Disciples 1621

Chapter 1621: The Reveal (2)

With time, many things were gradually forgotten, but many things were also gradually confirmed. Some things once done could no longer be corrected no matter how much time had passed.

Kong Junhua did not know how to feel now that someone suddenly told her those things of the past were all fake.

Shang Zhang could not stop trembling. His eyes burned brightly as he said, "I want evidence."

Xuan Yi, ever as faithful, said, "Pavilion Master Lu is all the evidence you need!"

"Emperor Xuanyi, you believe him?!" Wu Xing exclaimed in surprise.

"He's the person I trust most in this world!" Xuanyi said, brimming with unwavering conviction that was clear for everyone to see.

" ..."

Wu Xing shook his head and chuckled before he said, "I'll remember what happened today! I'll remember these slanderous words and report this to my ancestor and the Sacred Temple. I don't believe no one in the Great Void will uphold justice!"

Then, Wu Xing waved his hand, preparing to leave.

If Shang Zhang allowed Wu Xing to leave, it would be difficult for Lu Zhou to keep Wu Xing here with his current cultivation base.

"Wait a moment."

Conch stepped forward.

Everyone looked at Conch.

A delighted and surprised expression appeared on Wu Xing's face immediately. He thought Conch was going to follow him back to Xuan Meng Hall.

Conch's expression was very calm as she said, "I can prove that what my master said is true."

"Hm?" Shang Zhang looked at Conch in confusion and asked, "How can you prove it?"

After all, Conch was so young. How could she know about what happened 110,000 years ago?

Conch raised her arm and rolled up her sleeve wordlessly, exposing her fair arm. Then, she tapped two fingers lightly on her arm, revealing a conch-shaped mark on her wrist. The mark glowed dazzlingly.

Everyone was stunned.

Conch continued to say calmly, "My mother's name is Luo Xuan. She loved a cultivator from the red lotus domain. She was unrestrained and carefree, and she loved studying the shackles of heaven and earth. She stayed away from secular affairs and liked to wander the world. She hates war and killing. She

was one of the first few people to discover the Unknown Land. She was very brave, and she was the one who saved me in the Unknown Land and gave me the name Luo Shiyin."

Everyone was puzzled. They did not understand what her words had to do with the matter at hand.

Lu Zhou seemed to have realized something and frowned slightly. However, he did not stop Conch.

Conch continued to talk about her life in the red lotus domain, her mother's disappearance, becoming an orphan, and her memory loss. Finally, she said, "When I met my mother again, she passed her cultivation to me. From then on, I would dream of strange scenes. There was a mountain and rivers in my dreams..."

Shang Zhang asked solemnly, "What exactly are you trying to say?"

Conch did not seem to hear Shang Zhang as she continued to say, "In my dreams, the mountain was green. It was summer all year round. The scenery was extremely beautiful. People called it... Mount Nanhua."

Following that, the mark on Conch's wrist suddenly flashed before two red dazzling characters appeared in the air: Shang Zhang.

Thump!

Kong Junhua staggered backward and fell. The female attendants hastily helped her up.

Shang Zhang's eyes widened when he saw the two characters in the air.

Xuanyi, Wu Xing, and everyone else looked at Conch in shock and disbelief.

"H-how, how's this possible?!" Wu Xing gulped.

Shang Zhang instinctively took a step back, unable to wrap his mind around this. Even as a divine emperor, he could not maintain his calm at this moment. He kept shaking his head.

Upon seeing Shang Zhang's attitude, Conch rolled down her sleeve, and the two red characters disappeared. With another tap on her arm, the mark on her wrist disappeared. Then, she said calmly, "I hid this mark because... I only have one mother. Her name is Luo Xuan. I have no other family members. Not now, and not in the future."

""

The entire place was as silent as a graveyard.

Perhaps, Conch was the only one who was truly calm in the entire hall. She had seen the scenes in dreams a thousand times, and she had repeated today's scene in her heart countless times. Her heart had ached when she had replayed the scenes in her dreams and heart, but they had been repeated so many times that she was no longer affected.

Little Yuan'er was not stupid; she naturally understood everything. She really wanted to comfort Conch, but she was afraid she would not be able to say the right words. In the end, she could only shuther mouth.

Xuanyi, who had regained his senses, was the first to break the silence. "If she's really the harbinger of disaster, how many years have passed since then? Why isn't there any change in the Great Void over the past years?"

"..."

"If she's a jinx, then where's the disaster? Are you going to say the imbalance and the collapse of Dunzang's Pillar of Destruction are the disaster?" Xuanyi continued to say in a slightly angry voice. He really thought Conch was pitiful and felt indignant on her behalf. He asked, "Emperor Shang Zhang, what do you think?"

Shang Zhang staggered back and sat on his throne wordlessly, looking as though he had lost his soul.

Conch turned around. She stood in front of Lu Zhou and bowed before she said calmly, "I have the Great Void Seed so I'm the best candidate to be the commander of a hall. Xuan Meng Hall is short of people. If master has no objection, I'm willing to become the Commander of Xuan Meng Hall."

Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "If it were anything else, I'd agree, but not this." Then, he turned to look at Wu Xing and said, "For now, it's still very filthy."

Wu Xing fell to the ground.

Lu Zhou looked at everyone indifferently before he turned to walk outside.

Little Yuan'er and Conch hurried after their master.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Cultivators from Shang Zhang Hall appeared one after another at the entrance of the hall, looking at them like tigers eyeing their prey.

"The two ladies aren't allowed to leave Shang Zhang Hall without permission!"

Lu Zhou raised his hand, and Unnamed in the form of a sword appeared in his hand. Then, he said tonelessly, "Don't force me to start a massacre."

The cultivators looked at Unnamed that emitted a terrifying power. All of them could tell it was a void-grade weapon. No one dared to move or fight with Lu Zhou who wielded a void-grade weapon.

At this moment, Shang Zhang said, "Let them go."

With that, the cultivators retreated in unison.

Lu Zhou flew out, followed by Xuanyi, Little Yuan'er, and Conch.

...

After an unknown amount of time had passed, Wu Xing rose to his feet and bowed at Shang Zhang as he said, "Your Majesty, I still have to report back so I won't disturb you any longer. Farewell."

Wu Xing and his entourage quickly walked toward the entrance of the hall. Just as they were about to leave, Shang Zhang's gloomy voice rang in the air. "Since you're here, you can't leave."

Shang Zhang was expressionless as he waved his sleeve.

The space at the entrance of the hall began to twist and distort.

Swoosh!

The cultivators with Wu Xing were sent flying as they vomited blood.

Wu Xing's expression changed drastically. He quickly turned around and said, "Your Majesty, you can't trust him!"

Shang Zhang ignored Wu Xing as he called out in a frosty voice, "Men."

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Several cultivators appeared in the hall in just a flash.

"Drag him away and cripple him," Shang Zhang said.

"Understood."

Two cultivators stepped forward immediately.

Wu Xing roared, "Shang Zhang, how dare you?! Do you really think Xuan Meng Hall is easy to bully? If you dare to touch even a strand of my hair, my ancestor will never let you go!"

Shang Zhang's eyes burned brightly as he said, "Break his limbs."

"Understood."

Just as Wu Xing was about to struggle, Shang Zhang waved his hand. A light seal flew out and hit Wu Xing's chest. Wu Xing was sent flying before he was caught by four cultivators.

Crack!

Each of the cultivators broke each of Wu Xing's limbs.

"Keep him alive. I want to see how Wu Zu is going to explain this," Shang Zhang said.

"Understood!"

Shang Zhang returned to his throne, still looking dazed. He turned to look at Kong Junhua. She had long fainted and was lying in the female attendant's arms.

"Take Madam to rest."

"Understood."

After Kong Junhua was brought away, Shang Zhang stayed in the hall for a very long time. His expression was so calm that it was terrifying.

After who-knew-how-long had passed, Shang Zhang finally stood up. He felt numb all over his body. He took a deep breath.

At this time, a cultivator entered the hall and asked, "What are your orders, Your Majesty?"

"Prepare the flying chariot. I want to go to Xuanyi Hall."

"Understood."

"Wait," Shang Zhang called out before he said, "This matter must be kept a secret. Also, bring the things in my Dao hall with you."

"Understood."

Chapter 1622: The Grand Shaman of the Great Void

As a trusted confidant of Shangzhang, the cultivator was slightly surprised. The things Shang Zhang left behind were mysterious. It was said that they were treasures left behind for the heir. For example, the next Master of Shang Zhang Hall or a cultivation genius who would become Shang Zhang's disciple.

Shang Zhang continued to stay in the hall alone. He only made a move to the Runic Hall when the flying chariot was ready.

Alas, Xuanyi Palace's Runic Hall refused to grant access to the people from Shang Zhang Hall so the passage was blocked.

Out of desperation, Shang Zhang had no choice but to fly across the mountains and rivers to Xuanyi Palace. Regardless of the distance, he still had to make this trip. He had to pay back the debt he owed.

...

At the same time, there was a huge commotion in the northern region of the Great Void.

As one of the ten halls, Xuan Meng Hall was once like the sun in the sky in ancient times. It was extremely glorious. After the land split, Xuan Meng Hall joined forces with the other nine halls to take down the Unholy One and his followers. At that time, the Master of Xuan Meng Hall perished during the battle with the Unholy One. The world praised Xuan Meng for his sacrifice and achievement, and a monument was erected in his memory so the world would remember his glorious past.

Alas, the past would always remain in the past. No matter how glorious Xuan Meng Hall was, without its master, it would eventually fall behind.

In the sky south of Xuan Meng Hall, rows of flying chariots hovered in the air. These flying chariots radiated power and were arranged in an orderly manner.

A large number of cultivators hovered around the flying chariots. They were Silver Guards and cultivators from the Sacred Temple.

No one knew why there were so many cultivators.

Inside a hall, a thin old man with a gloomy aura stood with his hands on his back as he looked at the young man standing in front of him. After a long time, he finally asked, "You're Qi Sheng, the young man favored by the Temple Master of the Sacred Temple?"

Qi Sheng smiled and cupped his fists together at the old man as he said, "I didn't expect that even Senior Wu Zu has heard of me. I'm embarrassed."

"Why did you come to my Xuan Meng Hall in such a grand manner?"

This old man with a wizened face was the Grand Shaman of the Great Void, Wu Zui.

Qi Sheng replied, "I heard that Xuan Meng Hall sent someone to Shang Zhang Hall to look for a new commander. I came to say hello."

"Say hello?" Wu Zu said, "You're already the Commander of Tu Wei Hall so you don't have the qualifications to participate in the competition."

Qi Sheng shook his head. "I'm not interested in the position of Commander of Xuan Meng Hall."

"Then why are you here?" Wu Zu said in a low voice, "Don't think that you can act presumptuously just because the Silver Guards and the experts from the Sacred Temple are here."

"I'm here for two reasons," Qi Sheng said calmly, "First, in consideration of the great contributions Xuan Meng Hall made to the Great Void, I came to visit the hall and Senior Wu Zu on behalf of the temple."

"What's the second reason?" Wu Zu asked.

"You'll have to wait a little longer for the second reason."

"Wait?" Wu Zu looked at Qi Sheng and said, "Do you think you can use a chicken feather as an arrow to pressure me? What kind of place do you think Xuan Meng Hall is?"

"Senior Wu Zui, you must be joking," Qi Sheng said, "Who doesn't know that you're the only grand shaman in the Great Void and that your cultivation is extremely profound? How would I, a junior, dare to act so presumptuously?"

"Take your men with you and leave," Wu Zu said with a flick of his sleeve before saying to his subordinate, "See the guest out."

The cultivators of Xuan Meng Hall surrounded Qi Sheng immediately.

At this moment, someone flew over from one of the flying chariots to Qi Sheng's side and whispered in his ears. His eyes widened slightly before he looked at Wu Zu and said, "It seems like there's another matter

Take your men over there and leave. See our guest out."

Wu Zu stood up and flicked his sleeves.

The cultivators from Chenmeng Hall surrounded him.

At that moment, a person alighted from the flying carriage in the sky and quickly came to Qi Sheng's side. He whispered a few words into Qi Sheng's ear.

Qi Sheng's eyes opened slightly. He looked at Wu Zu and said, "As I said, I have two reasons for coming to Xuan Meng Hall."

"Speak." Wu Zu was beginning to feel impatient.

"I came to take your head."

It was as silent as a graveyard in the hall.

In the Xuan Meng Hall, no one dared to show disrespect to Wu Zu. Even in the Great Void, he was revered by tens of thousands of people. In his opinion, those capable of taking his head had not been born, and no one had the courage to do so now. He was not angry. Instead, he carefully studied the young man in front of him who seemed to be sick in the head. However, he could not see anything wrong. On the contrary, he saw sharpness, confidence, and murderous intent in the young man's eyes.

Wu Zu asked, "Is this the Sacred Temple's order?"

In Wu Zu's opinion, Tu Wei Hall would not have the courage to provoke Xuan Meng Hall. Considering Qi Sheng's identity, this had to be the Sacred Temple's doing.

Qi Sheng nodded.

"Do you think you have the capability to do so?" Wu Zu asked.

"I don't, but the... Sacred Temple does," Qi Sheng said slowly, still maintaining a respectful attitude.

Wu Zu said expressionlessly, "Newborn calves are unafraid of tigers."

At the same time, a ball of black gas appeared in Wu Zu's hand. At the same time, energy from his body began to ripple out.

Qi Sheng was not afraid or nervous. Instead, he said, "What's the rush? Don't you want to know the reason, Senior Wu Zu?"

Indeed, Wu Zu really wanted to know the reason. After all, Xuan Meng Hall was one of the ten halls, if they were going to kill him, they had to give him a reason, right?

Qi Sheng crossed his arms and said confidently, "Everyone knows about Xuan Meng Hall's achievements. Hence, the Sacred Temple isn't targeting Xuan Meng Hall but Senior Wu Zu."

"Me?"

Qi Sheng brought out a talisman and ignited it with two fingers. Following that, a black mark fell from the sky and struck the ground. He said, "You should be more familiar with this mark than I am."

Wu Zu frowned upon seeing the mark. He clenched his hand, and the mass of black gas disappeared.

Qi Sheng brought a piece of paper with strange and mysterious symbols before he said again, "What's on this paper is an ancient forbidden technique. You should also be more familiar with it than I am."

u n

Finally, Wu Zu asked in a deep voice, "What do all these have to do with me?"

Qi Sheng lit up the piece of paper before he said with a smile, "Senior, just listen to me. I'm only responsible for making statements. I won't accept any rebuttals or explanations."

Then, Qi Sheng brought a huge scroll. It was a map of Xuan Meng Hall's territory. He said, "Darkness converges here from all directions in the Great Void. The Sacred Temple said that his map cannot be kept so I'll destroy it for you."

With a clap of his hands, Qi Sheng reduced the map to dust.

At this time, Wu Zu's expression finally changed, revealing anger and shock.

Qi Sheng raised his head and said, "I just received news that Wu Xing is now a prisoner of Shang Zhang Hall, and his limbs have been broken."

Wu Zu's eyes widened as he bellowed, "Say that again!"

Qi Sheng did not repeat himself. He continued to say, "The Sacred Temple already knows about it."

"You..." Wu Zu's expression stiffened before he asked suspiciously, "Are you really the Commander of Tu Wei Hall?"

Qi Sheng said clearly and slowly, "I'm Qi Sheng, the new Commander of Tu Wei Hall, and I'm here to take your head."

Qi Sheng continued to say with a confident smile, "I won't repeat myself. I know senior must wish to kill me, but it won't solve the problem. Moreover, you can't kill me."

"Ha! You really know how to brag!" Wu Zu scoffed.

Qi Sheng continued to say, "Everyone has to pay for what they've done. Heaven is above, and hell is below. It has always been like this, and it'll always be like this."

"With those reasons alone? They're not enough," Wu Zu said.

Chapter 1623: Scheming for His Death (1)

Qi Sheng naturally knew they were not enough. However, his eyes and smile showed his confidence.

Having lived for more than 100,000 years, Wu Zu, the Grand Shaman of the Great Void, had experience and knowledge beyond most people. However, he really could not see through Qi Sheng's thoughts.

Qi Sheng said, "If those things aren't enough, then I'll say a few more words."

Wu Zu said coldly, "I want to see what kind of reasons your glib tongue can come up with. However, I have bad news for you."

"Senior, please speak first," Qi Sheng said.

Wu Zu said, "No matter what, today, you will... die."

Wu Zu thought he would be able to see fear, shock, or nervousness in Qi Sheng's eyes or face, but to his surprise, Qi Sheng remained calm.

Qi Sheng nodded.

"You can speak now," Wu Zu said.

"Senior Wu Zu was born in ancient times and has traveled far and wide. You're the only shaman left in the Great Void, and you're also the only shaman who managed to become a supreme being. Alas, witchcraft is also restricted by the shackles of heaven and earth, and there's a limit to how long one can live. If my calculations are correct, senior, you... don't have much time left, right?"

Wu Zu's eyes shone with disbelief as he looked at Qi Sheng. This matter had always been a knot in his heart. It was also the biggest obstacle he had faced since he started practicing the dark arts. It was the problem all humans, common folks and cultivators alike, faced. His life was coming to an end.

There were those who could not imagine living forever. Life would be repetitive and boring, numbing one's emotions and desires. Then, there were also those who wished to live forever, enjoying the power and status they possessed.

Wu Zu naturally belonged to the latter group like most people. He was not willing to die.

Finally, Wu Zu asked, "How do you know?"

"Those who are observant will know once they do a little calculation," Qi Sheng said, "You're the culprit behind the Fatal Fission at Great Rift Valley 110,000 years ago, and absorbed a large amount of vitality energy using the formation from the dark arts."

Wu Zu frowned; his expression turned grave.

Qi Sheng continued to say, "Over the past 100,000 years, you've been planning all kinds of things, including the Great Void Expedition and the human-culling plan in the nine domains. You stood high above as you watched the ants die..."

At this point, Wu Zu raised his hand and said, "Nonsense!"

Qi Sheng said, "Senior, why don't you wait for me to finish? You're going to kill me anyway."

"Speak!" Wu Zu said in a deep voice.

"Like I said before, I'll only state objective facts, and I won't accept any rebuttals or explanations. You know very well whether I'm right or not," Qi Sheng said.

Qi Sheng's attitude made Wu Zu itch with anger. He was overwhelmed with the urge to slap Qi Sheng to death. Fortunately, after more than 100,000 years, he had learned to restrain his impulses. He had to understand the Sacred Temple's meaning and reason so he said, "Continue."

"You'd come up with so many plans, and they were all to raise your cultivation, break the shackles, and gain eternal life. Unfortunately for you, all your plans ended in failure."

"Perhaps you were unwilling so you wanted to seize the Great Void Seed. That was the reason you went to Dunzang's Pillar of Destruction. You were the cause of the first crack at Dunzang's Pillar of Destruction. However, you knew you'd touched the bottom line of the Sacred Temple. You were forced to give up on the Great Void Seed to clear yourself of suspicion. At that time, the Sacred Temple attributed the incident to the alignment of ten celestial stars due to your words. However, you don't know astrology at all."

"Today, after 100,000 years, you still haven't given up on the idea of immortality. Originally, you planned to wait for another 30,000 years to seize the Great Void Seed, but unfortunately, your time is almost up. There's no way you could wait for the Great Void seedlings to mature so you decided to target the owners of the Great Void Seeds. You sent people to the White Emperor, the Scarlet Emperor, and the Azure Emperor..."

At this point, Qi Sheng paused for a moment before he said, "That's right. Mu Yunxiao, the number one beauty of Xuan Meng Hall for more than 40,000 years, wasn't my type so I... killed her."

"…"

Wu Zu's eyes were filled with disbelief. He found that the person in front of him was truly unfathomable. It was as though he was facing a non-human life form. This feeling was very bad. As someone who had lived for more than 100,000 years, he was actually inferior to a young man? His heart began to race wildly in his heart.

"After careful considerations, you finally set your sight on Ci Yuan'er, one of the owners of the Great Void Seeds, who's with Emperor Shang Zhang. Unfortunately, Ci Yuan'er is too talented so Emperor Shang Zhang was very fond of her. You knew Emperor Shang Zhang would never let Ci Yuan'er leave so you shifted your target to Conch."

"It's very difficult and complicated to refine the Great Void Seeds. These are the steps I wrote down when I was bored," Qi Sheng said as he brought a book out and tossed it over to Wu Zu.

Wu Zu looked at the book silently. No one knew what he was thinking.

"Senior Wu Zu, do you find the steps familiar?" Qi Sheng asked.

Then, Qi Sheng clasped his hands on his back and said, "This matter also touches the bottom line of the Sacred Temple." Then, his voice darkened and turned somewhat icy as he continued to say, "It also touches Tu Wei Hall's bottom line. Hence, you have to die to appease the word."

Qi Sheng looked at Wu Zu and concluded by asking, "Are these reasons enough?"

Chapter 1624: Scheming for His Death (2)

Wu Zu remained calm. He even smiled.

Qi Sheng was not surprised by Wu Zu's reactions in the slightest. He had expected this.

Wu Zu did not refute or make excuses. Instead, he clapped his hands and said sincerely, "You're truly a talent. Wise beyond your years."

"You flatter me."

Wu Zu continued to say, "Unfortunately, smart people don't live long in this world. I don't care how you found out about these things, but you must understand one thing: the Sacred Temple can't kill me, and you're going to die here. By the way, the reasons you listed... are still not enough."

Wu Zu naturally would not accept his fate easily.

Qi Sheng said tonelessly, "Since the reasons aren't enough, let's make up for it with our fists." Then, he snapped his fingers before he added, "Senior Wu Zu, cherish your last moments."

Then, Qi Sheng turned around and walked out.

Just as Qi Sheng was about to reach the entrance, Wu Zu raised his hand and said icily, "Die."

A black palm seal shot toward Qi Sheng's back. At the critical moment, a golden avatar appeared and blocked the huge black palm seal.

A bald cultivator appeared above the golden avatar. He smiled and said lazily, "You all really know how to talk nonsense. I was quite worried I wouldn't be able to make a move with all that talking."

"Zui Chan?"

Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!

Avatars appeared one after another in the Dao hall.

Realization dawned on Wu Zu. "The Four Supreme of the Sacred Temple?"

Then, Wu Zu began to cackle. "Ming Xin, you really think highly of me!"

"Wu Zu, it's best if you don't resist for the sake of the whole world and for the sake of your poor descendants," Zui Chan drank a cup of wine as he said seriously, "Put down your knife and repent. Amitabha."

Wu Zu said in a deep voice, "Back then, the battle with the Unholy One shocked the world. Today, I'll take on the four supremes. We still don't know who will win. Don't be so certain of your victory."

Wu Zu looked very confident. Black gas surged out of his body, looking like a black dragon.

"The Unholy One was different. He was strong, but you... you're not worthy!" Zui Chan said.

The other supremes appeared.

At the same time, golden light flashed above the Dao hall before it descended, suppressing everything.

Upon seeing this, Wu Zu said in a trembling voice, "T-the, the Scales of Justice?!"

...

There was no magnificent or earth-shattering battle. There was only a bright pillar of light that illuminated Xuan Meng Hall.

Qi Sheng, who was hovering in the sky, looked at Xuan Meng Hall expressionlessly.

The pillar of light was unprecedentedly bright. It seemed to contain untold powers, filling the entire Xuan Meng Hall.

In the area within a radius of 3,000 miles around Xuan Meng Hall, all cultivators looked up at the golden sky.

Qi Sheng looked at the pillar of light for a long time before he said tonelessly, "You brought this upon yourself."

At this moment, a person around Qi Sheng's age appeared next to him. The person bowed and asked, "Weren't you afraid Wu Zu would kill you?"

"He wouldn't be able to kill me," Qi Sheng replied.

"Oh."

Another 15 minutes passed, and the pillar of light dissipated. The Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple and the Scales of Justice had done their job.

Wu Zu, the only Grand Shaman of the Great Void, fell just like that.

The entire place was silent.

...

Half a day later.

In Xuanyi Palace's Dark Hall.

Everyone from the Evil Sky Pavilion greeted Little Yuan'er and Conch.

Little Yuan'er and Conch greeted everyone happily in return.

It was very lively.

Xuanyi looked at everyone and said with a sigh, "I didn't expect that girl's life to be so bitter. Fortunately, you took her in. Otherwise..."

Lu Zhou nodded. "Fate is like that. Perhaps, the heavens are toying with us."

Xuanyi asked, confused, "Why didn't you kill Wu Xing?"

Lu Zhou replied, "There are some things that don't need me to personally intervene. If that Shang Zhang has even a little conscience, he'll know what to do."

"You're right," Xuanyi said. Then, he added worriedly, "If the Xuan Meng Hall comes, what does Pavilion Master Lu intend to do?"

"I've never thought much about Xuan Meng Hall. It was the same 100,000 years ago, and it's the same now," Lu Zhou replied.

At present, perhaps, only Wu Zu was a match for Lu Zhou. The others were no match for him at all. Moreover, Wu Zu was severely injured by the Unholy One 100,000 years ago and had been in decline.

At this moment, a cultivator rushed over. He bowed and said, "Your Majesty, things aren't looking good."

"Speak."

"The Grand Shaman of the Great Void, Wu Zu... He, he's gone," the cultivator said.

"What?!" Xuanyi exclaimed in surprise.

"Wu Zu is dead!" the cultivator said in a more direct manner.

"When did this happen?" Xuanyi asked.

"Six hours ago."

"What happened? Tell me everything you know," Xuanyi said.

"It's said that the Sacred Temple condemned Wu Zu for committing heinous crimes, reaping thousands of lives, planned the Fatal Fission at Great Rift Valley, and plotted to wipe out the human race. He tried to use forbidden techniques to break the shackles of heaven and earth. The temple has also released news that Wu Zu was like the Unholy One. He had to be killed and forever condemned by the masses."

"..."

An awkward expression appeared on Xuanyi's face when he heard the last few sentences. He hurriedly said, "Nonsense. Wu Zu is Wu Zu. How can he be compared to the Unholy One?"

The cultivator was puzzled by Xuanyi's reaction.

Lu Zhou asked curiously, "Why did the Sacred Temple suddenly heap these charges on Wu Zu and sentenced him to death?"

"I don't know. It's said that the Sacred Temple sent a large number of cultivators to Xuan Meng Hall. Wu Zu's head is hung at the top of the main hall in Xuan Meng Hall to serve as a warning to others."

Xuanyi sighed. "It'd be too easy for the Sacred Temple to deal with him. However, why did they only attack him now?"

There were too many questions Xuanyi did not have answers to.

Lu Zhou asked, "Who killed Wu Zu?"

"I heard it's the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple. However, there are no witnesses. This is just hearsay."

Xuanyi said, "Oh? Wu Zu was just a great divine king; it's really amazing that the four supremes were sent out to deal with him."

"He was a grand shaman, after all. He had many strange and dark tricks up his sleeve," Lu Zhou said.

"You're right," Xuanyi said with a nod, "It's good that he's dead. It can also be considered seeking justice for Conch. There's truly karma in this world."

As soon as Xuanyi's voice fell, Li Chun flew over from the distance. When he landed, he said, "Reporting to Your Majesty. Emperor Shang Zhang has already left Shang Zhang Hall. It's estimated that he'll be arriving at Xuanyi Palace in less than half a month."

Xuanyi frowned. "I'm not receiving him. Tell him not to waste his energy. It's a waste of time for him to come here."

Li Chun hesitated for a moment before he asked, "Is it appropriate to keep Emperor Shang Zhang outside?"

"He's too shameless. Since he wants to come, then let him fly slowly. If anyone grants him entry, I won't let him or her off easily," Xuanyi said. Then, he turned to Lu Zhou and asked, "Pavilion Master Lu, are you satisfied with this?"

Lu Zhou nodded. Then, he waved Conch over.

Conch walked over and bowed. "Master."

"You don't regret it?" Lu Zhou asked.

Conch answered without hesitation, "No."

It had been 100 years. No one knew the situation better than Conch.

Lu Zhou nodded and said, "I respect your decision."

"Thank you, master!"

Chapter 1625: The Birth of a Bootlicker

As the saying went, 'A day as a master, a father for life'. There was no one else Conch trusted in this world except for her master.

Xuanyi looked at Conch, who had returned to join the others, before he glanced at Little Yuan'er, who was chatting happily with the others. Then, he said, puzzled, "Pavilion Master Lu, both of them are heaven-defying prodigies. Since Conch has nothing to do with Shang Zhang now, they can stay in Xuanyi. Conch can also take over the position of Commander of Xuanyi Palace if you're okay with it."

Lu Zhou shook his head. "That won't do."

"Why?"

"The rules of the commanders' competition are still in place. Since ancient times, commanders of ten halls are allowed to enter the cores of the Pillars of Destruction to comprehend the power of heaven and earth. There are only ten pillars. The pillar that corresponds to Xuanyi Palace alone won't be enough. Moreover, the Sacred Temple won't agree to it either," Lu Zhou said tonelessly, "In any case, there's the pillar that corresponds to Xuan Meng Hall. Xuan Meng Hall has nothing to do with those people."

These words were very direct. What Lu Zhou meant was that he hated the people, but it had nothing to do with Xuan Meng Hall itself.

Xuanyi nodded. "In that case, we'll just go with the flow."

Xuanyi knew the Sacred Temple would prefer it if there were new commanders for ten halls. Alas, they did not know that all the owners of the Great Void Seeds were his teacher's disciples. When they became supreme beings, his teacher would also return to his peak.

'How wonderful!' Xuanyi thought to himself.

After a while, Xuanyi walked to Conch and said in a low voice, "Miss Conch, from now on, you can treat Xuanyi Palace as your home. You can come and go as you please. If you have any requests, feel free to speak. If you don't mind, you can just treat me as your older brother and family!"

Everyone looked at Xuanyi in unison.

Conch glanced at Lu Zhou before she said, "Your Majesty, this, this isn't appropriate, right?"

"There's nothing inappropriate about it. It's fine if you're unwilling. I just want to express my feeling," Xuanyi said.

"Thank you, Your Majesty," Conch said. She thought to herself, 'If I really treat you as my older brother, won't the order of seniority be messed up?'

Xuanyi did not think too much about this matter. In his eyes, Lu Zhou was his teacher so he felt that his status was like Lu Zhou's disciples; they had the same seniority. Hence, he thought there was nothing wrong with Conch treating him like an older brother.

After Xuanyi returned to Lu Zhou's side, he smiled and asked in a low voice, "Pavilion Master Lu, I have a question."

"Speak."

"When you were in Xuan Meng Hall, the exquisite sword you used was a void-grade weapon, right?" Xuanyi asked.

"That's right," Lu Zhou replied honestly. There was no need to hide this.

A hint of surprise appeared on Xuanyi's face. "It's really a void-grade weapon!"

At this moment, Lu Zhou said to everyone, "Alright. It's getting late. Everyone should get some rest."

Everyone from the Evil Sky Pavilion bowed. "Yes."

. . .

At night.

Lu Zhou continued comprehending the Heaven Scroll. His cultivation was progressing smoothly, but he was lacking supreme life hearts.

His golden avatar already had 32 Birth Charts, and he was only 4 Birth Charts away from completely activating all the Birth Charts.

Although the blue avatar was very strong and not any weaker than the golden avatar, it could still be improved. After all, it only had seven Birth Charts; it was very far away from the final 36th Birth Chart.

Since he was in the Great Void, he should seize the chance. The Great Void is a dangerous place, but it was also filled with opportunities.

...

Five days later.

A flying chariot hovered on the southern horizon of Xuanyi Palace.

"Please tell Emperor Xuanyi I'm here as a guest. I hope he'll receive me."

A cultivator looked at the flying chariot in the sky and said, "His Majesty has said that if Emperor Shang Zhang comes, His Majesty won't be seeing Emperor Shang Zhang. I hope Emperor Shang Zhang won't be angry."

Shang Zhang restrained himself and said politely, "Please inform him of my arrival again. If I don't see him, I won't be able to eat or sleep in peace."

The cultivator sighed and shook his head. "Please wait a moment."

. . .

The cultivator came to the main hall and reported this matter to Xuanyi.

Xuanyi laughed. "That old bast*rd Shang Zhang wants to see someone else, not me. He's usually so arrogant and looks down on me! Tell him that I won't see him."

"Yes, Your Majesty," the cultivator said before he left.

Li Chun said from the side, "This is already the third time, right? He's really persistent."

"I didn't expect him to use someone else's runic passage and rushed to Xuanyi Palace in just five days. How can there be such a cheap thing in this world? Does he think five days can exchange for a few hundred years of loneliness and helplessness? Dream on!" Xuanyi said disdainfully.

"I don't understand, Your Majesty," Li Chun said, puzzled. He did not know about Conch's matter, after all.

Xuanyi said, "Don't ask about things you shouldn't ask about."

At this moment, the cultivator who was in charge of receiving Shang Zhang returned again. "Reporting to Your Majesty. Emperor Shang Zhang has left."

Xuanyi scoffed. "He left after only three times. It's good for him to scram!"

Li Chun said, perplexed, "Emperor Shang Zhang isn't one to give up so easily. Why did he leave so suddenly?"

The cultivator replied, "I'm not sure, but he looked quite determined when he left."

Xuanyi said, "Don't bother with him."

"Your Majesty, aren't you worried that Emperor Shang Zhang will hold a grudge against you?" Li Chun asked.

"If he's really that narrow-minded, he wouldn't have come to Xuanyi Palace in the first place," Xuanyi said with a mysterious smile.

. . .

In the Dark Hall's Dao hall.

Little Yuan'er and Conch massaged Lu Zhou's back and shoulder for him. The duo chatted about their lives in Shang Zhang Hall. They told him about every matter; big, small, happy, unhappy. They told him everything.

Lu Zhou nodded repeatedly and said, "In that case, Shang Zhang treated both of you well."

Little Yuan'er said, "He did, but... Initially, I thought he was only nice because of the Great Void Seeds, but later, I thought he was kind. I didn't expect him to treat Conch so badly."

Lu Zhou asked Conch, "Do you hate him?"

Conch shook her head. She did not hate Shang Zhang; she did not feel anything for Shang Zhang.

Lu Zhou probed. "If you think about it carefully, he's also a pitiful person who was deceived by a villain."

Without waiting for Conch to speak, Little Yuan'er scoffed and said disapprovingly, "Even if he was deceived, someone who could abandon their daughter is definitely not a good person!"

Lu Zhou nodded slightly. This was the most unforgivable thing. If Shang Zhang hoped to obtain Conch's understanding, it was likely... impossible.

At this moment, an attendant carried a tray of tea and slowly walked into the hall.

Lu Zhou glanced at the teapot and asked, "What is this?"

"Elder Ji, this is a high-quality tea that His Majesty specially prepared for you," the attendant replied.

"Elder Ji?" Lu Zhou frowned.

The attendant explained, "His Majesty speaks very often about you. I've always admired you."

Lu Zhou picked up the teacup and took a sip before he said, "Your tea-brewing skill has room for improvement."

The attendant looked embarrassed as he nodded. "Yes."

Little Yuan'er waved her hand and said, "You can go now."

The attendant quickly bowed and said, "His Majesty said I should stay and serve you."

Little Yuan'er asked, puzzled, "Master, what did you do to Emperor Xuanyi? He's very strange. We have to be careful."

Lu Zhou could not help but chuckle upon hearing this. "Don't worry about Xuanyi. As for that Shang Zhang..."

Little Yuan'er said grumblingly, "Don't mention him. I was really blind! I didn't expect him to have the heart of a wolf!"

Splash!

Little Yuan'er jolted, slightly shocked. "How are you pouring the tea? You're so clumsy!"

"Sorry, sorry," the attendant said as he hurriedly set the teapot down.

Little Yuan'er glanced at him and found that he was standing. She was already annoyed so she said in a reprimanding tone, "Kneel and bow. You have no respect for my master at all."

Chapter 1626: Super Bodyguard (1)

"Yes, yes, yes..." The attendant kneeled and became much more respectful. Then, he returned to brewing tea and pouring tea. His movements were still very stiff like he was unfamiliar with his actions.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "Shang Zhang's actions are indeed despicable, but don't be blinded by hatred."

Little Yuan'er said, "It's not hatred. I just thought he was better than this. Usually, he's quite amiable, but I didn't expect that he... Master's right. Human heart is the hardest to predict."

At this moment, Conch said, "I've long figured it out. I've been thinking about it for the past 100 years. If I really hated him, I wouldn't have stayed in Shang Zhang."

Indeed, 100 years were not something most people could endure.

Lu Zhou said, "When I took you in, you were still young, and your clothes were shabby. You didn't even have a pair of shoes. You can be considered lucky to have survived this cruel world."

Conch kneeled down and kowtowed. "If it weren't for master, I would've died long ago."

Little Yuan'er giggled and said, "I heard that Junior Sister Conch was almost tied up and burned to death. Fortunately, master arrived in time."

The attendant could not help but cough twice.

Little Yuan'er looked at the attendant with a speechless expression. Then, she pointed to a corner and said, "Can you please step back and not stand in front of my master? Do you think you're a pillar?"

"Uh, yes, yes, yes," the attendant said before respectfully stepping aside.

Then, Little Yuan'er continued to grumble. "Master, you don't know this, but I thought about you every day when I was in Shang Zhang Hall."

Lu Zhou said unhappily, "Little girl, when did you also learn to flatter people?"

"Master, it's true!" Little Yuan'er muttered, "I'm not little anymore. I had to pretend to be obedient when I faced that scoundrel Shang Zhang every day. It was very hard."

The attendant coughed again.

Little Yuan'er felt that she really could not speak without being interrupted. His cough had broken her rhythm. She immediately pointed outside and said, "So annoying! Leave."

The attendant nodded and stammered, "S-sorry, sorry..."

Then, he walked out of the hall reluctantly, glancing back from time to time.

Bang!

Little Yuan'er waved her hand, and the door slammed shut. She then turned to Lu Zhou and said, "Master, we have to be careful of Emperor Xuanyi. The attendant looks honest, but he might be a spy sent by Emperor Xuanyi. He doesn't even know how to serve tea or pour tea. He's clearly a newbie. How annoying."

"Hm?" Lu Zhou was aware of the attendant's strange behavior so he was not surprised. However, he was pleasantly surprised that Little Yuan'er was so observant. It seemed like the girl had grown up. He looked at the door and nodded slightly before he said with a slight smile, "Don't be rude."

"I understand."

"During the 100 years you spent in Shang Zhang Hall, did you slack off on your cultivation improve?" Lu Zhou asked.

Little Yuan'er said proudly, "Of course not! I've become a Dao Saint for a long time now. If it weren't for that old geezer, Shang Zhang, running to our training hall every day, I would've long become a Great Dao Saint."

"…"

Conch said, "I can't compare with Ninth Senior Sister, but I should be able to become a Dao Saint soon."

Lu Zhou nodded and said, "It's not easy to become a Dao Saint."

Then, Lu Zhou suddenly looked outside and waved his sleeve, causing a ripple.

The two girls looked at their master in confusion, not knowing what he was doing.

"Did you contact the others?" Lu Zhou asked.

Little Yuan'er lowered her head and said, "Master, I don't want to hide anything from you..."

"Speak."

"I'm working on a big plan," Little Yuan'er said.

"Big plan?"

"Fourth Senior Brother and Third Senior Brother came to Shang Zhang Hall. At that time, they said that if we met you, we should act like we don't know you. However, they didn't tell us the reason."

"Old Fourth?"

Little Yuan'er blinked and looked around cautiously before she said in a hushed voice, "Master, I made a big discovery..." She paused before she said, "That Qi Sheng from Tu Wei Hall... I think he might be Seventh Senior Brother!"

Lu Zhou frowned slightly. This was not the first time he had heard of Qi Sheng. The four elders had mentioned him, his fourth disciples had mentioned him, and now, Little Yuan'er also mentioned him. All signs seemed to show that Qi Sheng was his seventh disciple, Si Wuya. However, he had personally confirmed Si Wuya's death, and Yu Zhenghai had also sunk Si Wuya's body into the sea. How could Si Wuya suddenly come back to life? At that time, the Resurrection Scroll did not have any effect on Si

Wuya, unlike the way it did on the Qin Yuan's daughter. At that time, his comprehension of the Resurrection Scroll was clearly not enough to bring Si Wuya back to life.

Even if Si Wuya did not die, after being sunk into the Endless Ocean, it would have been impossible for him to survive.

Little Yuan'er said conspiratorially, "I feel that he's Seventh Senior Brother! His style is too similar to Seventh Senior Brother."

"Is that so?"

"Master, don't doubt me. He wants us to become the commanders of the halls." Little Yuan'er stroked her chin and began to analyze the matter. "There are many Dao Saints in the Great Void, and everyone wants to fight for the position. However, he insisted that we fight for it."

Lu Zhou did not comment on it. Instead, he asked, "How are the others?"

Little Yuan'er replied, "Eldest Senior Brother and Second Senior Brother are obsessed with cultivation so they should be fine. Third and Fourth Senior Brothers are in the Flaming Sea so we didn't see them often. It was even less likely for us to see Fifth and Sixth Senior Sisters. The only person we see more often is Eighth Senior Brother. He's now the Commander of the Sacred Temple. He's running around all day. I don't really know what he's up to."

Chapter 1627: Super Bodyguard (2)

After listening to Little Yuan'er and recalling Mingshi Yin's words, Lu Zhou wondered if his eighth disciple had truly become the Sacred Temple's lackey.

Finally, Lu Zhou nodded and said,"It's good as long as all of you are okay. As for that Qi Sheng, I'll personally meet him."

"Okay!"

"That's all for today. Get some rest," Lu Zhou said.

Little Yuan'er and Conch rose to their feet and said, "We'll take our leave."

Swoosh!

As soon as Little Yuan'er and Conch pulled the door open, the attendant staggered and almost fell forward.

Little Yuan'er frowned. "Clumsy!"

"Sorry, sorry," the attendant apologized profusely as he watched Little Yuan'er and Conch leave. After the duo disappeared, he sighed. He was just about to leave when a voice rang from the hall.

"Come in."

The power contained in the voice was not too much or too little; it was just nice for the attendant to hear it clearly. He knew it was directed at him. He hesitated. He really did not want to go in.

The voice rang from the hall again. "If you leave, don't ever return again."

The attendant sighed and returned to the hall. When he saw the expressionless Lu Zhou, he asked, puzzled, "Elder, did you call me?"

Lu Zhou smiled faintly and asked, "Shang Zhang, why must you do this?"

The attendant looked slightly surprised. He raised his hand and touched his face, hair, and clothes. There was nothing wrong with them.

Lu Zhou placed his hands on his back and said, "Xuanyi doesn't know that my surname is Ji."

Upon hearing that, the attendant sighed. Then, he straightened his might, and his majestic aura returned immediately. His appearance twisted and changed before it returned to Shang Zhang's appearance. Naturally, he was still dressed like an attendant.

Shang Zhang cupped his fists together at Lu Zhou and said, "Old sir, you have very keen eyesight."

Lu Zhou pointed at the futon across from him and said, "Sit."

Shang Zhang did not stand on ceremony and quickly took a seat.

Lu Zhou sat down as well. He looked at Shang Zhang and asked, "Aren't you afraid that the world would laugh at you if you were discovered using such a method to sneak into Xuanyi Palace?"

Shang Zhang sighed heavily. "I've committed such a huge mistake. I let down my wife and my child. Compared to that, why would I care about being laughed at?"

Lu Zhou knew why Shang Zhang was here, and Shang Zhang did not explain himself as well.

"So you want to make things right?" Lu Zhou asked.

Shang Zhang shook his head first, but there was still a trace of hope left in his heart so he nodded hesitantly. He said, looking conflicted, "I don't expect her to forgive me. I naturally hope she'll forgive me, but I don't expect that... I just want to make it up to her."

"Make it up to hert?" Lu Zhou looked at Shang Zhang as if to say, 'Can you make it up to her?'

Shang Zhang felt ashamed when he saw Lu Zhou's gaze.

Lu Zhou said, "You listened to a villain's lie and abandoned your child without even trying to verify the truth. How are you going to make it up to her?"

Shang Zhang remained silent.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "She was lost in the Unknown Land at a very young age. You should know how dangerous the Unknown Land is. Then, she ended up in the lotus domain. She was an orphan. She had no parents, no home, no food to eat, and no clothes to wear. How are you going to make up for that?"

After listening to the series of questions, Shang Zhang was so ashamed that he could not raise his head.

Lu Zhou pointed at Shang Zhang and scolded Shang Zhang mercilessly, "You're not worthy to be a father!"

Shang Zhang did not lose his temper. He allowed Shang Zhang to kill him. He knew no one was more qualified in this world to insult him than Lu Zhou. If Lu Zhou attacked him, he would not even defend himself at this moment. As the saying went, 'A master for a day, a father for life'. He knew Lu Zhou had been the role of 'father' for a long time.

Lu Zhou scolded Shang Zhang for quite a while. He only stopped when he felt that his mouth was dry.

Shang Zhang said, "I... I've made a huge mistake. I can't undo it, and I can't make up for it. If scolding me can make you feel better, please go ahead."

Lu Zhou said, "You were there when I spoke to them earlier. You should know Conch doesn't hate you."

Shang Zhang shook his head. "I'd rather she hate me."

"If it weren't for the fact that you protected them very well over the past 100 years, I would've chased you away a long time ago. Why would I sit here and talk nonsense with you?" Lu Zhou said.

There were not many parents who would do what Shang Zhang did.

Shang Zhang felt extremely ashamed as he said, "I know there's no use talking. In the future, I'll make it up to her whether she forgives me or not. Old sir, I have never begged anyone before. Can you please give this to her?"

Then, without waiting for Lu Zhou's reply, he flicked his sleeve and brought out a red rectangular brocade box behind.

There were complicated runes and patterns on the red brocade box. They looked old. Based on its aura, it was definitely not a simple item.

"What is it?" Lu Zhou asked.

Shang Zhang gently placed his hand on the box.

Buzz!

The runes lit up, and a crisp sound rang in the air before the brocade box clicked open.

Lu Zhou saw a beautiful and slender ancient zither.

Shang Zhang said, "100 years ago, when Conch first joined Shang Zhang Hall, she had a nine-stringed zither. I knew she's good at playing the zither. At that time, I was surprised she was skilled in music like my poor daughter. I didn't think that..."

Shang Zhang did not finish his words. Instead, he said, "There are two compartments in this box. The first compartment holds this zither. It's called the Ten-Stringed Zither. It's an infinite-grade instrument. Originally, I found this zither in an ancient ruins to celebrate her birthday. It's extremely rare. Back then, I advised her to refine the Nine-Stringed Zither and to fuse it with this zither, but she refused."

Shang Zhang flipped the zither and pointed to a grove on its back as he said, "The Nine-Stringed Zither can be placed here. The Nine-Stringed Zither's grade is too low so it can't unleash her full power. Since she likes the Nine-Stringed Zither, she can place it here so it can absorb the energy of the Ten-Stringed Zither."

Lu Zhou asked, "You're willing to let her do that?"

"Why wouldn't I be willing to do that? After all, she's my..." Shang Zhang stopped speaking for a moment. Then, he said, "Forget it. There's no point in talking about that."

"What's in the second compartment?" Lu Zhou asked.

"It's the divine secret stone that I've been using to meditate and cultivate over the past 100,000 years," Shang Zhang said.

Lu Zhou frowned. "You actually obtained a divine secret stone?"

Shang Zhang said truthfully, "I obtained this from the highest point of the Great Abyss Land. It is the purest thing between heaven and earth, and it holds a huge amount of mysterious power. I kept it with me for ten years so it has gained a lot of spirituality."

"The highest point of the Great Abyss Land?" Lu Zhou looked at Shang Zhang curiously.

Shang Zhang said, "After the Great Abyss Land's Pillar of Destruction lifted the Great Void, the Feather tribe and the Great Void came to an agreement to protect the world. The Feather tribe would guard the pillar, and in exchange, they wanted light. The Great Void gave light to them. The ten halls joined forces to pierce through the sky so the sun would shine on the Great Abyss Land."

Lu Zhou said disapprovingly, "How ostentatious."

Shang Zhang continued to say, "It was at that time that I obtained the divine secret stone." Then, he cupped his fists together at Lu Zhou before he said, "Old sir, please give these two things to Conch. I have nothing else to ask for."

If Conch was present, it was likely that she would reject these things. However, these two items were undoubtedly a great help to cultivators.

Lu Zhou thought about it for a moment. 'I'm not a gentleman so it's fine to be shameless with him.'

"Very well. Since you insist, I'll accept them," Lu Zhou said. With a flick of his sleeve, the brocade box closed and flew toward him.

Shang Zhang sighed in relief before he cupped his fists together at Lu Zhou again. "I didn't know better earlier so I hope you won't take my actions and words to heart."

Lu Zhou waved his hand. "I may not be magnanimous, but I'm not a petty person."

Shang Zhang said, "In my opinion, you're 100 times, no, 1,000 times, stronger than Wu Zu and the four supremes."

Lu Zhou thought that flattery from divine emperors seemed to be quite pleasing to the ears.

Based on what Lu Zhou had seen so far, it seemed like Shang Zhang was a slave to his daughter. Otherwise, Shang Zhang would not behave in this manner nor would he bring such valuable treasures to Xuanyi Palace.

Finally, Shang Zhang said, "I have another favor to ask from you. I hope you'll agree to it."

"If you want me to help you with Conch, I'm afraid..." Lu Zhou said.

Shang Zhang quickly interjected, "No, no, that's not what I meant." He looked outside before he said, "Can I continue to stay by your side as an attendant?"

"Hm?"

'What the hell! Did I just obtain a super bodyguard out of nowhere?!'

"I won't cause any trouble. I'll only stay for a month..." Shang Zhang trailed off when he saw the frown on Lu Zhou's face. He hastily corrected himself and said, "I'll only stay for half a month! Half a month is fine!"

Chapter 1628: I Think You Should Be Fair

Lu Zhou felt like he had overestimated the dignity of a divine emperor at this moment. Looking at Shang Zhang's sincere and solemn expression, he asked, "Just so you can look at her?"

Shang Zhang replied, "Yes. I've missed out on so much. If I can just watch from afar, I'll be satisfied. Moreover, Xuanyi Palace isn't very safe."

"Hmm?" Lu Zhou was curious.

"I'm not doubting your strength, but fierce beasts have been mysteriously and frequently appearing in Xuanyi Palace over the past 100 years. Those two girls really like running around," Shang Zhang said.

To put it bluntly, Shang Zhang only wanted to become his daughter's super bodyguard. How could Lu Zhou not understand his intention?

"I can agree to your request, but you have to follow the rules. Conch doesn't hate you, but she doesn't want to see you," Lu Zhou said.

A joyful expression appeared on Shang Zhang's face as he hastily said, "Of course, I... I'll definitely be a good attendant!"

As Shang Zhang spoke, his appearance began to distort again, and he regained his previous appearance. With his cultivation, changing his appearance was as easy as a stroll through the park. He looked much more energetic now that his goal had been achieved.

"Master!"

At this moment, Little Yuan'er and Conch suddenly ran over. In front of Lu Zhou, the duo was not as well-behaved as his other disciples. They pushed the door open and entered the hall.

Little Yuan'er's eyesight was very keen. When she saw the attendant sitting cross-legged in front of Lu Zhou, she could not help but get angry. She stepped forward and said, "Hey, hey, hey, who told you to sit in front of my master?"

The attendant raised his head to look at Little Yuan'er and Conch, dumbfounded.

'Is this how you repay me after I treated you sincerely over the past 100 years?!'

However, when Shang Zhang saw Conch, he became listless again. In order to maintain his character, he hurriedly rose to his feet and said apologetically, "I, I've admired the old sir for a long time so I wanted to ask him questions about cultivation. I apologize for making a fool out of myself."

"There are many people who want to seek advice from my master. Hurry up and leave," Little Yuan'er said. She had a terrible impression of this attendant.

Lu Zhou asked, puzzled, "Why did you come back?"

Little Yuan'er pointed outside and said, "Master, Emperor Xuanyi has led a large number of Dark Guards to the southeastern region. He said there's a Saint slayer and other fierce beasts that are disturbing the balance of Xuanyi Palace."

"Saint slayer?" Lu Zhou asked.

"As expected..." Shang Zhang said with a frown.

"Huh? What did you say?" Little Yuan'er turned around and asked in confusion.

"Oh, I was just talking to myself..." Shang Zhang said as he lowered his head, "Emperor Xuanyi usually cultivates in seclusion and recently became a divine emperor. He doesn't have a deep understanding of the imbalance. The imbalance has continued to worsen. The nine domains and the Unknown Land are teeming with fierce beasts. There are some divine beasts and Saint slayers that took the opportunity to sneak into the Great Void to avoid the disastrous effect of the imbalance. There are already so many vicious Saint slayers in the Great Void, to begin with. Their appearance will affect the balance in the Great Void. Emperor Xuanyi must be trying to get rid of the Saint slayer now that a chance has presented itself."

Lu Zhou nodded. "Do you know what kind of vicious Saint slayers or divine beasts they are?"

There were strong and weak Saint slayers, after all. Divine emperors could deal with them, but the Dark Guards definitely would not be able to deal with the stronger Saint slayers.

Shang Zhang shook his head and said, "I don't know. However, apart from Xuanyi Palace, I'm sure the other halls will also send people to get rid of the fierce beasts and Saint slayers."

Little Yuan'er asked curiously, "Why? Aren't the ten halls competing with one another? If it were me, I'd just stand aside and gloat."

Shang Zhang, now an attendant, said with an unnatural expression on his face, "I think that Shang Zhang Hall will send people. Emperor Shang Zhang is the only divine emperor in the ten halls. He's noble and magnanimous. I think he won't stand aside and do nothing."

Lu Zhou almost spat out tea in his mouth when he heard this. 'You're really great!

Little Yuan'er was displeased upon hearing this. She said, "Is there something wrong with you? You know I hate that old man, and yet, you're still praising him?"

Shang Zhang calmly replied, "Miss, I think you have a deep misunderstanding about him."

"I didn't misunderstand him at all! If you praise him again, do you believe I'll tear your mouth apart?" Little Yuan'er said, baring her fangs to look fierce.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, could only nod. "You're right, Miss. Emperor Shang Zhang is a bast*rd!"

Little Yuan'er said, appeased, "That's more like it!"

At this moment, Lu Zhou said, "Conch, you came at the right time. I have two things for you."

Upon hearing this, the eyes of Shang Zhang, the attendant, lit up with gratitude.

Conch walked over and bowed. She asked curiously, "What is it, master?"

Lu Zhou waved his sleeve.

The rectangular brocade box behind flipped open, revealing the Ten-Stringed Zither. It flew out and hovered half a foot in front of Conch, emitting a mysterious and profound aura. Even without Primal Qi, it was still outstanding.

"It's called a Ten-Stringed Zither. I'll give this to you. Since you're gifted with music, this is most suitable for you," Lu Zhou said. In his opinion, it did not matter who the things were from as long as it was beneficial. However, he knew Conch might not be able to overcome her psychological barrier so he did not plan to tell her.

"Master, you also have the Ten-Stringed Zither?" Conch asked, puzzled.

"Hm? Who else has it?" Lu Zhou asked.

Little Yuan'er muttered, "Who else could it be? That old geezer, Shang Zhang, said he wanted to give junior sister a Ten-Stringed Zither, but I didn't see it. In any case, she said likes the Nine-Stringed Zither..."

"This Ten-Stringed Zither was obtained from an ancient ruin," Lu Zhou said.

Little Yuan'er lowered her head and observed the Ten-Stringed Zither. She could not help but feel a little envious as she said, "The Ten-Stringed Zither given by master has to be the best. Fortunately, you didn't accept the zither from that old bones, Shang Zhang. It's highly likely that it was a fake made to fool Junior Sister Conch."

Conch nodded, revealing a happy expression. She said, "This Ten-Stringed Zither is so beautiful."

As Conch spoke, her jade-like fingers danced across the zither.

The melody was the tide; it was graceful and melodious. When it spread out, it made people feel calm and relaxed.

Lu Zhou nodded and asked, "Do you like it?"

"Yes, I like it!" Conch replied.

"I have a set of music scores here. I came up with it 70 years ago," Lu Zhou said as he tossed a piece of paper over to Conch.

Conch took a look and said excitedly, "The Returning Ballad?"

Outside, white birds flew around the setting sun near the mountain.

Conch felt that The Returning Ballad matched her emotions and thoughts when she returned to her master's side.

Everything in the world had a beginning and an end, separation and meeting, and departure and return.

After a moment, Lu Zhou took the divine secret stone out from the second compartment of the box and said, "This is called the divine secret stone. Your cultivation is lagging behind so you can refine the power in this stone."

Little Yuan'er grew even more envious when she heard this. She could not help but say, "Master, I want one too!"

Lu Zhou said, "There's only one divine secret stone. You're the senior sister, and your talent is far higher than Conch's. You should let her have it."

"Oh." Little Yuan'er pouted and nodded obediently.

Conch said, "Ninth Senior Sister, if you like it, I'll give it to you."

Then, Conch handed the divine secret stone to Little Yuan'er.

Little Yuan'er waved her hand and said, "No, it's for you."

"I already have the zither," Conch said.

"I can't take your things." Little Yuan'er resolutely refused Conch.

At this moment, Shang Zhang, the attendant, coughed violently again.

Little Yuan'er turned around and asked suspiciously, "Do you have a problem?"

"N-no, no, no problem... I'm just puzzled," Shang Zhang, the attendant, said.

"What are you puzzled about? What does this have to do with you? How annoying!" Little Yuan'er said.

The attendant muttered, "I just wonder why the old sir is so biased..." His voice grew smaller and smaller as he continued to say, "I just think the old sir should be fair..."

Lu Zhou frowned. 'Is he trying to make a fool out of me?'

Lu Zhou said, "Let Conch have the divine secret stone. I heard that there are better things in Shang Zhang Hall. I'll look for two treasures for you."

In fact, Little Yuan'er did not have any strange thoughts about her master giving Conch two items. She was just envious. Nonetheless, she was still delighted by her master's words. "Really?!"

"Of course."

"Thank you, master!" Little Yuan'er was overjoyed.

Shang Zhang, the attendant: "..."

At this moment, Li Chun appeared outside the Dao hall. "Li Chun is here to seek an audience with Pavilion Master Lu."

"What's the matter?"

"His Majesty found a Saint slayer in the southeastern region of Xuanyi Palace. Pavilion Master Lu, please join hands with His Majesty to take it down," Li Chun said.

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"Alright," Lu Zhou said as he slowly rose to his feet. He had some doubts in his heart. With Xuanyi, Zhang He, and the Dark Guards, there should not be any problem taking down an ordinary Saint slayer. Since Li Chun returned to call for reinforcements, it meant that the Saint slayer was not simple.

"Master, I want to come as well!" Little Yuan'er volunteered excitedly.

Lu Zhou shook his head. "Both of you stay in Xuanyi Palace."

Seeing that Little Yuan'er was about to protest, a stern expression appeared on Lu Zhou's face.

Upon seeing this, Little Yuan'er could only lower her head and said, "Okay."

Lu Zhou pointed at Shang Zhang, the attendant, and said, "You, come with me."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, pointed at himself. "Me?"

"You," Lu Zhou said as he left the Dao hall with his hands on his back.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, turned to look at Little Yuan'er and Conch before he walked out with an unwilling expression on his face. As a divine emperor, he was superior to most people. Who would dare to order him around in this manner? His expression grew more and more unnatural as he turned back to look at the two girls. He sighed inwardly, 'Forget it! For the sake of my daughter, I must endure!'

Little Yuan'er said suspiciously, "What's wrong with master? He'd rather bring an attendant with him than to bring us."

When Li Chun saw Lu Zhou and Shang Zhang, the attendant, walking out, he asked in confusion, "When did Pavilion Master Lu have this attendant?"

The mysterious and sudden appearance of an unknown person was indeed difficult to explain to the cultivators of Xuanyi Palace. They would only be able to cover up this matter for a short time. As time passed, more and more flaws would appear. It would not take long for people to guess that Shang Zhang did not leave and had, instead, snuck into Xuanyi Palace with the identity and appearance of an attendant.

Lu Zhou glanced at Shang Zhang, the attendant. He did not answer the question directly. Instead, he said, "I'm getting old so I found an attendant to help me with some chores."

Li Chun thought it was normal for someone with Lu Zhou's status to have an attendant by his side so he did not dwell on the matter. He only said, "Pavilion Master Lu, you should've told me about this earlier so I can arrange it for you."

Shang Zhang was not blind nor foolish. He could see how abnormally respectful Li Chun was toward Lu Zhou. 'It seems like the two girls' master is indeed an extraordinary figure.'

Shang Zhang recalled the void-grade weapon that Lu Zhou brought out when they were in Shang Zhang Hall. With that, he was even more certain that Lu Zhou's cultivation was profound. However, he did not understand how an extraordinary person like Lu Zhou who was born in the nine domains escaped the Great Void's notice.

"Lead the way," Lu Zhou said.

"Yes," Li Chun said and flew toward a runic passage that led to the southeastern region.

When they were in the runic passage, Shang Zhang, the attendant, asked, "Old sir, did you comprehend the Great Dao in the abyss?"

Little Yuan'er and Conch had often gone to the abyss to pay respect to their master. Over the past 100 years, their master did not look for them at all. Hence, Shang Zhang thought that Lu Zhou must have had a fortuitous encounter while he was in the abyss.

Lu Zhou watched the runic passage light up as he said, "The abyss contains unfathomable secrets. I was lucky."

"How enviable!" Shang Zhang, the attendant, said, "It's said that the power of the earth is profound and abstruse. It's not something humans are capable of comprehending. Many cultivators had attempted to solve its mysteries, but they all suffered a backlash."

After activating the runic passage, Li Chun said, "Wow, little attendant, you're quite knowledgeable."

"It's just a little knowledge," Shang Zhang, the attendant, replied.

"Not bad, not bad," Li Chun said before he added, "The power of the earth has always been mysterious. The Sacred Temple has done a lot of research. All they know is that it's related to the shackles. They couldn't find out any more than that. After all, if they tried going deeper into the abyss, they might get trapped there. Oh, that's right. Pavilion Master Lu, how did you get out?"

After the previous incident, Li Chun had already vaguely guessed Lu Zhou's identity. At this time, he was only pretending to cooperate with the act. Previously, after he had gone home, he had thought about it carefully. If Lu Zhou was just a subordinate of the White Emperor, there was no reason for him to receive such good treatment, and it was also impossible for Lu Zhou's cultivation to be so profound.

Lu Zhou did not expect this question. He casually replied, "I don't really know either. If I knew, would I be here?"

In other words, since Lu Zhou had time to spend in the Great Void, would it not be better for him to stay in the abyss to cultivate if it was possible.

Buzz!

The light dimmed, and the trio found themselves hovering in the sky.

There were no clouds, and the sun shone dazzlingly. The scenery and environment in the Great Void were much superior to the nine domains that were plagued by the imbalance.

Li Chun pointed at a mountain range in the southeast and said, "We'll arrive soon after we cross the mountain range."

Lu Zhou nodded.

Li Chun looked at Shang Zhang, the attendant, and said with a smile, "Little friend, Elder Brother will take you flying."

Shang Zhang, the attendant: "???"

Shang Zhang frowned; his expression was extremely solemn.

Li Chun said, "You really don't have a sense of humor. Can you catch up?"

Swoosh!

Li Chun flew into the distance and vanished in a blink of an eye.

Lu Zhou ignored Shang Zhang and followed Li Chun.

When Lu Zhou and Li Chun had flown far away, Shang Zhang muttered inwardly, 'Endure!'

In order to hide his identity, Shang Zhang could only deliberately lower his speed.

Lu Zhou and Li Chun crossed the mountain range first. After flying for fifteen minutes, they heard a loud commotion in the sky.

Dark clouds rolled in as the sound of thunder reverberated in the air.

The duo stopped flying.

Lu Zhou looked at the dark clouds and said, "It's rare to see such weather in the Great Void. What kind of Saint slayer is it?"

"His Majesty said in his message that it's a Yellow Dragon, one of the Five Planetary Divine Incumbents."

"Yellow Dragon?" Lu Zhou was slightly surprised.

"Originally, the Yellow Dragon should be a part of the Four Divinities of Heaven. However, Meng Zhang had conflicts with it so it was not part of the Four Divinities of Heaven. Later on, the following generation grouped the Yellow Dragon together with the Four Divinities of Heaven and collectively called them the Five Planetary Divine Incumbents."

Lu Zhou said, "If it's really the Yellow Dragon, I'm afraid it won't be easy to take it down."

"Pavilion Master Lu, do you know about the Yellow Dragon?" Li Chun asked curiously.

"The Yellow Dragon's real name is Ying Long. It's half-human. It's an ancient Saint slayer. It possesses a trace of the vitality of heaven and is able to control the wind and thunder. There are ancient records that when the universe shattered and the sea was lost, Ying Long lifted the sky and straightened its wings, dispelling the clouds to clear the sky," Lu Zhou said.

Chapter 1630: The Five Planetary Divine Incumbents (2)

Upon hearing this, Li Chun exclaimed in surprise, "Then, isn't he the Creator?"

"It's not the Creator. It's just that it was born a long, long time ago and had done many great deeds in the human world. Ancient records are filled with exaggerated accounts and words," Lu Zhou said.

Li Chun chuckled and said, "My horizons have been broadened. I'm just a Dao Saint in Xuanyi Palace. I'm ashamed of my lack of knowledge."

"Let's not talk about this for now. If it's really Ying Long, Xuanyi should retreat for now," Lu Zhou said as he flew forward.

Based on Lu Zhou's memories, even supreme beings might not be a match for Ying Long.

'Why did such a powerful ancient Saint slayer appear southeast of Xuanyi Palace?'

As Lu Zhou flew, he looked down at the land to see if there were anything abnormal.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Thunder clapped as lightning bolts flashed in the sky among the dark clouds.

The bolts of lightning easily destroyed several mountain peaks.

Below the dark clouds, many cultivators could be seen flying in different directions.

"Your Majesty!" Li Chun rushed over at lightning speed. At the same time, he waved his hand, saving many cultivators.

A figure rushed over from afar. When he saw Lu Zhou, an expression of joy appeared on his face. "Pavilion Master Lu!"

Lu Zhou nodded. "Are you alright?"

Xuanyi looked at the dark clouds, not caring if he was alright or not at this moment. He said, "This beast is wreaking havoc everywhere. I won't spare it if anything happens to Xuanyi Palace." Then, he seemed to recall he had yet to answer Lu Zhou's question so he hurriedly added with an embarrassed expression on his face, "I'm alright. It's just a little strenuous to deal with it. It's at least as strong as a greater supreme being."

Lu Zhou looked at the dark clouds and asked, "Are you sure it's Ying Long?"

Xuanyi said, "It's just a guess. If it's really Ying Long, then we would benefit a lot from our trip here."

Lu Zhou cocked an eyebrow and asked, "You still hope to benefit from this trip?"

"This..." Xuanyi was at a loss for words.

At this moment, Li Chun flew over and briefly reported Ying Long's strength.

Xuanyi said in surprise, "If that's the case, the consequences would be unimaginable."

"Let's confirm its identity first," Lu Zhou said.

Xuanyi was only a junior in front of the Unholy One. When the Unholy One was at his peak, Xuanyi was just a child. He had only heard stories about Ying Long and had never seen it. After listening to Lu Zhou's words, a trace of fear appeared in his heart.

Boom!

A clap of thunder rumbled in the air as another lightning bolt struck down.

"Retreat!" Xuanyi called out.

The Dark Guards retreated one after another.

Zhang He hovered in the air; he was in a sorry state. He moved to stand near Xuanyi and asked, "Your Majesty, we lost three Dark Guards. What should we do next?"

Xuanyi said, "Prepare to retreat."

"Retreat?" Zhang He frowned as he looked at the shadow hidden in the dark clouds. "If we retreat, we would have wasted fighting for half a day."

Li Chun said, "You fought so hard for half a day, but it's likely that the opponent is just warming up."

Zhang He was shocked. Then, he quickly urged the Dark Guards to retreat.

The Dark Guards were well-trained. They quickly and efficiently followed the order.

Lu Zhou silently changed the mantra for the power of sight. His eyes flashed blue as he looked up. He saw a shadow swimming back and forth in the dark clouds. Indeed, it looked like a dragon. Earlier, he had thought that he would be able to obtain a good life heart or divine soul pearl. However, judging from the rhythm now, it seemed like he would have to retreat. The Ying Long was quite powerful.

However, was it Lu Zhou's style to retreat and admit defeat?

Zhang He asked, "Should we inform the Sacred Temple and call for reinforcements? Perhaps, only the Sacred Temple can take it down."

Xuanyi Palace would naturally rather give up Ying Long to the Sacred Temple than give it to any of the nine halls.

Lu Zhou fell deep into his thoughts as he looked at the shadow in the dark clouds. Why would Ying Long come here? Was Ying Long weakened just like Meng Zhang?

"Don't move," Lu Zhou said in a dark voice. Then, he flew into the dark clouds like a meteor.

"Pavilion Master Lu?!" Zhang He exclaimed.

Xuanyi's eyes shone as he said, "Don't worry. You'll be able to catch a glimpse of Pavilion Master Lu's cultivation once he makes a move."

Xuanyi had listened to all kinds of legends about the Unholy One. As a 'student', how could he not want to see the amazing performance of his 'teacher'?

Xuanyi looked at everyone and the bewildered and shocked expressions on their faces. He really wished he could announce his teacher's identity now and let them be filled with awe and admiration. Alas, now was not the time.

...

In just a blink of an eye, Lu Zhou entered the dark clouds. The visibility was very bad.

At this moment, a shadow shot over.

Swoosh!

Following that, a sonorous cry reverberated throughout the sky.

"Flawed Perfection."

Boom!

A huge golden palm seal sailed out among the dark clouds and hit the huge shadow. However, the shadow did not slow down at all and continued to fly over.

Lu Zhou raised his hand. The astrolabe appeared, shining dazzlingly.

Bang!

Lu Zhou flew back and put his astrolabe away.

"Unnamed."

Countless energy swords appeared in the sky. Like a storm, they swept through the sky and stabbed at the shadow.

...

"Void grade!" Zhang He exclaimed in surprise.

The Dark Guards finally realized why Xuanyi treated Lu Zhou so well at this moment. With such strength and cultivation, Lu Zhou would be treated well in all of the ten halls.

...

The energy swords attacked before they returned to Lu Zhou one after another.

"The power of teleportation."

Swoosh!

Lu Zhou suddenly appeared out of thin air in front of everyone, staring at the sky with a burning gaze.

Seeing that Lu Zhou had returned, Xuanyi asked, "How is it?"

"I haven't tested its depth yet," Lu Zhou said.

Xuanyi said, "This beast is really not simple."

Then, Lu Zhou said, puzzled, "However, it doesn't seem as strong as before..."

"Does this mean we have a chance to kill it?" Xuanyi asked.

"We don't know the situation so we can't act rashly," Lu Zhou said.

"You're right."

Even if Ying Long had weakened, it was still not to be underestimated. It likely had many tricks up its sleeve.

Zhang He asked, "Then, should we retreat completely?"

"Wait a little longer," Xuanyi said.

The land was devastated everywhere they looked.

Lu Zhou felt strange. After a brief moment, he raised his head and said in a deep voice, "Bast*rd, if you don't want to die, then behave yourself."

Dark clouds billowed, and the shadow continued to swim back and forth, clearly unbothered by Lu Zhou's threats.

At this moment, a large number of cultivators rushed over from the northern sky. Some of them flew on their swords, and some of them rode on their avatars.

"The people from Shang Zhang Hall?"

"Ha! These bast*rds came to snatch the fruit of victory from us!" Li Chun cursed.

Xuanyi asked suspiciously, "Why would the people from Shang Zhang Hall suddenly appear at this place?"

The Great Void was vast. How did Shang Zhang Hall find out about what happened here so quickly?

At this moment, Shang Zhang, the attendant, finally arrived. He panted heavily as he called out, "Old sir!"

Upon seeing this, Li Chun laughed and said, "Little friend, if you don't listen to me, you'll be at a disadvantage. I want to take you flying, but you're unwilling. You can't blame anyone."

Shang Zhang, the attendant, frowned, but he still said, "Yes."

Xuanyi only glanced at Shang Zhang, the attendant. He did not seem to suspect anything. With his status, how could he pay attention to every helper and attendant in Xuanyi Palace?

Lu Zhou said, "Shang Zhang Hall arrived at the right time."

Energy seals lit up the sky and shot into the dark clouds.

Shang Zhang looked at the dark clouds. "Ying Long?"

"Little friend, you really know a lot..." Li Chun felt that the attendant in front of him was very interesting.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, said awkwardly, "I've only heard of it. However, that thing here doesn't seem to be Ying Long."

"It's not Ying Long?"

"Ying Long controls the wind and thunder. It was said that it was as big as the sky. Heaven could not tolerate it so it was banished to the human world. It also possesses a pair of void-grade items called the Golden Amber Battle Axe. It can illuminate the world, control the four seasons, and split heaven and earth apart," Shang Zhang, the attendant, said.

"How can you be sure?" Lu Zhou asked.

The dark clouds rolled south at this moment.

Shang Zhang, the attendant, said, "Over there... I know its weakness. Bring me along."

Lu Zhou nodded and said, "Let's go."

With a casual wave of his hand, Lu Zhou brought Shang Zhang with him and flew south.

Xuanyi was confused. "That person..."

"He's Pavilion Master Lu's attendant," Li Chun said.

Zhang He did not care about this. Instead, he asked, "Your Majesty, should we chase after them?"

Xuanyi looked at the dark clouds and said, "Let Shang Zhang Hall take the lead first. Let them experience Ying Long's power."

"Your Majesty is wise."