

Disciples 1321

Chapter 1321: Two Birth Charts

When Yu Shangrong was in the Unknown Land, he had spent most of his time cultivating his sword path. He had used his sword path to increase his strength and raise his cultivation base. Since he needed ten days to half a month to absorb a beast king's life heart, he could not spend all his time on absorbing the life heart.

Most of the people present on the scene had witnessed Yu Shangrong's sword path earlier.

The cavalymen did not even have a chance to fight back before they were killed by him. Although Qiong Qi was powerful, it had only dealt the killing blow.

Everyone was shocked when they saw Yu Shangrong controlling the Longevity Sword over such a great distance.

The 49 Swordsmen wanted to attack but were shocked by the fierce sword that slashed at Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi in a frenzy.

The 49 Swordsmen were also sword experts, but none of them were capable of learning Yu Shangrong's control over his sword.

The Longevity Sword released a storm of terrifying energy swords and continued to slash Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi until the protective energies completely shattered. Following that, the Longevity Sword did not hesitate as it pierced at its targets' vital points.

Blood splattered everywhere in just an instant.

The energy swords danced in the air.

Boom!

Lu Zhou raised an eyebrow. No matter how one looked at it, with Fan Zhong's tremendous strength and Yu Shangrong's perfect support, the two brothers should have lost their Birth Charts. However, up until now, he did not see the appearance and disappearance of the brothers' Thousand Realms Whirling avatars that indicated the loss of Birth Charts.

Yu Shangrong waved his hand, and the Longevity Sword flew back to its scabbard. Then, he said, "They should have a way to protect their Birth Charts that are even stronger than puppets."

Yuan Lang shook his head. "No."

Lu Zhou looked at Yuan Lang and asked, "Do you know something?"

Yuan Lang knew this was a golden opportunity to get close to the big shot. If he did not take advantage of this, he would be disappointing his parents, ancestors, and Qin Renyue. Hence, he hurriedly explained, "Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi are connected. Their lives have long merged as one. They were experts of Great Jin in the past. When they were in Great Jin, they cultivated a life-sharing technique. Not only do they share their lives, but they can freely transfer their lifespans as well. During the battle

on Mount Xiao, Meng Mingshi led a troop and defeated Great Jin. After that, the brothers pledged allegiance to the emperor of Great Qin and became his right-hand men.”

Yuan Lang continued to say, “This secret technique is similar to the parasitic technique, but it’s much more advanced. Zhi Wenzhi could share fatal injuries with Zhi Wuzi, and in turn, lessening the injuries. Apart from that, they can also transfer the injuries to other parts of their bodies. Even if you decapitate them or stab their hearts, they can still survive.”

“To be precise, not only their lives are connected, but their Eight Extraordinary Meridians are connected as well. They’re like... certain worms. Worms are also sometimes known as earth dragons. The common worms are cylindrical in shape, and they have no bones. Some worms can even grow back the parts that are cut off... Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi’s technique is even better than that of those worms,” Yuan Lang said. He hoped his explanation was not too difficult to understand. He turned around and saw that Lu Zhou and the others were rather calm.

However, Little Yuan’er’s reaction was slightly exaggerated. She was plugging her ears with her index fingers.

Yu Shangrong said politely, “Thank you for answering my question, sir.”

Yuan Lang shook his head. “It’s nothing.”

Mingshi Yin brought out his Separation Hook as he said to Yuan Lang, “Tell how to kill them...”

“Uh...” Yuan Lang said sheepishly, “I... I don’t know about that...”

Mingshi Yin felt slightly speechless. After a moment, he said, “Then, based on your explanation, does it mean it’s impossible for them to die?”

At this moment, Fan Zhong flashed over toward the sky above the Zhao Residence. Then, he unleashed another palm seal.

Boom!

It landed accurately on Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi, causing them to spit out blood.

Upon seeing this, Fan Zhong nodded in satisfaction. Then, he turned around and cupped his fists at Lu Zhou. “Brother Lu.”

“Don’t call my master that. He’s not your brother,” Mingshi Yin said.

There was no lack of people who wanted to get close to their master, after all. Usually, Mingshi Yin did not mind having more of this kind of people. However, he really disliked Fan Zhong who maintained a neutral stance and act according to which way the wind blew.

Fan Zhong. “...”

Fan Zhong was embarrassed and did not know what to say.

“Don’t be rude,” Lu Zhou finally said.

With that, Mingshi Yin took a step back and stopped talking.

Fan Zhong said, "It's just a small matter. As a Venerable Master, if I take offense at such a small matter, wouldn't I have lived in vain?"

Lu Zhou raised his head and said, "Since you helped me, I'll naturally treat you accordingly."

To be able to order a Venerable Master around was something unimaginable in the green lotus domain, after all.

Fan Zhong pointed at Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi and said, "These two are from Great Jin, and they cultivated a life-sharing technique. It's not easy to kill them, but it's not impossible."

Upon hearing these words, a smile bloomed on Mingshi Yin's face immediately. "Alright, forget what I said earlier!"

"It's fine. I didn't take offense."

"So how do we kill them?" Mingshi Yin asked eagerly as he brought out the Separation Hook again and wiped it with his sleeve.

How could Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi stand listening to others casually discussing how to kill them? Alas, although they felt suffocated, there was nothing they could do. After they stood up with great difficulty, they looked at Fan Zhong with a hint of disbelief.

"Venerable Master Fan, you..."

Fan Zhong turned around and interjected, "Don't blame me. You didn't tell me who's here when you invited me over. If I had known it's Brother Lu..."

Zhi Wenzi said, brimming with unwillingness, "But you promised His Majesty!"

Before Fan Zhong could reply, Lu Zhou said tonelessly, "I want to see what you're capable of."

Lu Zhou waved his hand and imbued half of his divine power into the Fiend Monk's Hand Seal.

Zou Ping who was still struggling suddenly felt an energy that was much stronger than before pressing against him from all sides.

"No!"

Crack!

A Thousand Realms Whirling avatar appeared and disappeared.

Boom!

Zou Ping crashed to the ground.

"General Zou!"

"General!"

The winged cavalymen quickly flew down and surrounded Zou Ping.

"Ding! Destroyed one Birth Chart. Reward: 1a,500 merit points."

If Lu Zhou still could not destroy a Birth Chart with almost half of his divine power, then it would not have made sense at all.

Zou Ping's eyes shone with fear at this moment. Primal Qi surged in the air before they returned to heaven and earth.

Everyone felt chills running up their spines. Even Zou Ping, who had 17 Birth Charts, could not withstand a single strike from the old man in front of them.

Although Fan Zhong found this hard to believe, he had no choice but to believe it. After escaping from the battle at the Pillar of Destruction, he had received news about Tuoba Sicheng and Ye Zheng's deaths. At that time, he did not believe it so he sent people to investigate the matter. In the end, he found out that the person who caused the deaths of Tuoba Sicheng, Ye Zheng, Tian Wu, and Lord Zhennan was none other than the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion from the golden lotus domain. Now that he witnessed Lu Zhou's attack again, he even had a feeling that Lu Zhou could defeat him with just a palm strike.

As Venerable Master, Fan Zhong should have been very confident. However, he had suffered too much recently, and his confidence had been worn thin.

At this time, Lu Zhou walked out with his hands on his back and said, "I said that I wanted a Birth Chart each from both of you as punishment..."

"Fine! One Birth Chart it is!" Zhi Wenzhi said through gritted teeth.

"That was before.. Now, I want two Birth Charts from everyone..." Lu Zhou said tonelessly.

Chapter 1322: Secrets

Zhi Wenzhi's expression stiffened. "This..."

Seeing that Zhi Wenzhi still dared to hesitate, Zhao Yu shook his head and said, "Are you really stupid or are you just pretending to be stupid? Your Birth Charts can be restored, but if you lose your life, then you really have no way of restoring it."

At this moment, Yuan Lang said, "They don't have Birth Charts."

"..."

"That's how the life-sharing technique works. Just like how worms don't have bones, they don't have Birth Charts. All their Birth Charts have fused with their bodies," Yuan Lang explained.

"Then tell me how to kill them!" Mingshi Yin said impatiently as he raised the Separation Hook in his hand.

Woof! Woof! Woof!

Woof Woof Woof!

Yuan Lang smiled awkwardly and stepped back. "Don't be angry. Weapons have no eyes, after all. Anyway, the school of Daoism has talismans that can suppress the life-sharing technique. Once the technique is suppressed or destroyed, killing them is even easier than killing an ordinary Thousand Realms Whirling avatar."

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi sat on the ground limply; their faces were pale.

Mingshi Yin nodded before he said, "In fact, it doesn't matter if we kill them or not. We can dismember them a few times a day to practice our weapons. This is a rather good idea..."

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi. "..."

Mingshi Yin held the Separation Hook and rushed over.

Upon seeing this, Zhi Wenzi hastily cried out, "Wait!"

"Wait my as*!"

Bang!

Mingshi Yin sent Zhi Wenzi flying with a kick.

Zhi Wenzi could have avoided the kick, but he knew if he tried to avoid it, he would likely suffer a greater loss. When he landed, he felt an excruciating pain in his chest. Fanned by his pain, the flames of fury rose in his heart. This group of people did not play by the rules at all! Zou Ping was unreliable, Fan Zhong was unreliable, everyone was f*cking unreliable!

After Zhi Wenzi calmed down, he endured the pain and said, "Old sir, I only have my life. I want to exchange for my life with a secret."

"Do you think you have a right to negotiate?" Mingshi Yin scoffed. At this time, he felt that all the anger that had built up in his chest had finally been vented. He could still remember how arrogant the other party was before his master appeared. Unfortunately, for those people, the table had turned.

"Stand down," Lu Zhou said.

"Huh? Master, you can't trust these people," Mingshi Yin said.

Filled with a sense of urgency, Zhi Wenzi did not even state his conditions and quickly blurted out, "There's a huge secret regarding Young Master Zhao's golden token!"

Zhao Yu. "..."

Lu Zhou looked at the golden token in his hand, inwardly surprised. "What secret?"

"The former emperor had four golden tokens made. Each of the golden tokens contained a treasure map," Zhi Wenzi said.

Indeed. Lu Zhou had found the golden token strange earlier. No wonder it was light and not made from solid gold. As it turned out, it held a secret.

Lu Zhou closed his fingers around the golden token.

Crack!

The golden token cracked easily. A piece of cloth was wedged into a narrow crack in the token.

Lu Zhou pulled the piece of cloth out to have a look. Indeed, it was an incomplete map. Based on what he had seen, the piece of cloth should be a corner of the map.

“How come I don’t know anything about this?” Zhao Yu exclaimed in surprise.

Zhi Wenzi said, “This should’ve been given to you by Madam Qi, right?”

Zhao Yu did not refute these words.

“What treasure does the map lead to?” Mingshi Yin asked.

“I don’t know. Madam Qi knows about this though...”

“Is this the reason why I survived time and time again?” Zhao Yu instinctively took a step back, filled with disbelief.

“Madam Qi didn’t tell you anything?” Zhi Wenzi asked.

Zhao Yu shook his head. Not only did she not tell him about the golden token, but she did not tell him anything.

Lu Zhou, who had a basic understanding of the situation now, said, “When your mother wakes up, you can ask her about this...”

“Madam Qi is awake?” Zhi Wenzi exclaimed in shock.

Lu Zhou looked at Zhi Wenzi with a piercing gaze and said, “Since you don’t want her to wake up, why didn’t you kill her?”

“This...”

“Tell me the truth, and I’ll allow you to leave,” Lu Zhou said. His instincts told him there was more than meets the eyes with the treasure map.

Zhi Wenzi replied, “His Majesty couldn’t bear to see her die.”

Upon hearing Zhi Wenzi’s words, Zhao Yu began to laugh. “How funny! What are you saying?”

“...”

Everyone sighed.

There were many things that could not be explained or understood.

In a way, if it were not for the emperor of Great Qin’s protection, Zhao Yu would have died long ago. After all, there was no need for so many people to put on a show in front of Zhao Yu. Moreover, if Zhao Yu was unaware that those people were acting, it could not be considered as acting anymore.

Lu Zhou said, “In that case, convey my message to your emperor. Tell him to come and see me.”

“...” Zhi Wenzi was briefly taken aback. However, he had learned from his mistakes so he quickly said, “Alright!”

Then, Zhi Wenzi endured the pain and asked, “Can I leave now?”

Lu Zhou waved his hand.

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi supported each other while dozens of cultivators followed them to the horizon.

Zou Ping looked at Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi who had flown away and cursed inwardly. It was Zhi Wenzi who had caused him to suffer today!

Lu Zhou turned and looked at Zou Ping. “You should stay for the time being.”

“...”

Zou Ping’s heart sank. As expected, it was not so easy to leave. After a moment, he said, “All of this is orchestrated by Zhi Wenzi. I was just... helping him!”

“Seal his cultivation,” Lu Zhou said.

Zou Ping sighed and pushed the person beside him away. After coughing twice, he said firmly, “I can stay, but my brothers have nothing to do with this matter. Let them go. Otherwise, I’d rather self-destruct using my Qi!”

“Are you threatening me?”

“I’m just trying to survive,” Zou Ping said.

The people of the Evil Sky Pavilion retreated.

The ninety-seven winged cavalymen were all brave warriors who had fought on countless battlefields. They said in unison, “We’re willing to die together with our general!”

Swoosh!

The 97 cavalymen kneeled in unison.

This made people look at them in a different light. Initially, they thought the cavalymen’s cultivation bases were a little higher than average so it was not surprising they could sweep through ten nations. Now, it seemed like their unity played a part as well.

At this moment, hundreds of soldiers flew over from the distant sky.

Fan Zhong glanced at them and said, “The royal army.”

What did it mean for hundreds of soldiers from the royal army to come at this time?

It did not take long for the royal army to arrive above the Zhao Residence.

“Leave this to me!” Fan Zhong said.

Just as Fan Zhong was about to fly up, Lu Zhou said, “There’s no need.”

At this time, Lu Zhou was slightly angry. He could not let matters slide for the third time. He raised his hand and tossed out something purple into the sky.

When Fan Zhong sensed the biting chill, he exclaimed in shock, "Infinite grade!"

When the Purple Glazed Ceramic flew out, it was as though the coldest winter had arrived at the Zhao Residence.

The hundreds of people were wondering what was going on when they saw a flash of light nearby.

Swoosh!

Time seemed to freeze as a biting and bitter cold swept through the air and shrouded the hundreds of people.

When everyone regained their senses, they did not see what happened. All they saw was the hundreds of soldiers who had now turned into ice sculptures.

Boom!

The ice sculptures fell to the ground.

Zou Ping and the 97 winged cavalymen. "...."

Chapter 1323: The Emperor of Great Qin

Zou Ping and his winged cavalymen knew that the old man in front of them was very strong; he was so strong that even the Venerable Masters were respectful toward him. However, the earth-shaking infinity-grade weapon still shocked them. It was beyond their imagination.

Since time immemorial, those capable of ruling a country were not without means. The emperor of Great Qin had his mysterious and profound cultivation base, and he had Zou Ping and his winged cavalymen as one of his trump cards. After all, if he did not have any trump cards, he would have long become a chess piece for the few Venerable Masters in the green lotus domain who would be at the mercy of others.

Moreover, the emperor of Great Qin had sent many of his capable men to the Unknown Land to search for resources, treasures, and opportunities.

For all these reasons, Zou Ping felt that Great Qin was strong and immovable; Great Qin was even strong enough to contend with a Venerable Master.

However, at this moment, Zou Ping felt as though his fantasy had been shattered. As it turned out, Great Qin did not even have the right to negotiate with the old man in front of him.

Zou Ping stumbled back, and his men quickly supported him. He could only watch helplessly as the ice sculptures fell from the sky.

"General!"

"I... I'm okay..." When Zou Ping raised his head again, no traces of the royal army could be seen in the sky.

Lu Zhou looked at the merit points he had accumulated from this; he did not gain much. He shook his head and said tonelessly, "Too shabby."

Fan Zhong. "..."

Naturally, no one knew Lu Zhou was talking about how shabby the number of merit points he obtained was. They thought he was referring to the royal army.

In the green lotus domain's cultivation world, the royal army did not have many interactions with the top cultivators. The cultivators at the top who pulled the strings behind the scene were the Venerable Masters, Free Men, elders from the major forces, and so on. As for the royal army, their duties required them to keep the weaker cultivators and ordinary people in line. However, this did not mean they were weak. After all, the emperor of Great Qin stood behind them. The emperor of Great Qin was someone whose cultivation base remained a mystery to this day.

At this time, Zou Ping finally regained his senses. After all, he was born and raised in a military camp. His mental strength was very strong. At this time, he was already planning his next step. Finally, he said, "If you want to kill me, then so be it."

Lu Zhou glanced at Zou Ping before he said, "Zou Ping stays. The others should get lost."

Lu Zhou did not think he had the time nor the energy to keep an eye on so many people. It was fine to take one person hostage.

Upon hearing these words, Zou Ping did not let his men speak. He hurriedly said, "All of you get lost!"

"General!"

Zou Ping pushed everyone away with grim determination.

Everyone staggered back.

Upon seeing Zou Ping's determination, the others could only sigh before they flew up into the sky along with their warhorses.

Zou Ping only sighed in relief after all his men left.

Mingshi Yin said, "I really can't tell that you're so loyal to your men."

"Loyal? They're a bunch of good-for-nothings. If they die, others will say that I'm useless," Zou Ping said.

After someone sealed Zou Ping's cultivation as Lu Zhou had ordered, Fan Zhong finally landed on the ground. Then, he said, "Brother Lu, I've heard so much about you!"

Lu Zhou bluntly asked, "What do you want?"

"It's nothing. I just came to visit you," Fan Zhong replied.

"Aren't you part of the reinforcement that Zhi Wenzi called over?" Zhao Yu asked.

Fan Zhong. "..."

Lu Zhou waved his hand. "Don't worry. I'll remember this favor. I won't ask anything about the matter between you and Zhi Wenzhi."

Fan Zhong was delighted by these words. He hurriedly said with a smile, "Brother Lu is truly magnanimous."

Among the four Venerable Masters in the green lotus domain, Fan Zhong was the one who behaved least like a Venerable Master. If Lu Zhou did not see him use some lightning-fast method to bring Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi back earlier, Lu Zhou would have thought he was very similar to his eighth disciple.

Lu Zhou said to his disciples, "Since there's nothing else, see the guest out."

Fan Zhong. "?"

Before Fan Zhong could say anything, Lu Zhou had already turned around and left. He called out, "Brother Lu, Brother Lu..."

"Venerable Master Fan, it's best if you don't disturb my master. He's been in the Unknown Land for so long so he's physically and mentally exhausted. He doesn't have the time to speak to anyone now."

Fan Zhong could only nod. Then, he cupped his fists at Mingshi Yin and said, "I hope you'll convey my message to Brother Lu. Please tell him he's free to come to my training hall as a guest. Farewell."

With that, Fan Zhong vanished into thin air.

...

Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi flew in a sorry state. Even the cultivators they brought with them looked at them with pity. Fortunately, the Zhao Residence was not far from the royal palace.

As soon as the brothers arrived at the royal palace, they requested an audience with the emperor of Great Qin.

In the main hall.

The emperor of Great Qin sat high up on the dragon throne, lost in his thoughts. He had thick eyebrows, a pair of huge eyes, and a slight beard. He did not don the dragon robe. If one did not know better, they would think he looked like a butcher who slaughtered pigs. However, his eyes were deep and spirited, containing the aura of someone used to standing above others.

Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi knelt in front of the emperor as soon as they entered the main hall.

When the emperor of Great Qin saw the bruises and blood on them, he could not help but ask, "Your cultivation bases are profound. How did you end up in such a state?"

Zhi Wenzhi rose to his feet before he said, "Your Majesty, a survivor from the Meng clan has resurfaced."

"A survivor from the Meng clan?" The emperor of Great Qin was stunned.

“Your Majesty knows my ability best. I swear on my head that Meng Mingshi’s descendant has returned.” Instead of using the word ‘survivor’, Zhi Wenzi corrected himself and used the word ‘descendant’ instead.

The emperor of Great Qin said, “Meng Mingshi only had one son. His son passed away before reaching 30 years old. Where did this descendant come from?”

“Although Meng Mingshi’s son passed away at a young age, he was a womanizer who sowed his seeds everywhere he went. I remember there were a few young errand boys in the Meng Residence in the past. In hindsight, they must have been Meng Mingshi’s descendants,” Zhi Wenzi said.

The emperor of Great Qin nodded slightly.

Zhi Wenzi continued to say, “It’s his descendant who killed General Xi. Apart from that...”

Zhi Wenzi recounted what had happened at the Zhao Residence earlier.

When the emperor of Great Qin heard that even the Venerable Master was reduced to a lackey when he arrived, his frown deepened.

Bang!

The emperor of Great Qin smacked the armrest as he said, “I have no conflicts with any of the Venerable Masters, but Fan Zhong actually dares to oppose me? Is that old man really stronger than a Venerable Master?”

Zhi Wenzi nodded. “Yes. I didn’t expect it either. I suspect he’s the one who killed Tuoba Sicheng and Ye Zheng.”

“...”

The emperor of Great Qin frowned again.

After Zhi Wenzi finished speaking, he and Zhi Wuzi kneeled down in unison and kowtowed as they said, “We’ve failed our mission and failed to bring General Xi’s murderer to justice. Please punish us, Your Majesty!”

“I don’t blame you for this. Rise to your feet,” the emperor of Great Qin said.

The emperor was not as angry as Zhi Wenzi expected him to be.

“Thank you, Your Majesty.”

“I’ve sent the royal army to pick both of you up at the Zhao Residence. Did you see them?” the emperor of Great Qin asked.

“The royal army?”

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi looked at each other in confusion and shook their heads. When they returned, for the sake of safety, they had used a shortcut.

The emperor said, “Forget it. Since both of you are injured, you should both rest and recuperate.”

Zhi Wenzi said, "Young Master Zhao has found out about the golden token's secret. One part of the treasure map in his golden token is now in the expert's possession."

"It's fine. The other three pieces are with me. Even if we have all the pieces now, we still need her to speak. At this time, these things aren't important," the emperor said before waving his hand, dismissing the two brothers.

However, Zhi Wenzi said, "I have another matter to report."

"What is it?"

"I took matters into my own hands and called General Zou over. Initially, I wanted General Zou to intimidate those people and catch the murderer. However, I didn't expect... General Zou has now fallen into the tiger's mouth. His life and death are hard to predict," Zhi Wenzi said with a sigh.

Upon hearing this, the emperor of Great Qin's expression changed slightly. He furrowed his brows and said, "I didn't hear you clearly.. Repeat what you just said."

Chapter 1324: The Scripture of Sermons

Zhi Wenzi said, "I took matters into my own hands and called General Zou over. Initially, I wanted General Zou to intimidate those people and catch the murderer. However, I didn't expect... General Zou has now fallen into the tiger's mouth. His life and death are hard to predict."

Unexpectedly, the frown on the emperor of Great Qin's face eased. He rose to his feet and left the dragon throne. He walked down the stairs with his hands on his back as he asked, "You called General Zou over?"

Upon hearing these words, Zhi Wenzi hurriedly pulled Zhi Wuzi down to kneel next to him. His body trembled as he kowtowed with all his might.

As blood flowed out from the wound on his forehead, Zhi Wenzi cried out, "I know my mistake! I know my mistake!"

The emperor's expression was incredibly frosty at this moment. He watched as the two brothers kowtowed with all their might for a moment before he walked over and placed his right hand on Zhi Wenzi's shoulder and his left hand on Zhi Wuzi's shoulder, signaling the two brothers to stop.

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi stopped kowtowing, but they did not dare to rise to their feet. They did not even dare to meet the emperor's eyes.

The emperor patted their shoulders and said, "Rise to your feet."

Zhi Wenzi said in a low voice, "Thank you, Your Majesty."

After rising to their feet, Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi were still nervous. They still did not dare to meet the emperor's gaze.

Upon seeing this, the emperor said with a smile, "Both of you are my right-hand men. How can I blame both of you? You've both made great contributions to Great Qin and had removed many thorns from my

side over the years... I've seen your contributions, and I admire your abilities and courage. You're both one of my best trump cards, after all."

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi's heads remained lowered. None of their thoughts could be seen on their faces at this moment.

Zhi Wenzi should have been delighted and pleased by these words. As an official, his achievements and positions were incredible. However, at this moment, not only did he not feel happy, but he could not dispel his nervousness at all. He kept clenching and unclenching his hands in an attempt to dispel his nervousness.

The emperor raised his hands again and patted the two brothers' shoulders meaningfully. Then, his eyes that were flashing coldly suddenly narrowed as he said, "However, who allowed you to touch my bottom line?"

In between his words, streaks of energy like claws shot out of his fingers as he ripped Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi's arms off. The arms crashed against both sides of the walls in the main hall before they fell to ground with a muffled thud.

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi did not feel any pain until their arms fell to the ground. Fresh blood gushed out of their wounds as they cried out. The delayed pain was like a volcano erupting, assaulting their minds, bodies, and hearts.

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi retreated at the same time. They had just let out a scream when they suddenly saw the emperor's eyes that were like a snake's at this moment and hurriedly forced their scream back down their throats. They quickly fell to their knees again.

Zhi Wenzi said as he kowtowed, "I deserve to die. I deserve to die for dirtying the main hall! I deserve to die!"

The cold glint in the emperor's eyes finally disappeared. He placed his hands on his back again as he turned around and said, "Make sure this doesn't happen again."

"Thank you, Your Majesty! Thank you, Your Majesty!"

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi continued to kowtow loudly.

The emperor closed his eyes after he returned to his seat and massaged his temples. "Leave."

"Yes, Your Majesty."

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi took three steps back and were about to leave the main hall when they realized they had forgotten something. They hurriedly picked up their respective arms before they quickly made their way to the entrance.

However, just as the two brothers arrived at the entrance, a eunuch hurried into the hall and fell to his knees before he said, "Your Majesty, more than 200 soldiers from the royal army have been killed!"

"..."

...

When night fell, various stories about the royal army turning into ice sculptures near the Zhao Residence had already spread in Xiangyang City. Hundreds of them died, and all kinds of stories were spreading, but not one of them was accurate.

In the early years, there were rumors that Madam Qi had won the favor of the emperor of Great Qin and gave birth to Zhao Yu. Later on, for some reason, Madam Qi was thrown into the Cold Palace, never to be seen again. Rumors spread again about how Madam Qi was femme fatale who bewitched the emperor. When it rained for three months, destroying many fertile lands, the disaster was blamed on her. Nevertheless, the emperor did not believe in such superstitions. After a few years had passed, Madam Qi fell seriously ill and could not get out of bed. From then on, her illness deteriorated.

On the other hand, after Zhao Yun was born, he was conferred the title of Duke. However, he was not given any land or a fiefdom.

...

Lu Zhou was unaware of the rumors nor did he care about them.

After he returned to his room, he brought the Purple Glazed Ceramic out. After confirming its ability was now on a cool-down period, he put it away.

Sometimes it was important to display his strength. He could have ordered any one of his disciples to deal with the royal army or used another method to deal with them, but he needed to show his grandeur. Otherwise, he would not have been able to intimidate the others. Moreover, he had just upgraded the Purple Glazed Ceramic to the infinite grade so it was a good chance to test it out. It was a good chance to kill two birds with one stone.

Finally, Lu Zhou brought out the Scriptures of Sermons. He mobilized his Primal Qi and used it to move the 26 letters to form the words 'The bright moon shines over the sea'.

There was a flash of light before Lu Zhou could open the book again. As soon as he opened the book, he felt a surge of power from the book. The power was clearly that of the Heavenly Writing.

There seemed to be wisps of white mist, blocking the words on the pages.

Lu Zhou silently changed the mantra for the power of sight. Just like that, wisps of mist were pushed away. Following that, he felt as though he had entered another world; it was so beautiful that he was unable to extricate himself.

The words on the page weaved together like a painting, forming humans, mountains, and rivers. Then, they weaved the vast galaxy and the universe in a state of chaos.

While Lu Zhou was immersed in the book, he vaguely heard a voice saying, "What Dao are talking about? What Dao are you preaching? It's all nonsense! No matter how much you cultivate or how much you preach, they're all useless. There's no cultivation path so why force it?"

The words echoed in his ears briefly before they vanished into the vast universe weaved by the words.

All of a sudden, the words turned into golden scripts and flew into Lu Zhou's head.

"Ding! Obtained an Open Heavenly Writing Scroll."

Lu Zhou regained his senses and closed the book before he muttered under his breath, "What a good book."

He had only read the book for a short time, but he could already sense the vast power contained in it. As for why it was similar to the power from the Heavenly Writing or how it became the Heavenly Writing Scroll, he had no idea.

"Who left this book behind?" Lu Zhou muttered under his breath, perplexed. He found this matter unbelievable.

After dismissing his thoughts, he continued to read the book. The more he read, the more he was filled with a great ambition to guide the cultivation world and open up a new cultivation path.

However, for some reason, not long after, the tone of the book turned gloomier and gloomier.

"Sermon?" Lu Zhou muttered to himself.

At this moment, he suddenly recalled he had enough reasons to believe Ji Tiandao was the one who sealed the book. After all, the 26 letters and the password was similar to the sealing technique on the memory crystal. The seal was not strong, but it was enough to destroy the book if someone were to open it by force.

Lu Zhou looked at the new Heavenly Writing Scroll he had just obtained. "Open Heavenly Writing Scroll... Use..."

The book not only contained the Open Heavenly Writing Scroll, but it also contained the experience of its owner. The book had been through many hardships and held many stories.

Soon enough, a few sentences appeared in Lu Zhou's mind.

"With infinite deductions, it's possible to know and not know, to see and not.. There are all kinds of changes in the laws of nature that are known by all living beings in this world."

Chapter 1325: The Ninth Heavenly Writing Power

The golden scripts continued to weave in his mind.

Lu Zhou could feel the surging power from the world the book weaved, rising like stars past the mountains and rivers into the starry sky and the universe before leaving the book and entering his body.

Lu Zhou kept chanting the sentences that appeared in his mind. The comprehension process was very smooth, it was as though he had done this 1,000 times.

He kept this up the entire night.

...

The next morning, the book closed on its own before turning into an ordinary book.

Lu Zhou opened his eyes and inhaled deeply. "The power of infinite deductions?"

This time, he had a better idea of the Heavenly Writing power. Was the power of infinite deduction similar to having foreknowledge of the future?

“Observing the changes in the sky, and deducing from it. Making deductions from the slightest thing... Deductions aren’t like predictions even though they’re similar...”

These were just Lu Zhou’s thoughts so he still needed to test the power out.

When his gaze fell on the book, he decided to use the new power on the book.

He closed his eyes and silently recited the mantra for the new Heavenly Writing power. Golden scripts appeared and landed on the book, but there was no reaction.

“Hmm? Does this mean there’s nothing to be deduced from still objects? Or perhaps, it’s still in its initial stage so it’s still not very powerful?”

Lu Zhou decided to test the power on himself, but similar to before, there was nothing.

“What about my disciples?”

The power of sight was limited to his own people. Perhaps, the power of infinite deduction was the same?

Lu Zhou chose his final disciple, Conch who was also known as Luo Shiyin and came from the Unknown Land.

He chanted the mantra for the power of infinite deduction, and the power surged out from his Eight Extraordinary Meridians and converged on his eyes.

As expected, Conch soon appeared before his eyes.

Conch was playing the Nine String Zither in the sky. It was rather dark.

However, before he could see anything else, the scene cut off abruptly.

“What? It consumed so much divine power?”

Lu Zhou felt incredulous. After the system upgrade, he thought he would not face this problem anymore. After all, he could now observe for a long time when he used the power of sight. He had deliberately kept an eye on his usage of the divine power earlier; he did not even use one-tenth of his divine power.

He decided to try again. He chanted the mantra again.

This time, he saw Conch sitting in the room, playing the Nine String Zither. Many scenes flashed past his eyes, and they all had one thing in common: she was playing the Nine String Zither in all of the scenes.

Lu Zhou wanted to increase his output of the divine power to change the scenes when he realized the scenes had stopped changing. In the end, he had no choice but to cut off the power of infinite deduction.

“What am I supposed to deduce from that? Or is that deduction?”

Deduction was not foresight. This meant that nothing was set in stone. The scenes he had seen were likely just endless possibilities of what would happen in the future.

“...”

Lu Zhou thought this kind of deduction was rather useless. He could also deduce that someone was going to drink in the morning or urinate in the afternoon.

“How useless...”

In the end, he decided to take his time to explore the ability. After all, there were very few chances for him to use it now. Most importantly, it consumed a lot of his divine power. Now that he was in the green lotus domain, he had to be cautious and could not simply waste his divine power.

Subsequently, Lu Zhou used the Purple Glazed Ceramic to recover his divine power. When he brought it out, he remembered it was in a cool-down state so he had no choice but to use the Pillar of Impermanence.

“The range should be smaller...” Lu Zhou muttered under his breath as he pressed his hand down.

Bang!

The Pillar of Impermanence sank into the ground silently.

After passing two Birth Trials, Lu Zhou’s strength was now different from before.

He adjusted the speed to about 20 times faster and adjusted the range to only cover the room.

With this, the divine power that would take seven days to be fully replenished was replenished in just six hours. The time was even shorter since he did not fully deplete his divine power before this.

When Lu Zhou was done, he called up the system interface and looked at his lifespan. For now, there was no need to worry about a lifespan.

“Let’s try the lucky draw.”

“Lucky draw.”

“Ding! Used 50 merit points. Obtained: Striking technique, a hook-blade technique.”

“...”

‘Hook-blade technique? Apart from Old Fourth, is there anyone who has a use for this?’

Subsequently, Lu Zhou ordered someone to bring him a brush, ink, and paper. He wrote down the hook-blade technique in detail before he asked someone to send it to Mingshi Yin.

Then, he continued to try his luck with the lucky draw. He was thanked ten times for his participation before he finally gave up.

At this time, he noticed a new notification in the system panel.

[Hidden Secret: investigate the secret behind the golden token]

It had been a long time since a decent mission had appeared. Lu Zhou was slightly surprised by the appearance of a mission this time.

“Golden token? I’ve taken out the hidden piece of the treasure map inside. What other secrets are there?”

In fact, Lu Zhou did not want to interfere too much in the green lotus domain’s affairs. Although he did not think he was a particularly kind person, he did not want to bring trouble to the golden lotus domain because of his actions.

The green lotus domain’s overall strength was much higher than the golden lotus domain’s, after all. If the emperor of Great Qin was vicious and a tyrant who could not distinguish right from wrong, things could get ugly for the golden lotus domain. Moreover, coupled with the imbalance, it was even more likely for humans to clash.

However, with this mission, it seemed like he had no choice but to deal with the emperor of Great Qin.

...

The next morning.

After Fan Zhong left the day before, the 49 Swordsmen left as well.

At this time, Zhao Yu went to where Lu Zhou was staying and said with a bow, “Old sir, the palace has sent a decree. His Majesty ordered you to enter the palace.”

“I won’t see him,” Lu Zhou transmitted his voice from his room.

“I knew you’d say this so I’ve already rejected it on your behalf,” Zhao Yu said.

Creak!

At this moment, Lu Zhou walked out with his hands on his back. He looked at Zhao Yu and asked, “What’s the matter? You don’t usually look for me for no reason.”

Zhao Yu smiled sheepishly. “My mother’s complexion seems better. I’d like to ask you to have another look at her...”

“Your mother will be fine as long as she gets enough rest.”

Zhao Yu was overjoyed upon hearing these words. “When my mother wakes up, I’ll kowtow to you three times! No, I’ll kowtow to you now!”

Zhao Yu had just knelt on the ground and was about to kowtow when Yan Zhenluo rushed over from afar. After he landed, he said, “Pavilion Master, the emperor of Great Qin is here.”

“I’m not seeing anyone,” Lu Zhou said as he waved his sleeve. Then, he turned around and entered the building again. The door was shut tightly behind him.

“...”

Yan Zhenluo and Zhao Yu exchanged a look.

...

At this moment, the emperor of Great Qin who was sitting in the dragon carriage had already arrived near the Zhao Residence.

Soldiers and cultivators surrounded the carriage so the commoners could only watch from afar and discuss among themselves. Many of them speculated that the reason for the emperor's visit had something to do with the deaths of 200 soldiers from the royal army.

...

Zhao Yu cleared his throat and rose to his feet before he said, "Well, if the old sir doesn't want to see anyone, then he doesn't have to see anyone."

"However, the person who came is the emperor of Great Qin..." Yan Zhenluo said.

"I know."

"He's your father!"

"I know!"

Yan Zhenluo felt strange. Why did it feel like he was scolding Zhao Yu?

At this time, Zhao Yu said, "I'll see him alone. After all, the Zhao Residence's affairs have nothing to do with you."

"Alright." Yan Zhenluo nodded. He thought that Zhao Yu likely would not need the Evil Sky Pavilion's help. After all, even a tiger would not eat its own cub. Hence, he did not object to Zhao Yu's words.

...

The newly-recruited helpers in the Zhao Residence naturally did not dare to stop the emperor of Great Qin.

When he alighted from the dragon carriage, the helpers had already lined up near the entrance.

Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi supported each other and obediently stood at the side.

The emperor turned to glance at them and saw that their arms had been attached. Then, he nodded and looked at the entrance of Zhao Residence before he said with a sigh, "It's been a long time since I last visited."

A eunuch standing at the side stepped forward and said, "Your Majesty has many matters to attend to, how could you have the time to visit? I believe Young Master Zhao and Madam Qi will understand Your Majesty."

The emperor of Great Qin swept his eyes across the helpers as he asked, "Where's Zhao Yu?"

As soon as the emperor of Great Qin's voice fell, Zhao Yu walked out with quick steps. However, he was alone, and his expression was abnormally solemn. When he walked down the stairs, he lifted the hem of his robe before he respectfully knelt and said, "Greetings, Your Majesty."

The emperor of Great Qin's expression did not change. He looked like how a normal father would as he smiled and said, "I haven't seen you in just a few days, but you've grown so much."

Zhao Yu did not raise his head and remained kneeling. He looked at the ground as he said, "Your Majesty, no one in this world can grow up in just a few days."

The emperor seemed slightly taken aback by this answer, but he smiled and said, "It's possible for a talented cultivator..."

"I'm not a talented cultivator."

"..."

There was tension as soon as the duo met.

The eunuchs at the side did not dare to interrupt the father-and-son moment.

The emperor of Great Qin did not seem angry. Instead, he let out a long sigh before saying, "I've indeed neglected you and your mother."

"I daren't imply that," Zhao Yu said.

"I heard an expert is staying in the Zhao Residence. I'm very curious so I want to meet him. Where's he?" the emperor asked.

Zhao Yu replied, "He's currently resting so it's inconvenient for him to meet guests at the moment."

"There's no reason for him not to meet me," the emperor said.

"The old sir said he's not seeing anyone," Zhao Yu said.

This time, the emperor no longer bothered with Zhao Yu. Instead, he flicked his sleeves and walked up the stairs.

Zhao Yu rose to his feet and followed after the emperor. He knew he could not stop the emperor.

Several cultivators rushed in and cleared a path in the Zhao Residence.

The emperor walked around the Zhao Residence unimpeded. It was as though he already knew where Lu Zhou was staying. He walked past many courtyards, followed by his personal guards, eunuchs, and palace maids. They formed a long line behind him as he walked. When he stopped, everyone came to a halt as well. At this time, he called out, "Zhi Wenzi."

"Yes." Zhi Wenzi tapped his toes lightly and flew into the air. Primal Qi shrouded him as his nose twitched. The smell from every direction assaulted his nose. After a moment, he pointed in a direction and said, "Over there, Your Majesty."

The emperor continued to walk with his hands on his back toward the direction that Zhi Wenzi had just pointed out. He continued walking unhindered until he arrived in front of a courtyard.

A swordsman dressed in green robes appeared in the air above the courtyard. He held his sword in his hand as he looked at everyone calmly and said, "My master has already said he won't be meeting guests today. Please return."

Zhi Wenzhi moved to stand next to the emperor and whispered something into the emperor's ears.

The emperor nodded. "Are you the sword expert who killed three winged cavalymen with just a strike?"

"Yes," Yu Shangrong replied.

"You killed my men. Do you think it's reasonable for me to punish you?" the emperor asked.

Yu Shangrong nodded. "It's reasonable."

The emperor smiled. "Interesting." After saying this word, he vanished from where he stood; it was as though he had teleported.

Naturally, no one caught his movement at all.

When one's speed reached its peak, it would create the illusion of vanishing into thin air when one moved. However, one would definitely leave fluctuations of energy in one's wake. Strangely, that was not the case for the emperor of Great Qin.

In just a blink of an eye, the emperor appeared half a meter in front of Yu Shangrong.

A trace of surprise briefly flashed in Yu Shangrong's eyes. However, he maintained his composure and the faint smile on his face.

An expression of approval could be seen on the emperor's face as he said, "You have extraordinary courage."

Today, the emperor of Great Qin wore his dragon robe. The dragon robe was red and black and embroidered with golden threads. It looked dazzling under the sunlight.

"You flatter me." Yu Shangrong knew he had met an expert today. A true expert.

"Very few people are able to catch my attention," the emperor said with a smile, "Do you believe I have 10,000 ways to kill you?"

Yu Shangrong shook his head gently.

At the same time, a voice rang from below.

"Do you believe I have 10,000 ways to kill you?"

"..."

Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzhi gulped and instinctively took a step back.

At this moment, Zhao Yu ran in and said, "Old sir, I really... can't stop him..."

'Stop him?' A disappointed expression appeared on the emperor's face. 'It looks like I've raised an ingrate.'

When Zhi Wenzhi had recounted the incident, the emperor found it hard to believe. Now that he had seen it with his own eyes, he had no choice but to believe it.

After being the ruler of a country for so many years, the emperor had long learned how to mask his thoughts. He only said, "10,000 ways? Really?"

"Do you want to try?"

Creak!

Lu Zhou, who was dressed in a gray robe, walked out with his hands on his back. He did not use the exaggerated speed of a cultivator nor did he cast any ostentatious technique. He walked out like an ordinary person.

Everyone outside the building collectively retreated.

The emperor's eyes darkened before he vanished from sight again.

However, to Lu Zhou, the emperor's speed was nothing. After all, with the divine power and the Heavenly Writing, he had gained insight into the power of the Dao.

Since the emperor of Great Qin could use the power of the Dao, it seemed like he was a Venerable Master at least.

The emperor landed across from Lu Zhou.

The duo studied each other's appearance, aura, Primal Qi fluctuations, and so on.

After a long time, the emperor finally said, "I believe you."

Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi. "..."

The two brothers really did not know what the emperor was trying to do. Was the emperor frightened?

Lu Zhou said, "I didn't think you'd be so hasty."

"Something has happened to my royal army and generals. As their master, how can I do nothing?" the emperor said as he waved his hand.

Two eunuchs hurriedly carried two rattan chairs that had been prepared earlier into the unique and quiet courtyard. One was placed on the right, and one was placed on the left, but they were separated by more than ten meters.

This time, the emperor did not use his cultivation. Instead, he walked toward one of the chairs before he raised his hand and said, "Please take a seat."

After Lu Zhou took a seat, the emperor said with a smile, "I actually can't see through you."

Lu Zhou did not bother to waste words. Instead, he bluntly said, "I've already said I won't be seeing any guests today. If you insist on doing this, there won't be a good outcome for you."

"Zhi Wenzhi has already told me everything. Did you think I came to seek revenge?"

Lu Zhou remained silent.

The emperor laughed before he said, "As the ruler of a country, I can tolerate anyone and anything under the sky."

Chapter 1326: Sparring

Lu Zhou did not take the emperor of Great Qin's words seriously. He shook his head and said, "So you only can't tolerate Zhao Yu?"

"..."

Everyone had a weakness, and the emperor of Great Qin was no exception. Everyone in the capital knew of the relationship between the emperor and Zhao Yu; they knew that the father and son did not have a good relationship. However, they did not know the reason behind it.

In the royal palace, whether it was the civil and military officials or the eunuchs or the palace maids, none of them would mention Zhao Yu or Madam Qi if it were not absolutely necessary.

Accompanying the monarch was akin to accompanying a tiger, after all. Sometimes, one wrong word was all it took for one to lose one's life.

Lu Zhou naturally did not have such considerations. There was nothing he could not say.

The emperor smiled before he said, "Indeed, I've neglected him all these years. However, it's not by choice. After all, as the emperor, I can't live a carefree life; I carry the weight of the world on my shoulders."

"If you can't even manage your family, how can you manage the world?" Lu Zhou said.

The emperor was briefly rendered speechless by these words. After a moment, he nodded and said, "You have a point."

Lu Zhou said, "I don't like beating around the bush. If you have something to say, just say it."

The emperor said at a speed that neither hurried nor slow, "I came for two reasons today. First, I wanted to visit the Zhao Residence. Second, I wanted to meet the golden lotus expert whom I've heard about."

Lu Zhou nodded. Then, after rising to his feet, he said, "You've accomplished both things so you can leave now."

When the eunuch standing at the back heard Lu Zhou's words, his expression looked rather unnatural. He really wanted to scold Lu Zhou. The Zhao Residence was the home of the emperor's son. If anyone should leave, it should be Lu Zhou. However, he knew it was not his place to say anything. After years of accompanying the emperor, if he still did not know when was the right time to speak, he would have lived in vain. Moreover, he knew that among Venerable Masters or those who were stronger, status and positions no longer meant anything. The only thing that carried any meaning was absolute strength.

As for the soldiers and cultivators who followed the emperor of Great Qin here, they did not have such complex thoughts. They only listened to the emperor's orders. They would not do anything without the emperor's orders.

The emperor chuckled upon hearing Lu Zhou's words. Then, he said, "Actually, there's no need for you to be like this. Now that I'm here, I might not come again in the future. You came all the way to the green lotus domain from the golden lotus domain, and I'm the ruler of the green lotus domain. If I leave now, are you sure you won't regret it?"

If Mingshi Yin were in Lu Zhou's shoes, he would not have hesitated to turn around and leave.

Initially, Lu Zhou planned to study the power of infinite deduction today. However, now that emperor of Great Qin was here, he had to put that aside. It was not a bad idea to investigate the secret behind the golden token. Moreover, based on the way things were going, it was possible that he did not even need to do much to complete the mission.

Lu Zhou had to admit the emperor was quite different from what he had expected.

After a moment, Lu Zhou sat down again.

The emperor smiled upon seeing this before he said, "I'll be more direct. I won't waste your time nor will I waste my time." Following that, he raised his voice slightly as he continued to say, "Zou Ping has been punished enough. He's my subordinate, and Great Qin still needs him."

Lu Zhou nodded. "I can let Zou Ping go in exchange for the three golden tokens in your possession."

The emperor was stunned by Lu Zhou's condition. He had put the matter regarding the golden tokens on the back burner for such a long time that he had gradually forgotten about it. He did not even order anyone to investigate the matter.

After a moment, the emperor shook his head and said, "Although Zou Ping is important, he's not worth three golden tokens."

Lu Zhou remained silent. He knew the emperor had his own plans.

The emperor thought about it for a moment before he said, "I can give you all three tokens in exchange for another person."

Lu Zhou cocked an eyebrow. "Who?"

"The survivor from the Meng clan," the emperor said.

Lu Zhou frowned. Then, he flicked his wrist lightly.

A palm seal sailed in the air.

The emperor's expression remained unchanged even though he was taken aback by Lu Zhou's sudden attack. He raised his hand and unleashed a palm seal as well.

Bang!

The golden and green palm seals collided and vanished into thin air. It was as though a gust of wind had blown past, causing no harm and creating no ripples.

Lu Zhou said clearly, "His name is Mingshi Yin, and he's my fourth disciple. Not to mention three golden tokens, even your throne isn't enough to exchange for him."

“...”

The emperor was slightly surprised. He did not expect Lu Zhou's disciple to hold so much weight in Lu Zhou's heart.

A few moments before this, a few figures had flown over and landed behind Yu Shangrong. Among them was Mingshi Yin.

When Mingshi Yin heard Lu Zhou's words, he was greatly moved. His eyes reddened as he said, "Master's words are really too touching..."

Yu Zhenghai, Yu Shangrong, Little Yuan'er, and Conch. "..."

"Uh... Don't look at me like that. What I said came from the bottom of my heart!" Mingshi Yin said.

"Is everything from the bottom of your heart nonsense?" Yu Zhenghai said as he looked at Mingshi Yin from the corners of his eyes.

"Eldest Senior Brother, I've learned my lesson," Mingshi Yin said before he fell silent.

For a time, silence reigned over Lu Zhou's courtyard.

The emperor continued to maintain the faint smile on his face. It seemed rather incompatible with his burly physique and valiant appearance. How could someone who managed to become the emperor of a country be simple?

After a moment, the emperor called out, "Zhi Wenzhi."

Zhi Wenzhi walked over and respectfully asked, "Your orders, Your Majesty?"

"Tell me about the Meng clan," the emperor said.

"Yes." Zhi Wenzhi bowed to the emperor first before he bowed at Lu Zhou. Then, he slowly said, "General Meng was one of His Majesty's right-hand men. His Majesty appreciated his talent and entrusted him with important tasks. He had three troops at his disposal. At that time, Great Jin was powerful and was allied with 20 forces, causing trouble for Great Qin. The people of Great Qin suffered and lived in poverty at that time. General Meng, General Xi, and General Bai had a very good rapport and managed to defeat Great Jin at Mount Xiao."

After a brief pause, Zhi Wenzhi continued to say, "However, later, General Meng mobilized the three troops and tried to stage a coup. He tried to force His Majesty to abdicate the throne and tried to kill the emperor. Fortunately, General Xi and General Bai managed to kill him in the midst of the chaos. Then, His Majesty displayed his shocking strength to intimidate the troops before peace finally returned."

"His Majesty was merciful and didn't intend to punish all the members of the Meng clan. However, the members of the Meng clan continued to spread rumors and colluded with foreign forces. Old sir, if you don't believe me, you can ask anyone on the streets of the capital. Listen to the people's truthful words about the Meng clan. If I'm lying, I'm willing to pay with my life," Zhi Wenzhi said before he knelt on the ground.

At this moment, Yu Zhenghai pointed at Zhi Wenzhi from afar and asked, "Second Junior Brother, do you think he's really stupid or is he pretending to be stupid?"

Yu Shangrong replied with a smile, "In my opinion, we can't judge a book by its cover. However, if he's truly stupid, then it'd be too boring."

"..."

At this moment, Mingshi Yin jumped down from above. Then, he pointed at Zhi Wenzhi and said, "These are all your words. You can naturally say whatever you want!"

Everyone, including the emperor of Great Qin, turned to look at Mingshi Yin.

Upon seeing Mingshi Yin, a hint of shock flashed in his eyes. Then, he said, "I'll give you the three golden tokens, ten stalks of mystic life grass, five mystic microstones, and five high-grade life hearts in exchange for him."

In the emperor's eyes, there was nothing that could not be agreed upon as long as the benefits were great enough. He had said these words because one, he was trying to probe Lu Zhou, and two, he was very interested in the young man who possessed the Great Void Seed.

Lu Zhou rose to his feet and said in a deep voice, "Up until now, you still don't know your place."

Swoosh!

A flashing golden palm seal imbued with a considerable amount of divine power shot out.

The emperor smiled. "I want to seize this chance to see your strength..."

After saying that, the emperor vanished into thin air again.

Bang!

The palm seal shattered the chair.

"Retreat!"

"Spread out!"

Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi hurriedly retreated.

In the next moment, the emperor appeared in front of Lu Zhou. Just as he struck, Lu Zhou struck with another palm seal.

Bam!

The energy from the collision swept out several thousand meters in just an instant.

Chapter 1327: The Super Reduction Card!

Upon seeing the seemingly ordinary palm seals, no one dared to be careless and took a defensive stance immediately.

In a battle between experts, it was easy for them to destroy the world. Those who were the closest to the battle would also be the ones who would be greatly affected.

The two palm seals continued to push against each other.

However, after a moment, the expression of the emperor of Great Qin changed slightly. He could sense a powerful and inscrutable force from the heart of Lu Zhou's palm seal. Hence, he hurriedly withdrew his palm seal.

"Guarding the Country!"

The palm seal flashed and suddenly shot back to the emperor's palm before it turned into a streak of light and shot out again.

Lu Zhou felt a mysterious and profound force from the streak of light.

Boom!

The streak of light crashed against Lu Zhou's palm seal that had been imbued with his divine power. A horizontal wave of energy, resulting from the collision, swept out like a tsunami in all directions immediately.

The emperor of Great Qin, Zhi Wenzhi, Zhi Wuzi, the cultivators, and the soldiers flew back at the same time.

"What a powerful force!"

"Defend!"

The members of the Evil Sky Pavilion erected their protective energies and used their weapons to withstand the energy from the collision.

The buildings within 1,000 meters were leveled in just an instant. Everything was in a mess. The Zhao Residence was teetering on the brink of complete destruction from this wave of energy alone.

Lu Zhou and the emperor of Great Qin faced each other from afar in the sky.

Lu Zhou had imbued a quarter of his divine power into the palm seal, and yet, it only managed to tie with the emperor. It was far from enough to injure the emperor. Based on this, it could be seen that the emperor was not inferior to Venerable Masters. In fact, the emperor was much stronger than Tuoba Sicheng.

The emperor said, "Perhaps, you're the person who caused the imbalance. It's been a very long time since there was an expert from the golden lotus domain."

At this moment, Zhao Yu roared from the ground, "What on earth are you doing?!"

The emperor looked down and said to Zhao Yu, "Zhao Yu, go and check on your mother."

"If she dies, you'll be the one responsible for her death!" Zhao Yu retorted. He thought this would make the emperor think twice.

Alas, the emperor said, "If she dies, then so be it."

“You!”

Seeing that Zhao Yu was about to argue, the emperor frowned and pressed his hand down with the force of a mountain.

Boom!

A mysterious force slammed down on Zhao Yu, causing him to spit out a mouthful of blood.

“Take him away!” the emperor of Great Qin ordered.

“Understood.”

Two palace experts immediately flew toward Zhao Yu.

Zhao Yu turned pale with fright and endured the pain as he cried out pleadingly, “Old sir! Help! Help me!”

Zhao Yu was not sure if Lu Zhou would take action. After all, outsiders usually would not interfere in a father-and-son conflict. After all, as the saying went, ‘Even a tiger won’t devour its cub’. Up until now, the emperor had really not harmed him. At most, he would be imprisoned now.

To Zhao Yu’s surprise, Lu Zhou launched two consecutive palm strikes before flying toward the two palace experts.

The two palace experts turned pale with fright, caught off guard. They hurriedly raised their hands to block the palm strikes.

Boom! Boom!

The two palace experts were sent flying immediately.

With that, Zhao Yu hurriedly ran over to join the people from the Evil Sky Pavilion.

All the cultivators sighed and shook their heads as they looked at Zhao Yu’s miserable back. His actions were no different from slapping the emperor’s face.

As expected, the emperor was furious. “Is it worth it for you to do this for him?”

Killing intent surged from Lu Zhou’s body as he shook his head and said, “I’ve given you many chances, but you don’t know how to cherish them. You refuse to take the easy road and insist on doing things the hard way.”

At the same time, an advanced and enhanced Reduction Card appeared in Lu Zhou’s hand.

The emperor of Great Qin was incredibly perceptive. When Lu Zhou’s hand moved slightly, he felt a subtle change in Lu Zhou’s aura. With this, he brought out what seemed to be an object made of white jade. Then, he calmly said, “I don’t want to fight you.”

“It’s too late.” Lu Zhou decisively crushed the advanced and enhanced Reduction card. A translucent and inscrutable energy began to form in his hand.

At this moment, the emperor of Great Qin felt unprecedented danger. It had been a long time since his heart had raced like that. His instincts told him that he needed to strike first. He hurriedly waved his hand, and the mysterious streak of light appeared again.

Swoosh!

The emperor vanished and reappeared above Lu Zhou. The light in his hand was blindingly bright, causing everyone to squint their eyes.

The world turned white for a second.

The emperor's speed increased to the point where it seemed like he could travel through space. It made him seem like he had turned invisible. Even Lu Zhou could not capture his movements.

This was the power from the law of space.

Critical Block Card -1!

Lu Zhou immediately recited the mantra for the Heavenly Writing's power of infinite deduction. Perhaps, it was because he had just studied the power of infinite deduction or his rich combat experience, but he instinctively cast the power of infinite deduction.

Soon enough, a miraculous sight appeared before his eyes.

He saw all the possible locations of the emperor of Great Qin: front, back, left, right, east, south, west, north. The scenes flashed past at top speed. However, he did not see the power of the Reduction Card in any of the scenes. It was not until he looked at the upper left corner that he finally saw it.

At this time, the power of infinite deduction was cut off.

At the same time, the emperor's voice rang in the air. "I order you to get down!"

Lu Zhou had deducted from the Heavenly Writing power the location of the emperor. He directed the vortex in his hand in that direction immediately. At the same time, he moved back.

The emperor frowned. "What's this?"

Five vortexes shot out and surrounded the emperor before hitting him. He grunted before he felt a bone-chilling cold seeping through his entire body. He wanted to use his grand technique to leave, but it felt as though Death was tightly gripping his legs as a pair of black hands grabbed his leg, preventing him from leaving. It was the same for his arms. Four large black hands restrained his four limbs, immobilizing him. He struggled with all his might, but it was futile. All of a sudden, an even bigger black hand suddenly reached out toward his heart from the void.

Meanwhile, in everyone's eyes, they only saw the emperor's limbs seem to be pulled taut by something invisible. They could see the fear, anger, panic, despair flashing in his eyes at this moment.

Buzz!

The emperor's astrolabe appeared at this moment.

Although the astrolabe was not big, everyone clearly saw the pattern on it. 36 triangles flashed briefly before 22 distinct lights shone.

“22 Birth Charts?!”

Everyone was shocked.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

At this moment, two life hearts flew out of the astrolabe. Following that, five distinct lights on the astrolabe dimmed immediately before they vanished. It was as though they were never there before.

Lu Zhou waved his hand, and the two life hearts flew into his hand.

At this moment, the emperor of Great Qin finally regained freedom now that ‘Death’ had left.

The emperor’s fearful expression was rather unsightly. The white jade in his hand suddenly vibrated before it turned into a streak of white light and shot toward the royal palace.

“Someone from the Great Void? I’ll wait for you.”

At the same time, the dragon robe fluttered and fell from the sky.

‘Didn’t I say you won’t have a good outcome today if you persisted in acting that way? Why didn’t you believe me?’

Lu Zhou thought the emperor of Great Qin would be smart and sensible. If not necessary, he did not wish to make any enemies during his time in the green lotus domain.

Lu Zhou glanced at the dragon robe that finally landed on the ground before he swept his gaze across Zhi Wenzi, Zhi Wuzi, and the palace cultivators.

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi kept retreating.

As for the cultivators, some of them sat limply on the ground, some of them turned pale and fainted, and some of them simply retreated with trembling legs.

Lu Zhou said, “Don’t let them leave.”

Chapter 1328: The Emperor of Great Qin’s Secret

After Lu Zhou gave the order, Qiong Qi leaped forward with a swoosh and landed in front of the crowd. It bared its fangs and glared at them.

Mingshi Yin stood on Qiong Qi’s back and stared at the crowd with a smile on his face. The Separation Hook in his hand glinted coldly.

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi’s cultivation bases were higher than Mingshi Yin’s so they could definitely escape from him. However, they had not forgotten what had happened the last time they tried to escape. They could not bear the price of trying to escape again. Just a while ago, perhaps, they still had

the support of the emperor of Great Qin. However, they had no one to support them now. Everyone saw the emperor run away.

After a brief moment, Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi dropped to their knees with a thud. They obediently surrendered.

“That’s more like it,” Mingshi Yin said with a smile.

Lu Zhou said, “Just detain two of them. Everyone else can scam!”

The cultivators were at a loss when they heard these words. They did not know if they should leave or not. After all, grand cultivators had strange temperaments. What if they were killed as soon as they turned to leave?

“My master has already shown mercy; why are all of you still here? Hurry up and scam!” Little Yuan’er said fiercely.

Except for Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi, the others hurriedly left.

All these weak underlings did not have any use as hostages. In fact, there might not even be any use in holding Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi hostage.

Lu Zhou landed and looked at the two brothers. “Did the emperor’s 22 Birth Charts boost your confidence?”

Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi kept waving their hands as they said, “No, no! He’s the emperor! We’re only following orders! After all, even if he wants us to die, we can only acquiesce!”

“You’re experts and masters of Great Jin. The emperor of Great Qin destroyed Great Jin so you should’ve held a grudge against him...” Lu Zhou did not understand why the two brothers would switch allegiance.

“A smart person knows how to choose who to follow. If you’re willing to accept us, we’ll follow you to death without any hesitation,” Zhi Wenzi said.

“You’ve misunderstood. You’re not qualified to join the Evil Sky Pavilion,” Lu Zhou said.

“...”

If it was possible, Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi felt even worse than before. They were not like fishes on a chopping board, waiting to be slaughtered.

Lu Zhou looked at the two brothers who wore unsightly expressions on their faces as he asked, “Tell me the truth. Did the emperor go to the Pillar of Destruction?”

Zhi Wenzi did not care about anything at this moment and hurriedly answer in full detail, “Yes. He went to the Pillar of Destruction in Bu Shi and obtained Great Void soil there.”

“What else?” Lu Zhou asked.

“A lot of mystic life grass, profound microstones, fire lotuses, snow lotuses, blood ginseng, heavenly soul grass, illusion stones, the Great Void soil...” Zhi Wenzi kept rambling. He did not even miss the unimportant details.

Upon hearing these words, Zhao Yu said angrily, “Did you say he has a lot of fire lotus, snow lotus, and blood ginseng?”

Zhi Wenzi naturally understood why Zhao Yu was angry. He turned around and kowtowed to Zhao Yu as he said, “H-his Majesty... His Majesty prohibited us from talking about this! Young Master Zhao, please calm down!”

It was said that a tiger would not devour its own cub, but what the emperor of Great Qin did was even more infuriating than if he were to kill his son.

Zhi Wenzi did not say anything. In fact, he also did not know the reason behind the emperor’s actions. He could only bear Zhao Yu’s anger with an aggrieved expression on his face.

Mingshi Yin said angrily, “Why the hell do you look so aggrieved? Where’s your confidence and arrogance from before?”

Lu Zhou asked, “Since the emperor is a Venerable Master, why didn’t he try to get rid of the other four Venerable Masters and unify everyone under Great Qin’s banner? After all, he’s clearly very ambitious.”

“The Equalizers from the Great Void serve as a deterrent. Previously, he relied on some ancient secret technique to suppress his cultivation base to the Seventeen Chart stage. However, after the imbalance, he no longer had any scruples. However, he didn’t expect Venerable Master Tuoba and Venerable Master Ye to die,” Zhi Wenzi replied.

“What’s that white jade in his hand?” Lu Zhou asked.

“It’s called the White Dragon Jade. It’s a fusion-grade sacred relic,” Zhi Wenzi said. Then, after sneaking a look at Lu Zhou, he added, “I don’t know anything else about it.”

“What else is there?” Lu Zhou asked.

Zhi Wenzi replied, “T-there’s an ancient formation in the palace. If it’s not necessary, I-I... I suggest...”

“Suggest what? Who cares about the formation? It’s just like a piece of paper in front of my master. Who are you trying to frighten? You’re just a frog living at the bottom of a well that’s trying to give advice!”

The people from the Evil Sky Pavilion shook their heads speechlessly. They could all see how irritable Mingshi Yin had become ever since coming to the green lotus domain. Everything irritated him, and he was always angry. However, considering his identity, relationship with the Meng clan, and what some of the people here did to him, they could understand him.

“Y-you’re right, you’re right! Please forgive me, old sir!”

Lu Zhou continued to ask, “Are there any other experts in the palace?”

"Apart from the two of us, there are four great guardians and Chief Eunuch Gao Cheng. Their strength isn't inferior to those of Free Men. However, in front of the old sir, they're not worth mentioning," Zhi Wenzi said.

There were no changes in Lu Zhou's expression, but inwardly, he was wondering how he should deal with so many experts. He knew this matter could not be rushed, and he had to consider everything carefully. Now that he had poked the hornet's nest that was the emperor of Great Qin, he had to carefully and completely solve this problem. Otherwise, the golden lotus domain would be in danger.

Finally, Lu Zhou nodded and said, "Considering your performance, I'll spare your lives for now."

Zhi Wenzi was overjoyed. "Old sir, why don't you take us in? We promise to do our best and stay loyal to the Evil Sky Pavilion!"

Lu Zhou said tonelessly, "Let alone both of you, even if the emperor of Great Qin kneels in front of me and begs me, I might not accept him. Moreover, you betrayed both Great Jin and the emperor; what do you know about loyalty?"

"..."

Zhi Wenzi was rendered speechless. Now that his character and loyalty had been proven to be problematic, who would dare to keep him by their side?

Lu Zhou did not understand why the emperor would keep these two people by his side.

"Take them away," Lu Zhou ordered.

"Wait!" Zhi Wenzi raised his hand.

Lu Zhou felt that Zhi Wenzi was still harboring secrets so he said, "Speak."

Zhi Wenzi gulped before he said, "I want to negotiate with you, old sir. I-I know I'm not qualified to negotiate, but I just want to live. If you kill me, you won't get anything, right?"

Mingshi Yin was about to curse. He could not believe there was such a shameless person.

Lu Zhou raised his hand to stop Mingshi Yin before he said, "I'll give you a chance. However, if the information you provide isn't valuable, you'll die."

Zhi Wenzi looked to the left and the right before he pointed at Mingshi Yin and said, "Tell him to leave."

"..."

Mingshi Yin was about to leap into a fit of rage when Lu Zhou said, "Leave."

"Alright! I'll obey you, master! If you need me, just call me! I'll come immediately," Mingshi Yin said as he retreated to the distance.

Zhi Wenzi hurriedly suppressed his aura before he transmitted his voice telepathically.

"I remember one time, I went to the palace to see the emperor. At that time, he had just finished showering and was about to change. I remembered smelling... smelling the smell of the Meng Residence."

‘The smell of the Meng Residence?’ Lu Zhou raised an eyebrow before gesturing for Zhi Wenzhi to continue.

“I’ll never forget that smell in my life. It was the smell of blood and death. Unfortunately, before I could smell it further, it vanished completely,” Zhi Wenzhi said.

“Are you saying that the emperor slaughtered everyone in the Meng Residence?”

Apart from the smell, the fact that the emperor had showered and was just about to change indicated that it was likely he was cleaning up the bloodstains.

Zhi Wenzhi shook his head and said, “That’s what I thought initially. However, when His Majesty summoned me into the room, I didn’t find anything unusual.”

Lu Zhou asked, “Is your sense of smell very good?”

Upon hearing these words, Zhi Wenzhi could not help but swell with confidence. He said, “I have 14 Birth Charts, and seven of them are related to my sense of smell.”

“Isn’t that just wasting the space in your Birth Palace?”

“Although it’s just one ability, it has many uses!” Zhi Wenzhi said.

If it were a truly excellent ability, Lu Zhou might have taken it for himself. However, not only did he have the power of smell from the Heavenly Writing, even if he did not, he thought it was not worth it to sacrifice so many locations in the Birth Palace just to boost one ability.

Zhi Wuzhi chimed in at this moment, “My brother once saw Bi An near a lotus pond in the southern mountain. Bi An has a keen nose and can be considered almost peerless. However, it’s still no match for my brother!”

Lu Zhao naturally knew Bi An’s abilities very well. Indeed, its sense of smell was exceptional. However, its sense of smell was still second to its defenses. In fact, since he did not think it would be of much help, he left it behind on Golden Court Mountain.

Lu Zhou nodded and said, “The emperor isn’t stupid. If he killed those in the Meng Residence, how could he have revealed any clues in front of you? If what you said is true, it’s likely that he slaughtered everyone in the Meng Residence.”

Zhi Wenzhi was stunned. He could not refute Lu Zhou’s words. However, he really did not understand the emperor’s thoughts. The emperor was prone to crazy and out-of-character fits sometimes. For example, that time when he severed his and his brother’s arms. There was also Zou Ping whom the emperor widely acknowledged as his weapon. However, someone like the emperor must know that just one Zou Ping was not enough even if Zou Ping was strong.

In the end, Zhi Wenzhi said, “I don’t dare to make any more guesses. I can only tell you what I know.”

Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzhi continued to kneel silently.

Lu Zhou waved his sleeves and said, “Leave.”

Zhi Wenzhi was overjoyed. He grabbed Zhi Wuzhi and hurriedly flew away.

Lu Zhou turned and glanced at Ming Shiyin. He did not say anything and returned to his room.

...

Evening.

Lu Zhou brought out the two life hearts he had obtained from the emperor of Great Qin. He could not identify them until Kong Wen had taken a look at them.

The one with rich energy and a strong aura was a great life heart which came from He Luoyu, a beast emperor. The other one was the life heart of Zhu Huai, a beast king.

The emperor of Great Qin had 22 Birth Charts, and the Reduction Card helped him obtain the emperor's 21st and 22nd life hearts.

Lu Zhou nodded in satisfaction; his luck was rather good. The 22nd life heart was the beast emperor's life heart. Generally speaking, the closer the Birth Charts got to a Birth Trial, the stronger the life hearts that activated them would be. On the other hand, the life hearts that activated Birth Charts soon after a Birth Trial were generally weaker. For example, the life heart of the sixth Birth Chart was slightly better than the life heart of the seventh Birth Chart.

Since the emperor of Qin had passed three Birth Trials, his strongest life heart should be the one that was used to activate his 18th Birth Chart. Nevertheless, Lu Zhou was quite satisfied with the beast king and beast emperor's life hearts that he obtained.

Subsequently, Lu Zhou used his remaining divine power and activated the Pillar of Impermanence, increasing its speed to 100 times faster. Any faster, and it would not benefit his cultivation much. After all, this did not truly control time but the speed of circulation.

Following that, he brought his Birth Palace out and placed Zhu Huai's life heart.

Zhu Huai's life heart hovered above his Birth Palace for a moment before it began to sink into it, starting the process of activating his 14th Birth Chart.

Since he had just passed a Birth Trial not long ago, the pain of activating the Birth Chart was not much. All he had to do now was wait. With the effect of the Pillar of Impermanence, he should be able to complete the process within two days.

After that, he no longer paid attention to the activation of his Birth Chart. Instead, he brought out his blue Five Leaf Hundred Tribulations Insight avatar.

After activating the 14th Birth Chart, he would gain another 3,000 years of life. In total, he would have 16,000 years of life.

"Sacrificing the years of my life to upgrade the blue avatar isn't worth it. I might as well give it to the Pillar of Impermanence..."

"Lightning tribulation?"

Lan Xihe had deliberately attracted the lightning tribulation using the 30,000 Dao inscriptions on the white tower. However, It could only be triggered by using the Sun, Moon, and Star Wheel that served as the anchor and the guide.

“That’s a good way to upgrade my blue avatar...” Lu Zhou muttered to himself. Not only could the lightning tribulation upgrade his blue avatar, but he could also raise his lifespan. However, he could only attempt this after passing his next Birth Trial. At this time, he still had to activate another four Birth Charts before he had to pass his third Birth Trial. He was not in a rush anyway.

...

At noon, the next day.

Lu Zhou heard a crisp sound.

Zhu Huai’s life heart was completely embedded into the Birth Palace, and there was now a distinct pattern where it used to be.

It took longer than Lu Zhou expected. Based on the 100-time increase from the Pillar of Impermanence, it meant that it would have taken him 100 nights and mornings just to reach this stage without the Pillar of Impermanence.

When it came to activating Birth Charts, there were three stages: early, middle, and late. In the early stages, it was not suitable to activate Birth Charts without a long period of rest in between due to the instability of the realm. The best time to activate Birth Charts was at the later stage.

Currently, after activating 13 Birth Charts, Lu Zhou was still at the middle stage.

However, due to the Pillar of Impermanence and the Divine Soul Pearl, he had smoothly activated his Birth Chart and passed his second Birth Trial. Apart from that, he also managed to strengthen his Birth Palace.

Now that the activation of the Birth Chart had proceeded to the next stage, a vortex formed above the Birth Palace.

Lu Zhou closed his eyes again and continued to cultivate.

...

At the same time.

In the palace.

Splash!

The emperor of Great Qin sat in a medicine tub as he hit his hand against the hot water and angrily said, “Bring me more mystic life grass!”

“Y-your... Y-your Majesty... I’ve placed all ten stalks of mystic life grass into the tub,” Gao Cheng said fearfully.

The emperor was perplexed. He had spent two days soaking in the medicine tub, but there was no sign of him recovering his Birth Charts.

After a brief moment, the emperor asked in a low voice, "Then why is there no effect? Are the stalks of mystic life grass fake?"

"Of course, they're real! Your Majesty, please calm down!" Gao Cheng said, "You can't rush the process of recovering your Birth Charts."

The emperor said through gritted teeth, "Originally, I only wanted to test his strength. I didn't expect..."

"This cultivation base of this person from the golden lotus domain is unfathomable. It's best to avoid him. If Your Majesty wants to vent your anger, we can send some men to kill a few of his disciples," Gao Cheng said.

The emperor did not respond to these words. Instead, he glanced at Gao Cheng from the corners of his eyes and asked, "Zhi Wenzi and Zhi Wuzi haven't returned yet?"

"I'm afraid they won't be returning," Gao Cheng said.

"Send Bai Yi to the Zhao Residence. I don't care what methods he uses, but he has to bring me a few of their heads," the emperor said.

"Yes, Your Majesty."

...

The next night.

Bai Yi, who was far away from Xiangyang City, received an order.. He rode on his flying sword and shot toward the Zhao Residence like a streak of light.

Chapter 1329: The Expert Hits a Wall

Bai Yi and Xi Qishu were both generals and the emperor of Great Qin's trusted men.

After the battle on Mount Xiao, Bai Yi was more than qualified to hold a high position in the army. However, in view of Bai Yi's swordsmanship, the emperor of Great Qin transferred Bai Yi out of the army and made Bai Yi one of his lackeys. On the surface, Bai Yi seemed like an idle official. In truth, Bai Yi secretly helped him to remove the thorns in his side.

In the past, there was an official who was impressed by Bai Yi's achievements during the battle on Mount Xiao. However, when he tried to rope Bai Yi into his cause, he was killed by Bai Yi. From then on, the emperor viewed Bai Yi as his confidant.

...

The moon was dim and the wind was strong when Bai Yi arrived near the vicinity of the Zhao Residence.

He was careful and patient like a hunter as he observed his surroundings.

After Zhao Yu discovered the truth, he had completely changed the helpers in the residence so there were no insiders to help Bai Yi. Hence, he could only look for opportunities himself.

Bai Yi stood near the trunk of a towering tree at the edge of a jungle outside of the Zhao Residence.

A skeptical expression could be seen on his face as he murmured to himself, "How did His Majesty lose?"

Before he came here, he had already received news that the emperor of Great Qin was forced to flee after exchanging blows with the expert in the Zhao Residence. Since he was among the few who were privy to the emperor's true strength, the fact that the emperor was forced to flee told him that the expert was stronger than a Venerable Master. Hence, he was extra cautious.

'No wonder they dared to kill Xi Qishu. Fortunately, I didn't follow Zhi Wenzhi here,' Bai Yi thought to himself, relieved.

Although Zhi Wenzhi and Zhi Wuzi's cultivation bases were not bad, they liked using others to do their dirty work. Bai Yi thought the duo deserved what they got. The duo could only blame themselves for meeting a tough opponent.

Suddenly, Bai Yi heard the noises of energy swords and hurriedly flew in the direction of the noise to have a look.

Bai Yi was born with an inherent love for swords. He was also widely acknowledged as a highly-skilled swordsman in Xiangyang City. How could he not tell the sounds were from energy swords? He traveled along the edge of the jungle and made his way east. In the darkness of the night, he looked like a wild wolf.

He furrowed his brows when he came to a stop on a hill and looked in the direction of the sound. "Hm? It didn't come from the Zhao Residence?" Then, a wide grin appeared on his face before he said, "It seems like even heaven is on my side! I'll bring your head to His Majesty!"

Bai Yi flew southeast. In less than the time it took to brew a pot of tea, he could vaguely hear the sound of flowing water from the foot of a small mountain southeast of the Zhao residence.

Bai Yi did not stop. He jumped into the air and flew up the mountain. He stood at a high altitude so could see far ahead. Then, he landed silently on a huge rock.

The huge rock was strategically hidden by the trees in the surroundings.

Bai Yi looked down and saw a grayish figure flashing back and forth as energy swords sailed in the air.

Due to the dim lighting, he could not see that it was actually a green-clad swordsman.

The green-clad swordsman suddenly came to a stop.

The countless energy swords that were spinning in the air like a tornado suddenly stopped as though they were frozen.

Bai Yi felt speechless when he saw this. He praised inwardly, 'What a great control!'

The green-clad swordsman turned slightly, and the energy swords vanished at the same time. Then, a streak of red light flew into a scabbard.

The green-clad swordsman looked to the side and said, "This move of mine can easily control over a million energy swords. What do you think, Eldest Senior Brother?"

'There's another person?' Bai Yi looked over.

A person walked out from the shadows onto the moonlit ground. He smiled and said, "Your cultivation base has already surpassed mine, but that's not important. It won't be long before I catch up to you. Based on this, it can be seen that the path of severing the lotus is easier..."

"The majority of those who severed their lotuses fall behind those who didn't," Yu Shangrong said.

"There's no point discussing which is easier or harder. I can replicate that move of yours with my saber," Yu Zhenghai said before the Jasper Saber flew out from his waist.

The Jasper Saber glowed with a pale light, making it look even more mysterious and strange under the moonlight. It flashed with golden light once before...

Swoosh!

Millions of energy sabers appeared in the air. They sparkled beautifully under the moonlight. After a moment, they got into a formation, forming a long dragon.

The long dragon circled Yu Zhenghai several times before it flew toward the tree at the side.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

The energy sabers hit the tree in succession before they flew back to Yu Zhenghai's side before they vanished.

After a moment...

Creak!

The tree fell to the ground. Its trunk was neatly sliced into pieces like cakes that rolled toward Yu Shangrong and Yu Zhenghai's feet. Their sizes were the same, and the cuts were smooth.

Yu Zhenghai smiled and said, "In fact, the saber is not only domineering, but it's also capable of performing finer actions like the swords."

Yu Shangrong did not care to respond to these words. Instead, he said, "Eldest Senior Brother, please have another look."

Swoosh!

The Longevity Sword flew up to the sky.

10 meters...

100 meters...

1 kilometer...

The Longevity Sword continued to rise, passing the height where Bai Yi was.

Bai Yi tightened his grip around his sword and retreated into the shadows. He raised his head and looked at the sword that glowed red in shock and disbelief, "Flying sword?"

The Longevity Sword released energy swords that filled the night sky. They formed a ring high up in the sky and divided it into twelve areas like a clock, which was particularly eye-catching, before they lined up and shot back into the Longevity Sword. Following that, the Longevity Sword flew back into its scabbard.

Bai Yi. "..."

Bai Yi had always prided himself on his sword skills. However, he felt as though his confidence and pride had suffered a blow after witnessing Yu Shangrong's perfect control. At this moment, his hand that was gripping his sword was clammy, and his mind was filled with complex thoughts.

"Can you do this, Eldest Senior Brother?" Yu Shangrong asked with a small hint of smugness.

Yu Zhenghai said, "It's just flying the sword to a higher altitude. It's not particularly useful. I can just walk up to my opponent and kill him with a strike."

"Of course, it's useful!"

"Hm?"

Swoosh!

As soon as Yu Shangrong's voice fell, the Longevity Sword flew out of its scabbard again, unleashing countless energy swords in the direction where Bai Yi was hiding.

Then, a voice that carried a hint of derision rang in the air.

"Friend, have you seen enough?"

'Sh*t, I've been discovered!' Bai Yi hurriedly brandished his sword.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Bai Yi sent the energy swords flying back as he flew up until he was looking down on the duo. Then, he said, "I didn't mean to offend the both of you. I was just passing by. Farewell."

Bai Yi knew he could not kill the duo. If he tried, the one who would be killed was him. Hence, he wanted to retreat as quickly as possible. Just as he turned to leave, a heaven-cleaving energy saber shot over from the side.

Yu Zhenghai held his saber with both hands and unleashed a 1,000-meter-long energy saber.

Bai Yi frowned as he parried horizontally with his sword.

Boom!

Bai Yi flashed backward. The collision caused his blood and Qi to churn, and he felt a little uncomfortable.

Yu Zhenghai smiled and said, "The result is the same."

Yu Shangrong also smiled and said, "This person's cultivation is not bad, and he seems to be skilled with the sword. Why don't we test our skills on him?"

"Alright."

The duo flew up in unison.

Upon seeing this, Bai Yi jumped in fright and turned to flee.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Bai Yi cast his grand technique over and over again without thinking and vanished into the horizons in just a blink of an eye.

Yu Shangrong and Yu Zhenghai were stunned for a moment before they looked at each other.

"Why is he so afraid?"

"He's probably frightened by my energy saber," Yu Zhenghai replied with a straight face.

"..."

...

Bai Yi finally landed in a small forest far away from Xiangyang City.

After he calmed down, he looked in the direction of the Zhao Residence and muttered to himself, "I must complete the mission His Majesty has given me no matter what."

He thought he was too unlucky to run into two experts right off the bat. It was not his style to leave a mission uncompleted; it was not something he could accept.

Bai Yi learned from his mistake. This time, he was determined to leave without any hesitation as soon as he ran into an expert.

Bai Yi set off again. In less than fifteen minutes, he arrived at the Zhao residence and approached from the northwest.

Generally speaking, the southeast direction was where the big shots lived. It was safer to approach from the northwest direction. This side was generally the residence of helpers with low status.

But unfortunately, he discovered the few courtyards in the northwest were uninhabited so he could only head south. He restrained his aura and held his breath, turning himself into an inanimate object.

In the darkness, he saw a huge Qiong Qi lying on the ground, sleeping.

'Qiong Qi?' He instinctively retreated.

Qiongqi's senses were very sharp, and it was unusually difficult to kill. Even if he managed to kill it, it would definitely alert the experts in the Zhao family and cost him his life.

"Leave!"

He decisively changed directions. He rushed to the other side of the villa. Just as he landed, he heard a noise. When he looked over, he saw Whizard who was shrouded in auspicious Qi.

Whizard stared at him with its huge eyes and stood up curiously

‘W-whit... Whizard!’

When Bai Yi retreated, he stumbled due to surprise and nervousness.. At this time, he did not look like an expert swordsman at all.

Chapter 1330: I’m From the Evil Sky Pavilion in the Golden Lotus Domain

Bai Yi gritted his teeth before he tapped his toes and flew away, looking as light as a swallow.

‘Experts! All of them are experts! This mission is impossible to complete!’

Bai Yi was about to leave the Zhao Residence when he flew past the last courtyard. He looked at it casually, not holding any hope, when he saw a little girl squatting on the ground and playing with something.

Hope surged into Bai Yi’s heart again. ‘My chance is finally here!’

Bai Yi came to a halt in the sky and looked down. He unsheathed his sword silently as he looked at the little girl.

The little girl was clapping her hands at this moment before pointing at something on the ground and saying, “Fly! Fly! Where’s your fire?”

Due to the darkness, Bai Yi did not have a clear look at the thing in front of the little girl earlier. Upon hearing her words, he took a closer look and saw a tiny fiery-red bird flapping its wings and slowly rising into the air.

Bai Yi wanted to make a quick move, but seeing the little creature was rather strange, he continued to observe for a moment.

The chubby creature resembled a fat chicken. When it flew to the height of the roof it chirped.

The girl said, not bothered to hide her dissatisfaction, “You’re really stupid! You still can’t breathe fire!”

She sat down and rested her elbows on her legs before resting her chin in her hands. Then, she muttered, “When will you be as powerful as your mother? She’s so cool!”

Swoosh!

At this time, the ‘chicken’ in the air suddenly shot a ball of flames out toward the little girl. At the same, flames began to shroud its body.

The girl easily launched a ball of flames of her own and resisted the true flames with her karmic fire. Then, she said happily, “You succeeded!”

Bai Yi was not stupid. If he still could not tell what that chubby chicken was at this moment, he would have lived in vain.

‘The Divine Fire Phoenix?!’

Bai Yi decisively sheathed his sword and used his grand technique to leave.

In the courtyard, Little Yuan’er looked up at the flaming little Fire Phoenix happily. She said excitedly, “I didn’t raise you with my Great Void energy in vain! A little more! A little bigger!”

Swoosh!

The little Fire Phoenix puffed its chest and lifted its head, prepared to breathe out another ball of flames.

Whoosh!

It exhaled a wave of hot air instead. With that, the flames on its body were extinguished immediately. Perhaps, it was stunned by this unexpected development, it forgot to flap its wings and fell to the ground with a plop.

Little Yuan’er. “...”

Fortunately, the little Fire Phoenix did not fly very high up so it was not injured. During this time, under Little Yuan’er’s training, its flight and flame control had improved greatly. Her Great Void energy from the Great Void Seed, naturally, helped a lot.

Since Bai Yi fled in a hurry, he left minute fluctuations behind.

Little Yuan’er who cultivated the Supreme Purity Slip had very keen senses so she sensed the slight fluctuations immediately. She looked at the sky and asked, “Who is it?”

However, the sky was empty.

She shuddered. Then, she flew toward the little Fire Phoenix before grabbing it and continued flying toward Conch’s courtyard.

“I don’t want to sleep alone!”

...

In the royal palace.

The emperor of Great Qin, who was still soaking in the medicine tub, was on the verge of losing his temper.

He was confused and angry. Over the past two days, he had used up almost all of the mystic life grass he had obtained in the Unknown Land, but he did not even recover one Birth Chart.

“Gao Cheng.”

Gao Cheng walked in tremblingly. “Your Majesty?”

“Where’s Bai Yi now?”

"General Bai promised to complete the mission today so he should be arriving soon," Gao Cheng replied as he glanced at the moon outside.

The palace was deathly silent, making people feel uncomfortable.

...

About an hour later.

Bai Yu rushed over from afar and arrived at the entrance of the palace unobstructed. He said, "I'm here to see His Majesty."

Before the guards on duty could announce Bai Yi's arrival, a voice rang from inside.

"Let him in."

Since Bai Yi's identity was special, these were just perfunctory actions. In fact, both the guards and experts in the hall would grant him access without any fuss.

Bai Yi walked along the corridor and passed a few halls before he finally saw Gao Cheng.

Gao Cheng frowned when he saw Bai Yi had come empty-handed. He asked, "Where are the heads?"

Bai Yi fell to his knees and cupped his fists together before he said, "D*mn it! I failed to complete the mission. The Zhao Residence has too many experts, and I'm no match for them!"

Swoosh!

The water droplets evaporated from the emperor of Great Qin's body as he flashed out of the tub. After grabbing his robe, he appeared in front of Bai Yi. He stared at Bai Yi with burning eyes as he asked, "Even you're no match for them?"

Bai Yi kowtowed as he said, "Your Majesty, please forgive me!"

The emperor waved his sleeve. "I'll give you another chance!"

"Thank you, Your Majesty!" Bai Yi hurriedly said.

"Lead a troop to the Evil Sky Pavilion in the golden lotus domain. If you fail, you don't have to return," the emperor said.

"Yes, Your Majesty," Bai Yi said before he left.

After Bai Yi left, Gao Cheng said, "Your Majesty, I'm afraid General Bai will be disloyal."

"He won't be disloyal," the emperor said.

Gao Cheng lowered his head and said, "If Your Majesty says so, then that must be the case."

"Bring me the life heart I've saved and activate the spatial Formation in the Mystic Tranquility Hall," the emperor said.

Gao Cheng's heart jolted upon hearing these words. The emperor of Great Qin intended to forcefully activate a new Birth Chart. Naturally, he did not dare have any opinion. He only said, "Understood."

...

Three days later.

In the Zhao Residence.

The morning was very peaceful.

Lu Zhou opened his eyes and looked at his Birth Palace. Its surface was smooth and shone with 14 distinct lights.

"It's done..."

3 days under the effect of the Pillar of Impermanence were equivalent to 300 days.

Lu Zhou withdrew the Pillar of Impermanence and returned the circulation speed to normal.

He could sense the surging power in his Dantian's sea of Qi. He felt as though his body held immeasurable power at this moment. His cultivation had clearly improved greatly.

At this moment, Zhao Yu's voice rang from outside. "Zhao Yu requests an audience with old sir."

A hint of anxiety could be heard in Zhao Yu's voice.

Lu Zhou walked out and saw the anxious expression on Zhao Yu's face so he asked, "What's wrong?"

Zhao Yu was overjoyed when he saw Lu Zhou. "My mother is awake!"

Lu Zhou nodded. "Lead the way."

Zhao Yu quickly brought Lu Zhou to another courtyard.

When Lu Zhou entered the room, he saw the haggard Madam Qi. Her eyes were lifeless, and her aura was weak.

Zhao Yu moved to stand next to his mother and said in a low voice, "Mother, he's the person who saved you!"

Madam Qi tried her best to lift her head to look at Lu Zhou. Initially, an expression of disbelief appeared on her face before it was quickly replaced by a complex expression. Then, she shook her head before she said, "Many thanks, benefactor..."

Lu Zhou studied her face and complexion and found them to be normal. She had just woken up after such a long time so it would be impossible for her to return to the pink of health immediately.

Lu Zhou had noticed Madam Qi's reaction earlier so he asked, "Do you know me?"

Madam Qi shook her head and said weakly, "I was mistaken. I apologize. You look younger than him..."

'Is she talking about Ji Tiandao?'

Lu Zhou calmly asked, "Who's he?"

Madam Qi sighed and said, "We met by chance and aren't very familiar..."

Madam Qi coughed before she could finish her sentence.

Zhao Yu hurriedly passed her a bowl of medicine. "Mother, this is to strengthen your body and vitality. It's prescribed by the old sir."

Madam Qi nodded and took a sip.

At this moment, Lu Zhou suddenly said, "I'm from the Evil Sky Pavilion in the Golden Lotus Domain."

Crash!

As soon as Madam Qi heard these words, the bowl in her hand slipped and crashed on the ground.