'Hmm?'

Darryl did not walk long before he started to frown.

He could feel a murderous aura from somewhere nearby. He looked around him, and before long, he saw a beautiful figure not far away. She flew in midair—as ethereal as a fairy—and she was extremely stunning!

It was Gonggong!

Gonggong was in a long, teal dress that showed off her alluring figure ethereally.

However, her beautiful face was as cold as ice! Her eyes had only contempt and rage!

"Darryl Darby!"

Gonggong landed gracefully in front of Darryl, and she glared at the man. "I' m sure that you did not expect we'll see each other so soon!"

When she said that, she could not hide the fury in her heart.

A few days ago, Darryl had trapped Gonggong in a formation. She had lost a bet, so she had to address Zhurong as her father and Darryl as her uncle. She had been utterly humiliated!

When she heard that Darryl had left Divine Farmer's blessed land and descended Mount Buzhou, she immediately went to the path to wait for him. She knew that he would pass by eventually.

There was really no need to explain her purpose; she wanted to teach Darryl a lesson and relieve the hatred in her heart!

'F*ck! She's clearly here to seek revenge!'

Darryl was stunned. Then, he smiled at Gonggong. "Oh my, is that my gorgeous niece? What's going on? You heard that I was leaving, so you came here to see me off?"

Swoosh!

Gonggong blushed violently; she was too embarrassed and furious. "F*ck you, Darryl! You still dare say such bold words! Yes, I came to see you off—to the heavens!"

When she said that, Gonggong's eyes were filled with rage and embarrassment!

Buzz!

The next second, a powerful aura exploded from her. She lifted her hands and sent an attack directly toward Darryl!

Gonggong was extremely strong; the air around her tore and distorted!

'F*ck! Is she that angry? Why is she attacking me so suddenly?'

Darryl was stunned when he saw powers, but he did not avoid the attack. He engaged his Pure Energy, lifted his hands to face the attack head-on!

Bang!

Both sides of the attacks collided. A muffled reverberation was heard before Darryl was forced to take several steps backward—his face paled!

Even though Darryl was already a Martial Emperor and no one could match his strength in the entire Nine Mainlands, Gonggong was a powerful cultivator since ancient times! Darryl could never match her background and years of experience!

Darryl took a deep breath as he tried to stabilize his footing. He frowned and looked at Gonggong—he was secretly appalled.

'F*ck, this woman is way too strong! I can't win her in a head-on fight!'

Gonggong, on the other hand, also frowned as she looked at Darryl in surprise. She was secretly shocked.

She had used three layers of her internal energy in that attack; how did he manage to block it? She thought that one attack would be able to kill him. He was still so young, yet he was so powerful, and he knew formation too. What talent! It would be a pity to kill him. So, she decided to capture him alive!

As she thought about that, Gonggong lifted her hand and took out a brocade bag. It was gold in color, and it looked stunning.

Gonggong opened her mouth slightly and chanted a spell—the bag suddenly grew in size!

At the same time, Gonggong flew toward the man and hit him squarely in his chest!

It was an extremely forceful attack, and Darryl could not stand it—he fell onto the ground. Before he could react, Gonggong caught him and stuffed him in the golden brocade bag!

That bag was Gonggong's treasure—called the Yin Yang Heaven and Earth Bag! It was an extremely durable bag. If a person were captured and put into

the bag, they would not be able to escape it!

When Darryl was stuffed into the brocade bag, he swore discreetly and tried to struggle. However, he realized that the bag had strong spiritual power, which completely suppressed his own. He could not exert any power at all!

"Gonggong, let me out!" Darryl yelled loudly as he tried to tear the Heaven and Earth Bag but to no avail.

'This is it! So troublesome!' When he realized that he could not escape, Darryl was almost in tears!

"Just stay in there quietly!" Gonggong said with a smile. She grabbed the bag and leapt forward before she flew into the distance!

Darryl could not see the situation outside, but he knew that Gonggong had flown with the bag.

'Where is this woman taking me? She didn't kill me, so I'm sure she will try her best to torture me!' Darryl thought in a panic.

For a long while, Darryl was shaken violently while he was in the bag. He was extremely nauseous!

Just as he almost could not take it, Gonggong stopped!

Swoosh!

The next second, Darryl felt as if his body was lighter. The darkness before him suddenly brightened—he knew that Gonggong had let him out!

Thud!

Just as Darryl opened his eyes, Gonggong moved at lightning speed and jabbed at Darryl's acupoints. He had been rendered immobile; his body tensed, and he could not move.

"Hey? You—" Darryl wanted to speak, but when he glanced at his surroundings, he was baffled!

'Where is this place?' A grandiose palace was in front of him, and it was enormous! It was a few times larger than the New World Palace's Full Energy Hall!

On both sides of the corridor outside the main hall, two lines of guards stood neatly with long spears in their hand! It was a majestic and solemn sight to behold!

'Is this North Moana's palace?'

Darryl scanned his surroundings again. He noticed that other than Gonggong, a few hundred people stood in the palace's main hall!

Those people were in an official's uniform. They did not say anything—only silently sized Darryl up. However, Darryl could feel the waves of strong aura that the men emitted.

Gasp!

Darryl drew in a sharp breath—all of those people were Martial Emperors!

'Are they North Moana's officials?'

A throne sat in front of those officials; it was made of pure gold with intricate dragon and phoenix carvings. It was also encrusted with precious jewels!

A man in a dragon robe sat quietly on the throne. His domineering, majestic, and powerful aura could make one quiver!

If Darryl had guessed correctly, that was North Moana's Emperor!

A woman sat quietly next to the man-she was probably the Empress.

Darryl glanced at the Empress, and he immediately gasped. The woman looked to be in her thirties; she had exquisite facial features and was as gorgeous as a fairy! Her body figure looked even more alluring; she was like a celestial in a moon-colored long dress! She was stunning!

Plus, she had that gentle, graceful, and matriarchal aura!

Darryl felt his mind buzzed. Gonggong was already a very sexy woman. However, the Empress was so gorgeous that her beauty almost suffocated him!

"Gonggong!" The North Moana Emperor slowly asked, "Who is this kid? Why did you bring him here?"

When he said that, the North Moana Emperor observed Darryl—there was no reaction on his cold and expressionless face!

Gonggong took a step forward and replied respectfully, "Emperor Hou Yi, this person is Darryl Darby. He is very knowledgeable in formations. I know that Your Majesty is recruiting talents. He would be a great addition and be of great use!"

'What? Emperor Hou Yi?'

Darryl trembled. He looked at the North Moana Emperor bewilderedly as his mind buzzed!

Gonggong called the North Moana Emperor — Emperor Hou Yi? Could he be the famous Hou Yi?

If the North Moana Emperor was Hou Yi, the Empress, who sat next to him, was Chang Er?

According to the legends, the goddess Chang Er was Hou Yi's wife.

When he saw her in person, he thought that she was overwhelmingly gorgeous!

At the same time, the entire main hall was in a heated discussion!

"This Darryl Darby is so young, yet he knows about formations?"

"If he knows formations, then he is indeed a talented man!"

The officials all focused their eyes on Darryl!

Emperor Hou Yi's interest was piqued as well. He sized Darryl up and said slowly, "You're Darryl Darby?"

His voice was not loud, but it was full of authority!

"Yes." Darryl nodded.

"You understand formations?" Emperor Hou Yi asked as he stared at Darryl.

"Well..." Darryl scratched his head and replied humbly, "I know a little!"

Emperor Hou Yi nodded and smiled. "Then, let me ask you. Are you willing to stay here and work for me?"

When he said that, Emperor Hou Yi's eyes were filled with urgency and hope. Hou Yi might be strong, but he was not omnipotent! He was not skillful in formations. Not only that, only a handful of men knew about formations in the entire North Moana continent!

So, in Emperor Hou Yi's eyes, Darryl was considered a rare talent!

"Well..." Darryl scratched his head and looked hesitant. He smiled and immediately replied, "Please forgive me, Your Majesty, but I'm afraid I can't accept this request!"

If it had been earlier, Darryl might not have hesitated to agree to Emperor Hou Yi's invitation. After all, it would be an honor to work for such a famous person.

However, he had founded Elysium Gate, and they were without their leader. He had to go back and manage them. More importantly, Debra, Yvonne, and the others still waited for him to return to them, so how could he stay there?

Gasp!

The main hall immediately fell silent. Everyone looked at Darryl—they were flabbergasted.

What did that kid say? Emperor Hou Yi had invited him willingly, but he had turned down the request.

Emperor Hou Yi was the supreme person in North Moana; no one would dare to refuse him!

At that moment, Emperor Hou Yi's face paled. He had lost his dignity when Darryl refused his request in front of all the officials!

The atmosphere in the entire main hall was utterly solemn.

"How bold are you, Darryl?!"

At that moment, Gonggong walked forward to reprimand Darryl. "The Emperor extended that invitation himself, yet you remain ignorant. Are you suicidal?"

When she said that, Gonggong secretly glanced at Emperor Hou Yi. She did not kill Darryl but brought him to the Emperor because she wanted to take credit.

However, Darryl had offended the Emperor, which could spell trouble for Gonggong.

'This woman...' Darryl swore discreetly when Gonggong scolded him, but he ignored her!

Then, Darryl smiled forcefully as he turned to Emperor Hou Yi and said, "Your Majesty, forgive me for being direct. I am from the World Universe, and I arrived here by accident, so I cannot stay!"

"So, you're from the World Universe, and you're not willing to stay here and work for me, right?" Emperor Hou Yi looked at Darryl and chuckled. He said flatly, "Very well. Since you're not willing, then I won't force you. But you're from one of the other mainlands, so I would need to do my part as a good host. Why don't you stay in the palace for a few days? You can leave later!"

When he said that, Emperor Hou Yi had a smile on his face even though his heart seethed with rage.

As North Moana's supreme ruler, who would dare to defy his words? Unfortunately, it seemed like Darryl did not know how to behave; how could he let him go so easily?

Emperor Hou Yi decided to find an excuse to let Darryl stay temporarily and then find a way to make Darryl willing to work for him!

"There's no need for that!" Darryl smiled as he scratched his head.

He had been a part of the world of cultivators for so many years. He knew that the Emperor had wanted.

He knew that if he agreed to stay for a few days, he might not be able to leave!

Gasp!

Everyone was stunned.

That kid dared to refuse Emperor Hou Yi more than once? Who gave him the courage to do that?

Emperor Hou Yi's face darkened.

"Such a self-righteous person." Chang Er, who had remained silent, glared at Darryl and said, "This kid is so ungrateful; just lock him up."

Her voice was not loud, but it was extremely pleasing to one's ears. Yet it also had a coldness that could not be disrespected!

"The Empress' words make sense." Emperor Hou Yi looked at Chang Er tenderly—he truly loved her. An emperor would have thousands of concubines and lovers, yet Emperor Hou Yi was different. He only had Chang Er as his wife!

For the past thousand years, whatever Chang Er said, Hou Yi would satisfy her. At that moment, Emperor Hou Yi waved his hands and said, "Drag him out and lock him up!"

Two guards quickly came forward and grabbed Darryl on each side.

'Women are such troublesome creatures!'

Darryl suddenly panicked. He yelled at the Empress. "You must be Chang Er, right? Legend has it that you're as ethereal as ever. How do you not know about humanity? Just because I don't want to stay at North Moana, you're locking me up? What rationale is this?"

Gasp!

The moment he said that, the officials' expressions changed!

'This kid is way too bold! How dare he talk to Her Majesty that way?'

Slap!

Gonggong walked toward Darryl and slapped him violently on the face without any warning!

"How dare you be so rude to Her Majesty! You're suicidal! I think you should be killed, and not just locking you up!" Gonggong said coldly to Darryl with fury in her eyes.

Even though Chang Er was the almighty empress, she had a personal and close relationship with Gonggong.

When Darryl was disrespectful toward Chang Er, Gonggong could not stand it!

Gonggong slapped Darryl again!

Darryl's acupoints had been sealed, so he could not avoid those slaps. Two bright red handprints were immediately visible on his face!

"Her Majesty?" Darryl was aggravated. With reddened eyes, he said coldly, " Such an insensitive person does not deserve the title. If you want to recruit talent, you need to be polite and virtuous and not oppress people with power!"

When he said that, Darryl seethed with rage!

Gasp!

The entire main hall erupted in a heated discussion!

'This man is too bold! How dare he talk of Her Majesty in that way! He really deserved death for speaking so rudely!"

"What an arrogant person!" At that moment, Chang Er could not hold back her anger. She glared at Darryl. "You dare talk to me that way! I see that you are longing for death!"

Then, Chang Er turned her head to Hou Yi and said, "Emperor, please leave this man at my disposal!"

When she said that, her beautiful face was as cold as ever. She was the high and mighty Lady Chang Er—everyone had to show her respect! Yet, the man in front of her spoke so rudely. It was not enough even if he were to die a million times!

"Very well!" Emperor Hou Yi did not even think; he nodded and agreed to her request.

Hou Yi loved Chang Er very much-he would always listen to her!

"You're Darryl Darby, right?" At that moment, Chang Er opened her mouth once again. Without any expression on her face, she said, "I'll give you another chance. If you kneel and kowtow to admit your wrongdoings to me, I' ll forgive your rudeness."

Darryl laughed. "I'm sorry. I would only kneel to two people in my life, and they are my parents."

Even if he were to kneel, Darryl knew that Chang Er would not let him go so easily, so he did not bother with that!

"Very well! Great!" Chang Er's expressions darkened. "I see that you're stubborn. Let's see how long that'll last!"

Then, Chang Er lifted her hand, and a few light beams shot out. Those light beams were actually sterling needles. They were swift as lighting, and they jabbed at Darryl's acupoints!

Chang Er was the Moon Goddess, and her cultivation method involved the chilly cultivation technique. Her Chilly Marrow Method had reached a different level.

Those sterling needles were her ultimate technique—the Ice Needles!

Jab! Jab! Jab!

Darryl could barely react. The Ice Needles immediately jabbed his acupoints.

Gasp!

Darryl could only feel pain from his acupoints and unbearable cold yin energy that had enveloped him.

At first, Darryl gritted his teeth and tried to bear through the pain. However, in the end, the chilly energy got stronger and stronger until it attacked his entire body and caused him excruciating pain. It continued to attack Darryl's nerves. "Argh!" Finally, Darryl yelled out loud. He trembled terribly.

At that moment, Gonggong walked forward and smiled ambiguously at Darryl. "So? Will you admit your wrongdoings to Her Majesty?"

Darryl sweated profusely. He gritted his teeth. "I did nothing wrong. Why should I apologize to her?"

"How bold!" Gonggong harrumphed coldly before she said in disgust, "Her Majesty's Ice Needles are incomparable in this world. No one can bear the pain. Let's see how long you can take it!"

Then, Chang Er, who still sat there, lifted her hands once more. Dozens of sterling needles flew out and jabbed at Darryl's other acupoints!

The pain immediately increased tenfold! Darryl's face was ashen. His entire body started to twitch, and his sight began to darken. At that moment, he only felt as if a million ants had bitten his acupoints. It nearly drove him crazy.

However, Darryl's eyes still glared at Chang Er.

'F*ck! This woman is too brutal. Such vicious torture methods!'

"You still dare to glare at me?"

As Darryl glared at her in contempt, Chang Er stood up slowly and walked toward him.

Gulp!

Darryl was in a trance when he saw Chang Er's tight body and her long, pale legs approached him.

Then, Chang Er immediately stepped on Darryl's face!

"You're only a mere child; how dare you speak so rudely to me? I'm going to ask you once more. Are you going to apologize, and are you going to work for the empire?" Chang Er asked icily.

When she said that, her gorgeous face looked at him condescendingly.

Darryl felt so furious that he almost exploded.

'Chang Er, just you wait! When you're in my hands, I will make you wish for immediate death!"

When she saw Darryl's defiant face, Chang Er lost her patience. Then, she said to the guards outside, "Lock him up! Execute him the first thing tomorrow morning!"

A few guards immediately carried Darryl and dragged him out of the main hall.

Darryl wanted to struggle, but his acupoints were sealed. He could not move even if he wanted to do that.

Half an hour later, Darryl was brought into a dark, wet prison cell. His hands and legs were cuffed with iron chains.

He scanned his surroundings—walls on three sides, the fourth was covered in iron rails. Darryl almost lost it.

'No. No. I have to escape!' Darryl's heart pounded. He walked to a corner of his cell, sat down, and crossed his legs. He tried to calm down.

He still had many things to do; he could not die there.

'I can use my internal energy to flush my acupoints!'

Once he had decided to do that, Darryl slowly calmed. He paid attention to his breathing and started to activate his internal energy.

Time passed by, and soon, it was night.

When he flushed the final acupoint, Darryl opened his eyes and sighed in relief. It was a good thing that he had pure energy; it was a much faster way to relieve his acupoints.

Darryl stood up slowly and cast the White Lily Cold Flame that immediately burned the iron cuffs off his hands and legs.

'I am finally free!' He laughed to himself.

Darryl moved his limbs; he was unspeakably delighted! At the same time, he felt aggrieved.

Chang Er had humiliated him, so he wanted to seek revenge. However, after he thought about it, he decided to give up on that.

He could barely fight Gonggong; how could he defeat Chang Er?

The most important thing at that time was to leave that place and return to the World Universe!

However, Darryl saw the guards outside the prison cell, and he frowned.

'F*ck! The people in North Moana are just too powerful! Even the prison guards are Martial Saints!' If he were to rush out directly, he would definitely attract more guards. By then, it would be harder for him to escape!

What could he do?

At that moment, Darryl was conflicted.

Suddenly, he had an idea!

'Yes, I can let Pang Tong out of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. He can distract them, and I'll use that opportunity to escape!'

Darryl did not think much about that decision—he quickly let Pang Tong out of the pagoda.

Buzz!

With a wave of aura, Pang Tong appeared in front of Darryl. He said respectfully, "Master, how can I help you?"

"Distract the prison guards!" Darryl did not bother to say much; he only gave a simple instruction.

"Yes, Master!"

Pang Tong immediately rushed out.

```
"Who's there?"
```

"Stop!"

A few guards had noticed Pang Tong before he approached them. They yelled angrily and chased after him.

Pang Tong did not say a single word; he quickly rushed out. In the blink of an eye, he had distracted the guards and disappeared into the night.

"This move is perfect!"

Darryl was inexplicably proud when he saw the scene. Then, he strode out of the prison cell.

Darryl was not worried about Pang Tong. Even if he was caught, Darryl could use the pagoda and recall him back into it.

The pagoda had about a dozen kilometers range. As long as Pang Tong did not go too far, he could get him back into the pagoda!

However, just as he exited the prison, Darryl was instantly bewildered!

'F*ck! This palace is way too huge!'

Darryl noticed that there were walkways everywhere among the vast palace buildings—it was like a gigantic maze! Some guards patrolled around the area. There were even hundreds of giant birds in the sky with a few guards on each one. It seemed like they were patrolling the skies.

Those giant birds were called Iron King Doves. They were a low-level flying enchanted beast. Obviously, those birds had been domesticated.

It looked like the palace's sky and ground were heavily guarded!

Darryl's head hurt. What should he do? How could he escape the palace?

He could only wander around randomly and try his luck. Perhaps he could escape the palace that way!

Once he had decided, Darryl moved forward. The night was dark, so his vision was limited. Furthermore, he was unfamiliar with his surroundings, and he had to be on the lookout for patrolling guards. It was not long before Darryl felt dizzy. He was utterly lost.

At that moment, Darryl was deep inside the palace, but there was a courtyard in front of him.

A huge stone stele was erected at the courtyard entrance!

The stone stele was more than 10 meters tall, and it had bright-red words on it!

Forbidden place! Those who enter shall die!

Darryl walked toward the stone stele and saw those words. He trembled.

'A forbidden place? I'm sure this is a lie. Could this be the palace's back door?'

Many palaces throughout the dynasties had back doors. That was because the emperors were afraid that someone would usurp their thrones. If there were a coup, then they could escape through the back door. That was why so many palaces would have them.

Darryl was delighted. He walked into the forbidden place and opened the door!

Gasp!

When Darryl opened the door and saw what was inside, he was stunned! He immediately gasped!

There were thousands of wooden stakes! Every wooden stake was about three meters tall—some were thick, and some thin!

Those wooden stakes looked extremely messy and haphazard, yet there were hidden mysteries in them! If Darryl guessed correctly, they were part of a formation!

As he muttered to himself, Darryl stood there with a frown. He looked at the wooden stakes and started to analyze them.

After he observed the situation for about two minutes, Darryl nodded and smiled to himself.

He realized that it was the Thousand Wood Mystery Formation. The Bai Qi Formations had mentioned that the Thousand Wood Mystery Formation was an upper-level formation—it was highly sophisticated and arcane, and it had been passed down since ancient times. Once the formation was activated, it could trap thousands of soldiers in it.

As he thought about that, Darryl strode into the room!

"Five steps onward, two steps backward... six steps southwest, seven steps northwest..." Darryl muttered the Breaking Formation Chant under his breath and walked at the same time. Within ten minutes, he had managed to pass through the wooden stakes!

```
'F*ck! It's a dead-end?' Darryl had only managed to get through the formation. When he saw what was in front of him, Darryl sighed in despair.
```

It was a courtyard.

The courtyard did not seem huge, but it was elegant. It had a few grass huts, and beside it was a bamboo forest. It was filled with greenery, and there was even a pavilion in the bamboo forest!

'F*ck! Someone's in there?'

Darryl scanned his surroundings. Just as his eyes fell on the pavilion, he was suddenly stunned.

A man stood in the pavilion—he looked like he was in his thirties. He was in a long, white robe. He stood up straight—his face was as fair a jade, and his eyes sparkled brightly. He was a beautiful man, indeed.

Darryl had always thought that he was quite handsome. However, he felt slightly ashamed when he saw the man; he could not compare to the stranger.

The man in white was quite handsome. Graceful, charming, elegant—words that were perfectly acceptable to describe him!

Darryl looked at the man with doubts in his heart.

They were in a forbidden place in North Moana Palace. Who was he? Why was he here?

Darryl could not suppress the curiosity in him, so he walked toward the man in white.

When he got nearer, Darryl did not know whether to laugh or cry—the man was playing Go. However, he had no opponent. He played against himself!

Even though he was in a game of Go by himself, the man seemed happy and content.

At that moment, the man in white smiled as he placed a white Go stone on the board. He laughed and muttered to himself, "This is an ultimate move. You'll lose this round!"

No one sat in the opposite seat.

Then, he quickly went to the other side and picked up a black Go stone. He pretended to be another person and said condescendingly, "A mediocre move! You'll see how I beat you!

"You'll lose for sure!

"Don't be too sure; no one knows who will win yet."

The man in white went back and forth between the two sides of the board. He was a man with two roles, and he played vigorously. He might have even frothed at the mouth as he talked too much.

'F*ck! He must be so bored to play Go with himself so intensely? He might look handsome, but is he nuts?'

"Who are you?" The man in white suddenly heard Darryl's footsteps and was frightened. He almost jumped.

Then, his eyes widened as he sized Darryl up without even a blink. Dozens of seconds passed before he said in shock, "Dude, who are you? How did you get in here?"

When he said that, the man in white looked extremely curious!

Darryl was extremely uncomfortable when the man stared at him. It was as if

he was in a zoo, and the people were observing a monkey. However, upon his question, Darryl still replied politely, "Senior, I am from the World Universe. I was captured by Emperor Hou Yi and brought to this palace. I want to escape, but I somehow mistakenly ended up here at the palace's forbidden place."

"Oh!"

The man in white seemed to have come to a realization. Then he excitedly pulled Darryl's hands. "Come, come, come, since you're here, you should rest. Play a few rounds of Go with me! I have been going nuts for the past thousand years! There's no one to play with me. Come quick! Play a game with me!"

'What? Who plays Go with each other the moment they meet?'

Darryl did not know whether to laugh or cry. He said, "I'm sorry, I don't have the time for a round of Go. I just want to leave the palace now. However, there are many guards at the palace gates. Can you tell me if there is another exit in this palace?"

"Hmm?" When he heard those words, the man in white rolled his eyes and said matter-of-factly, "Since you don't want to play with me, why should I tell you how to leave the palace?"

"Uh..." Darryl was suddenly embarrassed and depressed. He could only nod and smile bitterly. "Very well. I'll play one round with you, but I don't know how to play Go!"

It was the truth. Go had been extremely popular in ancient times in the World Universe, but not many knew how to play that game as time passed.

The man in white laughed and replied joyfully, "Such a young kid, you don't even know how to play Go? Don't worry; I'll teach you!"

Then, the man in white started to teach Darryl how to play Go.

Darryl was anxious to leave the place, so he was not in the mood to learn. However, he had no choice, so he had to force himself to listen to the man's explanation.

"Right!" After some basic explanation of Go, the man in white subconsciously looked at Darryl and asked, "Little Brother, I still don't know your name."

"I'm Darryl Darby!" Darryl did not even think before he answered the man. Then he returned the question. "Might I know your name too, Big Brother?"

Darryl had tried to guess that person's identity. He must be someone special as he lived in the palace's forbidden place.

"Me?" The man in white was suddenly spirited. He replied proudly, "My name is pretty famous! I'm afraid if I say it out loud, you'd be frightened! Listen up! My name is Zhu Bajie. I was once the Heavenly Reeds Marshal..."

He was halfway through his speech when Zhu Bajie suddenly thought of something. He waved his hands in dismissal and said, "Forget about it. Let's not talk about the past!"

'Zhu Bajie?!' At that moment, Darryl's mind buzzed!

The Heavenly Reeds Marshal—Zhu Bajie?!

Darryl trembled and exclaimed. "F*ck! You're the Heavenly Reeds Marshal Zhu Bajie?!"

Darryl looked at Zhu Bajie in amazement. He said to himself, "Wait a second. I thought they said that Zhu Bajie had a fat head, big ears, and a long nose, and looks like a pig? Why are you so handsome?"

"Hey! How could you say that about me?!" Zhu Bajie replied curtly, "What are you saying about a fat head and big ears! I'm famous for my beauty."

Then, Zhu Bajie scratched his head and looked at Darryl in confusion. "Little Kid, you've heard of me?"

'F*ck! It really is Zhu Bajie!' Darryl was rendered speechless for a long time!

It was true. That man was Zhu Bajie. However, legend had depicted him as a fat pig because of rumors. The truth was that Zhu Bajie was a graceful and elegant man. He was also very powerful. Not only that, he was talented in music, chess, calligraphy, and art — there was nothing that he could not do!

If one had to talk about his shortcomings, then Zhu Bajie had two. One was

that he did not take things seriously; the other was that he was lustful.

Darryl said, "Brother Zhu, you're a famous person in the World Universe! Everyone there knows about you!"

"Really?" Zhu Bajie was delighted and slightly proud when he heard that. " Am I that famous?"

Since Zhu Bajie was in a good mood, Darryl quickly changed his tone and asked, "Brother Zhu, you're very famous. We all look up to such a great person like you! Brother Zhu, can you help me leave this palace?"

Zhu Bajie chuckled. "Little Brother, if you want to know how to leave the palace, you will have to play a round of Go with me! Come, come, let us say no more and play!"

Zhu Bajie smiled, but his eyes were shifty; he did not dare look at Darryl!

The truth was the palace had no other exits! Zhu Bajie had been confined in the forbidden place! He also wanted to leave the palace, but he could not even leave the forbidden place!

Zhu Bajie had a bad habit. Whenever he saw a woman, he would stop and try to woo them. A thousand years ago, Zhu Bajie was the Heavenly Reeds Marshal. He only had to answer to one person! Once, on Emperor Hou Yi's birthday, all the officials were all drunk. Even Empress Chang Er was drunk too. Zhu Bajie became bold and snuck into her bedroom. He wanted to kiss her while she was drunk, but Emperor Hou Yi had caught him.

Emperor Hou Yi loved Chang Er deeply. He was livid when he saw how Zhu Bajie almost defiled her. He wanted to kill Zhu Bajie on the spot. However, Zhu Bajie was the great Heavenly Reeds Marshal and had many outstanding achievements!

Emperor Hou Yi could not bear to kill him, but he found a way to make Zhu Bajie's life worse than death. He locked Zhu Bajie up in the forbidden place! Also, he had set up a formation at the entrance so that the culprit would not be able to escape the place! Zhu Bajie had been confined there for a thousand years!

Even though Zhu Bajie was strong, he could not solve the Thousand Wood Mystery Formation, so he was stuck there for almost a thousand years!

For the past thousand years, no one had dared to enter the forbidden place until Darryl, who had accidentally entered by mistake.

Zhu Bajie had been confined there for a thousand years, and when he saw Darryl, he was reluctant to let him go. He had to get Darryl to play with him. So, Zhu Bajie lied to Darryl that if he were to play a round of Go with him, he would tell him how to leave the palace.

Darryl believed him, so he could only play with Zhu Bajie. At that moment, Darryl still did not know that it was all a lie. The palace did not have any other exits!

Buzz!

In the middle of their game, Darryl suddenly felt a loud buzz from under his feet. The ground trembled violently, and one could not stand steadily. It was as if the earth was falling apart!

'F*ck! What is happening? Earthquake?'

Darryl was stunned. He immediately turned around to see where the shaking came from.

Simultaneously, the palace maidservants and eunuchs came out in panic and looked toward the sky in the distance!

The skies toward the northeast, where the World Universe was located, seemed to have blood-colored clouds that rose in the distance. It was a shocking sight to behold!

'F*ck! It's the World Universe!'

Darryl was in a daze; he could not help but mutter to himself, "F*ck me! Did

another Grand Weapon appear?"

When the Sky Breaking Axe appeared ten years ago, Darryl had been in the Great East! He still remembered that day clearly. The ground shook, and strange phenomena appeared in the skies.

"Yes, of course!" At that moment, Zhu Bajie snapped back to his senses. He looked at the blood-colored clouds in the distance and said passionately, " Such a huge commotion—it must not be an ordinary Grand Weapon."

Then, Zhu Bajie sighed and shook his head self-deprecatingly. "Too bad I'm cooped up here. If I could get out, I'm sure I can get my hands on the Grand Weapon!"

'Yes!' Darryl nodded his head in agreement.

'Hold up! Something's not right!'

The next second, Darryl realized something. His eyes widened as he glared at Zhu Bajie. "Brother Zhu, what did you just say? You're stuck here, and you cannot leave? I thought you said that there were other exits in the palace?"

At that moment, Darryl realized that he had been tricked.

"Uh..." Zhu Bajie immediately shut up and chuckled awkwardly. "Little Brother, to tell you the truth, I have been confined here for many years. There are no other exits!"

When he said that, Zhu Bajie wanted to slap himself twice.

How could he let that slip? He had wanted to trick Darryl for a few days so that he would play with him. He knew that the secret was out of the bag! He had spoiled everything!

Swoosh!

Darryl's face darkened. He said curtly, "Then why did you lie to me?"

At that moment, Darryl wanted to teach Zhu Bajie a lesson brutally, but he held back. Darryl knew that Zhu Bajie was an extremely powerful being; he was no match for him.

"I just wanted you to play with me for a few more days!" Zhu Bajie explained as he scratched his head and forced a smile on his face.

'F*ck!'

Darryl was upset. He said coldly, "Just play with yourself in the future!"

Then, Darryl turned and left. Since there were no other exits, he only could leave the forbidden place by the gates—it was a risky move!

"Hey, hey, Little Brother, don't be angry!"

Zhu Bajie chased after Darryl anxiously.

•••

Meanwhile, in the main hall at the palace in the South Cloud World!

The Empress stood at the entrance and looked toward the sky. Her gorgeous face was filled with excitement.

Quincy Long and the other officials stood behind her; all of them also looked up at the sky; they were inexplicably stunned!

After a few seconds, the Empress sighed in relief. "The blood-colored clouds have risen; a Grand Weapon must have appeared! Heed my orders—head to the World Universe immediately! There can be no mistakes!" the Empress said determinedly.

The South Cloud World had lost their chance at grabbing the Sky Breaking Axe when it appeared ten years ago. So they knew that they would have to seize the opportunity as quickly as they could!

"Yes, Your Majesty!" the officials replied in unison.

....

Mistloren, Wanhai City!

Sir Robert Box sat in the main hall of the Box mansion; he was stunned.

Two petite figures stood behind him—each gorgeous in their own ways. It was his two daughters, Ashley and Tiffany!

At the moment, the three of them looked at the skies in the distance in a daze. They were speechless for a very long time.

"Dad, is this a sign that a Grand Weapon had appeared?" Tiffany snapped back to her senses. She could not hide the excitement and delight in her heart. "Ten years ago, the Sky Breaking Axe had appeared in the New World. I wonder what kind of weapon this is now..."

Then, Ashley said flatly, "It looks like it's coming from the World Universe!"

Ten years ago, the ultimate weapon-the Sky Breaking Axe-had appeared in

the New World. It created a commotion throughout the Nine Mainlands. Even though the Box sisters had never seen the Sky Breaking Axe, they still remembered the trembles they felt on the ground that day.

Robert took a deep breath and stood up slowly. "Pack your things quickly. We' re heading for the World Universe!"

At the mention of the World Universe, Robert suddenly thought of Darryl!

That b*stard had pretended to be a bodyguard, joined the Box family, and stole their precious family heirloom—the Dragon Essence.

Robert would always keep that incident with hatred in his heart.

Since a strange phenomenon had happened in the World Universe and the Grand Weapon was about to appear, Robert Box had no hesitation at all!

Even if they could not get the Grand Weapon, with the Box family's powers, they must retrieve their family heirloom—the Dragon Essence!

"Awesome!" Tiffany was excited as she nodded. "We'll prepare right away!" Then, the two sisters left the main hall.

...

The World Universe.

The sects in the Nine Mainlands were in shock because of the sudden strange phenomena in the skies and the earthquakes.

It was not only the South Cloud royal family and the Box family who were prepared to head toward the World Universe, but all the other sects in the Nine Mainland had gathered their disciples and headed to the same place as well.

Even the Sword Sect from the Great East, Sloan from the New World, the World Universe's five local main sects—the Beggars' sect, Island of Peach Blossom, and all the others—had the same intention, and that was to rush toward the location where the strange phenomena had happened. They wanted to seize the Grand Weapon before anyone else could do the same.

Meanwhile, at Mount Hua in the World Universe!

Mount Hua was located northwest of the World Universe. The mountains there were steep and dangerous, but the view was impeccable. It had been known as the most dangerous mountain in the world since ancient times.

A group of ancient buildings stood at Mount Hua's peak—it was the Mount Hua Sect!

The Mount Hua Sect had been around for thousands of years; it played an essential role in the martial arts world's history in the World Universe. For the past thousands of years, the Mount Hua Sect had churned out many strong and powerful disciples!

However, over the years, their size had shrunk, and they had also lost their reputation among their fellow cultivators.

Mount Hua Sect's Sect Master was Old White Brows; he was in his seventies. However, he was still strong and healthy! He was a level one Martial Saint!

Most of his fellow cultivators called him Master White Brows.

At that moment, blood-colored clouds had risen on the top of Mount Hua with rapturous thunder!

Yes, the place that caused all those phenomena was Mount Hua! The earth trembled violently; it felt like Mount Hua was about to fall into pieces. Many boulders and rocks continued to fall from the peak!

At that moment, Master White Brows sat in the Mount Hua main hall with a solemn expression. The sect's elders stood in front of him. The sect's disciples —about 30 to 40 thousand people—had conflicted expressions on their faces. They were inexplicably frightened!

Suddenly, Mount Hua shook violently. Then, thunder and lightning followed; it was as if the skies were about to fall.

Old White Brows had immediately gathered everyone to face that sudden situation!

At that moment, Old White Brows scanned his surroundings and said flatly, " Don't panic. The quakes are a blessing and not a curse! It's time for Mount Hua Sect to revitalize itself again!"

Gasp!

The entire main hall erupted in a heated discussion.

A strange phenomenon appeared, and that meant a Grand Weapon must have appeared as well!

One of the Mount Hua Sect elders walked forward slowly and said excitedly, " Sect Master, do you know anything about the origin of the Grand Weapon that' s about to appear?"

At that moment, all eyes were on Old White Brows.

Old White Brows smiled and shook his head. "You've all guessed wrongly. Mount Hua is shaking not because a Grand Weapon is about to appear, but a mighty person's ancient tomb will be revealed soon!"

'What? An ancient tomb?'

Everyone was stunned.

The appearance of an ancient tomb had caused such a huge commotion—its owner must not have been an ordinary person.

"Everyone, silence!" Old White Brows lifted his hands and continued, "If I guessed correctly, that ancient tomb belongs to Wen Marquis—Lu Bu!"

When he said that, Old White Brows sighed in relief. He had read Mount Hua Sect's ancient manuals, and one of them had mentioned that Lu Bu was so strong that no one was his match. However, his enemies had surrounded him in an attack, and subsequently, he died in that battle. Then, he was buried in a tomb underneath Mount Hua.

When the strange phenomena happened so suddenly, and the earth shook, Old White Brows immediately thought of Lu Bu. He was sure that LuBu's tomb would be revealed soon.

It was important to note that most supreme masters had the highest cultivation levels when they were alive, and when they died and were buried, their lifelong internal energy would fill their entire tomb. Eventually, when their tomb could no longer contain more internal energy, it would break out of the ground and appear in the world once again.

If he had guessed correctly, Mount Hua's earthquake had happened because Lu Bu's tomb would appear soon.

Gasp!

The entire main hall erupted in an uproar. Everyone was extremely excited.

It was Lu Bu's tomb!

Lu Bu was a mighty hero from the Three Kingdoms. The legends mentioned that he had an ultimate cultivation technique—the Blood Battle Eight

```
Chapter 1284
```

Directions! It was an incomparable method; no one could fight against it! Since his tomb was about to reappear, if they could get their hands on that ultimate technique, then Mount Hua Sect would grow once again!

"Heed my orders!"

Old White Brows took a deep breath before his thick voice reverberated throughout the main hall. "All disciples are to return to Mount Hua immediately to guard every entrance. Inform me as soon as another sect appears!" Old White Brows said with a face of determination.

All the other sects must have seen the phenomenon that had only just happened. He knew that they must be on their way there.

They must not let anyone take the treasures from the tomb that had appeared on Mount Hua!

"Yes, Master!" The disciples in the hall responded with a roar before they went to deploy their preparations.