painted his own blood on the surface of the far-ancient morality stele as his fingers quivered. As he was intense, he even forgot about the feeling of this expensive touch which he exchanged with the greater part of his income over the past 10 years by selling bean curds.

Being pushed by the others, after touching the far-ancient stele flurriedly, Zhu Laosan and his son had left there from the exit of the corridor. After that, they were guided to the area close to the periphery of the square, where they could finally slump to the ground on their butts.

The surging crowd flew into the square like water. When the dark fell, the entire square had been filled with people. The population there was definitely greater than 1 million. It was a dark dense of people everywhere. After completing the 'touch the stele' rite, those who were closer to the far-ancient morality stele represented higher positions in Gobbling Party.

The climax of the Opening Stele Festival had not come. The climax of each Opening Stele Festival was after the last streak of sunlight left far-ancient morality stele. By then, Meng Shidao would arrive and give one hour's lesson before enrolling some of them as his apprentices.

Since he promoted to a heavenly knight, Meng Shidao would come here in almost every Opening Stele Festival. Despite being the premier of Taixia Country over these years, he would also come here from Xuanyuan Hill on this day and celebrate the Opening Stele Festival with all the other members of Gobbling Party.

A vast array of backbones, heads and members of morality agencies would come here from afar in order to meet Meng Shidao and listen to his lesson. Those who were favored by Meng Shidao would even be imparted with *Returning Truth Sutra* by Meng Shidao.

Zhu Laosan and his son sat on the edge of the square for rest as they waited for Meng Shidao in an intense and restless way. To be honest, if they could meet Meng Shidao here, when they came back home, they could bluff it for many years to the villagers in Zhujia Village even though they were far from Meng Shidao. If his son was selected as Meng Shidao's apprentice among tens of thousands of kids, the Zhu family would definitely have a bright future.

Not all the apprentices of Meng Shidao's came from major sects or backbone families of the Gobbling Party. Actually, some kids from ordinary families would be selected as Meng Shidao's apprentices every year. From then on, they would reach the sky in a single bound and became the legendary figures in their hometowns. Being encouraged by these models, Zhu Laosan was brave enough to take his son here to try their lucks.

Before sunset, thousands of people in white had arrived. They were students in Vast Universe School. After completing 'touch the stele' rite, those people sat in the area where was closest to the far-ancient morality stele.

By then, the entire square had been occupied.

"Mercy is the core of Dao; morality is the body of Dao; rite is the reflection of Dao; righteousness is the motive of Dao. Dao, as a real object, is faintly discernible. It looks blurry; however, it has an image; it looks virtual; however, it's real; although it looks profound and dark, it has real essence. Since far-

ancient times, it has been existing. We could learn the original state of everything in the universe from it...”

Since they came to the square, the students of Vast Universe School had been reading aloud, gradually followed by over 1 million people. Their voices were earthshaking. Almost all the members of Gobbling Party could recite this paragraph.

When the last streak of sunlight left the highest point of far-ancient morality stele, the entire square was gradually in dead silence.

“Stand up and welcome our master...” At this moment, a loud and majestic voice reverberated in the air above the square. After hearing this voice, all the people stood up straight with full respect.

“Papa, I cannot see him...” Zhu Guangsi whispered as he rocked Zhu Laosan’s hand.

Because he was young and was standing at the periphery of the square, Zhu Guangsi was submerged in the crowd of adults when everyone stood up. As a result, he could only see the waists and legs of people in front of him and couldn’t see anything in the distance at all.

Zhu Laosan hurriedly made a hand gesture to tell his son to keep silent. He then watched the far-ancient morality stele in the far with wide eyes.

Zhu Laosan didn’t see how Meng Shidao arrived at all. When everyone stood up and the entire square was in dead silence, a shadow in black instantly appeared on the top of the far-ancient morality stele like playing magic. He then overlooked the over 1 million fanatical followers of Gobbling Party over the square.

“Our respects to you, master. Wish your chakras to rotate forever and your great Dao to consolidate forever!” Over 1 million people congratulated him at the same time as they all bent towards the shadow on the top of the far-ancient morality stele...

In the past years, after their greetings, that shadow would usually say, “The great Dao doesn’t belong to one person; instead, it belongs to the public. Please take a seat. I will tell you something about Dao...” After that, they would settle down as that shadow on the top of the far-ancient morality stele would start to give a lesson to them about Dao.

But today that shadow remained silent abnormally. After their greetings, he didn’t speak for a few seconds. Therefore, all the 1 million-odd followers of Gobbling Party just stood there and watched the shadow on the top of far-ancient morality stele with eager eyes. They didn’t know what to do next. Therefore, the atmosphere on the spot became weird.

Finally, that man on the top of the far-ancient morality stele sighed. “This day has finally come...”

When they heard this gloomy sigh clearly, all the 1 million-odd people became frustrated at this moment.

‘This day has finally come... what does Master mean?’

### **Chapter 1993: The Catastrophe (III)**

Nobody got the point of Meng Shidao. Therefore, all the 1 million-odd people over the square became a bit restless. Even though backbones of the Gobbling Party and the disciples of Meng Shidao had been greatly shocked as they didn't know what to do next.

Zhu Laosan's heart was pounding heavily. Not knowing why, when he saw the shadow on the top of the far-ancient morality stele and listening to the shadow's voice, he felt thirsty as his excitement was gradually replaced by fear instinctively. At this moment, he finally felt regretful taking his son here to attend this motherf\*cking Opening Stele Festival.

"Dad, I'm afraid..." Zhu Laosan's son also became restless as he pulled Zhu Laosan's hand and raised his head, muttering, "Let's go back..."

'Go back?'

'Yea, we should go back, but...'

After looking around the dense mass of people, Zhu Laosan realized that he and his son had been confined in the crowd. They could barely leave this place. Additionally, if they wanted to leave here at this moment, the result would be...

On this occasion, small figures would always worry about their personal gains and losses. Zhu Laosan didn't know what would happen next; however, he was crystal clear about the outcome if he dared leave here at this moment; because it meant that he and his son didn't respect Meng Shidao. If they really left here at this moment, Zhu Laosan and his son might not be able to live in Zhujia Village at all. They might even lose their lives. Given the influence of the Gobbling Party, if they wanted to kill them, it was like how an elephant killed an ant with its foot.

When Zhu Laosan was struggling inside for a few seconds, that shadow on the top of the far-ancient morality stele didn't spare any slim chance for him to hesitate or struggle. That shadow raised his hand. Closely after that, he gave out a streak of bloody light which shot in the far-ancient morality stele. Then, Zhu Laosan saw a terrifying, odd scene—the black far-ancient morality stele suddenly gave out strong red light. Meanwhile, a huge black hole suddenly appeared on the smooth surface of the far-ancient morality stele like a huge black swirl or a ghost's wide mouth. At the same time, those backbones of Gobbling Party and the disciples of Meng Shidao who were closest to the far-ancient morality stele exclaimed and flew off towards huge black mouth in a flurried way. When they approached the huge black mouth, those people were instantly shattered and turned into blood mist before being engulfed...

The entire square was covered with great fear. Everyone on the square flustered as they all exclaimed with panic. Zhu Laosan even saw some knights suddenly flying off the crowd and wanting to escape. However, in an instant, the red light that the far-ancient morality stele gave out had covered all the people on the square. Those knights who were already in the air were then being absorbed in the huge mouth with exclamations and turned into blood mist like fish being hooked...

Zhu Laosan became greatly panic-stricken. He found that he and his son were both floating up; meanwhile, his blood appeared to be pulled out of his body by a great force.

He shouted with tears and nasal mucus as he held his son's hand tightly. His son and many people in the surroundings were frightened so much that they all burst out tears.



Zhu Laosan and all the people in the surroundings were towed by that huge hole in the middle of far-ancient morality stele out of control like a leaf in a hurricane.

When they almost entered the huge hole, Zhu Laosan saw much grim black qi coming out of the top of the huge hole and binding a golden light&shade like shackles from all directions.

“Meng Shidao...” That light&shade being confined uttered a majestic and furious growl.

It was the last voice that Zhu Laosan heard. Closely after that, he and his son had turned into blood mist like all the other 1 million-odd people on the square...

...

The area being covered with the red light from the far-ancient morality stele was expanding. Only after a short while, the red light had absolutely covered the entire region within 35 miles like water that flowed out of a bowl. As a result, millions of people who were celebrating the Opening Stele Festival on the squares in the periphery of Vast Universe Mountain were blown up. All of their blood completely left their bodies and turned into scarlet carps. Following after, those carps shot towards the far-ancient morality stele in an overwhelming manner. Only after a short while, all the scarlet carps had entered the far-ancient morality stele through the huge black hole. Meanwhile, the huge black mouth was expanding as it gradually covered 2/3 of the entire morality stele...

The entire far-ancient morality stele had already floated up. Meanwhile, thick clouds came into being within thousands of miles in the sky together with lightning bolts and roaring thunders. They formed a funnel-shaped huge cyclone in the sky above the far-ancient morality stele. Meng Shidao was standing on the top of the far-ancient morality stele with glow in his eyes as his hair fluttered in the wind.

Meanwhile, wisps of black qi flew out of the huge mouth of the far-ancient morality stele and were absorbed by Meng Shidao's body. As he absorbed more and more black qi, Meng Shidao's look gradually changed. His skin was gradually covered with fine black scales as his brow ridge bulged while being covered with a hard horny layer. Meanwhile, long fingernails grew out of his hands like that of ghosts. Even a black sharp horn grew out of his central forehead.

As Meng Shidao transformed, his qi was also growing stronger. In an instant, all the earth, water, wind and fire elements within thousands of miles became energetic as a huge black immortal chakra being circled by numerous runes appeared behind Meng Shidao.

“Is this the power above sage-level knight?” Meng Shidao muttered as he watched his hands with a smile. Meanwhile, he broke a mountain peak of Vast Universe Range into pieces dozens of miles away with a punch, causing an earthquake.

“Hahaha...” Meng Shidao finally guffawed.

However, before he finished his words, as more and more black qi poured in his body from the far-ancient morality stele, the second black immortal chakra started to appear behind Meng Shidao.

“Meng Shidao...” the golden light being confined by the shackles of black qi inside the far-ancient morality stele roared again.

“Your Majesty, even though you don’t want to cooperate with us, you can never prevent the demon overlord from coming to this world anymore. Humans and Taixia Country will succumb to the demon overlord again. As for that item in Emperor Xuanyuan’s royal palace, I will take it myself...”

When Meng Shidao spoke, the scene in the huge, black mouth had changed. A world being filled with black fog and flames appeared in the huge mouth. A terrifying giant as huge as a mountain with scarlet blood was filling that whole world. When he waved his hand, dense mass of demon knights instantly poured out of the huge mouth and came to this world. They then started to look around with greedy and grim eyes.

“Go, destroy everything you see. As you’re created by the demon overlord, welcome the demon overlord with damages and massacre...”

Those knights flew in all directions like destructive tides ceaselessly. Only after a short while, the quantity of demon knight who had poured out of the far-ancient morality stele had already been greater than 200,000. Additionally, more and more demon knights were pouring out of there...

### **Chapter 1994: Heroic Sacrifice**

When Zhang Tie arrived at Xuanyuan hill, he found that the entire city had been covered with blood and battle flames...

The flames that rushed into the sky from Xuanyuan hill brightened the entire city. It was full of battle qi smokes and tornadoes in the night sky within 6,000 miles. The most tragic scene facing humans and Taixia Country in the 3rd holy war was undergoing.

Over one night, the country’s land sunk; the heavens and the earth were toppled over and numerous cities deteriorated into purgatories.

...

The battle planes of Zodiac Guards were hovering above Xuanyuan Hill. Those air cavalries were attacking demon knights tirelessly and desperately in vain. The inflammable bolts that were fired by battle planes left battle flames in the sky, which implied the final moments of air cavalries at the risk of their lives.

However, although inflammable bolts could threaten enemies under knights, they were absolutely as weak as toys as for demon knights.

Demon knights could pass those battle flames in the sky safe and sound. Additionally, they could shatter a battle plane and cause it to fall to the ground with a casual strike.

Even so, those air cavalries were still rushing towards those demon knights. All the air cavalries were implementing their responsibilities to safeguard the air zone of Xuanyuan Hill. Like how moths flew towards the flames, although they knew that they would die, they would still carry all before one; instead of retreating.

Those Hua knights in Xuanyuan Hill were also fighting at the risk of their own lives.

...

There were countless demon knights. Almost each Taixia knight was being besieged by many times more demon knights. As a result, Hua knights' battle qi smokes and tornadoes were disappearing constantly.

"Go to hell..." An earth knight of Zodiac Guards penetrated through a demon knight's heart with his long sword. Meanwhile, his body was penetrated through by two more demon knights' palms. However, before the other two demon knights pulled out their palms, all the earth elements around the earth human knight suddenly poured out of the Elements Realm in a weird pattern. He was detonating himself. As a result, the earth human knight and the three demon knights were killed by the violent explosion and strong impact wave.

...

An airboat was hit down. The impact wave of the hundreds of meters long airboat instantly crushed half of a small town outside Xuanyuan Hill where flames were springing up to the heaven...

...

Many teams of demon knights were flying in Xuanyuan Hill and attacking savagely. None of the high-rise buildings across Xuanyuan hill were complete. It was filled with battle flames, collapsed buildings and rumblings of demon knights' battle qi. Millions of Hua people in Xuanyuan Hill were being slaughtered by demons wantonly, regardless of gender and age.

The No. 1 human city had already become the purgatory.

...

Zhang Tie had already killed over 1,000 demons at the bank of Weishui River, Gobbling Province all the way to Xuanyuan Hill. What he saw on the way almost caused his eye corners to crack with fury—The entire Gobbling Province had been in ruins. At least 1 million demon knights were ravaging in Taixia Country. At this moment, demon knights fully displayed their evil nature; despite being knights...

Boom, Zhang Tie shattered a heavenly demon knight into pieces with one punch. It was full of invisible sword winds in the nihility within tens of thousands of meters. All the demon knights approaching this region would be shattered. Zhang Tie darted straight to the air zone of Emperor Xuanyuan's royal city in Xuanyuan Hill.

The no-fly zone above Xuanyuan Hill had long been invalid. The entire city was in a mess and was filled with cries and screams. The Goldenwater river had already turned red. All the Zodiac bridges cross Goldenwater River had been broken. When those people escaped to the bank of Goldenwater River, they were slaughtered by demon knights batch after batch, causing blood and flesh to fly in all directions and filling the Goldenwater River with incomplete corpses and limbs...

Zhang Tie punched all the demon knights on his way into a blood mist and rushed straight towards Xuanyuan Emperor's royal palace.

The former brilliant royal palace had long become ruins. Additionally, a 10,000 m deeper pit appeared on the ground of the royal palace. Far-ancient morality stele was floating in the air above the royal

palace. Hundreds even thousands of demon knights were pouring out of the far-ancient morality stele and rushing towards all directions in an overwhelming manner.

At the entrance of the hole of the far-ancient morality stele, a heart was jumping in the nihility while giving out red light. Meanwhile, wisps of black qi were coming out of the far-ancient morality stele and injecting into that heart. The heart's red light gradually became stronger and jumped at a greater frequency. Additionally, other organs started to grow out around the heart.

Whenever the heart beat, it was like beating a huge drum throbbing in the sky, causing the entire ground across the royal palace to rock.

Zhang Tie didn't know what was that heart. However, at the sight of it from afar, Zhang Tie had sensed the terrifying qi on that heart.

Meng Shidao, who was already a half-human and half-demon, was standing in the sky above the royal palace and calmly watching Zhang Tie who was rushing towards him, a brilliant rare sword in hand.

When Zhang Tie killed thousands of demon knights and in an overwhelming way and arrived at 20,000 m away from the royal palace, Meng Shidao instantly slashed towards Zhang Tie with his brilliant long sword.

The long sword didn't carry any sword qi; neither was it sharp. However, when Meng Shidao launched a strike, Zhang Tie instantly felt a terrifying sword qi coming to his side.

It was not a usual sword qi. When it appeared, Zhang Tie immediately felt a fatal threat.

Even though Zhang Tie was capable, he was unable to avoid it at this moment. In an emergency, Zhang Tie roared as Infinite Immortal Prison instantly appeared in his hand. Almost at the same time, Zhang Tie brandished his huge 'stick' towards the sword qi...

Bang...

The sky was full of rumblings. Closely after that, the violent sword qi crushed all the streets and buildings within 60 square miles. Some sword qi absolutely ignored Zhang Tie's protective battle qi. After penetrating through his protective qi, they instantly left dozens of fine wounds on his skin. One wound was even on his face. Additionally, Zhang Tie was sent flying over 1,000 m away before coming to a stop. In an instant, Zhang Tie's face turned gloomy.

This slash could even kill an immortal emperor.

Anyone else would have been split up by the slash.

Meng Shidao's power had already been greater than any other immortal emperors that Zhang Tie had ever met in Motian Realm. What was more terrifying was his sword.

After sending Zhang Tie flying away with one slash, Meng Shidao took an appreciative look at that long sword. After that, he flicked the blade of the sword and said with a smile, "What an immortal item in the royal household. This Xuanyuan Sword is indeed powerful. If those who cultivate Xuanyuan God Sutra use it, they could at least release 5 times greater power..."

Zhang Tie was sure that Meng Shidao was not a demon; however, given his look, Zhang Tie knew that Meng Shidao had been demonized. Like that Zhang Tie absorbed the energy of a shadow demon by a mistake and turned into a shadow demon, a human could also be demonized after absorbing the energy of a powerful demon. According to Zhang Tie's conjecture, Meng Shidao was demonized by the far-ancient morality stele behind him.

Watching the hole in the middle of the far-ancient morality stele where demon knights were pouring out like a flood and flying towards all directions and that heart which was gradually growing out of a terrifying demon's body with the injection of black qi, Zhang Tie closed his eyes. After a short while, he opened his eyes calmly.

"You've already been a premier and have supreme power, being close to Emperor Xuanyuan, why do you do this?"

"Premier? So what?" Meng Shidao watched Zhang Tie, as calm as he was in the Nine Heavens Palace. If not that his face was covered with black scales and looked a bit terrifying, Meng Shidao was still decent and handsome. "Even though a premier must follow a person's order and look up at someone else. Even though I could promote to a sage-level knight, when I reach the end of my longevity, I would also turn into white bones and die. Now that others could stand at the peak of humans, couldn't I, Meng Shidao, do that too? Now that there's a way of being immortal, why not pursue it?"

"Therefore, you're willing to join demons and destroy the whole country?"

"As for me, there're only two kinds of power, strong and weak. Power couldn't be divided into righteousness and evil. The heaven is not merciful; it just takes everything as a lifeless sacrifice; sages are not merciful; they just take civilians as nothing. In this world, what millions died might Caesar be great? Now that the hundreds of millions of people could do that for someone else, why not they do it for me?" Meng Shidao watched Zhang Tie as he continued with a smile, "Take you as an example, you've made remarkable meritorious deeds to humans. Nobody could match you on that. However, even though you're the regent of Taixia Country and are faithful to the royal households, the royal households of Taixia Country also stay alert about you. Did anyone of the royal households tell you anything about the immortal item Xuanyuan Sword and those secrets about Xuanyuan Sword which are hidden in the royal palace? Have they ever shown it to you? Did anyone tell you that the Xuanyuan God Sutra was with Xuanyuan Sword? Can you guarantee that those royal princes might not deal with you with Xuanyuan Sword one day? Maybe when someone among them promotes to a sage-level knight with Xuanyuan God Sutra, the royal households would deal with you. If you say demons should be killed, all the humans should be killed too because everyone had a demon in their heart..."

"Where's Xuanyuan Zhu?"

"He's dead!" Meng Shidao answered straightforwardly, "Your daughter wanted to block me; therefore, she was killed too. After this catastrophe, all the humans in the future would take me as their ancestor and emperor. But now all of you must die..."

After hearing Meng Shidao's words, Zhang Tie closed his eyes as bloody tears rolled down his eye corners.

Before the two drops of bloody tears dropped off his face, Zhang Tie had poked his fingers into his eyes and dug out his eyes. After that, two daggers appeared in his hand. Zhang Tie then stabbed them into his ears. After making himself deaf, Zhang Tie pricked two daggers into his heart and lower abdomen respectively...

Zhang Tie was bloody all over from foot to head...

Meanwhile, a light&shade of battle god Xing Tian who was taller and more powerful than that before appeared behind Zhang Tie; many substitute runes flew out of Zhang Tie's central forehead——one...two...three...seven...eight...nine...

Nine substitute runes flew out of Zhang Tie's central forehead.

It was Zhang Tie's most powerful trump card that he had never exposed to the public. At this moment, Zhang Tie exposed them all without demur.

A matrix and nine substitutes roared at the same time.

“Go to hell...”

A few substitutes rushed towards Meng Shidao; the rest substitutes were responsible for killing those demon knights. His matrix rushed towards that heart which was jumping in the middle of the far-ancient morality stele, Infinite Immortal Prison in hand.

In an instant, the entire Xuanyuan Hill was experiencing drastic changes within 6,000 miles.

All the substitutes of Zhang Tie's manifested their virtual images of king roc at the same time.

In an instant, the exit of the hole in the middle of far-ancient morality stele was filled with black fog. A pair of familiar, terrifying and huge scarlet eyes with golden pupils appeared in the black fog and stared at Zhang Tie. Closely after that, the entire far-ancient morality stele flew towards Zhang Tie's matrix in an overwhelming manner like Mount Tai...

Zhang Tie's matrix instantly darted towards the far-ancient morality stele without any fear, leaving a streak of light and a flame.

Bang...

The heavens and the earth rocked at the same time. The land cracked as the entire royal city in Xuanyuan Hill disappeared.

In this collision, the far-ancient morality stele just rocked once; however, the small frame of Zhang Tie's matrix was hit into the crust of earth immediately. However, in the blink of an eye, a streak of light and a huge pagoda rushed out of the crust towards the overwhelming far-ancient morality stele again like an undying bird...

The far-ancient morality stele hit that streak of light again...

In the collisions, a pathetic song drifted out of that streak of light...

Spikes in hand, soldiers in rhino hide fought with sabers and swords on chariots.

Flags blotting out the sun; enemies were like dark clouds; bolts clashed, brave fighters fought in the frontline bravely.

Enemies are encroaching our battlefield and treading on our troops; the horse on the left of the chariot died; the horse on the right was hurt.

The two wheels were buried; the four horses were trapped. Jade hammers in hand, we beat battle drums.

The heaven became dark; the deities were driven mad. Die! Die! Your corpses spread over the wild.

After launching a punitive expedition, you don't come back. You keep marching on! The plain was vast in the long way.

Brandishing Long swords; opening powerful bolts, we never change our mind until death.

You're always brave; you're always aggressive; you're always strong-willed. No one could violate the country.

You die; however, your spirits remain forever! Your souls are the heroes!

In the last sonorous line, that streak of light became extremely strong and brightly lit the entire city as Zhang Tie rushed towards the far-ancient morality stele for the last time.

Bang...

That streak of light dispersed in the night sky like a meteor or firefly. Meanwhile, all the rest substitutes broke apart...

Watching that streak of light disappear, a thunder hawk which had just arrived at Xuanyuan Hill in terms of a golden streak of light looked up at the sky and wailed like how the cuckoo dripped off blood through its mouth <sup>1</sup>. Closely after that, it rushed towards the mountain-like far-ancient morality stele and dispersed in terms of light...

## **Chapter 1995: The Enlightening Force**

"Ah..." Zhang Tie shouted as he opened his eyes. Then, he found that Tang Mei was sitting right in the opposite. Supporting her chin with one hand, she was watching Zhang Tie with her wide, beautiful eyes out of curiosity as if she had been waiting for him to wake up for long.

Her clothes were as white as snow; her black hair was as smooth as a waterfall. There was a small stove and tea set on the teapoy. Dense tea aroma still existed in the air. They were in a small pavilion that was surrounded by fiery apricot trees.

After opening his eyes, Zhang Tie looked straight in Tang Mei's eyes.

"What happened? Why am I here? Hasn't Taixia Country been destroyed? Haven't I fought to the death in Xuanyuan Hill?"

Zhang Tie still clearly remembered the true feeling when he was shattered in the last collision with the far-ancient morality stele which was under the manipulation of the demon overlord. Zhang Tie even faintly saw his Little Thunder sacrificing with him in a tragic way...

‘Was I having a dream? Was it the world after death?’

At this moment, Zhang Tie felt confused as he became petrified.

“Brother, are you awake?” Tang Mei asked him in a tender voice.

“Where are we?”

“Emperor NvWa’s Palace!” Tang Mei replied as she blinked her eyes.

Pah...

Zhang Tie slapped himself.

He felt the sharp pain immediately. He then ensured that he was not in a dream. Meanwhile, his hand was a bit wet. He touched his face as he found that his face had been covered with tears. Even the front part of his coat had been a bit wet. He then carefully sensed his current state as he found he was in the peak state, the same state when he had just drunk Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring.

“How long has it been?” Zhang Tie asked Tang Mei, confused.

“Not too long, just one day and a half!” Tang Mei replied with a smile.

“I mean what time is it now?”

“It’s September 23, the 3593th year of Emperor NvWa’s Calendar!” Tang Mei said as she gave a piece of fragrant towel to Zhang Tie tenderly, “Brother, I wonder why you suddenly dropped tears just now!”

Zhang Tie didn’t take Tang Mei’s towel, but instead, he became dumbfounded.

‘September 23, the 3593th year of Emperor NvWa’s Calendar?’

‘Isn’t it the first time when I came to Emperor NvWa’s Palace? What happened? Shouldn’t I have already left Motian Realm? Additionally, it should have been dozens of years. I’ve even experienced so many things. How could I go back to Motian Realm after death? And at this time? Was everything that I experienced my hallucination?’

Zhang Tie became stupefied for quite a while. Unconsciously, he moved his eyes onto the empty cup on the teapoy in front of him. His heart suddenly palpitated once. After taking a look at the empty cup and Tang mei, Zhang Tie swallowed his saliva and stammered, “What... what... did I drink?”

Soon after saying these words, Zhang Tie suddenly became stunned, because he suddenly remembered that he asked the same question when he woke up in memory. Unconsciously, what was happening now aligned with the former experience in his memory completely.

He still remembered Tang Mei’s answer...

“Nothing. It’s just the tea leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree being soaked with Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring...” Tang Mei said briefly.



In an instant, Zhang Tie couldn't even utter a voice. He felt like catching something in mind; however, he didn't understand it completely.

"Brother, do you blame me for making you drink Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring?" Tang Mei asked Zhang Tie elegantly as she moved her bright eyes onto Zhang Tie, "But Brother, you're already a supreme immortal general now. If you don't drink Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring, you could barely break the barrier between God and humans. If you don't break the barrier, you couldn't sense the Realm of Moods or form your first immortal chakra."

Tang Mei was as same as before, including her behaviors and words. However, at this moment, Zhang Tie had already known that Tang Mei was Emperor NvWa. Of course, he would not feel that someone forced Tang Mei to do that.

"What's the function of the tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree?" Zhang Tie asked Tang Mei meticulously.

Not until then did Zhang Tie suddenly realize that he appeared to have very little information about tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree, as if a mysterious power forced him to forget about the function of the tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree.

Of course, tea leaves counted the most in tea culture; followed by water. It was common sense. Now that Tang Mei made tea for Zhang Tie with the tea leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree and Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring, the importance of tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree had been evident. However, after waking up, Zhang Tie forgot about this thing. Later on, he appeared to not have a deep impression on the tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree either. Zhang Tie found it was unusual.

"Brother, did you have a very long dream just now? Was everything in the dream like real?"

'Is that a dream?' Zhang Tie was not sure about it till now. Therefore, he could only nod towards Tang Mei silently.

"That's the function of the tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree. When you have the tea of far-ancient Enlightening Tree, you will have a dream for 100 years. It's like real; however, it elapses as fast as a lightning bolt!" Tang Mei watched Zhang Tie as she continued with a smile, "The tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree didn't come from Motian Realm. They were actually rarities in Emperor NvWa's Palace. According to the legend, far-ancient Enlightening Tree was a marvelous tree that existed when the chaos separated into heaven and earth. The tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree were born with a strong time force. They could help people experience everything and see what's going to happen in the future in a dream. It's my gift to you. Don't you like it, Brother?"

'It seems that I was having a dream after drinking the tea water of the tree leaves of far-ancient Enlightening Tree. I've experienced a long dream which was akin to the reality-based trouble-reappearance situations...'

'Actually, those things had not happened in Taixia Country yet!'

'I'm still alive. I've not even returned to Taixia Country yet. I could still redeem everything!'

After being silent for a few seconds, Zhang Tie suddenly exclaimed, “Ah...”. Closely after that, he jumped up and shouted. At the same time, he guffawed and dropped off tears. He danced with joy like being mad. After that, he rushed out of the pavilion, running in the apricot trees and guffawing. “Hahaha, I’m still alive; I’m still alive. There’s still time. There’s still time. Hahaha, Demon Overlord, Meng Shidao, let’s see it. Let’s see it. Hahaha...”

Zhang Tie then rushed to the front of Tang Mei with a red face with excitement. Closely after that, he cradled Tang Mei and circled in the air for dozens of times under her astonished eyes. After putting her down, he kissed Tang Mei’s face for more than 10 times as he continued, “Hahaha, that’s my favorite gift. I love it too much. It’s the best gift that I’ve ever received. Thank you. Thank you. You’re my baby! You’re my lucky angel...”

Tang Mei’s face turned into a piece of red cloth immediately. Closely after that, she became this bashful and uttered in a low voice, “Brother...”

At this moment, Zhang Tie had completely forgotten about Tang mei’s identity. He tightly cradled Tang Mei and directly kissed her lips...

...

Seven days later, on October 1st, Zhang Tie returned to Tigerback Mountain with high spirits.

Soon after he watched Bian Heng entering the parlor, Zhang Tie had rushed forward and gave him an embrace. Bian Heng became flurried as he instantly turned gloomy and pushed Zhang Tie away. Meanwhile, he urged, “No! No! I’m not a woman...”

If not know that Zhang Tie’s sexual orientation was normal, Bian Heng might have long driven Zhang Tie away with battle qi.

Zhang Tie moved two steps back as he watched Bian Heng and apologized seriously, “I’m sorry...”

Bian Heng felt odd as he looked Zhang Tie up and down before asking, “What wrong thing have you done to me?”

“Nothing, I just feel that I miss you after leaving you for a few days...” Zhang Tie replied as he shook his head and sat down. In this world, nobody else might know what Zhang Tie’s apology meant to Bian Heng—In that real “dream”, Zhang Tie took Bian Heng to Taixia Country. However, it meant a trap for Bian Heng. When Zhang Tie fought to the death in Xuanyuan Hill, Bian Heng was traveling across the country. If everything in the dream was real, Bian Heng must face a poor outcome after Taixia and Hua people were destroyed. That was why Zhang Tie felt sorry about Bian Heng.

“Tang Mei, it must be related to Tang Mei...” Bian Heng instantly became furious as he suddenly recalled something. After glaring at Zhang Tie ferociously, he gritted his teeth with fury and continued, “I wondered why your face looked such red and energetic like taking philter. You must have a guilty conscience after sleeping with Tang Mei. Therefore, you’re apologizing to me!”

“Ahem, ahem...” Zhang Tie turned solemn immediately as he explained, “Brother Bian, you must have thought too much. I’m here to ask you whether you will leave Motian Realm with me or not...”

After hearing the topic, Bian Heng gradually recovered his composure. After making a glimpse at Zhang Tie, he rubbed his beard with two fingers and said with a serious look, "Erm... I need to think about it carefully. I'm not as smart as you. If you sell me, I might even count money for you."

Bian Heng wanted to leave Motian Realm with Zhang Tie; however, he felt bashful talking Zhang Tie about that. Of course, Zhang Tie was aware of Bian Heng's tactic. Zhang Tie laughed inside as he even knew what Bian Heng wanted to say next.

"Brother Bian, what about taking another man with you? Had better be a woman. Because women are always delicate in mind. If you got a partner with you, I might not cheat you easily anymore. How about that?"

Bian Heng widely opened his mouth and eyes as he watched Zhang Tie who was smiling at him as if the latter was a ghost, because he found that Zhang Tie had mentioned the excuse he had prepared well...

### **Chapter 1996: Changing Plan Bit by Bit**

"Your Majesty's eyes are really crystal and could observe the details. I hold you in great admiration..."

When Bian Heng was agape and tongue-tied, a woman's voice sounded outside the parlor where Bian Heng and Zhang Tie met. At the same time, a brisk and elegant woman with long and slim eyes entered the parlor frankly.

At the sight of this woman, Bian Heng instantly sprang up like how a mouse would respond to a cat. After that, he rubbed his hands and greeted her with a bit bashful smile. "Why... why are you here?"

"I just want to know how you fabricated lies about me in front of His Majesty!" the woman replied as she took a glance at Bian Heng, causing him to draw back his neck at once. Closely after that, he bent deeply towards Zhang Tie elegantly as she greeted Zhang Tie, "My respect to you, Your Majesty, I'm Jiang Mingyue the elder of Mountains Sect from Snowcloud Middle Domain!"

'Eyes are crystal... could observe the details...' After hearing Jiang Mingyue's extolment, even Zhang Tie felt a bit bashful.

"When I gifted Brother Bian the fruit of Cross-Realm Flower, given Brother Bian's joyful look, I knew that Brother Bian had already had someone in his heart. Additionally, that man must be a supreme immortal general and an outstanding woman. At the sight of Elder Jiang, I realized that the one whose eyes are crystal is Brother Bian, hahaha..."

Zhang Tie spoke highly of both Bian Heng and Jiang Mingyue in such brief words. After that, he told them how he guessed that Bian Heng would not leave Motian Realm alone. After hearing his words, Bian Heng and Jiang Mingyue both laughed. At the same time, the atmosphere in the parlor became much more harmonious. After that, the three people sat down.

As Jiang Mingyue was here, Bian Heng almost became silent and became the audience of Zhang Tie and Jiang Mingyue.

Like what he "dreamed", Jiang Mingyue asked Zhang Tie about the information of the world where he came from. Zhang Tie answered her patiently. After answering some questions, Zhang Tie directly took

two atlases with photos of different sceneries out of Castle of Black Iron and showed them to Bian Heng and Jiang Mingyue. Reading the two atlases, the two people were greatly amazed by the special sceneries and didn't doubt Zhang Tie's words any longer.

"Over hundreds of millions of years, too many immortal emperors in Motian Realm would like to break the nihility and leave Motian Realm. However, I've never heard that anyone succeeded in it. Many people were crushed and perished in the chaotic nihility. Although Bian Heng and I are supreme immortal generals, we're crystal clear about our abilities. Given our abilities, we could never leave Motian Realm. Your Majesty, I wonder how do you plan to take us away from Motian Realm?" Jiang Mingyue finally asked Zhang Tie the key question. Bian Heng also pricked up his ears at once.

It was the most crucial question.

Jiang Mingyue posed this question as same as that in Zhang Tie's "dream". Therefore, Zhang Tie knew that it was definitely the problem that Jiang Mingyue and Bian Heng concerned about the most after negotiation. They wanted to leave Motian Realm. However, Zhang Tie must guarantee their safety; instead of taking them to die with him.

Last time, after hearing this question, as the core area of Mountain Ruins was going to open and Zhang Tie planned to leave Motian Realm after discovering the Mountain Ruins, he proved his ability in the simplest way——He directly teleported Bian Heng and Jiang Mingyue into Castle of Black Iron and let the two people stay in Castle of Black Iron in advance. He prepared to leave Motian Realm with the two people a few days later.

Previously, Zhang Tie thought that he could execute the plan to wipe out all the demons without any loophole when he returned to Taixia Country. Finally, humans were exterminated, including him. This time, Zhang Tie had completely returned to reality and recognized the demons' trump card. Of course, Zhang Tie would not return to Taixia Country with the two people without considerate preparation like last time.

If he did it like last time, Zhang Tie confirmed that the Demon Overlord must still be waiting for him in the Chaos Space. Would he waste 10 more years being chased after by the Demon Overlord and return to the main world with his secret method at a great price again? Of course, not!

Over these days, through well considerations in Emperor NvWa's Palace, Zhang Tie concluded some reasons for his failure in the "dream". The first reason was that he didn't predict that the Demon Overlord who was hiding on the back of demons could stop him in the Chaotic Space. After killing two demon emperors in a row, Zhang Tie's confidence soared too much in a short period of time. He thought that he could even solve everything by force. Due to poor judgment and inefficient preparation about difficulties and accidents, he wasted more than 10 years in Chaotic Space.

If he made good use of the 10-odd years, he could definitely help humans win the holy war...

"I'm not confident enough to take you two to that world safely!" Zhang Tie adopted the absolutely different tactic and words when he watched Bian Heng and Jiang Mingyue. "If you've determined to go there, I will prove to you my ability within 10 years. You could consider it well within the following 10 years. It depends on you whether you will go there with me or not by then!"

"10 years?"

“10 years?”

Zhang Tie nodded firmly. When the two people heard that he was going to leave Motian Realm soon the last time, they both looked surprised. However, this time, when they heard that they were going to wait for 10 years, they looked relatively calmer. Perhaps the two people felt that they should indeed make sufficient preparations before leaving Motian Realm. In fact, 10 years were not too long for them.

“Well, that’s a deal!” Jiang Mingyue agreed. Bian Heng just nodded like a fool on one side; meanwhile, he watched Jiang Mingyue in an infatuated way...

...

After leaving Tigerback Mountain, Zhang Tie darted towards Nine-Heavens Big Domain at lightning speed.

...

On October 10, the 3593rd year of Emperor NvWa’s Calendar, many powerhouses were converging outside the core area of Mountain Ruins. Everything was as same as that in Zhang Tie’s “dream”. The arrival of Long Jiutian, Ying Gucheng and the other immortal generals of Dragon Emperor Immortal Palace aroused the attraction and discussions of those immortal generals outside the core area of Mountain Ruins. However, what they were discussing was already different than that in Zhang Tie’s “dream”. In the past 10 days, Zhang Tie, who had just shown off his power in Deities’ Plain, made another world-shocking deed in Nine Heavens Big Domain—he almost swept over all the demons’ cities in Nine Heavens Big Domain alone at lightning speed and pushed his fame to the apex again...

“Hahaha, it’s so boisterous here. See you again...”

Zhang Tie appeared with greetings; however, nobody else could identify the “poor taste” in his words. Of course, very few immortal generals were mumbling inside, “Why did he use ‘again’? Did His Majesty Dragon Emperor greet someone whom he was familiar with?”

Zhang Tie flew over there as handsome as a celestial being in a white robe and a black waistband...

### **Chapter 1997: Zhang Tie’s Firm Resoluteness**

Zhang Tie moved tens of thousands of meters in one go. He arrived at the front of the other immortal general of Dragon Emperor Immortal Palace soon after his voice at lightning speed.

“My respect to you, Your Majesty...”

Long Jiutian, Ying Gucheng and the other 20-odd immortal generals of Dragon Emperor Immortal Palace hurriedly greeted Zhang Tie with full respect. Previously, Zhang Tie had told them that he would come here to converge with them before the core area of Mountain Ruins opened. When they watched Zhang Tie, all the 20-odd immortal generals of Dragon Emperor Immortal Palace became greatly reassured.

“Get up, please!” Zhang Tie said as he raised his hand, lifting up the two elders and those immortal generals gently with his tender battle qi.

Watching these familiar yet strange faces in front of him, Zhang Tie had a complex feeling. In his dream, after leaving Motian Realm, he would never see these immortal generals of Dragon Emperor Immortal Palace any longer. Unexpectedly, heaven bestowed upon him another opportunity.

Long Jiutian and Ying Gucheng exchanged a glance with each other with faint shock in their eyes. Only after a few months, they felt that Zhang Tie had been much more powerful than before. Additionally, what Zhang Tie did in Nine Heavens Big Domain over the past 10 days shocked the entire Motian Realm too. However, what Long Jiutian and Ying Gucheng were confused about was that Zhang Tie didn't have Dragon Emperor Immortal Palace take over those demons' cities that he had swept across Nine Heavens Big Domain. As a result, those cities were anarchic at this moment. All the immortal demon general had already escaped away. The army of demons had been broken up. However, those immortal palaces and forces in Nine Heavens Big Domain dared not occupy those cities where Zhang Tie had wiped out either. If they dared pick free peaches from Dragon Emperor, they must be courting death.

The current situation facing Nine Heavens Big Domain was actually a bit chaotic; because nobody knew Zhang Tie's plan in Nine-Heavens Big Domain.

However, as the core area of Mountain Ruins was going to open, they all focused on the core area of Mountain Ruins.

"Hahaha, long time no see, Dragon Emperor is still as brilliant as before. Congratulations! Recently, Dragon Emperor caused all the demons to wail like ghosts and howl like wolves in Nine-Heavens Big Domain. They almost retreated from Nine Heavens Big Domain completely. Your heroic deed really caused our humans' morality to soar..." Force Emperor greeted Zhang Tie with laughter from afar.

As the actual situation had changed, Force Emperor's greetings were also different than that in Zhang Tie's 'dream'.

In the "dream", Zhang Tie didn't make such a great meritorious deed in Nine-Heavens Big Domain. Because Zhang Tie wanted to go back to Taixia Country as fast as possible, he was not interested in the remaining demons and demon cities in Nine-Heavens Big Domain. He then left that "cake" to those immortal palaces and forces across the Motian Realm. However, this time, Zhang Tie swept across all the main demon forces in Nine-Heavens Big Domain in 10 days and aroused a sharp reversal over there. Therefore, even Force Emperor paid attention to Zhang Tie's great deed in Nine-Heavens Big Domain and intended to sound out Zhang Tie's purpose by doing that.

"Hahaha, Force Emperor, thanks for your appreciation!" Zhang Tie laughed. After saying something that everyone else could hear, he asked Force Emperor secretly, "Force Emperor, are you interested in those demon cities in Nine-Heavens Big Domain?"

After hearing Zhang Tie's words, Force Emperor's eyes gleamed. At the same time, he asked Zhang Tie secretly, "Dragon Emperor, you mean?"

"It's simple. I want to exchange 40 demon cities that I wiped out in Nine-Heavens Big Domain with 20 years' cultivation access in the secret realms under the control of Your Majesty in Mountain Ruins. I know that a tower of time could be available for 20 years one year later in the secret realm under your control!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's request, Force Emperor's heart instantly palpitated once. If Force Emperor agreed to exchange one year's cultivation access for two demon cities that Zhang Tie had wiped out, Force Emperor Immortal Palace must make great profits from that. However, that secret realm in the Mountain Ruins under the control of Force Emperor Immortal Palace was a top-secret in Force Emperor Immortal Palace, only Force Emperor and some elders knew about it. How did Zhang Tie know about it? How could he know clearly when a tower of time in the secret realm was available? That was too terrifying!

"Your Majesty, how do you know that I've got a secret realm and there're towers of time in that secret realm?" Force Emperor asked Zhang Tie as he squinted his eyes.

The true reason was that Zhang Tie had been crystal clear about everything in the Mountain Ruins after his Castle of Black Iron engulfed the space ball of Motian Realm for 20 years when the entire Mountain Ruins had become Zhang Tie's private belongings. This was also Zhang Tie's great achievement in "dream".

"There's a rarity called Motian Mirror in Emperor NvWa's Palace. When I paid a visit to Emperor NvWa's Palace a few days ago, due to good luck, I learned a lot of secrets about Mountain Ruins from Motian Mirror, including that Force Emperor had a secret realm and a time tower in that secret realm is going to be available soon!" Zhang Tie fabricated with a serious look. At this moment, if he told Force Emperor that he learned about it in a dream, Force Emperor would not believe it. Therefore, he preferred to fabricate a lie that Force Emperor could believe and would never be revealed by Force Emperor for the rest of his life.

"Dragon Emperor, why do you need that tower of time so urgently?"

"Because time is very precious for me. I want to promote to an immortal emperor as soon as possible!"

Four years later, Xuanyuan Changying would be assassinated by demons. Last time, Zhang could do nothing about it in his dream. Therefore, he could only hold his wrist, sighing and making a pair of elegiac couplets for Xuanyuan Changying's death. This time, Zhang Tie must have a try for Xuanyuan Changying, Taixia Country and himself no matter what.

If he had enough available towers of time, he could promote to an immortal emperor in 4 years and return to Taixia Country as an immortal emperor so as to prevent all these things. The difference between an immortal emperor and a sage-level knight was even greater than that between a knight and a common fighter. Zhang Tie was confident that he would not fear the projection of demon overlord in the Chaotic Space if he promoted to an immortal emperor...

Force Emperor asked Zhang Tie with a smile, "What if I don't agree with it?"

Zhang Tie then lowered his head and remained silent for half a minute. Finally, he raised his head and watched Force Emperor, replying decisively, "Your secret realm is in an air-floating ocean over 4,000 miles away from Brokensmoke Ocean in the east. One year later, that time tower will be available again. I will enter that secret realm by then. Anyone who blocks me at that time must die!"

Force Emperor watched Zhang Tie...

Zhang Tie watched Force Emperor too...

The air within tens of thousands of meters between them appeared to be frozen. Besides Zhang Tie and Force Emperor, none of the other immortal generals there knew that the two most powerful humans in Motian Realm were on the verge of breaking out a battle...

...

## **Chapter 1998: Quick Reaction**

After gazing at Zhang Tie for one minute, Force Emperor suddenly let out a sigh as his domineering qi reduced at a stroke. He uttered, "I regard my respect to you. That tower of time will belong to you in one year. I have to agree with you. Unexpectedly, you could force me to drink!"

Force Emperor knew that the result was the same if he or Force Emperor's Immortal Palace blocked Zhang Tie given Zhang Tie's battle force in the battle of Deities Plain. What was more, Zhang Tie had already known the location of the secret realm in the hand of Force Emperor. If Zhang Tie determined to go there, nobody else across Motian Realm could stop him. Now that Zhang Tie talked about this trade with Force Emperor secretly, he might have already considered the possibility of being refused, and maintained the dignity of Force Emperor to a certain degree.

Of course, Force Emperor felt complex at this moment. He had a good impression of Zhang Tie; however, at this moment, he realized that Zhang Tie had already "changed"...

Zhang Tie knew what Force Emperor was thinking about. However, due to emergency, he couldn't be hesitant or merciful anymore; instead, he explained to Force Emperor while shaking his head, "Please forgive me, Force Emperor, I have to do that. I have to promote to an immortal emperor as fast as possible. Nobody could stop me. Even if it was sworn by numerous people, I'd still have to do that!"

"Dragon Emperor, did you clean up demons across Nine Heavens Big Domain recently in order to exchange those cities under the control of demons for access to my tower of time?"

"You got it!" Zhang Tie admitted it frankly, "If I got it by force, my reputation would be destroyed. Therefore, I prefer to exchange it with cities; one year for two cities, both of us could benefit from it. Why not?"

"Dragon Emperor, do you know that demons also have secret realms in Mountain Ruins? Do you know that there are also towers of time in the secret realms under the control of demons?"

Zhang Tie replied with a smile, "Of course I know the secret realms under the control of demons which contain towers of time. After exploring the core of Mountain Ruins, I will take demons' secret realms by force!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's explanation, Force Emperor became speechless.

The atmosphere between the two people became much cooler at once; instead of being that passionate like before.

Although being heroic and generous, Force Emperor was also very domineering. Force Emperor and Zhang Tie had a good relationship before; however, at this moment, Zhang Tie had to conquer Force Emperor for the sake of his purpose. No matter what, the relationship between him and Force Emperor



could never match that of the survival of Taixia Country and humans as a whole. If he had to choose one between his friendship with Force Emperor and the survival of Taixia Country, Zhang Tie preferred to choose the second one. As for what Force Emperor would do and judge him in the future, it was not that important any more...

“The core of Mountain Ruins is going to open...”

A human immortal general shouted in the far the moment Zhang Tie and Force Emperor reached an agreement. What happened in the next was as same as that in Zhang Tie’s dream...

A brilliant sparkle suddenly appeared at the highest point of the core of Mountain Ruins in the distance. The sparkle soon became a hot sun. At the same time, the entire core of Mountain Ruins started to rock as the fog started to fade away bit by bit, revealing the original look of the core of Mountain Ruins.

The great shock and wave came from the core of Mountain Ruins and swept over the surrounding air zone like ripples, cleaning up all the clouds in the sky. At the same time, numerous blue and red meteors flew out of the space above Mountain Ruins and shot in all directions like an earthshaking avalanche, submerging the air zone within thousands of miles near the core of Mountain Ruins...

Zhang Tie squinted his eyes and watched all these. The traces of the meteors of those blue and red ice and fire heavenly winds were as same as that he saw in his dream as if their routes had been fixed in advance.

Before the waves disappeared, Zhang Tie left some words to two elders and some immortal generals of Dragon Emperor Immortal Palace silently and cupped his hands towards Force Emperor, saying, “Force Emperor, I gotta get going!” After saying that, Zhang Tie advanced towards the core of Mountain Ruins where numerous meteors were falling down under the dumbfounded gaze of the other immortal generals outside the core of Mountain Ruins, leaving a light in the sky.

When Zhang Tie was going to be hit by a meteor, he activated his invisible Shen bead and disappeared in front of the public at a stroke. Nobody could see him or trace anymore.

Force Emperor who was still depressed by the trade between him and Zhang Tie also gnashed his teeth and rushed towards the core of Mountain Ruins in an unyielding way. However, he was not able to predict the trace of each meteor; therefore, only after a few minutes, he had seen a huge icy blue meteor flying towards him... he couldn’t avoid it...

Being extremely depressed, Force Emperor roared and slashed his huge saber towards the meteor at once...

...

The shock and meteors of ice and fire heavenly winds across the central area of Mountain Ruins had just disappeared when Zhang Tie arrived there. At the same time, the Infinite Immortal Hell appeared in Zhang Tie’s hand like a hammer. Zhang Tie then flew towards that entrance on the second floor in the central area of Mountain Ruins according to his memory at a high speed.

Only after a short while, with a loud sound “bang”, a deities’ battle puppet was finally shattered into pieces by Zhang Tie’s Infinite Immortal Hell. Then, Zhang Tie saw the familiar scene again—A huge archway, a huge sculpture, a vast and open square and a square matrix of 360 deities’ battle puppets...

When the 360 deities' battle puppets' eyes slowly turned red, Zhang Tie punched his own chest twice heavily and caused blood to flow out of his nostrils, ears and mouth corners. Closely after that, the light and shade of battle god reappeared behind Zhang Tie.

"Come on..." Zhang Tie roared as he rushed towards those deities' battle puppets. Meanwhile, the power of his Infinite Immortal Hell surged by 10 times in a split second. With cracks and booms, Zhang Tie rushed into the entrance as fast as he could.

It was still that Instrumental Spirit Palace with 5 gates. However, this time, Zhang Tie didn't enter the other four gates to collect element crystals any longer; instead, he directly rushed in the one in the center.

It was a tunnel behind that gate. Zhang Tie soon reached the turning.

The corpse of that human power in broken immortal outfit was leaning against the wall of the tunnel. Before that corpse made any response, Zhang Tie had struck the corpse with his big hammer and crushed it into pieces...

"F\*ck, you almost scared me to death last time..."

#### **Chapter 1999: When Good Luck Come, One Has Good Ideas**

Bang...

The terrifying strike brought by Infinite Immortal Prison almost burned the entire palace on the floor below Heaven of Light into ashes.

With one strike, the air there had become even hotter than magma. Meanwhile, the ground on that floor was shaking heavily like experiencing an earthquake.

The last blue deities' battle puppet in the palace, who was as powerful as an immortal emperor was shattered by Zhang Tie's strike. His broken body parts were sent flying tens of thousands of meters away. Even the 10-odd bloody deities' battle puppets rushing towards him were destroyed by the strong impact wave of Zhang Tie's strike.

Over 1,000 deities' battle puppets were heavily injured by Zhang Tie's constant strikes. Their tight formation finally revealed a loophole. Zhang Tie then broke out of the palace with his huge stick and came to the palace under the magnificent brilliant starry sky immediately.

It was an area of dilapidated ruins that was giving out time-honored qi under the starry sky.

Although it was his second time to see such a scene, Zhang Tie's heart still palpitated once when he saw everything in this space. The interwoven scenery of the brilliant and eternal starry sky and the far-ancient dilapidated buildings in the long course of history carried a great impact force. It caused Zhang Tie to meditate like an abstruse subject.

In that ruins, a purely white, high tower was standing still and even reached the starry sky.

The Heavens-Reaching Tower was already in front of him.

However, Zhang Tie didn't have time to meditate as a great batch of deities' battle puppets were chasing after him. Those deities' battle puppets feared nothing.

Zhang Tie didn't waste time on those deities' battle puppets, because he had already felt that the effect of triggering Battle God Bloodline was declining. He then rushed towards the purely white Heavens-Reaching Tower with a streak of light, tens of thousands of meters per step.

The entrance of the Heavens-Reaching Tower was still complete. Light was flowing faintly on both sides of the entrance. The entrance was not a gate, but a white light curtain. As Zhang Tie was being closely chased after by those deities' battle puppets, he soon arrived at the entrance at the bottom of Heavens-Reaching Tower before entering the light curtain...

When Zhang Tie entered that light curtain, those deities' battle puppets instantly stopped.

In the "dream", when Zhang Tie and Tang Mei came here, they entered the Space Spirit's Palace and rested a few days over there. After recovering their energy, they continued to explore the Heaven of Light meticulously. This time, as Zhang Tie had already known the situation in the Heaven of Light, he directly entered the Heaven of Light on the highest floor of the Heavens-Reaching Tower from the entrance without any concern or rest.

When Zhang Tie entered the light curtain, a huge transparent bubble wrapped him immediately, causing him to rush into the sky, as if taking a high-speed lift. Only after a short while, the bubble had burst. Zhang Tie then entered the Heaven of Light.

When he arrived at the Heaven of Light, the light&shade of Battle God disappeared immediately. Meanwhile, he almost staggered forward due to the strong dizziness.

Everything here was as same as that he saw last time in his "dream". The ground here was covered with corpses and body parts of fierce deities, which were giving out brilliant red light like gemstones.

As Zhang Tie had already started to sense the aftermath of triggering Battle God bloodline, he rushed to the side of Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring as fast as he could. Closely after that, he threw himself onto the side of the pool and immersed his head into the Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring before having a drink.

If he did not know that he could fix the aftermath of triggering Battle God bloodline in the shortest period soon after coming here and drinking Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring to his hearts' content, he would never trigger his Battle God bloodline in the Heavens-Reaching Tower.

In his "dream", it took Zhang Tie almost one month from the entrance at the second floor of Mountain Ruins to the Heaven of Light at the top floor. However, this time, it only took him one day to reach the floor where Heaven of Light was from the bottom.

Zhang Tie made it at the cost of triggering his Battle God bloodline and six substitutes. Additionally, he ignored all the element crystals and heavenly sandalwood on the way. He only wanted to come to the Heaven of Light in the shortest period of time.

The important reason that Zhang Tie accomplished it so fast lay in that he knew that a tower of time inside the secret realm of Mountain Ruins under the control of demons was available in half a month.

Zhang Tie could cultivate inside for two decades, during which period of time he could reach four change realm of his immortal chakra. Zhang Tie must grasp this opportunity.

In the “dream”, in order to leave Motian Realm for Taixia Country as soon as possible, Zhang Tie missed many things and opportunities in Motian Realm and Mountain Ruins. This time, he would not repeat it.

After drinking Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring, he saw the effect immediately. In an instant, the weakening effect of triggering Battle God bloodline came to a stop. Closely after that, Zhang Tie felt that his vigor was recovering slowly.

In case of more trouble, Zhang Tie stood up and started to teleport the items in the Heaven of Light into Castle of Black Iron.

Those entered his eyes first were body parts of fierce deities that spread everywhere over the floor.

All the body parts of those fierce deities had been energized. Each of their body parts was emitting brilliant bloody light. According to Tang Mei, only fierce deities who had formed two immortal chakras and above could keep this kind of eternal bloody light after death. According to the depth of the color of bloody light, one could even identify the cultivation base of that fierce deity before death. The color of bloody light that body parts of late fierce deities who had formed two immortal chakras emitted was a bit lighter than those who had formed three immortal chakras.

The floor of Heaven of Light was covered with body parts of fierce deities. After counting it roughly, Zhang Tie found there were at least hundreds of late fierce deities here. If these fierce deities were still alive, anyone of them could become a superb powerhouse higher than human or demon emperors and topple over the entire Motian Realm.

However, at this moment, all the fierce deities had died like extinct dinosaurs, leaving their remains displaying their great power. Zhang Tie was lost in wonder.

To be honest, Zhang Tie didn't know the purpose of the body parts of these fierce deities even now. However, it was his instinct to feel that these things could help him a lot, therefore, he teleported all of them into Castle of Black Iron.

After moving all the body parts of fierce deities into Castle of Black Iron, he moved the space ball of Motian Realm into Castle of Black Iron too...

When the space ball of Motian Realm entered Castle of Black Iron, Zhang Tie heard Heller's tip immediately, “Castle Lord, a space ball has entered Castle of Black Iron. Do you want to integrate it right now?”

Zhang Tie wanted to agree; however, he immediately recalled that he encountered the Demon Overlord in the chaotic space when he left Motian Realm in the “dream”.

‘When I came to Motian Realm from Taixia Country, I didn't encounter the Demon Overlord on the way. However, when I left Motian Realm for Taixia Country, I encountered the Demon Overlord. Why?’

‘If the Demon Overlord could completely control all the situations across the Chaotic Space, he should have already killed me when I came to Motian Realm for the first time. At that time, I was in the weakest

state. If the Demon Overlord launched a strike at me at that time, he would have long killed me. On that occasion, even the former Dragon Emperor could not leave Motian Realm.'

'Now that I could come to Motian Realm and the former dragon emperor could leave Motian Realm without any obstacle, it meant that the Demon Overlord didn't know all the affairs in the chaotic space timely.'

'If so, why did the Demon Overlord block me when I left Motian Realm?'

'Something that happened in Motian Realm aroused the attention of the Demon Overlord or what I did in Deities' Plain was transmitted to the Demon Overlord through some channels of demons' and aroused the attention of the Demon Overlord. Otherwise, both reasons counted. If it was because of the first reason, the abnormal situations that lasted for half a month in Motian Realm caused by the integration of Castle of Black Iron and the space ball of Motian Realm must have aroused the attention of the Demon Overlord.'

As these thoughts occurred in his mind, Zhang Tie made a decision immediately.

"Heller, don't integrate it for the time being. I will go back to Taixia Country first. No matter what, the space ball is already in Castle of Black Iron. Just a few years later!"

"As you wish, Castle Lord!"

Closely after that, Zhang Tie moved Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring into Castle of Black Iron too.

There was one proverb among Hua people——when one has good luck, he would have good ideas. There was also a term called being possessed by ghosts. They referred to two utterly different mental states which would lead to good luck or misfortunes.

After deciding not to have Heller integrate Castle of Black Iron with the space ball of Motian Realm, Zhang Tie suddenly felt relaxed. Soon after he moved Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring into Castle of Black Iron, he had got another whim, 'Ordinary fruit trees would grow taller and bigger and bear more fruits with water. Now that that small tree in Castle of Black Iron is a tree, will it grow better with Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring?'

'Plus those body parts of fierce deities. Now that the ashes of those demon knights' bodies inside the Bloody Sacrifice Furnace are top-class fertilizers and could be used to cultivate Demon Spirit Tea, I wonder whether that small tree will grow better with the body parts of those fierce deities as the fertilizers?'

When this whim occurred to him, Zhang Tie became petrified immediately, because he realized that he had not provided any water or fertilizer to the small tree since he acquired it. He always picked off fruits from the small tree; however, he had not imagined that the small tree might have his own living necessities...

After swallowing his saliva forcefully for a short while, Zhang Tie tried to recover his composure as he asked Heller in mind, "Heller, what would the small tree change... if I water it with Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring?"

This time, Heller remained silent for more than 10 seconds before answering Zhang Tie calmly, “Castle Lord, you know that I cannot answer you some questions!”

After hearing Heller’s answer, Zhang Tie didn’t feel frustrated; instead, he became ecstatic in an instant and almost jumped up. Meanwhile, his heart raced. There were mainly two kinds of questions that Heller couldn’t answer, those about his cultivation and those about the triggering conditions of the fruits on the small tree.

The answers to the first kind of question needed Zhang Tie to explore. As for the answers to the second kind of question, it depended on his fortune. If he triggered the switch on bearing fruits, he would have fruits. Heller would never provide any tip or hint to him unless Zhang Tie took positive actions.

Over those years in the “dream”, Heller didn’t mention Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring at all. Neither did Zhang Tie ever think about the connection between Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring and the small tree...

‘F\*ck, doesn’t it say that water could lead to the wood in the *Five-Elements Earthly-Look Sutra* that I cultivate? Why did I forget this simple law...’

### **Chapter 2000: The Small Tree’s Change**

It was still half a month away from the time when the tower of time in the demons’ secret realm in Mountain Ruins would be available. However, it would take Zhang Tie at most 2 days to arrive there from the core region of Mountain Ruins, including the period during which he passed through those deities’ battle puppets. Therefore, Zhang Tie had more than ten days to check his ideas.

He did it right now.

As it was empty in the Heaven of Light, nobody disturbed him at all. Zhang Tie then entered Castle of Black Iron with excitement and showed up in the lobby of the Palace Tree immediately.

Those women of Yin-Yang Sect were fully immersing themselves in a great job——arranging those people whom Zhang Tie saved and moved into Castle of Black Iron outside the Immortal Mountain. Even Agan, Edward and Aziz were helping them over there. As a result, the Palace Tree became tranquil. Only Heller was there.

The space ball of Motian Realm and Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring were both in the lobby of the Palace Tree.

Floating in the air, the space ball matched the lobby of the Palace Tree very well. So did the Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring. With Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring and Immortal Stone, the lobby of the Palace Tree became vigorous. All the body parts of fierce deities were stored in the underground garage beneath Palace Tree.

“Welcome back, Castle Lord...” Heller greeted Zhang Tie with an elegant bow as if he had already guessed Zhang Tie’s intention. After that, he stood under the high platform of the small tree and watched Zhang Tie with an anticipated look.

“Hahaha, Heller, I appreciate you so much this time...” Zhang Tie laughed as he came under the small tree with a flash.

“Castle Lord, you should think it all by yourself. I’m just your butler and can assist you to manage Castle of Black Iron. I don’t know anything. Neither did I say anything!” Heller said as he shrugged while talking to Zhang Tie with a solemn look.

“Heller, I find that you’re very cute now...”

“Erm...” Heller became speechless.

Rubbing his hands, Zhang Tie circled around the small tree with great excitement as he thought about the next step.

——which should come first, apply fertilizer or water?

After circling around the small tree for a short while, Zhang Tie slightly recovered his composure. After that, he decided to try the small tree’s response to Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring first. Step by step!

This process was like growing flowers and trees. All the flowers, grass and trees needed watering. They adapted to water the most. Therefore, Zhang Tie decided to try the small tree’s response to Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring first. As for whether the body parts of fierce deities could become the fertilizer and be absorbed by the small tree or not and whether they were beneficial or harmful to the small tree after being absorbed, it was unknown. Perhaps it was just his conjecture. He would try the effect of the fertilizer after Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring.

Therefore, Zhang Tie ran his spiritual energy. Only by waving his hand, a stream of water had flown out of the pool of Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring like a fountain and crossed the sky like a water bridge before entering the soil where the root of the small tree was.

In the beginning, Zhang Tie only watered about 500 ml Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring, which was only equal to a bottle of water. Zhang Tie thought it was not too much.

The soil was a bit special. Zhang Tie had found that the soil was special a long time ago. It looked dark brown and nothing different than ordinary soil; though, it was very odd. When he slightly grabbed the soil, he could take it like taking ordinary soil. However, when he grabbed it forcefully, he found the soil would become even harder than iron.

The Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring entered the soil immediately.

Standing beside the small tree, Zhang Tie was observing the small tree’s response with wide eyes.

One minute later, the small tree didn’t make any response.

Two minutes later, the small tree still remained unchanged.

Five minutes later, the small tree didn’t change at all.

‘Is Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring useless to the small tree or the Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring is not enough?’

When Zhang Tie muttered, he found that a small leaf in front of him suddenly moved a bit. Closely after that, the leaves around that small leaf also moved. Then, all the twigs and leaves started to move with rustles which sounded like a spring breeze blowing over beautiful aeolian bells. What a piece of

euphonic music! In an instant, the entire Palace Tree reverberated with the euphonious sound from the leaves of the small tree.

The small tree was singing jubilantly. Additionally, a faint rainbow-like light appeared over the trunk and each leaf of the small tree. Meanwhile, Zhang Tie saw new leaves growing out of the ends of the twigs.

Zhang Tie became this ecstatic.

'Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring is really useful to the small tree. It seems to be very useful to the small tree!'

The small tree's change lasted for almost 10 minutes. When the small tree's song gradually sank and the rainbow-like light slowly turned weaker, Zhang Tie waved his hand towards Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring in the far. Closely after that, a stream of spring water flew over there and fell on the root of the small tree. In an instant, the small tree's jubilant song went louder; meanwhile, the rainbow-like light over the small tree became brilliant again.

Being watered by the Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring, the small tree started to change. Many new leaves and twigs grew out. As the small tree was covered with more and more leaves, its twigs grew longer; even its trunk grew thicker and higher. Meanwhile, the small tree was gradually growing higher and bigger.

After consuming almost half of the Nine-Heavens Immortal Spring in the pool, the soil finally became saturated. Therefore, Zhang Tie stopped watering it.

At this moment, the light that the small tree gave out was so strong that Zhang Tie couldn't even open his eyes. The entire small tree was covered with brilliant light. Even Zhang Tie was forced to jump away from the small tree which was growing bigger.

The entire lobby of Palace Tree was filled with brilliant light, euphonious sounds and various odd fragrances.

The small tree's change lasted for a whole day. After the brilliant light disappeared, a 10-m higher big tree whose crown was like a cloud appeared in the lobby of Palace Tree. Additionally, there was a very eye-catching fruit on the big tree which was giving out brilliant golden light...