

Carefree 271

Chapter 271: Slaying Evil

There was no room for error in a fight among the highly-skilled!

With just a simple oversight, Venerable Clear Wind was disarmed of his long sword as a black flash shot through his chest.

"Pu!"

His physical body crumbled as though the essence of his body was being sucked out. Instantly, he had become a dried corpse which fell to the ground and shattered.

"Ah... You're too extreme!"

A black fog rose from the head of the corpse as a Yin Spirit appeared.

This was the spirit of Venerable Clear Wind. If it were to escape, it could find other suitable bodies and live on, or it could reincarnate into a new body. The possibilities were endless.

As it glanced fiercely at Fang Yuan, the Yin Spirit waved its hands in an attempt to enter the sword and escape.

"Don't think about running!"

Li Luan walked up and stretched her hands out. Immediately, a big red net appeared which contained the spiritual sword within.

Considering her abilities and cultivation, it was theoretically impossible for her to contain the spiritual sword. However, the sword was previously damaged by the thunder and lightning which she had summoned and had yet to be combined with Venerable Clear Wind's spirit. With the advantage, she made full use of it. Although the sword was trying its best to penetrate its way through, but to no avail.

"This is your fate!"

A huge hand made out of black fog appeared above Fang Yuan's head, which quickly struck towards the spirit of Venerable Clear Wind.

The spirit of Venerable Clear Wind was attempting to resist but as the black fog hand thickened, it became dizzy and restrained.

"Master..."

Only now did Venerable Clear Wind's disciples become aware of the entire situation. With a look of shock on their faces, a few of them attempted to rescue their master but the rest were at loss and were thinking about how to escape.

"You cannot kill me... I am the disciple of Xuan Zhen Sect, an authentic sect in the world! If you kill me, you will be in trouble!"

Venerable Clear Wind's spirit was struggling. "It was my fault that I had attacked you. Isn't it enough that you have destroyed my physical body?"

"... You are aiding the district leader and therefore are a good demon. If you don't mind, we can join forces and no one in Black Lake District can be our match!"

This person had a glib tongue. As he spoke, even Li Luan couldn't help but started to think about his offer.

After all, he made sense.

Regardless if he was from a sect, or in terms of karma or even just laying out the pros and cons, it was not worth it to kill this person.

"Die!"

Fang Yuan's eyes glittered as his black hand crushed the spirit.

With a shriek, the spirit disintegrated. This was the real destruction of the spirit that was irreversible.

"Ah... Master?"

A few Daoists were in shock. "How dare you kill master?"

"Who cares about what he was trying to say! The fact was that he had attempted to kill me and even guarded against me. How can I be fooled by him?"

Fang Yuan snickered.

Although Venerable Clear Wind's offer seemed like a win-win, it might bring trouble for Fang Yuan.

The most important thing was that Venerable Clear Wind had a backing and could always call for help. On the other hand, Fang Yuan was alone. Therefore, he had fewer rights to speak up for himself and this would only spell trouble.

This was why he had to destroy him completely!

"Pu! Pu!"

After a few black flashes, every Daoist in the vicinity held their chests and fell to the ground as blood seeped out of their wounds.

"Brother... why are you so extreme?"

Seeing this, Li Luan gave a look of discomfort.

"This is not my choice. The moment that sword tried to harm us, there was no turning back..."

Fang Yuan revealed his Yin Spirit and looked depressed.

Looking at his own fate energy, Fang Yuan chuckled. He could see the little flames around him as usual. In fact, he had restored his people Dao karma.

Instead of being reduced, it had increased!

'Humans will rise and the demons will fall. After killing this person, I would be against the trend of this realm. How could this not be detected? This would only mean one thing. The heavens are confusing me! Although my karma seems normal, they are preparing for an extreme tribulation for me! If I do not be on my guard at all times, I would get myself into trouble!'

The Energy Viewing Technique and the likes of it seemed to have originated from his realm. Therefore, this realm could manipulate such energy-viewing related techniques and make it seem normal!

Although people might see that he was full of auspicious energy, his enemies would see him as extremely troubled and would strike after seeing it!

"Since I've killed him, I might as well kill the rest!"

Indeed, Li Luan felt nothing about killing the other Daoist

After all, she was not human to begin with. Seeing the death of the many daoist was akin to the death of ants. After a sigh, she quickly got over it.

"This person belongs to a sect. Therefore, it is a good idea to wipe all of them out completely to no one would be able to report what had happened here!"

There were thinking about how to clear the mess that they had made.

After an intensive clearing session in the temple, they managed to find some loots.

"Keke... These daoist are rich indeed!"

In the small courtyard, they could already find a few treasures.

There was gold, silver, pearls and their total worth seemed to be a few thousand taels. All of these were the contributions from the district people.

Other than these, they also had countless bottles. These were the spiritual pills made personally by Venerable Clear Wind, of which Li Luan had looted quite a number of them.

It was a fact that in terms of alchemy and casting arrays, the demons were less-developed in these areas compared to humans. They were even more incomparable in other tedious processes.

"Keke..."

Seeing this, Fang Yuan smiled. "You can have the spiritual pills if you want. Just leave me the herbs!"

He walked up calmly and with the strength of his Yin Spirit, he picked up the Sun Moon Sword.

Although it had been damaged by the lightning and thunder and had lost its owner, it remained sharp and lethal.

"It's a good sword!"

He heaved a sigh. "I'm afraid all the spiritual pills and treasures cannot compare to this sword!"

It was not an easy feat to smelt a spiritual sword like this.

Just the materials required to smelt the sword would require gold, silver, jade shavings and iron forged from the stars. After smelting it, it would require a cultivator to use spiritual force to refine and polish it for many years. Furthermore, the sword would require cleansing periodically using lotus essence and ginseng soup to maintain its spiritual property, and the consumption of the sword was insane.

There was a saying among the people in this realm. The poor would study and become scholars while the rich would learn martial arts and make a name for themselves through cultivation. It was extremely true.

"Since history, treasured swords should always go with heroes. This sword fits you to a tee, Brother Fang!"

Li Luan knew that she did had did less than Fang Yuan in taking down Venerable Clear Wind and therefore did not fight with him for the prize.

"Sounds good!"

Fang Yuan looked up. "Let's shift all these away and burn the entire temple down! Remember, don't let anyone know what happened here today, not even Xu Ren! We were only killing an evil god today and none of this is related to us!"

"I know what to do!"

Although she did not know why Fang Yuan wouldn't let her ask Xu Ren for help in clearing up the place, Li Luan still agreed.

...

Within a spiritual cave in Heizi River.

Fang Yuan sat within and released his Yin Spirit. As he opened his spiritual eye, he snickered. "The tribulation is coming! I need to strengthen myself!"

If he could see signs the impending arrival of a tribulation in his fate energy, he would be less worried. After all, he could use his karma to reduce the intensity of the tribulation.

However, there were no traces or signs of anything happening. This was the most dangerous as the tribulation might strike anytime to take his life and he would not have any time to prepare!

"Although the heavens are hiding the signs of tribulation from me, I can still roughly guess. The weakening of my fate energy would mean that a tribulation is coming. However, I am rather powerful now. If the heavens want to take my life, they can only do it in two ways..."

Fang Yuan was deep in thought.

If he was a human, say an official, he would be likely to plead guilty and be stripped of his appointment before a punishment would be meted out.

However, he was a demon and all these were useless on him. Therefore, there were only a few methods in which the tribulation could strike him.

"Only a direct Killer Tribulation can deal with me. As of now, there are two ways it can come. Firstly, it can come from the Xuan Zhen Sect, the sect which Venerable Clear Wind came from! Although I have killed everybody there and cleared all traces, the cultivators might be able to guess and calculate the happenings. If they are powerful enough, they might just find out something!"

Secondly, the tribulation can come in the form of a more powerful demon god! After all, I have been destroying temples in Black Lake District and my traces are obvious. How could there be no backlash against me?"

After analysing all the possible outcomes, Fang Yuan chuckled.

There was nothing he could do to survive the tribulation but strengthen himself!

As he sighed, he spat out a long sword which appeared translucent. It was the Sun Moon Sword.

"When can I ever get the moon?"

Reading the inscription on the sword, he sighed once more. "For me to use it, I have to smelt it again!"

He was already mentally prepared from the moment he had decided to take the sword.

"Go!"

As his spiritual will shook, 49 bone pearls shot out.

This was the property of the evil god, the andrias. The spirits of the vengeful souls were freed, but the hatred and aggressiveness of the spirits remained in the pearls.

"Bang! Bang!"

As the bone pearls exploded, a white powder landed on the Sun Moon Sword and a black mist seeped into the sword at the same time.

"With this spiritual material, I can smelt the sword again and therefore remove traces of Venerable Clear Wind from the sword. Although the sword would no longer be able to fly, I can still make use of its sharpness!"

Fang Yuan was inexperienced in smelting swords. However, he was only doing a touch up on the Sun Moon Sword. Furthermore, he had experience in dealing with his very own 8 Gates Sword Array and could still do it.

With a shriek, an immense amount of demonic force was released and wrapped the sword within.

As the bone pearls exploded and fused together with the sword, the original spiritual sword was now a pale bone-white and appeared sinister...

In a flash, 7 days had gone by.

"Come back!"

As Fang Yuan retracted the demonic force, a snow-white sword was revealed!

The sword released vibes that made it both good and evil as though it was smelted from bones. As it released a demonic glow from the blade, a black mist was spinning around the sword.

"White Bone Evil Slaying Sword! This is a combination of the spiritual sword that killed many evil demons and the vengeance of 49 young spirits. It will be extremely effective against demons and ghosts!"

Fang Yuan released his Yin Spirit and imprinted his own spiritual will on the sword.

After another round of smelting, the original resistance which was felt from the Sun Moon Sword had disappeared. In a mouth, Fang Yuan had swallowed the entire sword.

"Alright, it's time to test it out!"

There was a look of determination in his eyes. "Go!"

"Whoosh!"

Within his body, the White Bone Evil Slaying Sword shot out a flash which struck on the Dragon Pearl in his body.

"Wuuu..."

Fang Yuan's body shook as though he has sustained internal injuries. Within seconds, there was a bright golden glow.

In his spiritual will, the Dragon Pearl shook as well. A silhouette of a green dragon appeared as bits of gold fell from the sky.

"Smelt!"

Although it was only something insignificant, Fang Yuan's body started to expand as though he had eaten too much. He quickly closed his eyes and started to enter a state of deep cultivation.

Chapter 272: Human Tribulation

In the district city, in front of the Black Water General's Temple.

"This is an order from the District Leader. Since this god required live sacrifice, it is an evil one. The destruction of its own statue is a sign from the heavens that it is being punished. Don't be alarmed by this!"

Two government servants raised gongs and shouted at the top of their lungs as they explained what had happened in the temple to the residents.

After a seal was pasted on the doors of the temple, a print of the district leader was imprinted, forming a seal.

In reality, such a weak seal would do nothing to trap the original Black Water Old Turtle. But now, it was enough to trap its weak spirit.

"This is creepy. In just one night, so many Water Gods have been killed..."

"Not just that, even the Clear Wind Temple has been reduced to ashes. Could there be a powerful demon passing by our district, hence causing all these?"

"Since Venerable Clear Wind is well-known for killing demons, he might be the one who had exterminated all these evil Water Gods and might be injured himself as well..."

He sighed.

"Shhh, don't talk so much. Do you still want to live?"

After sighing, he was being pulled by the people behind as they covered his mouth.

"Jerk!"

The government servant who was making the announcement became angry. With a whip, he whipped the ground with a loud crackle. "The Clear Wind Temple has not been maintained well and therefore was a fire hazard. Don't spout nonsense!"

There were lives involved!

If they were to admit that it was a murder case and they could not investigate and find out who the murderer was, it would look bad on the district leader.

Furthermore, Xu Ren had also suspected that it might be Fang Yuan's 'mishandling'. Since there was no one who had hatred towards the temple, they could just let things settle as such.

In the government office, it was always good to avoid trouble. Therefore, the government servant glared at the person who made the comment.

"Don't put it to heart! My brother is retarded..."

The few of them quickly pulled the person out and left.

It might be a casual comment, but there might be serious complications that come with it.

"Venerable Clear Wind?"

A skinny person among the crowd was curious and decided to take a look at the temple.

However, everything was reduced to ashes and around the temple, there were a few incense and crying sounds.

This scene had left him in shock. "Could it be really the doings of a demon and that Venerable was being killed by a demon like how he killed demons?"

As he left the city, he arrived in the wilderness. There was a yellow glow on his body as his actual physical body was revealed. It was a huge horse monkey wearing clothes.

The horse monkey revealed his teeth which resembled that of a dog. With a murderous look, he picked up an incense and prayed respectfully. "Grandmaster, I have investigated. It is indeed true that there are a series of demons being killed. As of now, 7 of them had died and the other remaining are fearful..."

Furthermore, Clear Wind Temple within the city has been burnt down completely and everybody in the temple, from the temple owner to the Daoist children, died..."

He knew that Venerable Clear Wind had an extremely high cultivation and it was a joke that he would be burnt alive in the temple. "This is fishy. Should I continue my investigation?"

"There's no need!

In a fog, a human appeared. It was the monkey demon which had visited the dragon palace before. "I already have news that it is the doing of a black snake demon who had snatched a cave from the previous Heizi River God 3 years ago. Quickly go and kill it!"

"This..."

The horse monkey scratched his ears, conflicted. "The Water Gods in Golden Lake Prefecture are officially under the jurisdiction of the Golden Court Dragon God. If I do this, it seems rather inappropriate... Furthermore, if that black snake demon is able to kill 7 gods, it must be rather powerful. I'm afraid I am not skilled enough to kill him..."

"Hmph, the old Dragon God is already an old fogey and does not seem to care about this. If he doesn't take any action, as the monkey god, leader of demons on the land, we should help him do his job. As for the black snake demon, it has been assisting the humans but is becoming crazy. Come over here. I will give you three strands of hair. You can use them to kill that demon!"

The imagery of the monkey god plucked out three hairs from itself and blew at them. In a flash, the three strands of hair went through and arrived at the chest of the horse monkey.

"I will accede to your order!"

The horse monkey smiled, figured out the direction to Heizi river and walked towards it.

...

"River God, please bless us with a bountiful harvest!"

"We, your followers, pray for good weather!"

...

Next to Heizi River, there was already a small temple built there.

This was built out of gratitude from the villagers as Fang Yuan had given them less pressure since his arrival.

They had offered him the appointment of 'Black Dragon General'. Never would he have thought that Xu Ren could receive an approval for a title for Fang Yuan, which made him speechless.

"Who would've guessed that such a small river would attract so many offerings! The prosperity of the human race is much more than the monkeys of our race living in the mountains..."

As the horse monkey witnessed the offerings, he felt a little jealous. With a chuckle, he rolled on the floor and revealed his true body. It was an aggressive monkey covered in black fur. The aggressive monkey raised its fist and smashed the altar in the temple.

"Rumble!"

Amidst the tremor, the altar crumbled and a few people who were unable to run away in time were injured and started to bleed. They were crying for help.

"De... Demon!"

"The demon that eats humans are here!"

The villagers rushed out and wished that they had another pair of legs to help them run faster.

"Eh, what happened?"

The aggressive monkey looked at his own fists and was confused.

This was too simple!

Don't these gods prioritise these offerings? Why would they allow him to destroy them effortlessly?

"Are you finally here?"

In the river within the mud, a pair of eyes appeared.

Fang Yuan did not believe in incense and offerings to begin with. He had left the temple there to act as a bait and an element of confusion.

Suddenly, a water reflective technique appeared, which revealed the monkey.

"A monkey demon? I should be able to deal with it with my current cultivation..."

After smelting the spiritual sword, Fang Yuan had left his cave and had hidden beneath the water just to wait for this day!

"I cannot hide from the tribulations from heavens. If I avoid it this time, a stronger one would come next time. I need to go through it... After this tribulation, I should continue helping the people Dao and follow the trend of this realm so I won't get myself into any more trouble!"

Fang Yuan waited quietly. He witnessed the monkey destroying his temple, becoming enraged and finally, the monkey started to eat humans... After ensuring that there was no other ambush in the surroundings, he revealed himself.

"This demon is aggressive and has a strong demonic strength. Also, the three golden furs behind its head seem insignificant but it might be his secret weapon! I cannot let my guard down!"

At this point in time, he started to swim towards the shore. The waves from the Haizi River crashed onto the riverbank and became dark in colour.

"I've caught you!"

As the monkey exclaimed, he rushed mindlessly towards the riverbank.

Covered by mist, a huge array formed and sealed the monkey within four walls.

"Eh? Is this... an array?"

The monkey was shocked as he regained his composure.

However, a black fog emerged from the mist; it was extremely thick and appeared strong.

"Bang!"

The monkey wailed as he was being hit by the black fog. Dumbfounded, he glanced at the black shadow in front of him, which was about 30 feet in height.

In front of his enemy, his height of 10 feet seemed like a joke.

Indeed, a silhouette of a snake appeared. However, the snake appeared extraordinary and was as long as 30 feet! It was as thick as a water bucket and its head was as huge as a water vat. Under its cold stare, the monkey demon could feel a sense of cruelty.

'How is this a black snake? It is a black python!'

Feeling that his enemy was as strong as himself, the aggressive monkey became depressed.

In front of him was a black python who had achieved the 5th Transformation with the help of the Dragon Pearl!

"Name: Fang Yuan

Race: Python

Essence: 24

Spirit: 24

Magic: 24

Profession: ???

Cultivation: ???

Technique: [Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Technique (5th Transformation)], [Water Controlling Technique (Grade 4)], [Natural Magical Strength (Grade 1)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

...

Against such a powerful Fang Yuan, the aggressive monkey felt a chill in his spine, as though he was against a godly demon. This was due to the increment in Fang Yuan's dragon properties.

He was not any normal python, but a dragon python!

"Python Wrapping Technique, Kill!"

As the black silhouette shook, Fang Yuan's tail curled and trapped the aggressive monkey, constricting him.

This was the killer move of a python and was indeed scary when Fang Yuan executed it.

No matter how strong the aggressive monkey was, with the constriction, there were cracking sounds from its body. It shrieked continuously but as it was restrained, it could not move a single bit. The only thing it could do was to wait for its impending death.

"Grandmaster, save me!"

As he was about to die, he suddenly thought of his grandmaster and screamed for help.

"Whoosh!"

From the back of his head, one golden hair started to glow and heat him, creating an immense force which repelled the python.

"Chi!"

Another hair transformed into a long golden sword and flew towards Fang Yuan.

"No one can save you today!"

Fang Yuan opened his snake mouth and a white glow shot out. It was the White Bone Evil Slaying Sword!

"Clang!"

Both swords clashed with each other in mid-air and the golden sword broke in half. Without hesitation, the white bone sword continued to strike towards the monkey.

"No..."

As the monkey screamed, the third hair exploded. However, nothing happened. Instead, a streak of light shot up into the sky.

"Trap!"

Fang Yuan focused and activated the array.

"Chi!"

However, the streak of light was extremely quick and even the clouds were repelled. In a moment, the trap array was broken apart as the streak of light disappeared into the sky.

"Who would've thought that my array would be... unable to contain it. Two strands of hair were able to defend from two of my strikes! This is indeed a powerful demon!"

Fang Yuan's eyebrows twitched. As the sword landed down, it ended the monkey's life.

"We have already become enemies. How can I not kill him?"

As he shook his head, he shivered.

He could feel that something was wrong and quickly opened his spiritual eye to check on his own body.

All of his fate energy was completely gone. There was an intense golden glow which transformed into 7 small golden flowers arranged nicely and floating in space.

"Is the tribulation over?"

Fang Yuan was sceptical. As he looked around, he could see a streak of black fog flying around him. However, it did not seem hostile. Fang Yuan was confused.

"I have worked hard to kill evil gods and have stood firm on the side of the humans. Although there is a backlash from killing Venerable Clear Wind, I have tided over the tribulation and I am ultimately still protected by the people Dao..."

"Following which, even if there are implications to come, they would be harmless! However, this is not what I want!"

Chapter 273: Giant Venomous Snake

Canger Mountain.

It was a huge mountain within the Golden Lake Prefecture, and there were many dangers lurking within.

However, at the centre of the mountain, there was a scene of serenity.

Spiritual water flowed everywhere and flowers were blooming. A group of monkey demons were playing around and as they ran into the forest, they were catching fleas from each other.

In the middle, there was a black peak. It was barren and extended straight up towards the sky. There was a circle of dark clouds surrounding the peak, which struck fear in those who set eyes on the peak.

As a golden streak of light flew into the mountain, there was an exclamation from the peak of the mountain. "What audacity, python demon! How dare you kill my grandson! I will peel your skin alive to let out my hatred for you!"

On the peak, within a cave, the monkey god's golden eyes were flaming. The other female monkeys in the cave could not avoid as they scrambled. "How dare you! How dare you! I'll kill you!"

As he stood up, the entire mountain shook.

"Monkey King, wait up!"

Another streak of light entered the cave, which then transfigured into a tortoise guard. "My god invites you to gather at the Golden Court Lake for a discussion about the demons!"

"The dragon god invited me?"

The monkey god froze and composed himself. 'I must be in my physical body to meet the dragon god. Otherwise, it would be extremely disrespectful! Indeed, a small monkey is nothing compared to the demons. However... I cannot contain my anger!'

As he struck his fist out, there was a golden glow and a secret path revealed itself within the cave. A golden-haired monkey walked out with a serious look.

"Although the python is powerful, I believe my incarnation will be able to kill it!"

The monkey god smashed towards his forehead. Immediately, a black fog appeared which entered the golden-haired monkey's body.

The golden-haired monkey became ferocious in an instant as it walked towards the opening of the cave.

"Tortoise guard, I'm sorry for the wait. Let's meet the Dragon God now!"

As the monkey god turned around, he cheerfully exclaimed.

"That's good!"

...

At the same time, within the government's office.

Due to the fact that his physical body was extremely obvious, Fang Yuan could only send his Yin Spirit to look for Xu Ren.

Otherwise, he would have destroyed the entire office if he were to come in person.

After attaining the 5th Transformation, this magical energy increased exponentially and the Yin Spirit which he formed would be able to walk under normal daylight, had flesh and was no different from a normal human.

"Greetings, god!"

In the small study, there was only Xu Ren and Li Luan.

Li Luan looked at Fang Yuan with an expression of shock. It was only a matter of days, but Fang Yuan's spiritual aura had strengthened by folds. To her, Fang Yuan was becoming increasingly mysterious and her sense of insecurity intensified.

"There was a powerful demon which intruded our district, but I have killed it!"

Fang Yuan ignored Li Luan's thoughts and spoke his mind.

"What? A powerful demon?"

Xu Ren shuddered. Although he had cultivated for many years, he still turned pale.

"Mmm. Our district has been actively clearing the evil gods and our movements are too obvious. This is only normal... After all, I've killed it... We can just take our leave anytime, but what can you do, district leader?"

Fang Yuan was determined but as he spoke, he remained expressionless.

"Since this is the case, I shall face whatever that comes!"

Xu Ren gritted his teeth and bowed towards both Li Luan and Fang Yuan. "Please take good care of my wife and my child if anything happens to me!"

"Things have not escalated to such a stage yet!"

Fang Yuan shook his head. "Do you know why the popular righteous gods like Goddess Xiang Fei and Golden Dragon General are alright with our doings?"

These were righteous gods. Although they were once demons, they had already lost the evil side in them and would no longer request for live sacrifices.

"Rumble!"

As soon as he spoke, dark clouds formed above and thunder roared.

"This is because the demons have split! Those clever ones would choose to be righteous gods! However, the majority of them would be tempted by the offerings from humans and had already taken the offerings for. This is especially so for those demons which only exist in spirit form. They cannot resist anything!"

Fang Yuan rattled out the trend of the realm without much consideration.

"Kacha!"

As soon as he finished his sentence, a streak of lightning struck across and Li Luan became pale. She fell to the ground as though she could not take it any longer.

'Indeed enraged, but useless!'

Fang Yuan smiled to himself as his spirit remained resolute and unafraid.

After all, he was in the government office, a creation of the people Dao. He was also standing next to Xu Ren, who was an official and therefore would have the protection from him. Additionally, there was another important factor in the government office: Xu Ting!

Lightning could never strike here!

"The demons have split? Some of the demons are helping the humans?"

After hearing this, Xu Ren shuddered. "What do you mean?"

"You can directly request from the prefecture to get the authority to clear all the evil gods before obtaining approval to officially help the righteous gods...."

Fang Yuan smiled.

This was forcing the demons to take a side! Those who would support the humans would be protected given assistance to deal with the evil demons!

'Let me be the one to cause the chaos in this world!'

A thought appeared in his mind.

No risks, no rewards!

To gain the most out of this realm, he had to take risks!

"I understand now... No wonder the both of you are willing to help me! It seems that you two are the brave ones among the demons!"

There was a glitter in Xu Ren's eyes as his face became flushed with excitement. "Could there really be an uprising among the humans?"

"Brother, why do you want to do this?"

Suddenly, there was a voice at Fang Yuan's ears; it was Li Luan.

She gave a complicated expression as she glared at Fang Yuan.

"Why do we want to betray the demons? This is merely following the trend of the heavens... Furthermore, don't you think your actions in the Xu Mansion are more overboard than mine?"

Fang Yuan replied her using the same technique.

Li Luan was stunned. As she thought about how she inserted the water dragon's Dragon Pearl into Xu Ting, she started to break into cold sweat.

"Don't worry. Although we would have started the Killer Tribulation, we will still be involved in the future. However, there are many advantages to make the first move... Perhaps, you can ride the wave and take your revenge before everything is destroyed!"

As he comforted Li Luan, he gave Xu Ren a few pieces of advice for him to be prepared. However, in reality, he was just convincing Xu Ren to ensure his own son's survival. As Fang Yuan's Yin Spirit left the government office, he smiled to himself as he looked at the clear skies.

'Everything would boil down to this!'

His Yin Spirit quickly returned to his physical body. Slowly, he opened his spiritual eye and waited.

On his head, there were 7 golden flowers arranged nicely, spinning about in mid-air. As they spun, they released a warm golden glow.

"Rumble!"

At this moment, his forehead shook. He knew that was undergoing some sort of transformation.

A green glow descended from the heavens and landed on the golden flowers.

"The heavens are showing their appreciation! I'm sure of it!"

Seeing this, Fang Yuan felt relieved and overjoyed at the same time. "Is this heavenly karma?"

If one helped the people Dao, they would gain people Dao karma. If one followed the trend of the heaven, they would gain heavenly karma!

Although this was the first time he had witnessed it with his own eyes, he was sure of it.

"People Dao karma is gold in colour and can bring fortune and reduce the intensity of people tribulation! How about heavenly karma?"

He opened up his actualised dream world and absorbed the green energy.

At the moment where the green energy was leaving the realm and entering the actualised dream world, something happened! The original green colour returned to the world and a pure form of energy more

powerful than realm energy entered. It felt as though it was the product of the heavens and the feeling felt similar to the realm energy in Hui Realm.

As soon as the actualised dream world received the energy, the Water Sword was formed at an extraordinary rate.

"It seems that I can trade heavenly karma for energy from the heavens. I'm sure that the righteous gods have used their heavenly karma to gain approval from the heavens and from there start absorbing the spiritual energy in their vicinity!"

Fang Yuan's eyes glittered.

The reason he was helping Xu Ren was for this!

"However... If I can gain all these fate energies just by revealing the heavenly tribulations, why didn't the earlier people do it?"

Fang Yuan was confused. After much thought, he smiled to himself.

At the same time as the heavens showed their appreciation, a greyish-black force landed and surrounded him, which appeared sinister.

"If I gain some, I must lose some. Since I have revealed the plans of the heavens, there will be a tribulation that I must go through. This tribulation should be something that I cannot survive through at my current stage... I'm afraid the earlier people would have died if they revealed the heaven's intentions!"

As his heart shook, he quickly released all the heavenly karma that he had.

In his actualised dream world, the Rough Water Sword in the North quickly formed.

Suddenly, the entire array shook. The water-type sword flew upwards. As the water and fire glittered in the array, the actualised dream world expanded.

"Water sword and people Dao karma, go!"

Fang Yuan's spiritual will shook and a golden flower flew out.

The blue water-type sword essence and the red fire-type sword essence appeared in front of him.

"This is not enough! With this, I'm afraid I'm too weak to survive the impending tribulation!"

He had a bad feeling about this. Without thinking much, he spat out a Dragon Pearl. "Water-Fire Dual Sword, White Bone Evil Slaying, three swords, break!"

The powerful sword essence struck on the Dragon Pearl and a golden fluid, dragon's essence, began to flow out.

At the same time, remnants of heavenly karma were transformed into pure elemental energy which landed on the black python.

As the black python looked up and roared, four stumps appeared beneath its body.

The stumps quickly grew and in an explosion, they had become four legs.

This was the 6th Transformation of the Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Formula! The Giant Venomous Snake Transformation!

The Venomous Snake was considered a young dragon to some, and a poisonous snake to others. It was a mixture of both and had an abundance of dragon properties.

Fang Yuan examined himself. He had a snake's head, four legs and dragon's tail. "A Venomous Snake is merely a four-legged snake or a giant lizard. The snake properties have been transformed into dragon properties. However, to become a dragon, I still have to go through a Dragon Transformation Stage! I need to change my entire physical body to do so!"

Even so, the Venomous Snake would be king among the snakes!

Looking at his stats, he noticed some changes:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Race: Giant Venomous Snake

Essence: 30

Spirit: 30

Magic: 30

Profession: ???

Cultivation: ???

Technique: [Nine Steps of Dragon Transformation Technique (6th Transformation)], [Water Controlling Technique (Grade 5)], [Natural Magical Strength (Grade 2)], [8 Gates Sword Array (3rd Sword (1%))]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

"Great!"

As he planted his four legs firmly on the ground, Fang Yuan roared like a prehistoric crocodile.

At this point in time, a golden-haired monkey had realised his powerful demonic vibe! It was shocking!

Chapter 274: Betrayal

"Demon King?"

Detecting the energy from the golden-haired monkey, Fang Yuan smiled.

This golden-haired monkey's spiritual aura was much stronger than the previous monkey which attacked him.

If Fang Yuan was still at the 5th Transformation, there was no chance that he could escape alive.

But now, at the 6th Transformation, there was a tremendous difference!

After achieving the Giant Venomous Snake Transformation and strengthening the connection of this dream world to this realm, he could now harness the sword essences of both the fire and water swords. He had confidence against the monkey king!

"What a snake demon!"

Detecting the demonic energy from the giant venomous snake, the golden-haired monkey became shocked. "I am the leader of Canger Mountain, the monkey god! Anything that walks on land is under my jurisdiction. Why do you want to help the humans and cause trouble to the demons?"

If this was last time, the monkey king would have gone straight into the fight without much talk.

Giving Fang Yuan a chance to explain himself was after taking into consideration the fact that he was his own kind, therefore pitying him.

"A demon should be able to do whatever it likes! I'll help whoever I wish! Why do you care so much?"

Fang Yuan laughed.

"Do whatever you like!"

There was a murderous look on the golden-haired monkey's face. Suddenly, he revealed his true physical body. It was a monkey as tall as a small hill, wielding a metal pole and a mask. "Let me do whatever I like and kill you today!"

"Rumble!"

The ground shook and dust flew everywhere.

"The Golden Monkey wipes out all the evil demons!"

Fang Yuan mumbled out a sentence from a poem.

This demon felt more powerful than the previous monkey and was highly skilled in martial arts as well. Therefore, it had the ability to be the king of demons.

Even the three demons from Qi Lake could not compare to it!

"Water-Fire Dual Array, Go!"

Due to the fact that Fang Yuan had linked his actualised dream world to the current realm using his people Dao karma, although he was still unable to actualise the swords, he could harness the sword essences from both swords.

Immediately, two streaks of glows appeared on his body; red and blue. It was as though two dragons had emerged from the ocean and combined forces.

"Clang! Clang!"

The sword essences rained on the iron pole like raindrops hitting a leaf. The force from the Water-Fire Dual Array was continuous.

"Eh? Spiritual sword?"

The golden-haired monkey retreated and realised that the iron pole in his hands was now filled with holes. There was a look of worry on his face. "There are signs of an array as well! Where did you come from?"

"You're about to die soon, so you don't have to know that much!"

Fang Yuan roared, rushed forward and flicked his tail!

"Bang!"

The golden-haired monkey flew backwards and landed on a hill, shaking the entire place.

"Rumble!"

Fang Yuan did not stop. Instead, he opened his mouth wide and started to swallow the monkey.

As he sucked the monkey into his mouth, there was a white glow coming from his mouth. It was the White Bone Evil Slaying Sword. Flying out, it sliced through the iron pole and struck itself into the golden-haired monkey's body.

"... The incarnation which I've painstakingly cultivated.....?"

The golden-haired monkey looked down at his wound and started to have a mysterious look on his face. "Impressive... looks like you've earned the right to fight with my true self!"

...

At the same time, in the Golden Court Lake, Dragon Palace.

In a large square, a huge black water dragon curled up and opened his eyes lazily.

In front of him was a huge jade table with all sorts of delicacies on the tabletop.

"It is my honour to be invited by you, Dragon God..."

As soon as the Monkey God spoke, his expression changed. 'What's happening? How did that snake demon transform into a giant venomous snake? Even my incarnation is being defeated...'

He stood up hurriedly, as though he was about to make his way out.

In the next moment, the entire palace shook. Water-type spiritual energy slowly but forcefully held the Monkey God back into his place.

"Monkey God, since you're here, you must try my Hundred-Fruit Wine!"

The black dragon slowly spoke as he flicked a bowl of green fruit wine towards the Monkey God.

"This... Alright!"

The Monkey God raised the bowl and drank heartily.

...

"Oh, you are just an incarnation. What a pity your incarnation is injured. How do you think it would affect your true body?"

On the battlefield, Fang Yuan heard the threat from the golden-haired monkey and started to taunt.

"Haha... How would such a small demon like you understand the powers of the monkey king? Even if you kill my incarnation, it will not affect my true body at all..."

The golden-haired monkeys started to laugh heartily.

This statement was, however, admitting that his incarnation was no match for Fang Yuan.

To a demon king, this was unbelievable.

'Where did such a weirdo come from? His physical body is strong, his demonic techniques are powerful and he has such abilities!'

The monkey king felt a little depressed.

His incarnation was no match to Fang Yuan in terms of demonic techniques, magical abilities or even his physical body. How could the fight go on?

"Water and Fire sword essence, explode!"

Suddenly, a streak of red and blue sword essence exploded in front of the monkey king, slicing the iron pole in half.

"Go!"

Seeing this, the Monkey God knew that he had to escape!

After all, he had trained this incarnation's physical body for many years and he was not willing to abandon it just like that.

"You can't escape!"

In a black glow, Fang Yuan's tail curled up and trapped the monkey. "Did you ask me for my permission?"

He still had properties of a python. Seeing that the monkey was trapped, Fang Yuan quickly opened his mouth and engulfed him as though his mouth was like a black hole.

Of course, Fang Yuan would have taken precautions. Before swallowing him, a white-coloured sword flew out of his mouth and through the heart of the monkey.

The next scene was a shocking one.

A monkey as tall as a small hill was being swallowed by a snake with 4 legs, as though a snake was swallowing an elephant.

As Fang Yuan was digesting the incarnation's flesh with his sword essence, he was ripping apart the monkey's soul as well, exploring the secrets within.

...

"What audacity!"

In the Dragon Palace, the bowl of wine in the Monkey God's hand shattered into pieces. "How dare he... How dare he..."

Not only did his incarnation lose to Fang Yuan, it was also swallowed whole.

He could feel the entire process of being swallowed by the snake as well, which made him infuriated.

"Ah... How dare you eat my incarnation! I will skin you alive and eat you for a hundred days!"

The Monkey God stood up and the entire palace shook.

"Monkey God, wait up!"

The black dragon looked over and smiled.

"Why are you stopping me, old dragon?"

The Monkey God's eyes were bloodshot as he glared at the black water dragon. "You invited me here, but it seems like you are helping him. Could the snake be your child?"

"Nope!"

The water dragon opened his mouth and laughed. "I am just following the trend of the world!"

"What do you mean?"

The Monkey God composed himself. At the same time, the imagery of a monkey with 3 heads and 6 limbs appeared behind him.

"The demons will fall and the humans will rise. This is the intention of the heavens!"

The black dragon revealed the truth and the red in his eyes were gone; instead, they appeared wiser.

"Alright! You've finally said it!"

The Monkey God was enraged. "You are the king of demons in the Golden Court Lake! Do you know what you're saying? Do you want to betray the demons?"

"Demons?"

The black-coloured Dragon God let out a laugh. "I'm no longer a demon..."

"Buzz!"

As bubbles covered the dragon, within seconds, it had disappeared. Where it once curled up was a human wearing robes, with the horns of a dragon on his head.

He had a serious expression and spoke with a composed voice. "Since the Thousand-Year tribulation, my dragon body had been destroyed by the tribulation. My soul was unwilling to reincarnate into a dragon and I can only rely on the people Dao to continue living on..."

"I didn't know that after losing my physical body, my soul would be weakened. After recovering from a deep slumber, I had found myself in the body of a human reliant on the people Dao. How can I give it up and dig my own grave?"

"No wonder..."

The Monkey God nodded his head. "Since the Thousand-Year tribulation, you have been living in seclusion and even opened up the Golden Court Lake to humans. I finally know the reason. You are no longer the Dragon King of the demons, but the Golden Court Dragon God of the people!"

"If someone like you could also give up on the demons, it is no wonder the giant venomous snake could do the same... Could it really be destined for the humans to rise?"

There was a look of unwillingness in the Monkey God's eyes. "I can't believe it! We demons have been ruling for so long, why would the humans stand a chance against us?"

"Rumble!"

As he exclaimed, the 3 heads and 6 limbs entered his body. Within seconds, he had transformed into a 100-feet tall monkey. "Old Dragon, I am only below you because I had always believed that you were the dragon and therefore more superior. Now that your dragon body is destroyed, let's see what you have against me! Watch out for my pole!"

"Ah... Monkey God... You're still as rash as before!"

The human-form Golden Court Dragon God seemed like an ant in front of the humongous monkey. However, he shook his head in disappointment as though it did not care about the incoming pole.

Indeed, in the next moment, the monkey's expression changed. His pole was being held firmly by the Golden Court Dragon God.

It was a shocking scene to behold.

It was like an ant carrying an elephant!

"Although I am on the path of god dao, I have the faith of a few thousand followers. I have already formed my indestructible body. As the officially-appointed Dragon God, I can absorb and harness all the spiritual energy within the lake! It is a fact that the demons will fall and the humans will rise! I am only just following the trend!"

The Golden Court Dragon God continued. "I have every advantage against you. Do you think you can overthrow me, monkey?"

"I'm not convinced!"

Although he knew that he was nothing compared to the Dragon God, his 3 heads started to shriek and his 6 limbs swung around.

"You're dumb!"

The Golden Court Dragon God sighed. "If you're looking for trouble, then die!"

"Rumble!"

There was a huge explosion in the Dragon Palace as the pillars fell.

After the destruction, a storm grew above the lake and in the Dragon Palace, the Monkey God was nowhere to be seen.

Chapter 275: Return

Within the mountains and forests where the vegetation was flattened, the beasts started to retreat.

A 30 feet long giant venomous snake slowly approached the centre. Its stomach was bloated and disproportionate to the rest of its body.

Fang Yuan had used his body's ability to melt objects, and the water and fire sword essence to devour the Golden-furred Monkey King.

His Yin Spirit had also suppressed the Monkey King's magical clones. He had also used the thread-like spiritual will to carefully tease out those useful memories.

Consuming people dao karma could reinforce the actualised dream world and allowed him to regain a small portion of his dream master's capabilities.

It was now second nature for Fang Yuan to devour others to achieve what he wanted.

"I found it...The Three Corpse Seven Murderous Magic Splitting Technique!"

Suddenly, Fang Yuan's eyes lit up as he found a magical formula. Upon closer look, he exclaimed, "Wonderful! This is wonderful beyond words!"

Even though the monkey king sealed up a portion of his memories, Fang Yuan was still able to rake up some information.

Firstly, the Monkey King was the Monkey God and master of the surrounding mountains and forests of the Golden Court Lake! He cultivated in 2 ancient divine techniques, the first being the Three Heads Six Arms Technique and the second being the Three Corpse Seven Murderous Magic Splitting Technique!

The Three Heads Six Arms technique was a powerful divine technique that was not found within the magical clone.

However, the magical clone possessed the magic-splitting technique.

"This magical technique is cultivated by the ancient demons to cleanse their 3 Corpses! Only by cleansing their thoughts will they be successful..."

Fang Yuan was enlightened when he read the string of demonic words.

According to the instructions of the manual, the 3 Corpses referred to the never-ending development of all kinds of dark and gloomy thoughts. Beheading the 3 Corpses was, in reality, a technique to remove all the dark desires and thoughts, leaving behind only the pure divine spirit.

As such, this was essentially a technique which cultivated the divine spirit.

Of course, the beheaded evil thoughts were useful as well. One would be able to use the 7 Murderous Technique to cultivate an elemental clone. This was known as the Three Corpse Seven Murderous Elemental Clone, which was controlled by the primary elemental clone. As it was created by discarded thoughts, it does not cause weakness upon leaving the body and had no implications on the body if it was destroyed. As such, this was a superior magical clone technique.

"Hmmm, not bad, this type of technique is valuable even among the dream masters!"

Fang Yuan rejoiced and immediately noted it down carefully.

"It is just that...this demon is still at the dragon palace. If he suddenly appears and start killing in a rage..."

Fang Yuan was able to defeat this magical clone easily. However, when faced with the actual Monkey God who was able to use Three Heads Six Arms Technique, Fang Yuan reckoned that he only had a 50-50 chance of emerging victorious.

"Perhaps I should leave first after achieving such a huge haul?"

Fang Yuan opened both eyes and mulled.

However, at this moment, his whole body shivered as he immediately detected that something was amiss.

Threads of green and gold karma rained down from above, forming a golden flower around the size of a bowl. The golden flower was surrounded by a ring of brilliant green flowers.

The brilliance from the flower melted away the lingering dark energy from the surroundings and his body akin to how the spring sun melts away snow. This caused Fang Yuan to be shocked.

"Increase in karma and dispersing the tribulation aura. The tribulation is already over? How is that possible? The monkey god could still bear it even though I have devoured one of his magical clone? Unless he is dead, there is no doubt that he will be looking for more trouble with me!"

"However, this karma is definitely not fake. I do not care so much. If the heavens dare to give it to me, I will dare to accept!"

Fang Yuan could not care less. He immediately opened his actualised dream world and stored his karma within it. He momentarily achieved a peace of mind.

"Worth it! It will all be totally worth it even if a lightning strikes me down now!"

Fang Yuan arrived beside the river and dived into the water before entering the dark hole in the river.

...

7 days passed.

Under the Heizi River, Fang Yuan occupied a river current and was deep in thought. "It is indeed peaceful. Furthermore, Xu Ren had received the support of the prefecture. The whole Golden Lake

Prefecture had started to purge the evil gods... the Monkey God had not appeared. The demon monkey race of Canger Mountain is in a mess. That means... it is really dead or trapped?"

This indicated that there was interference from another power that was stronger than his. As such, Fang Yuan was momentarily afraid.

"Truth be told, it is enough. The tribulation had started. However, in order for it to be strong, we still have to slowly wait ten years plus for Xu Ren's son, Xu Ting to finally grow up!"

"It is time for me to go back!"

Although the flow of time between the two realms was different, he could tell that it was almost time as he had received a warning from the Realm Spirit.

"Of course... before I leave, I should preserve this body well. I do not want to start all over again the next time I come back!"

Within his sea of consciousness, Fang Yuan's divine spirit released a brilliant light, expelling a small amount of greyish-black colour which combined with the killing aura of the White Bone Evil Slaying Sword to form another small grey ring of light.

This was the result of his seven days of cultivation. A magical clone created using the Three Corpse Seven Murderous Magic Splitting Technique.

As for controlling this type of spiritual will, he was naturally skilled at it as he was a dream master.

Needless to say, this was originally a technique from this realm and as such, there was no problem using this technique in the realm.

This magical clone contained the memories and emotions that he left behind and completely followed orders of the original body. Even if it was destroyed, the magical clone was created from unwanted desires and would not affect the original body. As such, it was extremely useful.

"After I leave, you are to remain in this body and focus on survival. You must preserve your strength and wait for me to return!"

The primary elemental clone engraved a spiritual will onto the magical clone. It could be said that after it passed on the instructions, it momentarily separated itself.

"Hiss..."

The giant venomous snake opened its eyes and looked at him.

"The newly created Three Corpse Seven Murderous Elemental clone is still extremely weak and unable to be in control of the actual body. However, it does not matter. With the nourishment from the strong body and the previously devoured golden-furred monkey king, the body and spirit will combine and become inseparable!" Fang Yuan thought.

Fang Yuan's Yin spirit was still in the form of the black-clothed youth. When he saw the giant venomous snake lazily rolled over and crawled about as if it understood him, Fang Yuan started to move.

'The magical clone possesses sufficient intellect. In this phase where it is weak, there would be no problem if it hides itself deep within the mountains and forests.....'

After seeing the demon leave the dark riverbed and disappeared into the dense forest, Fang Yuan smiled. With a wave of his hand, a door made of light appeared.

The heavens and earth shuddered. However, no dark clouds formed.

He looked at the heavens and earth and smiled as he disappeared into the door.

...

Da Qian Empire, Ming Region.

Within the district town, in the basement of a residence, Fang Yuan shuddered as he opened his eyes.

The floor was covered in a layer of dust as the area had not been swept for a long time.

As for his body, there were not many changes as he was a Wu Zong.

He frowned as he arrived at the yard. He drew some water from the well to wash up before he went into the kitchen, cooked some spiritual porridge and slowly consumed it.

"At least 10 days have passed since I shut myself out. If I had any servants, they would have felt that something was amiss and made a big ruckus."

He shook his head and started to adjust his energy with his eyes closed. After cultivating for a period of time which was comparable to the time a normal person slept for, he entered the dream world.

"The application is now close!"

The cold and clear voice of the Realm Spirit rang as soon as he appeared. Fang Yuan was unconcerned as he carefully checked the records before realizing. "It seems more than 1 month has passed? That means more than 3 years have passed in the water realm as 10 days here is equivalent to 1 year there? The flow of time is indeed scary..."

Using the dream world as the intermediate stop, one could not only seek protection, but also received warnings from the Realm Spirit for the primary elemental clone to return to the body when the body could no longer sustain the dream-traversing. This was another advantage of using the dream world as the intermediate stop.

At least, the body would not starve to death. This benefit came with some contribution of course.

"Furthermore... after travelling once, there will be a coordinate left behind. Next time, I would be able to go back to the same place using Venerable Dream Traverser's method and could even bring a few friends along..."

The actions in the water realm could be considered an opening act. The tribulations had just started and had not reached its full potential.

It would be time for harvesting in the next dream-traverse!

"The gains this time is significant as well!"

Fang Yuan was pleased as he looked at his stat window:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Essence: 36

Spirit: 30

Magic: 40

Profession: Dream Soldier Master

Cultivation: Illusionary Divine (2nd Tier), Wu Zong (3rd Meridian)

Technique: [Giant Eagle Metal Body Technique (Grade 4) (1%)], Hundred Poison Golden Body (1st Refining), [8 Gates Sword Array (3rd sword)(1%)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

His Illusionary Divine Stage had jumped another tier even though it had barely been a month of dream-traversing. This rate of breakthrough was simply unbelievable. Fang Yuan understood the reason why so many dream masters liked to traverse across the realms. The gains were shocking even though it was extremely dangerous.

"That's not all!"

He looked at his actualised dream world and saw that 2 out of the 8 swords in the array had been formed. The sword auras of the Fire and Water-type swords was splendid and endlessly destroy the borders of the dream world, causing the dream world to expand.

In the East, the hilt of a purple sword had started to form. Traces of sparks could be seen surrounding it and it brought about a frightening presence.

"The East trembles! The third spiritual sword is the Sundering Thunder Sword!"

The Lord of Thunder destroys! As such, the Thunder Sword's radiance was extremely threatening and even outstripped the Fire Sword. It was especially effective in destroying demons.

Fang Yuan believed that, should the Thunder Sword actualise, the great demons of the water realm could do nothing but flee!

In the centre of the 8 Gates Sword Array, there was a green source of heavenly energy.

"I traded the Heavenly Karma, which I obtained from killing the Monkey God's magical clone, for this heavenly energy. What is the original source of this heavenly energy? If it is similar to the realm energy, it would greatly aid my cultivation as a dream master!"

Fang Yuan was not in a hurry as he looked outside the sword array.

Outside, there were 7 golden flowers, 1 big and 6 small flowers clustered together and emitted a bright light. Fang Yuan did not know the use of these flower.

"The Heavenly Karma can be used to exchange for heavenly energy. However, people dao Karma can only be used in the water realm. Maybe I should try selling it..."

All these were left behind in preparation for the next dream-traverse.

The people dao Karma could at least be used for him to quickly regain his dream master's abilities in the water realm.

Of course, it would be better if the dream masters know the other uses for the karma.

Fang Yuan arrived at the stone tablets. He checked for relevant information regarding the uses of the karma before putting up an offer to sell the golden flowers after deliberation.

Chapter 276: A Fortunate Accident

"How's that?"

"I'm sorry, we do not have any Mystery Grade spiritual rice in stock. There might be stock in the bigger shops..."

Fang Yuan walked out of the rice shop and the shopkeeper followed. "You can pre-order with us! Just leave your address with us and I can help you check on the stock from other shops..."

"Forget it, I'm only ordering a few pounds of it..."

Fang Yuan shook his head and walked away.

He had asked around and realised that he was in a place called Yu Ming District Town in Ming Region.

Although it was a secluded town, it was well-equipped with amenities. There was also strict control from the government here and anything out of the ordinary would catch their attention.

"The sale of Mystery Grade spiritual rice is under the jurisdiction of the government. If I buy it in large quantities or engage in trade with its seeds, they will check my background... and I can't let them check mine! There are even restrictions when buying rice for personal consumption, so I shouldn't even think about the Yellow Grain Rice..."

Fang Yuan sighed and turned into an alley.

Once he walked out of the alley, he had transformed into another person.

As he approached his own mansion, he used his spiritual will to ensure that no one was following him before he entered the mansion.

Behind the master bedroom, there was a small courtyard surrounded by four walls and a ceiling; it was airtight.

As he walked in, an energy field started to surge around him and there was a faint eagle's caw.

"I now know the complete Qian Kun Giant Spiritual Technique. Although it only has a maximum potential of forming 8 spiritual meridians, I can use it as a foundation to experiment and push my Giant

Eagle Metal Body Technique to the 6th meridian. Once that is achieved, I would have completed my foundation to achieve all 9 meridians..."

Although he could also condense the Divine Body with 8 meridians with the above-average Giant Spiritual Divine Body, Fang Yuan was a perfectionist and would only settle for the best.

"Chirp! Chirp!"

At this point in time, he struck his claws out and as the energy surged through his body, he took up the form of a majestic giant.

A few hours passed.

Fang Yuan kept his claws, controlled his breathing and breathed out a streak of white breath.

He wiped his sweat off and commented. "By adapting from the Giant Spiritual Technique, I have made adjustments to the first 3 spiritual meridians. Finally, I can start to train and form the 4th and 5th..."

Finally, he had cleared the huge obstacle on his path of martial arts progression.

"If I have the assistance from spiritual objects and the proficiency points bar, my progress in martial arts might even be quicker than my cultivation as a dream master!"

Fang Yuan gulped down a bowl of spiritual porridge and frowned. "What a pity... These spiritual grains are too low-quality. Do I really have to... get a piece of spiritual land in Da Qian Empire?"

The spiritual porridge was only of Yellow Grade. Fang Yuan felt disgusted after eating it and quickly finished up before going to the meditation room. As he closed his eyes, he entered the Dream Realm.

"Ding! Ding!"

"Ding! Ding!"

As soon as he entered, the jade inscription plate around his waist was ringing continuously, which gave Fang Yuan a shock. "Is that golden flower really that popular?"

Although he did not manage to gather any information regarding people dao karma, he still pinned up an announcement to sell the golden flower and did not guess that the response would be so good.

"It seems like... this is really something!"

Fang Yuan rubbed his chin as the notifications popped up.

"How much are you selling this golden flower for?"

"I'm willing to pay 50 contribution points!"

"The highest I can go is 100 contribution points!"

...

Ten over messages flooded the inscription plate and most of them were people naming their prices and showing their interest in buying the golden flower. Some of them even tried to fish out information from Fang Yuan as to where he had obtained these flowers. Seeing all of these, Fang Yuan smiled to himself.

He only paid attention to two messages out of the many.

The first was from Feng Xinzi. It seemed as though he was too bored from recuperating, which was why he had left a message for Fang Yuan. "Good move, Brother Fang! However, this object is extremely precious and mysterious. You won't be able to find any information regarding it in the Dream Realm. Let's meet up and discuss about it..."

The other one had a symbol of a white lotus. A clear voice came out of the symbol. "It seems that you, brother, have found a Karma World for yourself and are trying to sell its coordinates! The Divine Lotus Cult will not disappoint you, my brother!"

"How direct! This spiritual will seems familiar..."

As Fang Yuan pressed on the white lotus symbol, the white lotus brightened up and its petals unfolded. Not long after, a clear voice was heard. "Are you the brother that is selling the karma flower?"

"I am!"

As soon as Fang Yuan replied, he could hear a sharp voice of a lady. "It's you! Fang Yuan? I can recognise your spiritual will and your voice!"

"Are you Meng Lian?"

Fang Yuan recalled the divine lady from the Divine Lotus Cult and smiled.

Initially, this lady had pulled him into the Dream Realm and had earned quite a bit from it. However, since she had opened up an ocean of possibilities for him, they were even.

After a long while of silence, Meng Lian's voice rung again. "Who would've thought that... You would have reached such a stage! However, Let me warn you. Although the rewards from these worlds are big, you cannot explore them alone as they are too dangerous. If you hand over the coordinates to this world, I can assure you the position of an Outer Deacon in the Divine Lotus Cult!"

"And after that?"

After hearing her, Fang Yuan snickered. This lady knew that he had no backing and therefore was more direct and bold with her words.

Only a fool would hand over a gold mine in exchange for a title!

"After that? What else do you want? Do you know how popular the Divine Lotus Sect is?"

"Say no more!"

Fang Yuan was speechless. He cut the line and ignored her.

...

In the real world.

"You..."

In a secret hideout, there was a pond full of white lotuses. In the middle, there was a lady dressed in white and she had a smooth skin. However, she was agitated as she clenched her teeth. "Very well... you have rejected me once and now you rejected my offer yet again. Do you even respect the Divine Lotus Cult?"

She knew that Fang Yuan had no backing. Shouldn't he be thankful to have such an appointment in the cult?

Who did he think he was to touch such a precious world? He should obediently give it up!

"This person is progressing too fast and is lucky in everything he does. This is indeed mysterious..."

Meng Lian composed herself but revealed a sly look on her face. "However... I am the one who introduced you to the Dream Realm. No matter how neutral the Realm Spirit might be, I'm sure there's something I can do..."

...

In the Dream Realm.

In a tea house, Fang Yuan ordered a pot of spiritual tea.

He had used contribution points to buy this pot of spiritual tea. It was sweet and fragrant and the best part was that his spirit could drink it directly.

"Brother Fang!"

Not long after, Feng Xinzi entered and appeared anxious. "Have you sold the golden flower?"

"Haha... Why are you so anxious?"

Fang Yuan calmly poured a cup of tea and waved his hands. "Please take a seat! You have always been the one footing the bill so let me play host this time!"

"Anything!"

Feng Xinzi knew that he had lost his composure. He sat down and took in a deep breathe before raising his teacup. "Please forgive me for my anxiety. I'll drink this cup of tea as an apology!"

"That's alright!"

Fang Yuan sipped the spiritual tea and felt a cooling sensation. "Should we... discuss about the karma flower?"

"So you do know that that is a karma flower..."

Feng Xinzi laughed. "I was dumb to think that I could take advantage of you and thought that you had obtained the flower by luck. It seems that your luck and cultivation is indeed shocking to be able to explore such a world."

"Is such a world rare?"

Fang Yuan was shocked. He recalled Hui Realm and Da Qian Empire. Although there were involvements of karma in these worlds, they were not as obvious and direct as they were in the Water Realm. Furthermore, the karma in the Water Realm could directly affect his luck and power.

"Not just rare, but super rare!"

Feng Xinzi shook his head and gave off an expression of 'you-lucky-brat'. "Furthermore, although us dream masters rule thousands of worlds, we have yet to discover a world more powerful than Da Qian. These type of Karma Worlds are the hardest to infiltrate due to their tribulations. Any wrong step would lead to a lightning tribulation in these worlds..."

"What is the most valuable thing in these worlds?"

Fang Yuan could guess that no one would share their experience in dream-traversing to other worlds. Even if he were to join any organisation, he guessed that he would need to be someone of status before he would even be allowed to look at information regarding the Karma Worlds.

"Brother, you're greedy. Since you've gone there, you should know..."

Feng Xinzi continued. "The most valuable treasure in a Karma World is firstly, the spiritual treasures which you can make illusionary and this depends on your luck. Secondly, imperial orders from the heavens. Although you will not be able to become a god, you can use it for other purposes. Lastly, the karma in that world. Both heavenly karma and people dao karma are rare!"

'Rare?'

Fang Yuan was confused but in a short while, he understood.

A complete Karma World would have an organisation structure for the god dao and people would guard over the world forming a tightly-knitted system in the world. Anything out of the ordinary would be noticed by the deities and any unknown but powerful beings would immediately experience a heavenly tribulation. Therefore, foreigners like them would find it hard to survive in such a world.

Fang Yuan was lucky to have understood the trend of the Water Realm and therefore could follow the trend, making his stay effortless.

"Indeed..."

Thoughts raced through his mind and Fang Yuan appeared fearful. "I have put in so much effort and yet only obtained 3 karma flowers. After using 2 of them, I was even chased by powerful demons and almost died."

"You have gained quite a lot considering that it's your first time!"

Feng Xinzi complimented him.

"Alright, other than allowing us to integrate easier into that realm, what other purposes would this karma flower have? There are really a lot of interested buyers..."

Fang Yuan raised his ever-blinking inscription plate and deleted the notifications.

The greedy Realm Spirit charged him for such a simple service, which made him roll his eyes.

Chapter 277: Dream Future Master

"This karma flower... this karma flower..."

Feng Xinzi laughed. He knew that Fang Yuan was clueless about the karma flower. "Firstly, it can be used to allow us to integrate into the world faster. We will also be able to call for help from outside the world! Also... it can be used in some rare alchemy and equipment-smelting techniques."

"If this is so, shouldn't it be not heavily sought after?"

Fang Yuan raised his eyebrows.

"Of course, some people believe that... If one has enough of these karma, they can directly create the Realm Evidence to that realm, or predict the coordinates of that realm from the karma that came from there!"

Feng Xinzi revealed the truth but placed emphasis that it was only a probability. "It is only a possibility and has yet to be proven..."

"I see!"

Fang Yuan nodded his head and believed what Feng Xinzi had said.

He knew the importance and value of Realm Evidence. It could be possible for the Realm Evidence to be exchanged using a huge amount of heavenly karma but would require an impossibly huge amount of people dao karma.

"If this is so, I have no qualms to sell it to you... Considering the demand for it and the fact that even the Divine Lotus Cult is also after it, please offer me a high price!"

He looked at the anxious Feng Xinzi and commented.

"I'll be honest with you, brother... You're right. My alchemy progress has reached a bottleneck. I am intending to produce a pill's spirit in order to achieve a breakthrough..."

Feng Xinzi let out a bitter smile. "Through preparations, I have 50 percent confidence in achieving the breakthrough. With the karma flowers, I might add another 5 percent! Therefore, the price that I will offer you will surely be the highest. I might not have enough contribution points but I can compensate that with spiritual pills! As for the Divine Lotus Cult... stay away from them, brother!"

"Oh? Why should I? The price that they are offering seems to be the highest as of now!"

Fang Yuan purposely probed to find out more.

"Not just that, I'm sure they are very interested in the coordinates of the world, right?"

Feng Xinzi shook his head. "I don't know much about them. I only know that the dream masters of the Divine Lotus Cult seem to be able to retain most of their power in these worlds. It was rumoured that the ancestors of the cult had gained a lot from these Karma Worlds and therefore, since then, they

would put in a lot of effort to locate such worlds... A few dream masters who once worked with them by acceding to their requests didn't end up well!"

Fang Yuan was shocked as soon as he heard the description from Feng Xinzi.

"Forget it... Let's see the deal through! How many contribution points do you have left?"

Fang Yuan glanced at Feng Xinzi as though he wanted to take advantage of him.

...

"You're indeed an alchemy master! Look at your wealth!"

After a short while, Fang Yuan walked out of the tea house with a smile on his face.

Although Feng Xinzi had already spent a fortune trying to form the pill spirit, his savings were already enough to satisfy Fang Yuan.

"As for what he said about the Divine Lotus Cult, I really need to be careful!"

Fang Yuan came to the rock tablet, spent some contribution points and started to look for information.

There was a change of expression on his face:

"A guide - The experienced dream masters in the Dream Realm have the responsibility to bring in new dream masters. With every new member, the dream master who introduced the new member would be rewarded with 500 contribution points... Furthermore, this dream master will be the official guide of the new member. By using 1,000 contribution points, the dream master will be able to get updates about the new member and will be able to locate the new member. However, in order to protect the privacy of the new member, the location services will only be accurate to the region!"

After reading the description, Fang Yuan chuckled. "No wonder she's so good to me! It was her plan all along! Considering that she's an evil woman, this is no surprise!"

It was fortunate that the location services could only locate him by the region. Da Qian Empire was huge and it was almost impossible to find a dream master within a region.

"It's too easy for new members to be cheated..."

Fang Yuan exclaimed. "Realm Spirit! I want to remove the association with my guide!"

"Di! I've checked that your guide, Bai Lian [1], has not fulfilled her responsibility. Your request has been approved!"

There was an almost-immediate reaction from the Realm Spirit.

Fang Yuan heaved a sigh of relief.

It was a small thing, but it was a matter if Meng Lian had realised it.

Now that he had removed all associations with her, they were now completely unrelated.

"Divine Lotus Cult... I'll take note!"

Fang Yuan gave a cold look before coming offline.

...

In the Dream Realm, there was a void space decorated with white lotuses; it was the area used by the Divine Lotus Cult.

There was a cold look in Meng Lian's eyes. "Realm Spirit, I want to exercise my rights as a guide to pay 1,000 contribution points in exchange for Fang Yuan's location!"

In reality, there was not much use in determining the region in which Fang Yuan was in.

However, the location could be refined with the help of the Divine Lotus Cult.

Previously, Fang Yuan had no value to her, but now, Bai Lian had come to a decision.

"This service will cost you 1,000 contribution points. Deducted!"

The robotic voice of the Realm Spirit was heard and a long silence followed.

"Di! The other person has removed his association with you. Location services have failed!"

"Respectable dream master, due to the fact that you did not fulfil your responsibility as a guide, the Realm Spirit will now deduct the initial 500 contribution points!"

The Realm Spirit's voice was heard once more, which shocked Bai Lian. "What?"

The title of a guide was as fragile as paper. If their relationship was severed, then it would have no purpose. Otherwise, it could be used to manipulate the dream master under the guide. There were instances of dream masters that have been disadvantaged due to this rule.

"D*mn it!"

The knuckles in Meng Lian's fingers cracked and there was a ferocious look on her beautiful face. "Fang Yuan, you cannot run!!!"

Although she could no longer use the location services provided by the Realm Spirit, there were many more things that she could do.

Thinking about it, she left the Dream Realm and arrived at her secret hideout.

It was a temple. In it, there was no god. Rather, there was a lotus flower carved from white jade with a tablet in front. There were no words on the tablet but rather, there was a row of mysterious-looking runes which flashed a golden glow.

"I am follower Meng Lian, and as I pray with sincerity, I invite Grandmaster to appear!"

Meng Lian appeared serious as she lighted the incense and prayed.

"Buzz! Buzz!"

Green smoke emerged and the petals on the white lotus on the altar started to open. A blurred figure emerged and there was a glow everywhere.

"Greetings, Grandmaster!"

Bai Lian paid her greetings respectfully.

"Forget it!"

A voice was heard on the altar; it sounded neither male or female. "You are a reserved Divine Lady. In front of a true Divine Lady, you can only make one request. Think carefully!"

"I have thought through carefully!"

Meng Lian gritted her teeth and a white lotus appeared on her forehead. In it, there was the image of a young man; it was Fang Yuan. "This person has the coordinates of a Karma World. Grandmaster, please help me in locating him!"

"Mm, it is indeed fate for you to discover such a lead!"

The voice from the altar appeared shocked. With the wave of its hand, the white lotus from Meng Lian's forehead flew towards it.

Meng Lian remained still and had utmost confidence in the person before her.

This Grandmaster was a highly-skilled dream master and a dream future master. The Grandmaster could let the happenings take place in its dream world and take into consideration the trend of the world to foretell the future. The Grandmaster was spot-on every single time it made a prediction.

Of course, the Grandmaster had its limitations.

Every time it proceeds with a prediction, it would consume a lot of elemental energy.

If the person being investigated on had too high a cultivation level, the information the Grandmaster would receive would be fewer.

Furthermore, there was the possibility of backlash as well. If the Grandmaster were to predict the opposite of what would happen, the Grandmaster would be likely to die.

"Although the information you provided is limited to his looks and his name, I am powerful enough to predict the future of that small dream master!"

Meng Lian quickly gathered her thoughts. If not for the fact that she shared the same heritage with the Grandmaster, as a reserved Divine Lady, she might not even have the rights to get help. It was a great favour from the Grandmaster to agree to help her.

"If I can obtain the coordinates of that Karma World, everything will be worth it!"

Her eyes glistened as thoughts ran wild in her mind.

"Hmm... This person's future is blurred and it is extremely hard to predict his future. However, since you only require his location, that is simple..."

After a short while, the figure on the altar spoke again.

A small slip of paper appeared in mid-air and glided down. On the piece of paper, a few names of places were written down.

Seeing this, Meng Lian was overjoyed.

"After this, we are even. Take care of yourself!"

With a flash, the figure disappeared. What was left behind was the lotus on the altar as how it was before.

Hearing the words from the Grandmaster, Meng Lian felt a little lost.

...

"Hmm? Why do I feel a little worried..."

In the small district town, Fang Yuan was practising his martial arts. Suddenly, he felt a chill down his spine.

"I only have enemies from Thousand Year Mountain and Divine Lotus Cult. The Thousand Year Mountain might be able to trace me until here but even Lin Qianye will not be able to make me feel as such. Only the presence of Venerable Longhu would make me feel like this..."

Fang Yuan appeared solemn. "Could this mean... The Divine Lotus Cult? Meng Lian is indeed scheming..."

To survive this, he could only rely on himself.

He took a quick glance at this stats window:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Essence: 36

Spirit: 30

Magic: 40

Profession: Dream Soldier Master

Cultivation: Illusionary Divine (2nd Tier), Wu Zong (3rd Meridian)

Technique: [Giant Eagle Metal Body Technique (Grade 4) (5%)], [Hundred Poison Golden Body (1st Refining)], [8 Gates Sword Array (3rd Sword) (2%)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

"Although my spiritual techniques and my martial arts are improving, they are taking too long. The only thing I can make use of will be the heavenly energy from the Water Realm..."

Fang Yuan's consciousness entered his actualised dream world. Looking at the green ball floating in his 8 Gates Word Array, he remained silent.

The force that he could exchange from heavenly karma was extremely similar to the realm energy from the Hui Realm. Both of them could directly increase a dream master's cultivation level and were extremely rare.

Based on his guess, this would be the purest form of heavenly energy. Or rather, the source of energy of the world. It was a common form of energy across all worlds as they would come from the same source.

"If I can obtain huge amounts of heavenly energy from the worlds, it would only be a matter of time before I achieve consecutive breakthroughs..."

Looking at the ball of heavenly energy in front of him, he sighed. "This is too little..."

As more and more swords were formed in the 8 Gates Sword Array, the resources needed to form the next sword would increase exponentially. This ball of energy was not enough!

[1]: Bai Lian is Meng Lian's actual name.

Chapter 278: Breakthrough

As a dream master reaches the higher levels of cultivation, it would become exponentially difficult to achieve a breakthrough.

Fang Xinzi, a dream alchemy master, had already landed himself into bankruptcy in order to achieve the breakthrough.

Fang Yuan had encountered the same problem as well.

To form the Thunder Sword to completion, all that he gained from the Water Realm was not sufficient.

"Fortunately... I still have my martial arts. Although I am at the 4 Grade of Qian Kun Spiritual Technique, the resources required is much lesser than what I will need to form the 3rd sword in the 8 Gates Sword Array. Therefore, there is still a chance for me to achieve a breakthrough!"

As he focused, the green-coloured ball of energy flowed out from his actualised dream world into his body and immediately, he could feel a warm fuzzy feeling.

"Mmmm!"

Fang Yuan let out a sound of satisfaction. It was as though he was soaking in a hot spring and there were thousands of ants crawling on his limbs and biting him.

"This is due to the fact that my progress is too quick and a normal human's body would not be able to take it... Fortunately for me, I have the Hundred Poison Golden Body!"

As Fang Yuan slowly felt the expansion of his elemental force like an enraged dragon, he was overjoyed.

If not for his Hundred Poison Golden Body and the fact that his physical body was incredibly strong, he would likely have exploded like a bomb and become a pile of bloodied mess.

But now, streaks of gold glistened on his skin. He forcefully contained the intense elemental force into his body and guided it to breakthrough towards the 4th Grade of Giant Eagle Metal Body.

"5% - 10% - 50%!!!"

On the stats window, the progress behind the Giant Eagle Metal Body rose quickly.

"Chirp! Chirp!"

Behind Fang Yuan, the 3 spiritual meridians subconsciously appeared. Another one was slowly being formed, albeit illusionary. As it glowed, it slowly became permanent.

The 4 spiritual meridians worked together to reveal the image of a person, half-human and half-eagle. The person was facing the sky, chirping. The energy around the person surged and the sand beneath his feet was stirred.

"60% - 70% - 90%!!!"

As the heavenly energy was being consumed, his progression shot up and arrived at 99%!

"Bang! Bang!"

Although Fang Yuan had an extremely hardy physical body, his pores had started to bleed and his skin started to stretch. It was as though he had become a human balloon.

"Break... through!"

Fang Yuan exclaimed and his strong spiritual will remained steadfast. In an instant, he had broken through.

"100%"

On the stats window, the number behind the Giant Eagle Metal Body became blurred.

"Phew..."

Fang Yuan composed his breathing. It felt as though the elemental force in his body had found an opening to escape.

At the same time, there were a few changes to his physical body. Beneath his skin, a layer of green glow appeared. As it fused with his original golden body, the outcome was a dim golden glow.

"Finally, I've broken through!"

Fang Yuan's eyes glittered as he glanced at his stats window:

"Name: Fang Yuan

Essence: 42

Spirit: 36

Magic: 40

Profession: Dream Soldier Master

Cultivation: Illusionary Divine (2nd Tier), Wu Zong (4th Meridian)

Technique: [Giant Eagle Metal Body Technique (Grade 5) (1%)], [Hundred Poison Golden Body (1st Refining)], [8 Gates Sword Array (3rd Sword) (2%)]

Skill: [Medicine (Level 3)], [Botany (Level 5)]"

"I've formed a new spiritual meridian!"

Fang Yuan tested out his techniques. The 5th Grade of Giant Eagle Metal Body was indeed different. Elemental force flowed around like a huge river. Through his 4 spiritual meridians, there was a blurred figure behind him.

"This is the illusionary shadow of the Divine Body. Of course... It is only a shadow! To condense the Divine Body, there's still a lot more to be done..."

Fang Yuan felt his own forearm.

After the improvement he had made in his martial arts, he felt that his physical body was strengthened and that his sense of sight and hearing were improved as well.

Of course, compared to Lin Qianye, who had a nose more sensitive than that of a dog's, his cultivation was still far from him.

But now, with the twitch of his ear, he could hear a commotion outside his mansion.

After hearing a few sentences, he let out a bitter smile. "Did I really attract so much attention from my breakthrough? Nevermind... I wasn't planning to stay here for long anyway!"

He picked up his clothing and left in a blurred shadow as he leapt across the wall.

"Hold up! I am the Eagle Lieutenant of Da Qian! Who are you?"

From the direction of the government office, a group of martial artists were rushing towards Fang Yuan. The one leading the pack was a Wu Zong and as he saw Fang Yuan taking his leave, he exclaimed.

"I would be a fool to wait here!"

Fang Yuan gently leapt and spread his arms like how an eagle would spread its wings. After leaping through a few yards, he turned into a small alley and disappeared.

With the experience from Yang Fan's dream world and through his own investigations, he knew that although the walls of the district town were not tall, there were traps laid there, like talismans or bows. If he were to cross the walls, he might be ambushed.

Since the district town was rather large, he could look for a place to hide before trying to escape at night.

"Sir?!"

A few soldiers were dressed in martial artists' robes. "How should we settle this?"

Fang Yuan was cunning and it would be practically impossible to find him in the large district town.

"Wait up!"

The Eagle Lieutenant was a well-built man with sharp eyes and a menacing look. He quickly waved his hands and after a few moments, a constable arrived with an official document. "Sir, we've checked his background!"

"Hmm? Fang Yun? He doesn't have a history at all! He's a phoney!"

After reading a few lines of the document, he could deduce what had happened. "The few of you are too lax!"

"Sir, please forgive us!"

The constable shivered and broke out in cold sweat.

He knew the unspoken rule. The higher up had to do this not because of money, but because they were forced to.

After all, these people with fake identities would generally have martial arts. They might even be a Wu Zong or a spiritual knight! If they become angry, no one could handle them!

"Forget it..."

The Eagle Lieutenant could guess what had happened and did not continue to probe further. Instead, he started to look around at the surroundings.

After a while, he gave a gentle expression. "We're fortunate that he is just a new Wu Zong and has no evil intentions... But he really has the guts to breakthrough in the middle of the city, hehe... does he really think that no one is in charge of this place?"

The others felt a little depressed after hearing it.

It was indeed surprising that he did not attempt his breakthrough in the forest or wilderness, but right in the centre of the bustling city!"

"Since he has left on his own accord, it means that he has no evil intentions. However, we will still have to file a report for this and do the necessary investigations..."

The lieutenant mulled for a while before coming to a decision. "Search carefully and tighten security during your patrols!"

This was just trying to ensure peace in the district town.

"Smart move, Sir!"

The few soldiers bowed and heaved a sigh of relief.

Since Fang Yuan did not commit any heinous crime, no one would be willing to risk their lives fighting a Wu Zong.

After all, among all of them, only the lieutenant had broken through to the realm of elemental force. All of them were unnecessary and a burden if they were to engage Fang Yuan.

Seeing this, the lieutenant shook his head and sighed.

If it was in his younger days, he would want to serve the country with all his might. But now, as he grew older, he had to consider for his family before acting rashly.

This was only normal as he was a human.

...

It was nightfall.

The moon was extremely beautiful.

In the government office, a few constables fainted. The lieutenant was enraged. "What audacity! How dare you enter the government office without permission and use your demonic techniques? Are you not afraid that you will be captured by our soldiers?"

The Eagle Lieutenant was furious. Looking at the few people in white around him, there was a look of fear and anger on his face.

Although his district might not be able to handle these people, it would become a big case and the Imperial Court would surely bring them to justice!

Even the normal evil highly-skilled martial artists or cults had to be wary!

By then, soldiers from the county and region would gather. These people were just ants and were extremely easy to kill.

"Hehe... I'm really scared!"

With a gentle laughter, a girl in white robes descended. She had a fragrance and her eyes were beautiful. "But... How will your Da Qian Imperial Court deal with my Divine Lotus Cult?"

"Ah... you're a demon from the Divine Lotus Cult!"

The Eagle Lieutenant shrieked, turned around and started to run!

Normal spiritual knights, sects and powerful families might fear the Imperial Court, but this would not include the 5 alliances of the dream masters!

This was especially so for the Divine Lotus Cult! Previously, they were involved in an assassination of an official of a region. The Imperial Court was infuriated and sent out highly skilled martial artists to deal with the cult. For 10 years, both sides had suffered losses and in the end, there was no conclusion.

Compared to an official of a region, he was only a small Eagle Lieutenant! What could he do?

Therefore, he turned around and ran away without hesitation.

"Hehe... I like smart people!"

"Stop!"

The Eagle Lieutenant was extremely quick. As he leapt, he managed to emerge out and was about to jump across the walls.

Suddenly, there was a voice. His nose picked up an intoxicating fragrance and it was as though a person was next to him, whispering into his ears.

"8 Forms of Magical Dragon, to the ends of the world!"

The well-built man bit his tongue and snapped out of his trance. Suddenly, there was an illusionary shadow of a blood dragon appearing on his legs.

At the same time, there were many white flower petals raining down in the vicinity. As the white petals landed on him, they entered his body.

"I cannot sleep! I cannot sleep!"

The lieutenant was shouting to himself, but even the sharp pain on his tongue was not enough to wake him up. As his eyes slowly shut, he could vaguely see the people in white approaching him. Finally, he could no longer resist and fainted.

"Dream accessing!"

Meng Lian walked up. With an innocent look, she placed a smooth and white finger on the forehead of the lieutenant.

After a while, she opened her eyes with a look of shock. "It is Fang Yuan indeed. He has escaped! Quickly search for him!"

"Yes!"

The people in white bowed and vanished in a second.

Chapter 279: Intent to Kill

"Protect the district leader!"

"Quickly use your spiritual spells to request backup from the county!"

"Where is the Eagle Lieutenant?"

...

Although it was midnight, such a commotion shook the entire government office.

In the small courtyard with the presence of the district leader and district minister, there was a small array. Spiritual inscriptions glittered. Of course, against the demons from the Divine Lotus Sect, it could only give them a small sense of protection.

The commotion in the government office ensued as constables gathered in front of the office with their bows ready.

Alas, all of these were for show. All of them knew that the enemy was where the Eagle Lieutenant was but none of them dared to offer their assistance.

"The demon from Divine Lotus Cult!"

The district leader wore simple clothes. Seeing this scene, he clenched his fists so hard that his fingernails went into his flesh, and bit his lips till they were bleeding. "This country is not like a country anymore! For the people, I must destroy this demon one day!"

"Please mind your words, Sir!"

Beside him, there was an old housekeeper. "The previous region leader said the exact same words. Afterwards, he was assassinated by the people of the Divine Lotus Cult, which was a huge insult to the Da Qian Imperial Court... Afterwards, both sides engaged in many more killings and many innocent people were harmed in the process. The civil war destroyed 17 cities and killed as many as a few thousand, and the royal family of Da Qian knew that it was no longer sustainable..."

If they continued to fight, havoc would ensue everywhere.

After all, the Divine Lotus Cult did not need to care about the lives of others but it was different for the Imperial Court; at least on the surface, they had to care.

If Da Qian were to carry on with the losing war, they would bring themselves to their self-destruction. Therefore, they had to give in.

Li Zhun knew who was behind it and felt depressed. "Dream masters... They are an evil tumour of this world! We need to eradicate them to obtain peace!"

...

"Did the district leader study too much and become foolish?"

Hearing what Li Zhun had just said, he almost spat out blood.

If it was another dream master who heard this, District Leader Li would probably not live to see the next day.

"... However, this is also true for other regions with exceptional martial arts and powerful organisations!"

"Furthermore, dream masters are much more powerful than the average person, Wu Zongs and spiritual knights. They can even create things from nothing and actualise spiritual lands, resources and even tribes, which is unbearable."

"If we have a new king fortunate enough to eradicate the dream masters, the next would be to wipe out the spiritual knights. After that, it would be to ban all martial arts and there would be peace everywhere."

Strictly speaking, the power of dream masters had caused them to receive the most hatred from people.

Although they had a high status due to their power, it was not a good thing.

Thinking about it, Fang Yuan's eyes glistened.

Of course, it was none of his business as to what the dream masters or the Imperial Court would do.

Looking towards the direction of the commotion, he gave off a cold look. "Meng Lian... She's looking for trouble! Does she really think that I am weak? Look at how many people she brought along with her!"

All of these were just distractions.

He had created the illusion that he was about to escape so that he could remain in hiding and see what he would do next.

He was extremely clear what he had to do.

The Divine Lotus Cult was persistent and he did not know what Meng Lian did to locate where he was hiding.

"There are about 10 Wu Zongs, 3 spiritual knights and Meng Lian herself, a dream master... Now that she had brought along 6 Wu Zongs in white robes and 2 spiritual knights, there are 6 more!"

All of these should be the people of the Divine Lotus Cult that they could gather in the region.

If she were to lead them to their deaths, Meng Lian would not be able to answer to the cult.

"What a risky move!"

Fang Yuan watched as Bai Lian and her people entered the government office and killed the Eagle Lieutenant. He was expressionless as he could finally account for all the manpower that the Divine Lotus Sect had in this region.

If Fang Yuan was still at the cultivation level when he first arrived at Da Qian, he would not be able to go head-on against all these people and would have to hide.

But now?"

"Let's head to Fang Yuan's mansion to take a look. We can find some objects with his spiritual aura. Even if we have to execute the Blood Searching Technique, we cannot let him run away!"

Meng Lian walked out of the government office with her hands stained with the lieutenant's blood. She paid no attention to it and continued to give out orders to the people around her.

"Yes, Ma'am!"

A few Wu Zongs in white robes replied.

At this moment, a lotus print appeared on Meng Lian's forehead. Suddenly, it exploded as flower petals fell down and covered her in an attempt to protect its owner.

"Water and Fire sword essence, explode!"

At the moment of the appearance of the lotus flower, a red and blue glow suddenly appeared above her head and exploded!

"Whoosh! Chi! Chi!"

Numerous streaks of red and blue struck around and blood spurted everywhere!

The 3 Wu Zongs protecting Meng Lian were sliced into pieces!

The 3 other Wu Zongs shrieked and flew back as they sustained severe injuries.

Only the spiritual knight had a self-activated protective talisman which protected him from the strike. However, his hand was still bleeding.

The Water-Fire Dual Sword Array at its full potential did not disappoint Fang Yuan. It took many lives in an instant.

"It's you! Fang Yuan!!!"

Meng Lian looked at the silhouette before her and gritted her teeth in anger. "How dare you go against us?"

If Fang Yuan did not appear before her, she would never have thought that this dream master without the backing of an organisation would be so cruel.

With just a sword essence, 3 Wu Zongs were sliced up!

This was akin to a harmless rabbit transforming into a big bad wolf!

"You are already all out against me. I can only retaliate!"

Fang Yuan appeared.

With the fire sword in his hands, he walked forward.

"Kill!"

Although the 3 remaining Wu Zongs were severely injured, they mustered their courage and in an instant, 3 spiritual meridians appeared behind their backs. They were prepared to combine forces and fight to their deaths.

"It's useless..."

The actualised Fire Sword had a dragon on the handle. The blade of the sword was like a flame. With a simple swipe, the sword radiance was released and in an instant, the killer moves of all 3 Wu Zongs were countered.

Walking forward, he struck a sword at each and every one of them, killing all 3 Wu Zongs.

Their Golden Silk Armour and Elemental Force Protection were useless defences against the Leaving Fire Sword.

All of his actions had demonstrated the power of a 4th Meridian Wu Zong and a magical soldier, which pushed the power of a dream soldier master to its maximum potential!

"Magical soldier?"

The remaining Wu Zongs looked at the fire sword which appeared on Fang Yuan's hand and made a guess. "You are a dream soldier master?"

"That's right, but you're too late!"

In an instant, Fang Yuan came before them and ended their lives with a simple lunge.

In a red glow, the spiritual knight felt as though the entire world was lying on him and that he had no means of escape.

"Posture of the Heavenly Lotus! Go!"

Meng Lian finally reacted to what had happened. She quickly executed the technique and the flower petals in front of her flew and shielded the spiritual knight from Fang Yuan.

"Underground Burrow!"

The spiritual knight bit his tongue and spat out a mouthful of blood. Brown-coloured spiritual inscriptions appeared on his body as he started to burrow underground.

"Why struggle?"

Fang Yuan sighed and sliced his Leaving Fire Sword down, breaking apart the petals in front of the spiritual knight.

He mysteriously arrived at a seemingly random spot and struck his sword into the ground!

"Rumble!"

The ground cracked and the crack lines resembled a spiderweb. Smoke gushed out of the cracked lines.

As soon as he pulled his sword out, blood gushed out like a geyser.

"Alright, now all that's left is you!"

Fang Yuan plucked his sword, stood up and looked at Meng Lian.

The lady before her was only a newly-promoted dream master. To him, it was a matter of a few strikes of his sword. However, as a reserved Divine Lady, he was unsure if she had any protective treasures with her.

"You want to kill me? It's not that simple!"

Seeing how Fang Yuan could easily finish off her subordinates, Meng Lian forced herself to regain her composure. "It's my fault for not knowing how powerful you are, but... by killing all my subordinates, it seems that you have decided to make enemies with the Divine Lotus Cult!"

"You have started all this!"

Fang Yuan sighed as he struck his Fire Sword out.

"Ding!"

There was a metallic sound as the sword touched the flower petals. The white lotus shook before calming down, but Meng Lian who was within was unharmed.

"It's useless... As the reserved Divine Lady, I have the protection of the Divine Lotus Print, your weak sword essence can do nothing..."

She stopped halfway and her expression changed.

In Fang Yuan's left hand, a shorter magical sword appeared. It was blue and had chilly vibes.

"Water-Fire Dual Array, kill together!"

Fang Yuan struck both swords out together. The red sword essence quickly combined with the blue sword essence and there was an exponential increase in power.

"Bang!"

Under the Water-Fire Dual Sword Array, even the Divine Lotus Print would not be able to hold. There were cracks forming and it looked extremely unstable.

"If I can use master's 8 Gates Sword Array all at once, it would be extremely powerful! However, this would also mean that people would be able to identify it and know who my master is. Among the dream soldier masters, there are too many that are using the Water-Fire Dual Sword Array. Therefore, I can still use it without too much concern!"

Thoughts ran through Fang Yuan's mind. He held the fire in his right hand and the water in his left. As the swords combined, a strong and concentrated sword essence exploded like a sun.

"Rumble!"

In the huge explosion, the Divine Lotus Print cracked and crumbled.

"You..."

Meng Lian retreated and there was blood on her lips, which stained her clothing. It was a pitiful scene.

"Die!"

Fang Yuan was determined. Without a sense of pity, he struck another sword out.

"You forced me..."

As she felt her death approaching, Meng Lian quickly pulled a piece of jade from her neck with a fierce look on her face.

"Who dares to harm my lady?"

A loud and powerful voice was heard.

In the piece of jade, there was a glow as the jade started to crazily absorb the elemental energy from the surroundings.

"The magical clone of a powerful person?"

Fang Yuan sighed. He knew that an important lady like Meng Lian would have plenty of protective treasures on her body. Quickly, he came to a decision. "Retreat!"

Chapter 280: Joining the Realm Alliance

"You have the guts to kill the people of my cult! No one will be able to save you!"

A silhouette appeared from the jade. It seemed to be a scholar wearing a crown. The person had a long beard and appeared righteous.

His body was illusionary but it was forming quickly. He pointed at Fang Yuan and shouted, "Destroy!"

"Whoosh!"

There was a bright glow.

In mid-air, runes flashed and quickly flew towards Fang Yuan. Subsequently, they entered his forehead.

"Eh?"

In his actualised dream world, a gigantic word 'Destroy' appeared. As the word glowed, it brought with it the feel of destruction.

This scholar was extremely powerful and wanted to destroy Fang Yuan's spirit!

"8 Gates Sword Array, attack!"

After all, the actualised dream world was Fang Yuan's base. This was where all his power was and of course, he would have the advantage here.

Fang Yuan recalled the techniques of defence from the inheritance of Master Heartless. With a simple thought, the 8 Gates Sword Array shook and 8 sword essences flew up, trapping the glowing word. Smashing it downwards, the word crumbled into powder.

"If this was the real world, I would still not be able to use the 8 Gates Sword Array to its fullest potential. However, I can already execute the techniques of the array within the actualised dream world. If you are physically here, you might be able to kill me, but now, you are trying to kill me with just your incarnation?"

In the real world, Fang Yuan laughed and flicked his right index finger. Immediately, two swords flew out. "Water-Fire Dual Sword Array, Go!"

"Whoosh! Whoosh!"

Two streaks of red and blue rose up into the sky and formed a small array which contained the scholar and Meng Lian within.

In the next moment, the water and fire sword essences exploded.

"Ahhh!"

Meng Lian exclaimed as a wound opened up at her chest.

"Guard!"

The scholar had to help his daughter and therefore split his energy to protect her.

There was a glow in his hands and a brush appeared. As he wrote in mid-air, he formed the word 'Guard'.

With a glitter, the word transformed into a shield which protected him and Meng Lian in within.

"Rumble!"

As soon as he completed his technique, a terrifying explosion broke out.

As the dust flew, it covered the sky like a mushroom cloud.

At the place where the explosion occurred, there was now a large hole. The government office was also affected and many were dead, but Fang Yuan was no longer to be seen.

"Adoptive father, why didn't you chase him?"

Meng Lian held her chest and her face was filled with hatred. Suddenly, her expression changed.

There were two sword scars on the scholar's body. His originally half-formed body had now become illusionary as though it would disappear anytime.

"Great sword skills! Great sword array!"

The scholar sighed. "This person is not only in the Illusionary Divine stage but has commendable combat skills. I believe that the only way to defeat him is to use our cult's protective technique. Lian'er, remember, don't be reckless!"

If his true self was here, he wouldn't have let him escape.

But now, there was nothing he could do.

He glanced at the government office which was in tatters and shook his head. "Let's go... If the highly skilled people from Da Qian were to surround us, it would be troublesome!"

"Alright!"

Meng Lian gritted her teeth. She had to admit that the failure of this mission had made her embarrassed.

"Fang Yuan? I'll remember you!"

...

At the outskirts of the district town, in the wilderness.

Fang Yuan spread out his arms like an eagle in flight and rushed out.

"Whoosh! Whoosh!"

Two streaks of light quickly flew towards him and entered his body.

In his actualised dream world, the Leaving Fire Sword and Rough Water Sword returned to their original positions but the glow from them had become dimmer.

"It seems that that scholar is indeed powerful."

Fang Yuan looked down. He quickly transferred his dream elemental force towards the spiritual swords, repairing them.

This was the advantage of being a dream soldier master.

Even though his weapon might be damaged, all he needed would be some time to repair it, which would be much simpler than when he was forming the swords.

If he could really form the 8 swords and form the sword array, he could attack continuously and the array could be utilised to its maximum potential.

"However... Looking at my current standards now, it seems that I am still no match for the Divine Lotus Cult!"

The killings which he had committed were purely due to the fact that they were looking for him and he had to retaliate. Even if he escaped, he would still be chased by them and therefore, he would rather take the initiative and kill as many enemies as he could.

Now that he had earned himself some time, it was different.

"I shall not return to the Qin Family, since I cannot be certain if I am being followed. Furthermore, looking at the cultivation levels of the Qin Siblings, if I were to get them involved in this, they would probably die like ants being stepped on..."

Fang Yuan came to a decision and decided to run as far as he could.

After all, there were 99 regions in Da Qian! He had been dwelling in the less populated regions and had yet to experience the prosperous lands.

This was the perfect opportunity for him to explore.

"Looking at the hatred the Divine Lotus Sect have with the Imperial Court, I'm sure their influence would be the weakest at the capital..."

Fang Yuan rubbed his chin. "Of course... It is dangerous for me to be alone. I need to find a backing..."

He arrived at a river and executed the Turtle Aura Technique before freezing the water beneath to form a small icy mountain. He then trapped himself within and dived into the river, allowing the river stream to carry him along.

At the same time, Fang Yuan entered the Dream Realm.

...

"Feng Xinzi!"

He took out his inscription plate and sent out a message.

"Brother, you're just in time. In a day's time, I will prepare for a makeover in preparation for making the pill!"

Feng Xinzi's symbol shook and replied almost instantaneously. "What's up, brother?"

"I have been targeted by the Divine Lotus Cult. Can I get protection if I join the Realm Alliance?"

Fang Yuan was honest and enquired directly.

"You are interested in joining the Realm Alliance? That's great! Wait for me..."

In the next moment, Feng Xinzi's figure appeared in the Dream Realm with a look of joy on his face. "It is a wise choice to choose us!"

"I hope so!"

Fang Yuan rubbed his nose.

He had a rough understanding of the 5 organisations of the Dream Realm.

The Evil Divine Sect and the Divine Lotus Cult were both evil sects with a bad reputation. On the other hand, there were too many restrictions to join Baize Mountain, while the Source Seeking Sect was filled with crazy people.

Thinking about it, he realised that the Realm Alliance was the only one with the least restrictions and the least requirements.

"Let me warn you beforehand. Previously, the Divine Lotus Cult had looked for me and we had a big fight. I had even killed some of their people!"

Fang Yuan was honest.

"Brother, you're really... decisive!"

Feng Xinzi let out a bitter laugh and continued. "Are there dream masters among people you have killed?"

"Nope. Only a few Wu Zongs and a spiritual knight. Meng Lian had sustained a few injuries!"

Fang Yuan reported.

"Then that is no problem at all!"

Feng Xinzi sighed. "To the Divine Lotus Cult, Wu Zongs and spiritual knights are just servants and they could easily be replaced by new people. Furthermore, this was the test period of the reserved Divine Lady. Your actions might be welcomed by the other reserved Divine Ladies!"

"However, these reserved Divine Ladies all have a Divine Lotus Print to protect them and other countless magical equipment and yet, you can still hurt her..."

Feng Xinzi nodded his head. "It seems like your abilities are beyond my expectation! Follow me!"

He brought Fang Yuan to a dead end of the Dream Realm.

As the fog dissipated, a green mountain appeared and there seemed to be people on the mountain.

"This is the headquarters of the Realm Alliance in the dream world!"

Feng Xinzi dissipated the pill essence which covered him and brought Fang Yuan along a path of stone steps. Not long after, they arrived at a stone square.

What surprised Fang Yuan was that there was a similar mission rock tablet in the middle of the square. Words were inscribed on the rock tablet and huge amounts of information flashed across.

"This is a special feature provided by the Realm Spirit to the 5 big organisations. The function of this rock tablet is exactly the same as the one in the Dream Realm. On it are mostly the missions specific to the Realm Alliance. The rewards for the missions here are greater and there are some classified pieces of information provided from the tablet as well, including information regarding the use of karma..."

As Feng Xinzi spoke, he brought Fang Yuan to a rock palace and into a room. "Elder Smelter, greetings to you!"

"Haha... You wouldn't come here without any rhyme or reason. Come in!"

The doors slowly opened by themselves.

It was extremely spacious inside and at the four corners, there were many pools of different colour, including red, purple, blue, green, white... Different coloured flames were burning brilliantly but no heat was felt from the flames.

In the middle of the palace, there was a rock bed and on it was a person crossing his legs. He was a short person and his eyebrows were red. He had a compassionate look and smiled as he saw the both of them.

As he looked at him, Fang Yuan was shocked and could feel that he was being seen through. Immediately, he knew that this person was a high-tiered dream master which was much more powerful than him. "Greetings, senior!"

"Fang Yuan, Venerable Smelter is the elder of the Realm Alliance. He is at the 7th Tier of the Illusionary Divine stage!"

At Fang Yuan's ears, he could hear Feng Xinzi's voice as he introduced to him the person in front.

Although the 7th Tier Illusionary Divine stage was not the Prominent Divine Stage yet, the combat powers were similar! He was a powerful person, even among everyone in Da Qian Empire.

"Keke, no need for formalities. You are Fang Yuan, and you wish to join the alliance?"

Elder Smelter chuckled. "You're good! You're not even 30 and yet you have already achieved the 2nd Tier of the Illusionary Divine stage, hmmm... You have the vibes of a magical soldier. Are you on the path to becoming a dream soldier master?"

"That's right! Elder Smelter, you're good!"

Fang Yuan bowed and replied.

At this point in time, Feng Xinzi started to explain the situation Fang Yuan was in. Elder Smelter laughed. "It's just a few slaves of the Divine Lotus Cult! That's nothing... our Realm Alliance is still capable of giving you protection from them. As for Lin Qianye from the Thousand Year Mountain... Hehe, this person is crazy! He even dared to kill a dream master previously. He is just seeking death! Little Fang, don't you worry. It is a coincidence that I am in the North. Wait for me and I shall help you take your revenge!"

Venerable Smelter had a personality similar to fire. As he exclaimed, he looked at Fang Yuan, impressed.

"Considering your age and cultivation, you are indeed a talent. If you join the Realm Alliance, you can have the rights of Two Leaves. Feng Xinzi, see that it is done!"

"Yes, Sir!"

Both of them took a bow once more and were dismissed from the hall.