## **Divine 2141**

Chapter 2141 - To Xuhai City 2

"Junior Sister!" Di Hongyun's voice boomed, echoing as he rushed over. "Junior Sister, wait for me!"

Gu Chaoyan glanced at Di Hongyun, her expression one of surprise. She had assumed that after their interaction yesterday, Di Hongyun would retreat to his own social circle and keep his distance from her.

To her bewilderment, the morning greeted her as if nothing had transpired between them. Gu Chaoyan was left in the dark, unsure about the sudden change.

She nodded in acknowledgment and adjusted her pace, walking alongside Di Hongyun.

Di Hongyun's voice carried an enthusiastic tone that seemed incongruent with the mission he was currently on. His demeanor exuded enjoyment, and he spoke with a grin, "I've been wondering about the outcome of my request yesterday. You know, Junior Sister, whenever you have the time, I'd greatly appreciate it if you could help me acquire a decent sword. Mine pales in comparison to yours, a mere shadow of its brilliance."

"Of course," Gu Chaoyan replied.

Di Hongyun was taken aback by her prompt agreement. He hadn't anticipated that his junior sister would invest so much time and effort into crafting a sword for him. It was as though she had been eagerly waiting for his request.

This peculiar behavior from his junior sister left him flabbergasted. She defied his previous assumptions. He had initially categorized her as aloof, yet she was now willingly offering to forge a sword for him.

His perception of Junior Sister was undergoing a complete shift, and it was confusing him to no end.

In the midst of this confusion, Gu Chaoyan's feelings were equally mixed when it came to Di Hongyun. Strangely, he bore a resemblance to her own younger self from a past life.

However, her past life had led her into encounters with unsavory characters, ultimately shaping her into a cold-blooded and unfeeling individual. Then, along came Di Hongyun, unexpectedly crossing paths with her.

A subtle shake of Gu Chaoyan's head followed.

They arrived at their designated meeting point – the Bounty Pavilion. This location served as the congregation spot for disciples embarking on missions, rendering it the most fitting choice.

The mission's leader hailed from the Fist Sect. Sharing a cultivation level identical to that of Shao Simiao, a ninth level Paragon Warrior, the leader's prowess was more than adequate for the task. Those led by this accomplished disciple were also of satisfactory cultivation levels.

In addition, a select few Paragon Warrior level disciples were present.

Beyond this, the cream of the crop among disciples had also assembled.

Such a formidable lineup was a rarity for standard missions, signifying the paramount importance attached by the sect.

Given the multitude of disciples who had gone missing, coupled with the precarious situations some had faced on Longdi Mountain, it was imperative for the Supreme Sect to exercise vigilance and caution.

Regarding Gu Chaoyan and Di Hongyun, the leading Fist Faction disciple didn't hold them in high regard. Instead, he directed his courteous attention towards Lv Zhengyang.

In his assessment, the duo appeared ill-equipped for participation in the mission. Having encountered the Undead Race before, the leading disciple perceived them as unremarkable figures, not warranting special attention. Furthermore, Gu Chaoyan's declarations in front of the Elders had sown seeds of uncertainty about her in the minds of many.

Di Hongyun wore a clear expression of displeasure.
Gu Chaoyan remained unfazed by his reaction.
She stood at the periphery in tranquil anticipation.
Di Hongyun indulged in a brief outburst before lapsing into silence.
With the complete assembly of participants,
The entourage finally set forth toward Xuhai City.
Xuhai City lay at a considerable distance from the Supreme Sect.
Desolate and uninhabited for a century, the city bore an air of abandonment since its last occupancy
Chapter 2142 - To Xuhai City 3
Xuhai City was once a bustling hub during a specific era. It played host to a diverse array of individuals, each with their unique levels of cultivation. Notably, the city was overseen by past City Lords who maintained order and governance. However, the city's fortunes took a downturn due to a series of conflicts, ultimately leading to its downfall. Despite this, a few resilient souls persisted, eking out a living within its boundaries.
Subsequently, members of the Undead Race ventured into Xuhai City. The existing inhabitants

gradually vacated the area, ceding control to the Undead Race. Though the Undead Race's presence

was relatively modest, their influence deterred other cultivators from venturing into the city.

In addition...

As time went on, Xuhai City was left abandoned, only to be revitalized when the witches harnessed their mystical arts to subdue the Undead Race. The Undead Race's remains were interred beneath the city, quelling their malevolent presence.

A shadow was cast upon Xuhai City, and its once-thriving streets were rendered desolate. Still, over the last century, disciples from various sects found themselves passing through the area.

However, the city's desolation led to an increase in demon beast activity in its vicinity. These creatures, drawing upon the city's latent spiritual energy, grew exceptionally formidable. This newfound strength made them valuable to cultivators; the demonic cores and other components they possessed were highly sought-after. Consequently, many sects, including the esteemed Supreme Sect, issued missions centered around Xuhai City through their respective Bounty Pavilions.

In recent times, though, a peculiar trend emerged. Those disciples who ventured into Xuhai City failed to return. Along the journey, the leading member of the Fist Sect's disciples elucidated the circumstances surrounding Xuhai City. As a result, Gu Chaoyan and Di Hongyun became well-versed in the city's history and present state.

And so, this painted a vivid picture of what Xuhai City had become.

As they approached the city, a palpable sense of desolation greeted them.

"Let's descend. Sword Kinesis Flight won't serve us within Xuhai City," the Fist Faction's lead disciple announced.

Following the instruction, nearly all the disciples disembarked.

Numerous array formations rendered Sword Kinesis Flight unusable in specific zones, a fact they were acquainted with from previous encounters. Rather than invest time in dismantling these formations, they opted to forgo their typical solution and instead prepared to traverse the distance on foot.

Horses were an unavailable luxury, obliging them to walk.

With the desolation palpable and the absence of many fellow disciples raising caution, the group proceeded with trepidation, ever-watchful for any sudden appearance of the Undead Race.

As Gu Chaoyan ventured forth, she couldn't help but sense the potent magical energy pervading the vicinity, a likely factor contributing to the proliferation of demon beasts.

"Presence detected," the Fist Sect's lead disciple alerted his comrades.

Upon closer inspection...

Only then did they ascertain the presence of three disciples hailing from the Moon Sect.

The Moon Sect was well-known to them.

These three disciples all held the esteemed status of Paragon Warriors, signifying they might be undertaking a mission or in search of fellow Moon Sect disciples.

Given the amicable relations between the Supreme Sect and the Moon Sect, the disciples of the Supreme Sect sought to engage their Moon Sect counterparts in conversation.

However...

The Moon Sect disciples appeared indifferent, their focus elsewhere, and they soon departed.

The neglected Supreme Sect disciples were left with nothing but murmurs of frustration directed at their Moon Sect counterparts.

"Xuhai City lies ahead. Vigilance is imperative," the lead disciple cautioned.

Crossing into the city's bounds meant venturing directly into the territory controlled by the Undead Race.

The Undead Race was called the Undead Race, because it was said that they had no skin but only flesh and blood, which was quite scary..

## Chapter 2143 - To Xuhai City 4

Gu Chaoyan had encountered individuals from the Undead Race previously, and due to her preconceived understanding, she didn't react as intensely as the other disciples. Nevertheless, the mere thought of the Undead Race's presence in Xuhai City triggered a strong sense of disgust within her.

The revelation of the existence of such a clan caught them off guard.

Suppressing a shiver, she ventured into Xuhai City, clutching her white jade sword.

Upon entering Xuhai City, the reality starkly contrasted with Gu Chaoyan's expectations.

Surprisingly, there were no signs of the Undead Race on the streets, not a single one. Strikingly, the city appeared devoid of any inhabitants whatsoever.

A profound silence enveloped the area.

This eerie emptiness only escalated her fear.

An air of uncertainty hung over their next course of action.

Gu Chaoyan meticulously assessed the situation within Xuhai City.

Then, with an air of nonchalance, a disciple from the Unparalleled Sect remarked, "I was prepared for a terrifying encounter, yet there's no one in sight! It seems the Undead Race remains ensnared by the witch's sorcery, confined to a 500-meter radius."

"Perhaps the formidable local creatures have kept the Undead Race at bay, prompting our undue concern."

"The local creatures indeed present significant challenges."

As these words escaped the disciple's lips, a palpable wave of relief washed over the other disciples.
The conspicuous absence of inhabitants led Gu Chaoyan to believe that matters were being oversimplified.
As the disciples were finally letting their guards down
Abruptly
Movement caught their attention.
A piece of fabric was drifting through the air.
A single glance revealed that it belonged to the Moon Sect.
Although they had initially spotted some members of the Profound Moon Sect, their presence hadn't been apparent since entering Xuhai City. What was the significance of these garments being here?
Trouble loomed, a shared thought among them all.
"The Undead Race, they're essentially humans stripped of their skin. Now, with the Moon Sect disciples' clothes here, could it be when the Undead Race flays people, they have no use for clothing!" Di Hongyun's exclamation reverberated, his fear evident, as if facing imminent flaying himself.
Di Hongyun's words sent shockwaves through the disciples of the Supreme
Sect.
Was this truly plausible?
Amid their mounting panic, a distant, unceasing scream pierced the air.

"Are they being skinned?" Di Hongyun's voice cracked again. "Run!" a Supreme Sect disciple shrieked, caught in a frenzy of fear. If the supposition held true, it signaled the revival of the Undead Race within Xuhai City. Faced with an unconquerable force within the city and the grim fate of the Moon Sect disciples, fleeing seemed their sole recourse to avoid a similar end. With urgency fueling their steps, the disciples of the Supreme Sect bolted in retreat. "Halt right there!" Gu Chaoyan's tone was laden with seriousness. A gnawing sense of unease gripped her. The abrupt appearance of the Mystic Moon Sect disciples' clothing raised alarms. Even if the intention was to flay them alive, the Undead Race wouldn't likely broadcast it so blatantly. The situation was veering off course, her instincts screamed. Yet, the entreaties of Gu Chaoyan fell on deaf ears within the Supreme Sect disciples. In a panicked scramble, they were fleeing. Amid the chaos, Di Hongyun remained at Gu Chaoyan's side. But the disciples who had fled were now conspicuously absent. "Junior Sister, what's unfolding? Where have they vanished?" Di Hongyun shouted...

Chapter 2144 - Not Xuhai City

"They should be in close proximity, arranged in an array formation; locating them swiftly won't be feasible," Gu Chaoyan finally grasped the situation.

The recent incident must have been orchestrated to inconvenience them, it seemed.

As anticipated, they found themselves divided by the array formation.

Being isolated in such surroundings was far from favorable.

If the Undead Race truly intended their demise, they could systematically eliminate them, one by one.

Gu Chaoyan sighed – she held higher expectations for someone.

"What course of action do you suggest now?" Di Hongyun brandished his sword nervously, his gaze darting about, wary of a sudden appearance by the Undead

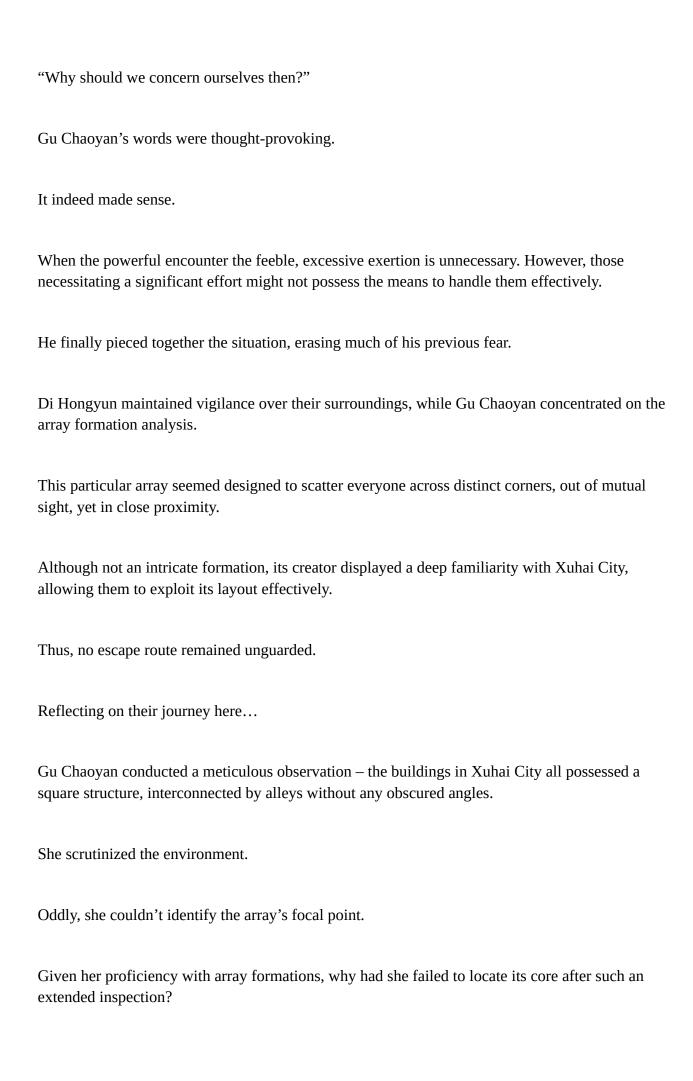
Race.

"Dissolving the array formation," Gu Chaoyan responded composedly.

"But there's a multitude of the Undead Race!" Di Hongyun's trepidation was palpable. Contemplating their predicament, he perceived imminent peril. They were, after all, deep within the territory of the Undead Race!

"Not as many as you think," Gu Chaoyan affirmed resolutely. "If the Undead Race were truly abundant in Xuhai City, why didn't they directly assault us there? Why did they opt for creating a disturbance before establishing the array formation?"

"Consequently, the only plausible explanation is that their numbers are not substantial within Xuhai City, and they lack the capability to confront us directly. That's why they resorted to these artifices."



"Something's amiss," Gu Chaoyan sensed a disturbance, though the nature eluded her. Suddenly, a realization struck her. "This isn't an array formation, and this isn't Xuhai City!"

"Where are we? When we entered, we clearly saw the name 'Xuhai City', " Di Hongyun found his junior sister's behavior growing peculiar once again. She was usually reliable, but in moments like this, her thought process baffled him.

"This is an illusion!" Gu Chaoyan declared with conviction. She hoisted the white jade sword, poised to charge ahead.

Abruptly...

The scenery vanished.

In its place lay a desolate expanse, overrun by rampant weeds.

The disciples of the Supreme Sect continued to move about, but upon comprehending the situation, they recognized their collective predicament..

Chapter 2145 - Undead Race 1

Recognizing that something was amiss, the followers of the Supreme Sect came to an abrupt halt. Eerie sounds had reached their ears, compelling them to consider departing from Xuhai City.

However, during their departure from the city, an unsettling sensation gripped the disciples of the Supreme Sect. They found themselves not only separated from their companions but also unable to make headway beyond the city's boundaries. This realization infused them with fear, the kind that breeds panic, urging them to backtrack. To their dismay, it dawned upon them that they weren't making any progress in escaping Xuhai City. Instead, they were merely wandering through a desolate expanse, overgrown with weeds, the entirety of the Supreme Sect's disciples clustered together.

This baffling circumstance left the disciples of the Supreme Sect bewildered. A silent exchange of glances took place, a shared inquiry into the unfolding strangeness.

Amid the disciples, Gu Chaoyan and Di Hongyun couldn't help but spot an Undead Race member from within the Supreme Sect. This unfortunate individual had no refuge from prying eyes. Their countenance displayed a mixture of chagrin and courtesy.

Though devoid of skin, the Undead Race retained features akin to human flesh and blood, allowing emotions to surface upon their face.

An astute observer like Gu Chaoyan naturally comprehended the situation.

The expression worn by the Undead Race led Gu Chaoyan to doubt her own eyesight.

When the disciples of the Wushang Sect finally grasped the unfolding reality, their realization coincided with the piercing shriek emitted by Di Hongyun. Amidst this tumult, they spotted the Undead Race amidst their ranks.

This unsettling sight induced the disciples into fits of terror, cries of alarm escaping their lips.

Witnessing the sect members' dread, the Undead Race couldn't help but grin triumphantly, taking advantage of the ensuing chaos to plot an escape. Yet, their bid for freedom was abruptly halted when a blade found its place against the Undead Race's throat.

Frozen in place, the Undead Race's attempted flight came to a halt.

A glance, tinged with embarrassment, was cast toward Gu Chaoyan.

Although immortal, the Undead Race was not impervious to harm.

If this female disciple from the sect were to sever his head outright, he would find himself in a dormant state for thousands of years before regaining life. Having been deceased for an extensive period, he harbored no desire to undergo such an ordeal anew.

Gu Chaoyan's intervention had the Undead Race in check.

The disciples of the Supreme Sect had tempered their fear, giving way to a collective resolve. With swords unsheathed, they confronted the Undead Race responsible. "You were the orchestrator of our recent predicament, weren't you? We suspect you had a hand in ensnaring our fellow Supreme Sect disciples as well. Disclose their whereabouts, or be prepared for a lesson!" The Supreme Sect disciples remained steadfast in their mission.

Di Hongyun regarded them with a hint of exasperation.

They had been rattled by the Undead Race's evasion initially, but now, with Chaoyan's intervention, they had shifted into an interrogative mode.

Somewhere along the line, Di Hongyun had overlooked his own transformation.

Upon hearing the inquiry about the disciples of other Supreme Sects, the

Undead Race adeptly assumed an expression of innocence. Their form, bereft of skin, displayed slight tremors, as if shedding blood from their fleshless

frame, and they shook their head. "I'm unaware of their whereabouts. I had no

involvement."

"Then who is responsible?" Di Hongyun's voice boomed, coupled with a confident assertion, "Apart from the malevolent Undead Race members, are there other sinister individuals within Xuhai City?"

The resounding shout from Di Hongyun jolted both birds and the Undead Race.

After a tremulous pause,

The head of Undead Race countered with equal volume, "I insist, it wasn't me who orchestrated this!"

Chapter 2146 - Undead Race 2

How dare this foolish human raise his voice at him!

Had he not just awakened and his cultivation been insufficiently advanced, he would not have felt threatened by these imbecilic humans. First, he faced threats from those nonsensical humans, and now he found himself confronted by these same witless humans.

The most infuriating aspect was her baseless suspicion.

As the hall master of the Zombie Tribe, how could he possibly deceive?

"If it wasn't you who orchestrated this, then who else could it have been? Weren't you the one responsible for that illusion just now? Thankfully, my Junior Sister displayed courage and thwarted your scheme. Had she not intervened, we might have fallen prey to your deceit!" Di Hongyun exclaimed furiously.

As this misunderstanding persisted among the Undead Race...

The man without skin displayed eyes as wide as copper bells. "You have falsely accused me; I'll pummel you to your demise!" With determination, he lunged at Di Hongyun.

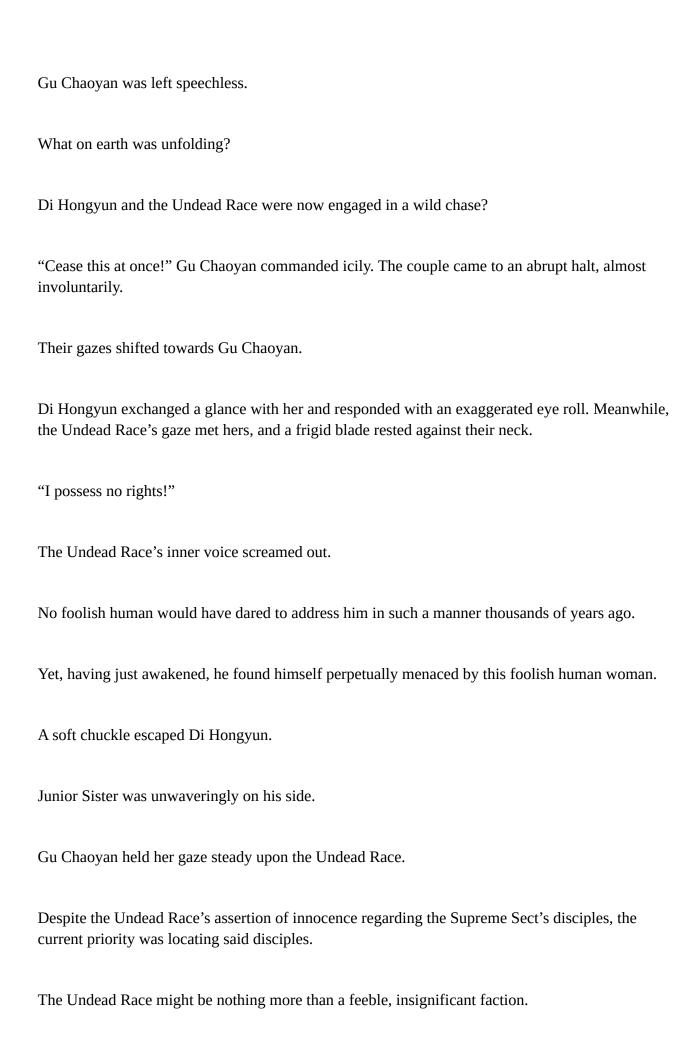
Di Hongyun stepped back.

With his Junior Sister by his side, he held no fear that this entity could harm him. His foremost concern was the potential transfer of those substances onto him.

This wasn't a sect, and he couldn't simply change his clothes.

As Di Hongyun retreated, the Undead Race advanced without hesitation.

Thus, the two embarked on a pursuit through this desolate terrain.



Their ultimate destination remained the actual Xuhai City.

"Take us to Xuhai City," Gu Chaoyan demanded.

"I refuse," the Undead Race responded with evident resistance. The mention of

Xuhai City seemed to evoke a vehement aversion, as though they had encountered something profoundly dreadful.

This revelation startled Gu Chaoyan.

Xuhai City fell within the Undead Race's dominion, and his compliance with her was predicated on his insufficient individual might. With the support of his fellow Undead Race members, a return to his own territory should not have been a matter of trepidation.

"You resist? Regardless of your wishes, you will accompany us. You remain Junior Sister's captive and are obliged to heed her directives. You possess no alternative!" Di Hongyun's voice thundered.

"Enough!" The Undead Race retorted, their voice a mixture of fury and frustration.

"I won't keep quiet," Di Hongyun dismissed with a lack of formality.

"Please, just be silent!" Gu Chaoyan's patience wore thin as the escalating volume of their voices grated on her nerves. Their clamor seemed ceaseless, an unending back- and -forth.

Upon hearing Gu Chaoyan's words...

Chapter 2147: Undead Race 3

The two of them fell silent, their gazes fixed innocently and pitifully on Gu Chaoyan.

The Undead Race showed reluctance towards heading to Xuhai City, implying that there might be something fearsome awaiting them there. The fact that he wasn't affiliated with the Supreme Sect raised questions about what could be even more terrifying within Xuhai City.

Having already arrived, they hadn't yet located the Supreme Sect disciples, leaving them without the option to retreat. Their only choice was to proceed into the potentially hazardous Xuhai City.

"Lead the way; guide us to Xuhai City," urged Gu Chaoyan, addressing the Undead Race.

Then, her attention turned to the other Supreme Sect disciples. "From this point forward, extreme caution is imperative. It's plausible that Xuhai City could harbor even greater perils than what we've encountered thus far."

Agreeing nods rippled through the Supreme Sect disciples.

Their demeanor was marked by intensity and vigilance.

Under the escort of Di Hongyun, the Undead Race led the way. Meanwhile, Gu Chaoyan meticulously assessed the situation, while disciples from different sects maintained vigilant postures.

Such was the mission at hand.

Though a Paragon-level disciple of the Fist Sect technically led, it was Gu Chaoyan who assumed the forefront. Curiously, the Supreme Sect disciples seemed to accept this arrangement without qualms, instinctively adhering to her authority. Even the Fist Faction disciple raised no objections.

In a sudden revelation, it dawned on him why Elder Lin from the Weapon Refining Sect had insisted on involving his Junior Sister in this mission. Despite her relatively inferior cultivation, her remarkable adaptability became evident.

He had been disoriented just moments ago, falling victim to an illusion crafted by the cunning Undead Race.

If not for their Junior Sister's intervention, they might have met their demise at the hands of the Undead Race.

He held high regard for his Junior Sister's leadership.

The journey to Xuhai City consumed a significant amount of time.

As they finally caught sight of the distant Xuhai City, their anticipation was deflated by the realization that they remained considerably distant from their destination.

Yet again, this Xuhai City resembled the one they had just entered.

The disciples of the Wushang Sect even began to suspect the authenticity of this Xuhai City.

The Undead Race came to a halt, revealing a hint of reluctance. "My Lady, I've fulfilled my part by bringing you to Xuhai City unharmed, equalizing our account for the earlier incident. If you intend to enter Xuhai City, you'll have to proceed on your own. As for me, I'll abstain. I've recently awoken, and I wish to extend my years of existence."

The Undead Race's logic was sound.

However, he was confronting Gu Chaoyan.

Knowing Gu Chaoyan's tenacity, it was apparent she wouldn't be swayed easily.

His reluctance to enter Xuhai City indicated a perception of danger within.

And that knowledge raised a critical question.

She had to ensure their companionship.

"What gibberish are you spouting? You're our captive now, obliged to adhere to our directives. Numerous tasks lay ahead, and entering Xuhai City is non-negotiable!" Di Hongyun's voice erupted. He had adopted a role as Chaoyan's aid, steadfast in his support.

"Quiet!" The Undead Race retorted, his displeasure evident.

"Silence!" The two of them bickered in retort. "Speak if you must, but lower your volume.. Your boisterousness makes you the most vulnerable in Xuhai City due to your conspicuousness!"

Chapter 2148: Undead Race 4

Upon hearing Gu Chaoyan's menacing words, the Undead Race instinctively covered their mouth with trembling hands, their expression laden with fear as though his words bore real and imminent danger.

Amidst this, a chorus of laughter arose from the disciples of the Supreme Sect, unable to contain their amusement.

This Junior Sister displayed such endearing innocence.

In stark contrast, the Undead Race seemed to exude an excessive timidity. Their fear of their Junior Sister was quite apparent.

This marked the first instance the disciples had encountered someone who lamented the Undead Race's noise levels being too high.

Nevertheless, the Undead Race covered their mouth and paid no heed to the mockery.

Ironically, they did not dread death, yet the idea of it perturbed them deeply.

"Aren't the Undead Race meant to be immortal? Yet, here you stand, manifesting more fear of death than any other of your kind, "Gu Chaoyan commented derisively, casting a disdainful glance at the Undead Race, his displeasure evident that they allowed fear to hold sway over them.

Curious, the Undead Race inquired, "Have you encountered other Undead Races? Where might they be?" A sense of longing marked their words. Aware that the Undead Race was gradually resurfacing within the intermediate realms, they remained isolated, yearning for companionship and their former might. Finding fellow Undead would bestow them with renewed strength, ultimately liberating them from external control.

"No," Gu Chaoyan replied without hesitation, leaving the Undead Race to grapple with their resolute resolve. In the wake of this revelation, a despondent weight settled within the Undead Race's being. Ironically, they were the one most plagued by the fear of death. The bystanders from the Supreme Sect could not suppress their laughter once more, witnessing this exchange. However... What lay within the confines of Xuhai City that invoked such vehement resistance from the Undead Race? "Provide me with one valid reason: Why do you vehemently oppose the idea of going to Xuhai City?" inquired Gu Chaoyan. "Inside Xuhai City, terror looms large. Venturing there equates to a perilous gamble with one's life," uttered the Undead Race, their voice trembling with fear. "Your disciples met their demise within Xuhai City. Having just awoken from my slumber, my cultivation pales in comparison to yours. Should you confront danger in Xuhai City, my presence there would undoubtedly result in my demise. Hence, I steadfastly decline the proposition. I beseech you to heed my counsel and retreat to our sect – it's a safer recourse. I must seek out a suitable sanctuary to conceal myself." "Every disciple from the Supreme Sect met their end in Xuhai City?" queried Gu Chaoyan. "Indubitably." "In that case, Xuhai City is precisely where we must venture."

They had spun their narrative in an attempt to deter any expedition to Xuhai City, instilling trepidation within the group.

Upon hearing this, the buoyant disposition of the Undead Race waned dramatically.

However, circumstances had now shifted... This woman was unequivocally resolute, hell-bent on proceeding despite the apparent hazards! Rendered utterly speechless, the Undead Race mused on the irrationality of human women, a stark contrast to their Undead counterparts who could be easily beguiled. "Lead the way." "I refuse. "Should you persist in this refusal, I shall eliminate you on the spot – a preemptive measure against any impending perils within Xuhai City," declared Gu Chaoyan as she lifted her white jade sword, channeling the potent energy of her inheritance. "I've embellished the truth. I am merely offering guidance. I will navigate you there," the Undead Race discerned the ominous air and spoke with urgency. He kept cursing Gu Chaoyan inwardly. What was she thinking? Why did she have to go to Xuhai City? The Undead Race had no choice but lead the way. They continued to head towards Xuhai City.

The real Xuhai City was the same as the one they saw in the illusion..

Chapter 2149 - 2149: Run

The Undead Race had always been gripped by fear. He seemed ready to bolt at the slightest opportunity.

"I don't wish to be captured. Allow me to emphasize, the followers of your Supreme Sect have been reduced to mere skeletons, if even that. What purpose does it serve to seek them out? Xuhai City isn't a concern for your sect. Were I in your position, I would have fled long ago. Life holds greater value. Your youth prevents you from grasping this fully. Having endured for centuries, and met my demise as many times, my clarity surpasses yours," earnestly spoke the Undead Race. He glanced around, a gulp betraying his anxiety. He resumed, "Let's make our escape before peril presents itself!"

demise as many times, my clarity surpasses yours," earnestly spoke the Undead Race. He glanced around, a gulp betraying his anxiety. He resumed, "Let's make our escape before peril presents itself!"
With determination, he resolved to depart.
However
His pace couldn't rival Gu Chaoyan's swift sword. In a single stride, Gu Chaoyan's blade lay against his throat.
The Undead Race's polite smile persisted.
Onward they proceeded.
Xuhai City appeared even more serene than the illusion.
Eerily devoid of motion.
This exacerbated their terror.
Moreover, the Undead Race's embellishments had stoked profound fear among the Wushang Sect disciples.
They pressed on.

Suddenly, maniacal laughter reverberated.

Supreme Sect disciples scampered about.
The Undead Race made an attempt to flee, but Gu Chaoyan's ivory-hued sword remained steadfast at his neck, compelling him to stand frozen.
He offered a sheepish smile.
The disciples of the Supreme Sect initially succumbed to panic, only to later regain their composure.
Having learned a lesson from the illusion, they remained still, immobilized by fear.
"Simply go and assess the situation," suggested Gu Chaoyan, turning to Di
Hongyun.
Di Hongyun recoiled, curling into himself. The prospect of venturing forth held no appeal to him. "I'm gripped by fear!"
Amidst chuckles, the Undead Race joined in the laughter.
"In that case, why don't you go take a look?" the Undead Race quipped, his grin unyielding. "I don't belong to your sect."
Amid more laughter, Di Hongyun's demeanor shifted to amusement, directed at the Undead Race.
Abruptly, the atmosphere lightened.
"They belong to our Supreme Sect," asserted one of the disciples from the Supreme Sect.
Gu Chaoyan's gaze followed the direction indicated, confirming the affiliation of these individuals.
However

Their behavior appeared deranged and irrational. "What's occurring here?" inquired the lead disciple. Clearly, they had stumbled upon something perplexing. "Let's depart," urged Gu Chaoyan, sensing an ominous undercurrent. "Bring them along." The disciples of the Supreme Sect concurred, recognizing the looming danger. As they left, the Undead Race remained in Gu Chaoyan's grip. Xuhai City's enigmatic ambiance felt disconcerting. Gu Chaoyan was certain the Undead Race possessed insight into the situation. Taking him along was imperative. They hastened their escape from Xuhai City with unwavering urgency. Yet, the instant they breached its boundaries, a substantial horde of Undead Race materialized. Resembling the Undead Race they had encountered, these entities were clad in human skin. However... The multitude of Undead Race was overwhelming, confining them within the confines of Xuhai City. Consequently, they were left to carry out their intentions solely within the city's limits.

Narrowing her gaze, Gu Chaoyan scrutinized the Undead Race figure before her..

Chapter 2150 - 2150: Backbone

The Elder of the Beastmaster Sect once imparted that beyond their immortality, the Undead Race possessed remarkable intelligence as well. Despite perpetually feigning simplicity, they harbored a complexity belied by their facade. They had likely fallen victim to deception along their journey. Their vehement opposition to the group's venture toward Xuhai City was a clear indicator of their insight into the travelers' intentions. Curiously, this only intensified the group's resolve to reach their destination.

In a recent encounter...

Had their pace been any slower, they would have found themselves ensnared within Xuhai City's confines, ensnared by the Undead Race. Given their current levels of cultivation, leaving the city would prove nigh impossible.

And yet, amidst this crisis, an unexpected decision emerged.

Observing disciples from other sects congregated in a distant corner, an unsettling feeling gripped her.

Gu Chaoyan's gaze bore into the Undead Race.

An embarrassed smile played across the features of the Undead Race.

It was as though Gu Chaoyan had deciphered the scheme, leaving the Undead Race exposed and disconcerted.

"They've set us up!" jubilant exclamations erupted among the Undead Race disciples, poised to assault their now fleeing counterparts. In a spontaneous act, the Undead Race fled, met with no intervention from Gu Chaoyan. Pausing briefly, she eventually embarked on pursuit.

With an additional directive, she uttered, "Press onward to the Supreme Sect without halting. I shall rejoin you."

Having issued her command, Gu Chaoyan surged after the fleeing Undead

Race.

A prolonged chase unfolded.

Only after a substantial distance had been covered did Gu Chaoyan finally close in on the Undead Race.

The countenance of the Undead Race bore a palpable dismay, an emotion unanticipated due to Gu Chaoyan's successful pursuit. With a sense of commiseration, a pitiable smile graced their features. "I forewarned you of the peril that shrouds Xuhai City, where your disciples might have met their demise. Yet, resolute you remained in your quest, absolving me of responsibility."

A palpable detachment cloaked the Undead Race.

Indeed, the sentiment they conveyed.

However...

Irrespective of the facade, escape eluded the Undead Race's grasp.

Swiftly, Gu Chaoyan brandished the white jade sword, an action that caught the Undead Race off guard. At the instant their mouth parted, Gu Chaoyan deftly introduced a pill into it.

Although the Undead Race struggled to expel the pill, their efforts proved futile.

"What have you subjected me to?" A surge of fury engulfed the Undead Race.

"Pernicious pills. While death may evade the Undead Race, these shall evoke yearnings for its embrace," Gu Chaoyan responded, a smirk curving her lips. "Each takes effect bi-monthly. An antidote is yours, on the condition you accede."

Her sinister grin now adorned her features. "How about entering my service?" Gu Chaoyan's inquiry was laden with implications.

"Unfeasible. We bend to no master," the Undead Race asserted, reclaiming their characteristic demeanor.

"Then, a collaboration?" Gu Chaoyan's proposition lowered a notch, a sigh underscoring her words.
Intricacies seemed to permeate every facet of her existence of late.
Monsters of demonic ilk readily succumbed to servitude.
Yet, her own experiences contradicted this notion.
The Dragonman encounter exemplified this incongruity; beseeching for gold, silver, and gems, their compliance eluded her.
Even now, the Undead Race resisted allegiance despite their precarious situation.
Internal vexation burgeoned within Gu Chaoyan.
"Never shall I yield under duress," the Undead Race proclaimed with an air of pride