

Dragon King 351

### **Chapter 351: Zhao Haoran!**

A foot wearing a dress shoe slowly stepped out of the car and onto the ground.

Zhao Guang tensed up, and Elder Sun who was beside him stood very straight.

An old man got out of the car. His hair was all white, but the neat silver hair had luster in it.

As the old man looked around, the employees of Mingri Group all stood straighter.

Most of them had never seen this old man before, but the aura this old man emitted brought serious expressions to their faces.

With a majestic aura, his gaze cut to everyone's heart like a scalpel.

Compared to him, the solemn-faced Zhao Guang was as genial as an old lady!

While this old man took one step toward the rotating door of Mingri Group, the employees standing at the door involuntarily retreated closer to the flower beds behind them.

These employees of Mingri Group were elites in the business world and had experienced the ups and downs, but they had never felt such a suppression!

Each movement of this old man seemed to put pressure on their hearts.

Before now, they were only informed that a prominent figure would come to Mingri Group, and everyone must go out and greet him, even though none of them knew who this figure was. At this moment, they felt like they couldn't even move their feet when facing this old man.

"Mr. Zhao, this way please!" Zhao Guang walked forward and said to the old man.

The old man glanced at Zhao Guang coldly and walked into the lobby with steady steps.

After he walked into the building, the employees standing at the door heaved a sigh of relief. The greeting only lasted a few seconds, but they felt more tired than after a day of busy work!

"Summon the elders for a meeting!" While he slowly walked into the elevator, the old man said coldly.

This old man was Zhao Guang's father, Zhao Haoran and the old dragon king of East Ocean, who just returned from the U.S.

"Ok." Zhao Guang nodded slightly.

In fact, all the elders were waiting in the meeting room on the top floor of Mingri Group's headquarter. Only Elder Sun, who was fitting to show his face in public, greeted Zhao Haoran at the gate.

While the elevator rose, Zhao Guang who stood about 20 centimeters behind Zhao Haoran remained silent, and so did Elder Sun.

Ding!

The elevator reached the top floor.

With the walking cane in his hand, Zhao Haoran walked into the meeting room.

Sensing the old dragon king approaching, the elders all stood up.

With a calm expression, Zhao Haoran walked into the meeting room while the senior elders held their breaths.

A wide armchair had been placed in the room. Zhao Haoran leaned his walking cane against the side of the chair and slowly sat down.

Standing on both sides of the long conference table, none of the elders dared to sit down without permission.

“Sit!” Zhao Haoran ordered.

The elders sat down as one.

Zhao Guang took a seat next to Zhao Haoran with a serious look on his face.

“I read the financial reports while I was in the car.” Zhao Haoran sat still in the armchair and said, “Domestic business was stable until the last quarter.”

Zhao Guang nodded and didn’t speak.

“The stock prices which hit rock bottom a few days ago have begun to climb up today,” Zhao Haoran continued.

Zhao Guang’s expression didn’t change, but he was a bit relieved on the inside. With Hao Ren’s parents’ help, he had gotten some big deals, and the news had pushed up the stock price. That was why Mingri Group didn’t collapse in the domestic capital market.

“From now on, I’ll take full control of Mingri Group,” Zhao Haoran declared in a measured tone.

Zhao Guang glanced at him and lowered his head in helplessly.

Although Zhao Guang created Mingri Group, its seed capital was provided by Zhao Haoran. The old dragon king was influential both in the Dragon Tribe and the business world.

“Since West Ocean, South Ocean, and North Ocean dared to make moves against our business on the land, we can’t just stand by and watch. Tomorrow, we’ll begin a new round of acquisitions, and the first objective will be the West Ocean’s Conqueror Group,” Zhao Haoran said lightly.

With this declaration, a bloody war of capital would start. With Zhao Haoran returning to China, three billion yuan of funds had secretly entered the domestic capital market.

This was only the appetizer Zhao Haoran brought back.

While he lived abroad, Zhao Haoran had accumulated a fund far exceeding the imagination of the West Ocean Dragon Clan. It could swallow all of the West Ocean Dragon Clan’s business on land!

If South Ocean and North Ocean dared to make moves now, they would get the same fate of destruction!

“Your Majesty, if we do this...” One of the elders expressed his concern.

The businesses on land were not important to the four ocean dragon palaces. They only used the business activities on the land and to take control of the cities and arrange their intelligence networks.

By acquiring the West Ocean Dragon Clan’s businesses on such a large scale, Zhao Haoran was declaring war against the West Ocean!

In fact, by uniting with the North Ocean Dragon Clan and the South Ocean Dragon Clan to issue provocations in the East Ocean City, West Ocean was trying to force the East Ocean Dragon Clan to declare war against them.

Zhao Haoran’s response was what the West Ocean Dragon Clan had been hoping for, right?

“For anyone who works against us, we will take them all!” Zhao Haoran was adamant.

He had been using this method in the U.S. By now, Mingri Group’s power had spread to the industries such as food supply, clothes, real estate, advertisements, tourism, and entertainment by mergers and acquisitions. The logo of Mingri Group didn’t show up on the packages of merchandises in the U.S. market, but its capital had spread to all walks of life in the country!

This method could also be used on the West Ocean Dragon Clan and its allies, attacking their businesses on land!

If Mingri Group acquired all the businesses and companies of the West Ocean Dragon Clan, they would lose their bases in the cities!

“If they dare to start a real war against us, we’ll take them on!” Zhao Haoran said.

With this declaration, Zhao Haoran forced the West Ocean Dragon Clan into a corner!

“Since you are claiming that the East Ocean Dragon Clan is suppressing you, then I’ll show you what real suppression is! I’ll see if South Ocean and North Ocean dare to work with you to fight East Ocean face to face! If they dare to make a move, I will eat up their businesses on the land as well!” this was the simplified version of Zhao Haoran’s logic.

Zhao Guang had been guarding the East Ocean Dragon Palace, but Zhao Haoran was the one who battled and established the East Ocean Dragon Palace!

Zhao Guang stuck to the idea of kindness and mercy while Zhao Haoran simply favored the method of war!

“And bring that Hao Ren to me,” Zhao Haoran continued.

## **Chapter 352: Old Dragon King!!**

A black Bentley Arnage slowly drove into the campus of East Ocean University.

At the sight of such a car, many students paused their steps and watched.

The short and bright Elder Sun got out of the driver's seat and talked to a nearby student before handing him a 100-yuan bill.

With the money in hand, the student hesitated for a few seconds before entering Academic Building D.

He jogged to Room 304 and knocked on the door.

The teacher who was in the middle of teaching the class went over and opened the door.

"Hao Ren, someone is waiting for you downstairs!" The student yelled and ran off without waiting for a response.

The students close to the windows all stuck their heads out and looked downstairs.

A black Bentley Arnage was parked on the roadside, giving off a serious presence under the sunshine.

Elder Sun looked up and waved his hand.

"It's a Bentley that's worth ten-million-yuan!" Yu Rong, who was a loyal reader of car magazines, shouted in surprise.

Immediately, the room became boisterous; the students ignored the teacher at the platform and swarmed to the windows.

Sitting not far from the window, Hao Ren stood up and looked out of the window as well.

Dressed in a red traditional Tang suit, Elder Sun looked very sharp. He waved at Hao Ren with a gentle smile on his face.

"Ugh..." Hao Ren had a bad feeling about it.

Looking around, he saw the windows of other classrooms were also crowded with students.

Under the curious gazes of the students, Elder Sun stood there steadily like a lighthouse by the ocean.

Hao Ren immediately turned and rushed out of the classroom.

Boisterously, his classmates followed him to watch the drama downstairs even though they were still in the middle of the class.

Lightly, Hao Ren skipped down the steps and appeared at the entrance of Academic Building D in the blink of an eye.

Elder Sun bowed at him. "Gongzi Hao, the old dragon king has returned. Please get into the car."

The surrounding students were either stunned, confused, curious or baffled...

Hao Ren was in the center of attention on campus for a while. As time went on, the dust had settled down. But today, this drama roused new public interest in Hao Ren.

"Ok." Involuntarily, Hao Ren nodded and got into the car.

However, his dumb act looked very pretentious to Yu Rong and the others.

“Who is this Hao Ren? Last time when a Mercedes came to pick him up, I heard that it was from the family of a girl he was tutoring. But this time, he is being picked up by a Bentley which was worth ten-million-yuan?”

“Hao Ren’s name is going to spread all over the school instantly! And the pretty girls will swarm to him!”

Yu Rong, Zhou Liren, and the other guys were overwhelmed!

“Is this the Hao Ren that has been hanging out with us in the dorms?” they thought.

After Hao Ren got into the car, Elder Sun returned to the driver’s seat and started the Bentley.

The surrounding students at the entrance of Academic Building D gave way to it.

Elder Sun, one of the purple-robed elders, came to pick Hao Ren up in person, and that alone signaled the importance of the meeting.

Hao Ren was feeling very uneasy!

Standing by a window on the sixth floor of the Arts Building, Qin Shaoyang spun a small golden weaving shuttle in his palm.

After the Bentley drove out of the school, he stopped playing with the golden weaving shuttle before vanishing.

Standing on the top of the building on the other side of the Arts Building, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili watched the Bentley leave the school and exchanged a look. Then, they turned into two green light beams and vanished as well.

The black Bentley Arnage drove steadily along the road.

With his hands on the steering wheel, Elder Sun looked serious but remained silent.

Hao Ren didn’t speak either as the car drove toward the headquarter of Mingri Group which was located in downtown.

In the sunlight, the Mingri Group’s headquarter with its bright windows shone like a giant in the city.

“Gongzi Hao, here we are,” Elder Sun said abruptly.

Hao Ren looked out at the road and gathered his thoughts. The car drove so smoothly that he didn’t even notice that it had stopped.

After getting out of the car, he looked up at the sun and found the sunlight blinding.

“Summer is coming.” With that thought, he followed Elder Sun into the lobby on the first floor of Mingri Group’s headquarter.

Both Hao Ren and Elder Sun remained silent as they took the elevator up to the top floor.

Then, Elder Su led Hao Ren toward the meeting room. Hao Ren had been here once when he and Zhao Guang met for the first time.

In the meeting room sat the elders of the East Ocean Dragon Clan.

The only difference between now and the last time was that a white-haired old man took the head of the table.

After bringing Hao Ren into the meeting room, Elder Sun silently returned to his seat.

Hao Ren looked at the old man cautiously. Since Zhao Guang didn't offer an introduction, he just stood there.

All the people turned their gaze to Hao Ren.

Today, all the purple-robed elders were present. Some of them thought that Hao Ren, the future Fuma, was disposable to the East Ocean Dragon Clan, and if they pushed him out to take the blame for the incident around the West Ocean Dragon Palace, the crisis East Ocean faced would be over.

"Zhen-level," After casting a glance at Hao Ren, Zhao Haoran said.

"Yes," Hao Ren answered.

"You destroyed half of the West Ocean Dragon Palace, didn't you?" Zhao Haoran asked.

"Right," Hao Ren answered.

From the white-haired man's aura and Zhao Guang's expression, Hao Ren knew that this old man was Zhao Haoran, the legendary old dragon king.

Zhao Haoran looked him for another few seconds up and down.

Meanwhile, Hao Ren circulated the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll to its peak.

From the old man's aura, Hao Ren knew that his power was no less than Su Han's!

He was almost on the same level as Zhao Kuo!

"Very good," Zhao Haoran said two words.

The elders all looked surprised, especially those purple-robed elders who opposed to keeping Hao Ren as the Fuma of the East Ocean Dragon Palace; they looked at each other in astonishment.

After all, Hao Ren destroyed half of the West Ocean Dragon Palace and broke the balance among the four ocean dragon palaces. That made the West Ocean Dragon Palace the sympathized party in the public's opinion and directly gave birth to the establishment of the Anti-East Ocean Alliance. How could that be 'very good'?

"This time, the West Ocean Dragon Clan has been severely damaged. They pulled allies to their side, showing that they are afraid!" Zhao Haoran stated as he emphasized each word.

Now, the elders in the meeting room were totally confused.

"As to the issue of Hao Ren being Little Zi's Fuma, I'll do more tests. But you..." Zhao Haoran stood up and looked around at the elders in the meeting room before asking "What are you afraid of?!"

His words entered the elders' ears like a dharma spell.

The words instantly woke them up.

Indeed! The West Ocean Dragon Clan had lost more than ten Qian-level and Kun-level master, and half of their dragon palace was destroyed. Now was the weakest moment of the West Ocean Dragon Clan. They even had to pull South Ocean and North Ocean to boost their courage. If the East Ocean Dragon Clan waged war against the West Ocean Dragon Clan, it was doubtful that the other two ocean dragon palaces would be fighting in the frontline.

The dragon cultivators disapproved of the things the East Ocean Dragon Clan did, but it didn't mean that they would dare to wage a civil war against East Ocean.

After all, no one was certain which party held the justice, the East Ocean Dragon Clan or the West Ocean Dragon Clan!

"Elder Lu, Elder Sun!" Zhao Haoran's voice resonated in the room.

"Yes!" Elder Lu and Elder Sun immediately stood up and answered.

"Go to the South Ocean Dragon Clan and the North Ocean Dragon Clan to deliver notices of war respectively. Tell them that if they don't withdraw the blockage on the business of Mingri Group, we'll declare war against them!"

Zhao Haoran emphasized each word.

"As you wish!" Elder Lu and Elder Sun sat back down.

The remaining elders looked at each other and didn't know how they should feel. Zhao Guang had issued invitations to the South Ocean Dragon Clan and the North Ocean Dragon Clan, and none of them accepted the invitations or the gifts. Now, the old dragon king was issuing them notices of war!

The elders were nervous, but no one dared to speak.

"What about the West Ocean Dragon Clan?" Hao Ren couldn't help asking.

The elders sitting behind Elder Lu and Elder Sun looked at Hao Ren and Zhao Haoran.

Hao Ren had asked their question.

"Ignore them!" Zhao Haoran walked out of the meeting room. Then, he turned his head and said to Hao Ren, "You, come with me!"

Seeing Zhao Guang still sitting in the meeting room, Zhao Haoran pointed at him, saying, "Come as well!"

After Zhao Haoran left with Hao Ren and Zhao Guang, the elders in the meeting room began a heated discussion. With a cold smile on her face, Elder Xingyue left the room with Elder Lu and Elder Sun.

Zhao Haoran's return meant the end of peace! The nagging purple-robed elders were opinionated in front of Zhao Guang, but they absolutely had no say before Zhao Haoran.

After all, in the last war in the cultivation world, Zhao Haoran had killed dozens of Nascent Soul Realm cultivators!

That was the war that established the ruling position of the dragons on the land while the dozens of big cultivation sects had to abandon the land and move up on and above Fifth Heaven with hundreds of small sects.

At the same time, Zhao Haoran knew that he couldn't pass the Heavenly Tribulation due to his intense murderous spirit, and he retired from the ruling position of East Ocean to live like a hermit abroad.

With the return of such a 'Killing God', even the distant Dragon God Shrine would shiver, let alone the elders in the East Ocean Dragon Clan!

After entering the CEO's office next door and sitting in the chair behind the desk, Zhao Haoran glanced at the chair across from the desk and said, "Sit."

Hao Ren inhaled slightly and sat across from Zhao Haoran.

He sensed an overwhelming aura from this old man. It wasn't derived from his nature essence; it was a murderous spirit that even Su Han didn't possess!

It was a combination of proudness derived from the moments of life and death, dominance derived from battles, and fierceness derived from commanding wars!

He had retired for almost 100 years, and the West Ocean Dragon Clan thought this legendary figure had died. Everyone thought the East Ocean Dragon Clan was bluffing when they heard that this great figure was returning.

However, contrary to their assumptions, Zhao Haoran had indeed returned!

### **Chapter 353: Only I Can Kill My People!**

Seeing Zhao Guang walking toward the couch, Zhao Haoran looked up at him and said. "You! Stand!"

Zhao Guang's mouth twitched, but he had no choice but to remain standing. Since the moment he heard about Zhao Haoran's return, he knew he was in trouble.

Zhao Guang didn't tell Zhao Haoran about the incident with Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi. After all, Zhao Haoran retired and no longer minded the business of the East Ocean Dragon Clan.

However, the recent domestic business decline of Mingri Group brought down its stock prices while Mingri Group's international business abroad was still prospering. The weird turn of events roused Zhao Haoran's suspicion, and he decided to inquire about the affairs of East Ocean.

That was why Zhao Guang had to stand on the side while Hao Ren talked to Zhao Haoran sitting in the chair.

"What technique are you cultivating?" Zhao Haoran stared at Hao Ren and asked.

He knew Hao Ren was at Zhen-level by looking at his aura, but he didn't understand latter's cultivation technique. Usually, with the water-elemental dragon core, Hao Ren should emit pure water-elemental essence. However, Hao Ren emitted five kinds of nature essence.



“Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll,” Hao Ren answered.

“Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll...” Zhao Haoran repeated the name silently. He searched for this technique in his memory but could find nothing.

After ruling East Ocean for hundreds of years, he was familiar with the treasures in the dragon palace. However, he had no memory of this technique.

“Show me,” Zhao Haoran stared at Hao Ren and said.

He was used to ordering people, but his special aura and his decisiveness in the meeting room made Hao Ren admire him.

Swoosh... One hundred sixty sword energies shot out of Hao Ren’s body.

Green, red, yellow, white and blue; five-colored sword energies instantly filled the office. The sword energies flew around freely with shining light, and each of them could easily break steel energies!

The fact that Hao Ren could control 160 sword energies at the same time in the limited space was a feat in itself.

“That’s enough.” Zhao Haoran waved his hand, not even alarmed by the dancing sword energies around him for one bit.

Swoosh... The sword energies instantly returned to Hao Ren’s body.

Zhao Haoran frowned as he remembered that this Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll was a technique that he got from a top-tier Nascent Soul Realm cultivator when he was involved in the war in the human cultivation world hundreds of years back.

The details of the fierce battle were still fresh in his memory since thousands of sword energies built an array formation covering the entire sky, and he almost died in it.

Due to the aggressiveness and power of this technique, Zhao Haoran took this technique scroll that he didn’t know the name of and put it in the Profound Cultivation Palace in the East Ocean Dragon Palace.

To his surprise, after hundreds of years, this cultivation technique got the name, Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll, and was chosen by Hao Ren.

In fact, when Zhao Haoran took the technique, he had tried to cultivate it. However, its requirement of balancing the five-elemental essence within one’s body was something impossible for Zhao Haoran who was already at top-tier Qian-level.

Clap!

Hao Ren put his right hand on the desk.

The desk was made of solid purple sandalwood, but under Hao Ren’s cultivation strength, it quickly disintegrated!

Withdraw!

Swoosh... The shattered wood pieces in Hao Ren's hand shot into the wall one meter away like sharp needles!

Release!

The wood-elemental essence extracted from the desk traveled through his meridians and came out from his left hand in the form of surging pure water-elemental essence!

Convert!

The mist on the desktop evaporated gradually.

After these movements, Hao Ren slowly pulled back his hands.

Zhao Haoran stared at Hao Ren calmly; his gaze never wavered.

However, he was stunned on the inside!

"This cultivation technique is miraculous! It could convert the five-elemental essence, withdraw and release the five-elemental essence outside of one's body, and could even unleash thousands of sword energies!"

It was also Zhao Guang's first time watching Hao Ren use these abilities. In the past, he only knew that Hao Ren could release 16 sword energies which damaged his backyard. He didn't imagine that Hao Ren could now easily control 160 sword energies and even convert the five-elemental essence in nature!

Both Zhao Haoran and Zhao Guang didn't know that Hao Ren's sword array could increase the power of his sword energies by several times!

"If that is all, then it is ok," Zhao Haoran said.

Hao Ren smiled.

Indeed, he only showed a part of his power. The Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll was hard to cultivate; with his ordinary talent, if not for Lu Linlin and Lu Lili's help in adjusting the five-elemental essences in his body, he could never reach Zhen-level.

"Is Zi still in the dragon palace?" Zhao Haoran asked Zhao Guang abruptly.

"Yes, Father." Zhao Guang nodded.

Although Zhao Guang was almost 1,000 years old and Zhao Haoran was only a bit older than 200 years, Zhao Haoran was Zhao Guang's son.

"It's right to ground her for sprouting nonsense," Zhao Haoran said.

"She will come out tomorrow," Zhao Guang continued.

Only in her teens, Zhao Yanzi was like an infant among the young dragons. Zhao Haoran sounded stern, but Zhao Guang knew that deep down, Zhao Haoran loved her very much.

"Then release her tomorrow." Although Zhao Haoran was not happy with Zhao Guang's performance in the domestic business market, he didn't want to damage his son's authority as a father.

“And...” Zhao Guang glanced at Hao Ren.

He was still not sure about Zhao Haoran’s attitude toward the engagement between Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi.

“I haven’t found a good solution for this matter yet. As far as I know, only grandmasters of the Soul Formation Realm have the power to transplant dragon cores,” Zhao Haoran said after he saw Zhao Guang’s gaze.

“Soul Formation Realm cultivators...” Zhao Guang and Hao Ren were both stunned.

There were less than ten Soul Formation Realm cultivators living in the mortal world, and they were rarely seen.

Besides, the human cultivators and dragon cultivators had entered a cold war hundreds of years ago. The grandmasters of the Soul Formation Realm could live as long as the world, enjoyed the same dazzling lights as the sun and the moon, and could get any treasures in the world they wanted...

Xie Yujia!

Zhao Guang immediately thought of Xie Yujia.

Only she had the contact of a Soul Formation Realm cultivator, but it was hard to say if the grandmaster would be willing to help or not.

To some extent, Zhao Yanzi was Xie Yujia’s disciple and thus had some connections to this grandmaster. “If she could help...” Zhao Guang began to hope.

“Even I have never seen a grandmaster in the Soul Formation Realm, let alone you guys,” Zhao Haoran said.

Even in the fiercest battles during the war between the cultivators a few hundreds of years back where Nascent Soul Realm cultivators appeared one by one, none of the Soul Formation Realm cultivators showed up.

After all, if they had joined the war, the situation would totally change since the heavenly dragon on the side of the Dragon Tribe would be forced to participate as well. It would have escalated into a great war involving both earth and heaven.

“If the elemental attribute of the dragon core didn’t change due to your unique cultivation technique, I would have cut open your dantian and taken out of the dragon core before planting it into Zhao Yanzi,” Zhao Haoran continued with his eyes locked on Hao Ren as he stood up.

His cold gaze seemed to have the power to pierce Hao Ren, and his words and intention were almost the same as Zhao Kuo’s.

Zhao Kuo stuck with kindness and mercy while Zhao Haoran honored strength. In this world, there was no right and wrong; there was only strong and weak!

“If you can’t reach Dui-level in a month, I’ll dig out the dragon core from your body,” Zhao Haoran said calmly.

Hao Ren's cultivation technique was unique, but it didn't mean that Zhao Haoran had high hopes for him.

Although the dragon core had experienced some changes in Hao Ren's body while he absorbed the five-elemental essence, it could still be put back into Zhao Yanzi's body.

The only drawback of this plan was that Zhao Yanzi would need lots of elixir pills to improve her physique, and she wouldn't be able to reach a very high realm in the future.

For Zhao Haoran, the top priority was his granddaughter, not Hao Ren.

"Father..." Zhao Guang tried to dissuade him.

"Before the time limit, you are still a member of the East Ocean Dragon Clan. If anyone from the West Ocean Dragon Clan dares to touch you, I'll slaughter them all! If any of the elders dare to utter any objection, I will kill them immediately!" Zhao Haoran glared at Hao Ren and emitted his overwhelming suppression.

Hao Ren was forced back half a step by that aura alone!

"But... If you can't reach Dui-level in a month, I won't show any mercy. I'll take your life myself!"

Thud! Thud!

Zhao Haoran marched out of the office with the walking cane in his hand.

Before Zhao Guang left with his father, he looked back at Hao Ren helplessly.

This was Zhao Haoran, overbearing, protective, and fierce!

He didn't kill Hao Ren right now because he realized that Hao Ren had reached Zhen-level in a short time with a stable foundation; he knew Hao Ren had the potential of reaching higher realms.

As to if Hao Ren could actually reach Gen-level first and then Dui-level in one month, Zhao Haoran didn't care!

In fact, even the most gifted dragon cultivator couldn't achieve such a fast elevation speed!

After Zhao Haoran and Zhao Guang left the office, the murderous spirit remained in the room.

Even the mosquitoes in the room hid in one corner, too afraid to move.

Standing in the office, Hao Ren thought back to the gaze of Zhao Haoran, knowing that the old dragon king, who had been a fierce warrior in battles, wasn't bluffing about killing him.

Ruff... It was lunchtime, and Little White was asking to get out of Hao Ren's necklace to take a walk near the library.

Even though he wasn't at the school, Hao Ren let it out.

However, when Little White rolled onto the carpet and glanced at the chair which Zhao Haoran had sat on, it immediately shot back into Hao Ren's necklace.

Even Little White, a Bin-level demon Beast, didn't dare to face the strong murderous spirit!

## Chapter 354: Fight Back!

When Hao Ren returned to the lobby on the first floor, he saw Elder Lu, Elder Sun and Elder Xingyue standing in the hall.

Here outside of the dragon palace, Elder Xingyue was wearing a long, black dress and a suit jacket, looking fresh and beautiful.

Short and lean, Elder Sun was dressing in his usual traditional Tang suit. Beside him, White-haired and white-eyebrowed, Elder Lu looked straight and tall in a suit, his everyday outfit.

Standing together, the three of them looked like the figures on the cover of a fashion magazine.

“Elder Sun, Elder Lu, Elder Xingyue!” Hao Ren greeted them while he walked toward the gate.

“We’ll drive you back to school,” Elder Sun said with a genial smile.

“Oh? Have you been waiting for me?” Hao Ren was a little surprised.

“Yeah. Elder Lu and I will go to South Ocean and North Ocean respectively, and Elder Xingyue will return to East Ocean. We’ll drop you off first,” Elder Sun nodded and said.

Since they couldn’t fly in the city, they had to travel in a car like ordinary people.

Hao Ren didn’t refuse Elder Sun’s offer and followed them out of the building.

Their car was still the spacious and luxurious Bentley.

Hao Ren had noticed that Elder Xingyue, Elder Sun, Elder Lu, and Premier Xia who was stationed in the dragon palace were close to each other, and they stood firmly with Zhao Guang.

Therefore, they were closer to Hao Ren than the other elders.

“I’m afraid the old dragon king will turn the world upside down this time,” Elder Sun said while he drove.

“Now we’ll see how North Ocean and South Ocean react to his challenge,” Elder Lu nodded and said.

Elder Xingyue frowned, but she remained silent.

The times have changed. Without Zhao Kuo, East Ocean was less powerful than before. Although Zhao Haoran was fierce, he was old, and South Ocean and North Ocean each had several mid-tier Qian-level cultivators

“In the past 200 years, the growth of the Dragon God Shrine has been faster than we expected, and it now has almost the same strength as that of the four ocean dragon palaces. If they get involved, the situation will get more complicated,” Elder Lu continued.

The Dragon Tribe established the Dragon God Shrine after the human cultivators moved to Fifth Heaven to prevent making the same mistakes the human cultivators had made. The function of the Dragon God Shrine was to prevent the dragon cultivators from killing each other and thus giving the human cultivators the opportunity to defeat them.

The main tasks of the Dragon God Shrine were to watch the human cultivation sects on and above Fifth Heaven as well as to regulate the behavior of the dragon cultivators from all the forces.

Since the Dragon God Shrine was an organization established by all five-elemental dragon clans, it would select the best cultivators from the entire Dragon Tribe. That was why it had grown so fast. In only 200 years, its overall power was equivalent to if not exceeded that of the four ocean dragon palaces which had been around for thousands of years.

If it intervened in the conflicts between the four ocean dragon palaces, the situation would get trickier.

“How is Su Han’s injury?” Elder Sun asked abruptly.

“She has not fully recovered yet. By sending Qin Shaoyang here, the Dragon God Shrine intends to keep an eye on our East Ocean,” Elder Xingyue finally spoke.

In the past, Su Han was the inspector of East Ocean City, so the East Ocean Dragon Palace didn’t feel that much pressure from the Dragon God Shrine. However, the arrival of Qin Shaoyang cast a shadow on the complicated situation in East Ocean City.

Everyone including Hao Ren knew that Qin Shaoyang favored the West Ocean Dragon Palace, which meant that Dragon God Shrine was leaning toward the West Ocean Dragon Palace as well.

However, Zhao Haoran’s return broke this new balance.

Right now, the East Ocean Dragon Clan would take on the North Ocean Dragon Clan, the South Ocean Dragon Clan, the West Ocean Dragon Clan, and even the Dragon God Shrine to fight back!

It gave up the option of diplomatic negotiations entirely and went directly to war!

“The old dragon king has his plans. Let’s wait and see.” With that, Elder Xingyue closed her eyes and placed her hands together into a cultivation gesture, entering the state of cultivation.

She took any time she had to cultivate, even in a car. Her passion for cultivation was almost the same as Su Han’s.

While the car drove forward, Elder Sun and Elder Lu stopped their discussion. After all, they were about to travel to North Ocean and South Ocean to issue the notice of war, a mission they dreaded.

When the car drove into East Ocean University, it immediately drew the attention of the passing by students.

While the students couldn’t see through the darkened windows of the car, Hao Ren who was sitting in the car could see their amazed glances

“Elder Xingyue, please tell Su Han that we all hope that she could return soon,” Hao Ren said to Elder Xingyue suddenly.

“Ok. I’ll tell her,” Elder Xingyue said lightly.

Hao Ren hoped that Su Han could come back to teach, although it meant nothing to her.

However, without Su Han, the campus of East Ocean University lost some of its appeals.

The car stopped at the entrance of Academic Building D, and Hao Ren got out of the car. Some students immediately glanced at him.

After today's incident, he would be at the center of attention again.

"Well... Whatever..." Hao Ren sighed slightly and waved at the three elders in the car.

He could imagine that with his family background exposed, love letters and fangirls would swarm to him.

However, Hao Ren wouldn't linger in the school at this stage since his goal was to reach Gen-level and even Dui-level!

Only after he had become an official inspector would he understand the mysteries of the Dragon God Shrine.

He had to appear at school each day and take classes, telling the world that he was still alive! Otherwise, Zhou Liren and others would report him missing to the police.

"He is the guy who takes Little White to the library every day..."

"Right. I didn't know he comes from such a rich family and has a Bentley driving him to and from school..."

"I told you that Little White is of a precious breed..."

"In fact, he's quite handsome. Coming from a rich family, he would make a good boyfriend..."

Some girls gossiped in the shadow of the building while they watched Hao Ren get out of the car.

With his acute hearing, Hao Ren immediately heard their words. He smiled and ignored them as he walked toward his dorm.

"Come on and catch up with him, Little Yu. Go confess; I think he has a good impression of you..."

"What are you talking about? I just said he was ok..."

The girls hesitated and then walked toward Hao Ren.

However, when they followed him to a path in the little forest of the school, Hao Ren already disappeared.

The girls looked at each other, wondering how he could run so fast.

Meanwhile, with a red energy sphere around him, Hao Ren released Little White from his necklace and shot toward Fifth Heaven on its back.

It seemed like that was the only way to get rid of those girls. Otherwise, they might even follow him to his house by the sea.

When he went up to Fifth Heaven to cultivate, the counter attacks Mingri Group prepared were unfolding.

Returning with Zhao Haoran was a professional acquisition team that Zhao Yanzi's Second Uncle had established overseas. The team was comprised of top experts in acquisition operations, and they could

easily destroy the West Ocean Dragon Clan's domestic businesses one by one with the abundant funds they brought with them.

The on-land businesses that the West Ocean Dragon Clan had managed for more than ten years with great effort would be dismantled in a few days!

Zhao Haoran had been a veteran in the international capital market, and he wouldn't show mercy in the first business counter-attack after his return.

It was night, and the surrounding buildings were all dark. However, Mingri Group's headquarter was as bright as day. All the employees were working overtime, cooperating with Zhao Haoran's team to unleash attacks on Conqueror Group!

Meanwhile, on Fifth Heaven, Hao Ren had finished half a day of cultivation.

The valley was silent except the light snoring of Little White who was lying at the entrance of Hao Ren's cave abode.

Hao Ren leaped over Little White and came down the steep mountain like a martial arts master, leaving no traces behind him.

In the fields, the spiritual herbs were growing well. On some of the herb leaves were a tiny layer of condensed dew, and some pretty flower buds were trying their best to absorb the surrounding mist.

Thud... Light footsteps came from one side of him. Hao Ren turned and saw Xie Yujia was walking from her cave abode to the field with the night pearl in her hand.

Under the warm light of the night pearl, Xie Yujia had a holy aura around her. At the sight of Hao Ren, she was surprised as well.

"You're here too?" she said in a low voice.

"Yeah. I came up to cultivate. Did you borrow Zhen Congming's flight dharma treasure?" Hao Ren asked.

"Yeah. I didn't want to trouble you and Little White every time." Xie Yujia nodded.

Hao Ren knew Zhen Congming's dharma treasures were easy to use even with weak cultivation strength. Besides, Zhen Congming had rearranged the array formation here, and it was easy for him to give Xie Yujia a key to the protective array formation.

"It's not safe for you to come to Fifth Heaven alone. Next time you want to come up, remember to ask me to come with you," Hao Ren said.

"Ok..." With the night pearl in her hand, she slowly squatted to check the growth of the spiritual herbs.

Obviously, she was also taking a break from cultivating in the middle of the night and came to check on the spiritual herbs as a way to relax.

"Today... someone sent a Bentley to get you; who was it?" Xie Yujia asked casually while touching a spiritual herb which would curl up its leaves like a mimosa with her finger.

"Oh, it was Zhao Yanzi's grandpa. He returned from abroad and wished to see me," Hao Ren explained.



“Oh. How did the meeting go?” Xie Yujia asked.

“It went well.” Hao Ren said with a smile.

“It caused such an upheaval. You can’t imagine how many girls are talking about you,” Xie Yujia said in a low voice as she walked to check on another spiritual herb,

The valley was pitch black, but the moon and the stars were bright above the mountaintop. The night pearl only illuminated Xie Yujia’s face, and it was a pretty sight.

In the past few days, she had taken the Foundation Building Pills each day and had pushed her realm from level 8 to level 9 of the Qi Refinement Realm.

Of course, if the cultivators on Fifth Heaven or Sixth Heaven knew that she took level 4 Foundation Establishment Pill each day, they would be green with jealousy.

“By the way, Zhen Congming is in love,” Xie Yujia looked back at Hao Ren and said.

Pu... Hao Ren almost choked on his breath.

### **Chapter 355: Natural Treasures of the Herb King Valley!**

“What happened?” Hao Ren inhaled deeply and asked.

“I don’t know the details. It’s just that he wants to buy gifts for a girl in the class next to his, and he looked quite nervous about it,” Xie Yujia said.

Hao Ren was speechless; after all, it was quite rare for Zhen Congming to offer gifts to someone.

“Well, I’ll continue with my cultivation. Zi has reached the Foundation Establishment Realm, and I’ll work harder to catch up!” After waving at Hao Ren, Xie Yujia walked back to her cave abode.

“You’ve always been working hard...” Hao Ren thought to himself.

Stomping lightly on the ground, Hao Ren leaped up over ten meters with ease before landing on the rocks on the side of the steep hill, and he returned to his cave abode within seconds.

While human cultivators relied on dharma treasures and techniques, the dragon cultivators put more emphasis on physical strength and realms. That was why the dragon cultivators practiced weapons such as sword and spear and learned proficient skills in using them.

Thanks to the fundamental boxing techniques, Hao Ren was now so agile that he could easily leap onto the steep hill.

Otherwise, with the range-attack method offered by the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll, he wouldn’t try to temper his body.

Wang Xi, the Dui-level cultivator who once fought with Hao Ren, used his physical strength at close-range combat. Fighting only with dharma treasures and powerful techniques from hundreds of meters away was not the battle style of dragon cultivators.

That was because the higher realm the dragon cultivators got, the more difficult it would be to break through. They had to increase their combat ability by making use of their great physical strength.

When Zhao Haoran fought in the great war, he killed dozens of masters in the Nascent Soul Realm with his fierceness. Among those cultivators, only a few fought him for several days and nights, and the others were killed by him instantly with just one attack.

He got close to those Nascent Soul Realm cultivators almost instantly, and he broke their defense abruptly and killed them before they could cast any spells or use any techniques.

Those Nascent Soul Realm cultivators were not used to such swift attacks and died in physical combats despite their great cultivation strength.

Since Hao Ren was now in the dragons' circle, he saw Su Han who used a white jade sword, Qin Shaoyang who attacked him using a golden weaving shuttle, Zeng Yitao who fought with him with a long spear, and Elder Sun who owned martial arts dojos. That was why he accepted the practicing of both martial arts and nature essence cultivation.

After some quick leaps, he returned to his cave abode before sitting down on the stone bed cross-legged to continue cultivating.

With the Small Cloud Rain Array in the cave abode, Hao Ren could absorb it and turn the essence in the valley into lightning power. When it was not activated, the white and black chess pieces of the array formation that were placed in the stone wall of the cave abode sparkled like stars.

With these sparks, Hao Ren's cave abode was lit up and had a mysterious look.

Lying at the entrance of the cave, Little White was still sleeping. With the abundant nature essence in the valley, it was automatically increasing its cultivation strength while it slept thanks to the demon core in its body.

"If I can find a proper cultivation technique to nurture the meridians in Little White, it will have a faster elevation process," Hao Ren thought to himself while he looked at Little White at the entrance.

The Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll began to circulate essence swiftly in his body.

Little White lifted its head from its paws and yawned before rubbing its rump on the floor. Hesitating for a few seconds, it finally flew out of the cave abode in a crooked line and landed in the spiritual herb garden before leaving a pile of poop in it.

Shivering, it immediately flew back to the warmer cave abode after that.

When the sunlight shone into Hao Ren's cave abode, a night of cultivation came to an end.

Like a white arrow, Hao Ren flew out of the cave abode and practiced the fundamental boxing techniques in the thick morning fog in the valley.

With his Zhen-level realm, each of his punch pierced a big hole in the fog. After some kicks and punches, the surrounding fog backed off ten meters from him.

Merging the Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll into the boxing techniques, Hao Ren's boxing movements emitted the extra nature essence in his body into the valley.

He left distinct footprints in the ground while the rocks under his feet were shattered into dust.

Hacking down the Mount Hua! Fei used one of the strikes in the fundamental boxing techniques.

Hao Ren launched another palm strike before withdrawing his stance.

Swoosh... The intense fog in the valley was separated in half for 100 meters.

Hu!

Hao Ren inhaled deeply, feeling the swift recovery of his strength all over his body.

After one night of cultivation, he had unlocked several openings, and the number of openings he had in his dragon core now reached 90!

Standing at the entrance of her cave abode, Xie Yujia watched in amazement while Hao Ren did his morning exercise.

Although she didn't understand martial arts, she knew each of his movements contained sword energies, which could wound enemies with its invisible force. These invisible sword energies were more powerful than visible and solid swords!

"Ugh?" Hao Ren turned his head and saw Xie Yujia standing at the entrance of her cave abode.

"You up?" Hao Ren asked.

"Yeah!" Xie Yujia answered loudly with a smile on her face.

Last night, she took the last level 4 Foundation Establishment Pill, and she would need to make elixir pills this weekend.

As with lightning cultivation, one couldn't make elixirs continuously and must allow the body to rest. With her current realm, the highest-grade pills she could make were level 4 elixir pills which were also the highest-grade elixir pills she could take. With this cultivation method, she could achieve a cultivation speed ten times faster than with the Life-Death Notes!

"Let's head back!" Hao Ren's resonant voice woke up Little White who had been sleeping.

With a roll, it returned to Hao Ren's feet.

Xie Yujia walked into the valley, and her eyes lit up. On the edge of the field, a dense golden fruit grew out of the Power Spirit Grass overnight!

It was as big as a fist, dangling heavily on the branch with abundant nature essence!

Quickly, she plucked the mature Power Spirit Fruit. Holding it in both hands, she said, "Hao Ren, eat it now!"

"What is it?" Hao Ren looked at her in confusion.

“Power Spirit Fruit. It can increase your nature essence, and it is a much-coveted natural treasure for cultivators who want to elevate their realms!” Flushed with excitement, she said.

“Then, you should eat it yourself!” Hao Ren pushed her hands back.

“My realm is too low, so it’s useless for me. The mature Power Spirit Fruit can remain fresh for only one day, and it will rot tomorrow before falling into the soil. If you don’t eat it today, it will be wasted!” Xie Yujia urged him anxiously.

In fact, she was surprised that the Power Spirit Grass could grow out a Power Spirit Fruit all of a sudden in the fields.

“Ok. I’ll try it.” Hao Ren was reluctant to elevate his realm with elixirs. However, such an ultimate natural treasure would be wasted if he didn’t eat it.

After taking the fist-sized golden fruit, he peeled it before devouring it in two bites.

“How do you feel?” Xie Yujia watched him anxiously.

She had only heard about the effects of the Power Spirit Fruit from Zhen Congming and didn’t know how it worked.

“It has almost no flavor...” The moment Hao Ren said this, a surge of intense warmth rose in his dantian!

Abundant essence spread through his body while Hao Ren’s dragon core was trying its best to absorb the nature essence.

Pu! Pu! Pu! Pu! Another four openings were unlocked in his body.

Hao Ren’s complexion turned from red to golden then to white. With a bang, abundant nature essence shot out from the top of his head into the valley.

With the current storage ability of the dragon core, he could only contain half of the nature essence of the Power Spirit Fruit!

Boom... His palm released a grey beam of sword energy.

It seemed like he had broken through to a higher realm!

Seeing Hao Ren’s eyes shining intensely, Xie Yujia knew he had achieved another breakthrough!

Hu... Looking down at the peel at his feet, Hao Ren realized that it had merged into the soil without a trace.

“How do you feel?” Concerned, Xie Yujia asked again.

“Very good!” Hao Ren said.

“Good! I almost missed it!” Patting her chest, Xie Yujia said with relief.

Little White trotted over and sniffed the root of the Power Spirit Grass, finding that it was the spot where it pooped last night...

“Let’s go, Little White!” Hao Ren nudged its rump with the tip of his feet.

With a roll, Little White immediately turned into the snow lion form.

It moved the soil around the root of the Power Spirit Grass with its paw to cover its scent. Then, as if nothing had happened, it carried Hao Ren and Xie Yujia on its back before shooting out of the Ethereal Summit down to First Heaven with familiarity.

“The Ethereal Summit is indeed full of essence; even the Power Spirit Grass has begun to grow fruit!” Xie Yujia said happily as she sat on the back of Little White.

“It was probably just luck. Anyway, you won’t need to worry about the lack of materials for making elixirs in the future,” Hao Ren said.

“Yeah. Zhen Congming will transplant more spiritual herbs in the fields. We’ll have a great garden,” Xie Yujia said, placing her hands lightly on Hao Ren’s shoulder.

“With Zhen Congming constantly moving all the spiritual herbs from the herb gardens of the sects on Fifth Heaven, the Herb King Valley will one day become a place that fits its name,” Hao Ren thought to himself.

“Do you have any problem with the final exams?” Xie Yujia changed the subject and asked Hao Ren.

“I skipped many classes, but I’ll attend the last few classes before the exams and get the key concepts. I’m sure I’ll pass,” Hao Ren answered without much confidence.

He tutored Zhao Yanzi tirelessly each day while his own studies were lagged behind. However, with the Dragon God Shrine’s exams drawing near, he had to give up on some of the exams in East Ocean University.

“You must try to study for the exams; It’s not good for you to fail the courses,” Xie Yujia said.

“Yeah...” Hao Ren thought of his parents. After all, Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang wouldn’t let it pass if he failed several courses in one semester.

“If Zhao Yanzi fails her exams as well...” Hao Ren thought.

“Well, well! I was wondering where you have been. And here you are, sneaking into Fifth Heaven.”

Qin Shaoyang’s cold voice suddenly sounded behind Hao Ren and Xie Yujia.

### **Chapter 356: Ultimate Force of Nature!!**

Little White turned abruptly, and Hao Ren and Xie Yujia spotted Qin Shaoyang who was hovering in the high sky.

From the look of him, he was taking over Su Han’s responsibility of patrolling the space below Fifth Heaven and encountered Hao Ren and Xie Yujia on Second Heaven.

“What do you want?” Hao Ren clutched Little White’s fur and looked at Qin Shaoyang calmly.

“What do I want?” Qin Shaoyang sneered. “This is beyond the place where mortals can enter. I can punish you for breaking into Fifth Heaven without permission!”

He had been thinking of a way to take out his revenge on Hao Ren. However, with Lu Linlin and Lu Lili in the school, he hadn't dared to make a move.

However, while he was patrolling the grey territory between First Heaven and Fifth Heaven, he encountered Hao Ren slipping down from Fifth Heaven!

"Is it a crime to enter Fifth Heaven?" Hao Ren retorted.

"I suspect that you are a spy sent by the human cultivators. Come with me to the Dragon God Shrine!" Qin Shaoyang's eyes suddenly lit up while the golden weaving shuttle under his feet arced across the sky and drew out a golden flash.

Clap!

When Qin Shaoyang reached out to grab him, Hao Ren sat on the back of Little White and clapped off his hand immediately.

"You dare to resist arrest!" Furious, the golden light in Qin Shaoyang's palm turned white.

"Little White!" Hao Ren clenched Little White with his legs a little.

Swoosh! Little White released five-colored light beams with its paws and fled swiftly.

After missing, Qin Shaoyang raced after Hao Ren!

Hao Ren knew that, as an assisting inspector, he would probably be framed as a spy if he was brought to the Dragon God Shrine. With the precarious situation the East Ocean Dragon Clan was in, the incident would be a blow to East Ocean!

Although Little White's traveling speed was close to that of a Nascent Soul Realm cultivator, Qin Shaoyang was at Kun-level, which was the equivalent to top-tier Nascent Soul Realm. Fleeing with Hao Ren and Xie Yujia on its back, Little White began a long-distance race with Qin Shaoyang.

"Trying to escape only proves your guilt. Stop running!" The golden weaving shuttle under Qin Shaoyang's feet suddenly shot out.

Swoosh... Prepared, Hao Ren shot out 160 sword energies!

"Break!" With his nature essence, the golden weaving shuttle, which was Qin Shaoyang's natal dharma treasure, blocked and bounced off Hao Ren's sword energies.

Fortunately, Hao Ren's sword energies were condensed by his nature essence and were not his natal dharma treasures. Otherwise, he would be spitting out blood from the collision.

"Little White! Go!" Xie Yujia shouted.

"Ruff! Ruff..." Little White barked anxiously, but it had reached its top speed. After all, it was only a level 1 spirit beast and couldn't get rid of a Kun-level cultivator despite its set of flight dharma treasures!

The golden weaving shuttle paused only a moment due to the sword energies that were blocking its path, and it continued to shoot toward Hao Ren.

Boom!

A surge of nature essence rose suddenly.

Sitting on the back of Little White, Xie Yujia raised her hands and unleashed the Life-Death Notes!

Yin and Yang, the ultimate forces of nature!

Sitting on the back of Little White behind Hao Ren, Xie Yujia was the first to face the attack from the golden weaving shuttle.

However, she didn't dodge; instead, she spread her arms and met the attack head-on!

"Withdraw!" Qin Shaoyang immediately murmured.

The golden weaving shuttle shot past Xie Yujia's ear, cutting off a few hairs!

Qin Shaoyang gasped with fear.

Xie Yujia had a mark on her that was left by a grandmaster in the Soul Formation Realm. If he killed her by accident, that grandmaster would turn him into dust!

While the human cultivators and the dragon cultivators were two groups that were cautious with each other, the grandmasters in the Soul Formation Realm were the most powerful cultivators standing above both groups; even the dragon cultivators had to give ways to them.

After all, no rules applied to the truly powerful people!

Qin Shaoyang was lucky that the old Grandma was not in the mortal world. Otherwise, Qin Shaoyang's act of cutting Xie Yujia's hair would be sensed by the old Grandma whose spiritual sense enveloped the entire mortal world.

In the few seconds that Qin Shaoyang was struck with fear, Little White flew several kilometers away.

After seeing that Hao Ren turned into in the distance, Qin Shaoyang thought for a moment and continued with his chase. With Xie Yujia sitting with Hao Ren, the situation was a bit tricky, but he didn't want to let go of this perfect chance to catch Hao Ren.

Sitting before Xie Yujia, Hao Ren looked back and withdrew hundreds of sword energies, oblivious to the fact that Xie Yujia had blocked the golden weaving shuttle for him. He was wondering why Qin Shaoyang stopped his pursuit.

He urged Little White to run not because he was afraid of Qin Shaoyang; instead, he was worried that Xie Yujia would get hurt!

A Zhen-level cultivator could never defeat a Kun-level cultivator. Besides, Qin Shaoyang could launch killing attacks against him in the name of catching a fleeing suspect! Hao Ren could probably withstand Qin Shaoyang's heavy blows, but Xie Yujia was only a Qi Refinement Realm cultivator...

The golden light was gaining on Hao Ren again.

"Little White, take Yujia with you!" Hao Ren leaped up from its back.

Hao Ren's nature essence moved under his feet and formed a sword energy which carried him to fly toward Qin Shaoyang's golden light!

“Turn back, Little White!” Xie Yujia immediately ordered.

After a few seconds of hesitation, Little White didn't want to leave Hao Ren behind and turned around.

Meanwhile, Hao Ren's 160 sword energies formed two groups before shooting toward Qin Shaoyang!

Bang! They gave a severe head-on blow to Qin Shaoyang!

“Yin-Yang Life-Death Notes!”

Xie Yujia's clear voice sounded immediately after.

White and black light beams swept the fog and mist on Second Heaven and engulfed Qin Shaoyang's golden weaving shuttle!

Yin and Yang, the ultimate forces of nature!

Although she had only the cultivation strength of the Qi Refinement Realm, the Life-Death Notes the old Grandma gave her could unleash the power of the Nascent Soul Realm!

Qin Shaoyang was a little alarmed when he could no longer sense his natal dharma treasure.

If he was right, Hao Ren was at Zhen-level while Xie Yujia was in the Qi Refinement Realm. However, he had fallen into their trap!

Boom! Boom!

Two groups of sword energies shot toward Qin Shaoyang from both sides.

Hao Ren and Xie Yujia worked together seamlessly!

Meanwhile, Little White spat out a fireball toward Qin Shaoyang's chest. It was demon fire containing Samadhi True Flames!

In the five elements, fire countered metal!

Furthermore, the fire was Samadhi True Flames!

To extinguish Samadhi True Flames, one had to use Qian-Kun True Water or 10,000-year-old Ebony Ice!

Unprepared, Qin Shaoyang got a streak of his hair and one of his eyebrows burned off! If not for the fact that Little White was only a level 1 spirit beast and Qin Shaoyang had reached Kun-level, the fire would have messed with his meridians!

“Yin-Yang Life-Death Notes!”

“Two Dragons Array Formation!”

“Ruff! Ruff!”

Three waves of attacks went at Qin Shaoyang again simultaneously!

Without his natal dharma treasure, Qin Shaoyang couldn't keep his balance in the high sky. Unprepared, he was struck by the Life-Death Notes, the equivalent of Nascent Soul Realm force, the sword array, the equivalent of Dui-level force, and the fireball, the equivalent of Core Formation Realm force!



“Gongzi, good attacks!”

Cheers of Lu Linlin and Lu Lili suddenly sounded near them.

As Qin Shaoyang was sent flying in the air by the attacks, he heard the Lu sisters and knew that he was defeated.

Swoosh... The black and white light rings shot toward Qin Shaoyang from their hands.

The golden bell they gave to Hao Ren was now hanging around Little White’s neck. Sensing Little White’s alerted state, they could track it down immediately.

However, Qin Shaoyang was already surrounded by Hao Ren’s sword array when they appeared.

Qin Shaoyang was desperately retreating when his hands and feet were shackled, and his nature essence was pouring out as if a dam was opened.

“What...are you doing?!” Qin Shaoyang shouted in alarm.

Just like what he said, this place was beyond mortals’ reach, and other cultivators were not allowed to pass it. That was why no one would know what Hao Ren and the others were doing to him.

At this thought, Qin Shaoyang yelled, “I’m an inspector!”

“Inspector? Well, it seems like the rules don’t apply to us!” Lu Linlin and Lu Lili flew to his sides while snickering and each grabbed one of his shoulders.

Qin Shaoyang froze. Sure enough, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili didn’t belong to the Dragon Tribe, and they were powerful cultivators.

“You outnumber me...” Qin Shaoyang said as he held an emergency dharma note in his hand.

While inspectors were out on duty, they could release an emergency dharma note if they were in great danger. Receiving the notice, the nearby inspectors would come to their rescue while the signal would also fly back to the Dragon God Shrine.

However, on the territory of East Ocean, the nearby inspectors included the assisting inspector Hao Ren, who was standing against him, and the official inspector Su Han!

He didn’t think Su Han would help him. Furthermore, he didn’t want the Dragon God Shrine to know about this disgraceful incident.

He was angry with himself for underestimating Hao Ren and falling into the trap!

After all, Hao Ren wasn’t so powerful a month ago!

“What if we outnumber you?” Lu Linlin grabbed his ear and shouted.

With nature essence in her hand, her grip on Qin Shaoyang’s ear hurt him so much that he grimaced, feeling like his ear was being torn off.

Since he became an inspector or even since his birth, no one had ever grabbed him by the ear!

Disgrace! It was an absolute disgrace!

“Ok! You want a fair fight? I’ll give you one,” Lu Linlin rolled her black eyes and said.

The outpour of the nature essence from Qin Shaoyang’s body suddenly stopped.

The remaining nature essence was in the realm of Zhen-level, and out of the 300 plus unlocked openings in his dragon core, only 90 of them were in working order.

“Gongzi Hao, he wants to have a fair duel with you!” Lu Linlin called out to Hao Ren.

Chapter 357: Life Is Precious~~

Hiss... Yin-Yang Bracelets expanded and released Qin Shaoyang’s body.

After gaining his freedom, Qin Shaoyang tried to flee but was caught singlehandedly by Lu Lili and got tossed into the two bracelets.

The black bracelet stretched vertically and became a circular wall, and the white bracelet expanded horizontally and turned into a round platform.

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili’s dharma treasures changed into a battle stage that was hovering on Second Heaven.

Qin Shaoyang, who was tossed in, dropped onto the platform on his butt.

“Gongzi, practice with him!” Lu Linlin said to Hao Ren.

“Ok!” Hao Ren leaped onto the round platform.

It dawned on Qin Shaoyang that Lu Linlin and Lu Lili were playing with him and were using him as a practice target for Hao Ren. However, he couldn’t run away from them.

While he was thinking, Hao Ren shot more than a dozen sword energies toward him.

“Here is your dharma treasure!” Lu Linlin drew out the golden weaving shuttle that was engulfed in the Life-Death Notes and tossed it onto the platform.

Meanwhile, Hao Ren’s sword energies were already in front of Qin Shaoyang. Cursing silently, Qin Shaoyang had to ignore the dozen or so sword energies and leaped up to catch his natal dharma treasure.

Whoosh! Several holes appeared on his body.

“You can kill me, but you can’t insult me like this!” Holding the golden weaving shuttle in front of him, Qin Shaoyang yelled.

Standing on the top of the black wall, Lu Lili snickered and said to Lu Linlin, “Sister, this inspector is hilarious. A moment ago, he was acting like a big bully, and now he’s complaining about being outnumbered.”

“He’s nothing compared to our Gongzi!” Lu Linlin ignored Qin Shaoyang while she looked at Hao Ren who was in a magnificent stance.

Degraded to Zhen-level, Qin Shaoyang felt uncomfortable with his natal dharma treasure which was made after he had reached Dui-level. He found it quite energy consuming when he activated it right now.

Without dharma treasures, Hao Ren's sword energies twirled around him, creating wind and blowing his clothes and hair.

One was in a terrible situation while the other looked magnificent; the result of the competition seemed obvious before it even began.

Hao Ren was undoubtedly the strongest cultivator on Zhen-level!

Cultivating the five-elemental essence simultaneously and could construct sword array formations, Hao Ren was invincible among his peers.

Since he had to absorb five kinds of essences, it took him five times the effort to advance in levels. However, at the same time, his foundation was five times as solid as cultivators who were on his realm.

If Hao Ren was also at Kun-level, he could kill Qin Shaoyang with one attack!

Move!

Hao Ren took a step forward abruptly.

With only one step, Hao Ren's fist was already before Qin Shaoyang. He seemed to have covered a long distance with this single step!

When he saw Hao Ren's fist coming toward him like a missile, Qin Shaoyang raised his arms immediately and tried to block the attack.

However, Hao Ren turned in the air and flew over Qin Shaoyang's head, kicking the latter in the back!

A green streak of wood-elemental nature essence shot out of Hao Ren's foot, and the strong piercing force of wood-elemental nature essence immediately disturbed the meridians in Qin Shaoyang's upper body!

After landing on the platform, Hao Ren bounced up like on a set of springs before punching at Qin Shaoyang's back with both of his fists.

Earth-elemental nature essence!

Heavy!

As if two huge iron hammers hit him, Qin Shaoyang immediately stumbled forward more than ten steps!

Hao Ren didn't have to use his sword array formations. With the fundamental boxing techniques, he forced Qin Shaoyang into submission!

While five-colored light flashed, Hao Ren's continuous kicks and punches forced Qin Shaoyang into a corner.

Hiss... The black wall suddenly disappeared, and the stage no longer had any protective covers. If Qin Shaoyang took one more step backward, he would fall down the sky. At the moment, he was tens of thousands of meters from the ground!

As he was busy blocking Hao Ren's attacks, cold sweat broke out all over Qin Shaoyang's body due to the fear. After inhaling deeply, he unleashed a surge of nature essence and released a sharp metal-elemental nature essence beam!

While Hao Ren stepped back to dodge it, he instinctively reached out his right hand and caught the beam of metal-elemental nature essence!

Light Splitting Sword Shadow Scroll, absorb!

He took the nature essence into his body before launching a palm strike toward Qin Shaoyang!

Qin Shaoyang took one step forward and smashed his right palm with Hao Ren's.

Almost instantly, the expulsion force Hao Ren was using became a sucking force, and Qin Shaoyang sense the nature essence in his body pour into Hao Ren's right arm!

Alarmed, Qin Shaoyang immediately withdrew his arm, not daring to make contact with Hao Ren.

"Yang Bracelet, shrink!" Lu Linlin shouted.

Immediately, the white floor of the competition stage shrunk into a crisscross of lines.

With the black outer ring circling the white, intersecting lines, it looked like a giant tennis racket!

The thin white lines created many squares with the length of two meters.

If Hao Re and Qin Shaoyang were not careful and stepped into the empty squares, they would fall from Second Heaven.

With sword energies as well as Little White protecting him, Hao Ren wasn't worried. However, cold sweat again broke out all over Qin Shaoyang's body.

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili looked cute and sweet, but their act was vicious!

Since Qin Shaoyang was now at Zhen-level, he could barely use the golden weaving shuttle, let alone flying on it.

In short, if he fell and Hao Ren didn't catch him, he would die here!

Qin Shaoyang began sweating again.

Lu Linlin stood by the stage with clenched fists and yelled, "Mr. Qin! Go with your full force!"

Her 'encouragement' frightened Qin Shaoyang so much that his legs weakened, and he almost fell!

Meanwhile, Hao Ren strengthened his legs and moved his steps carefully.

Clap! Clap! Clap!

Hao Ren launched two punches at Qin Shaoyang!

Faced with severe danger, Qin Shaoyang was forced to block each of Hao Ren's attacks one by one.

Sitting on Little White's back, Xie Yujia watched the battle anxiously. While she looked down at the white clouds floating beneath them, she was worried for Hao Ren.

Bang! After three strikes, Hao Ren bumped his knee against Qin Shaoyang's, and neither of them backed off.

They were battling with both physical force and nature essence!

"Our Gongzi's battle instinct is getting better," Lu Lili said with a smile.

"No, no. I'll make it more difficult for them," Lu Lili said before snapping her fingers.

Then, the Yang Bracelet that was creating the thin white lines shrunk again, turning into many small white circular platforms that were just enough for a foot to step on.

Qin Shaoyang almost cried. With the small circular white platforms at least two meters away from each other, it was difficult to get onto them.

Furthermore, the small circular white platforms were controlled by the Lu sisters, and Qin Shaoyang wondered if the platforms would suddenly disappear while he leaped toward them.

While he hesitated for half a second, Hao Ren's leg that was empowered by water-elemental nature essence wept toward his shoulder.

Qin Shaoyang raised his hands to block it, but he was kicked two meters away. He quickly moved his feet and stood on another platform!

Although they were both at Zhen-level, he was no match for Hao Ren!

With shining eyes, Hao Ren was treating him as a dummy target!

A silent enemy was the worst enemy.

As he panicked, Qin Shaoyang didn't notice that his nature essence was recovering, and the openings on his dragon core were refilled. Now, he had reached Gen-level, but he still couldn't defeat Hao Ren who was at Zhen-level!

Bang! Hao Ren solidly kicked on Qin Shaoyang's chest.

Clap.

The golden weaving shuttle in Qin Shaoyang's pocket dropped, and he reached out trying to grab a nearby platform but failed; he fell directly toward First Heaven!

Lu Linlin and Lu Lili moved together.

They kept their speed the same as Qin Shaoyang's, watching him from both sides while he fell with his head down.

"Beauties! Help!" Qin Shaoyang yelled.

"Sister, he called us beauties!" Lu Lili glanced at Lu Linlin and said.

"I don't like it. Find another one," Lu Linlin said.

"Heroes! Heroes!" Qin Shaoyang yelled again.

He was gaining speed in his fall. If he fell below First Heaven, the consequences would be...

"I don't like Heroes, either," Lu Linlin said in a measured tone.

At the same falling speed, they rested their hands upon their chins, seeming to be thinking.

"Savior! Savior!" Qin Shaoyang yelled again.

"Will you make trouble for Gongzi Hao in the future?" Lu Linlin grabbed his ear and asked.

"Never! Never!" Qin Shaoyang shook his head like a rattle drum.

The wind blew around him.

At this falling speed, he would surely die if he fell to the ground despite his Gen-level cultivation strength.

"Did Gongzi Hao come out of Fifth Heaven?" Lu Lili asked.

"No! No! I saw nothing!" Qin Shaoyang almost screamed.

By now, the boundary of First Heaven could be seen.

"You may live, but you will be punished!" Lu Lili casually put a red energy sphere around him.

Then, Lu Linlin and Lu Lili stopped descending.

Two seconds later, an earth-shaking sound came from the ground as if a huge crater exploded into a small hill.

Then, Lu Linlin caught the golden weaving shuttle falling from Second Heaven.

Three seconds later, Hao Ren and Xie Yujia came to their side on Little White's back.

"Where is Qin Shaoyang?" Hao Ren asked them.

"Hehe, he's alive, and his cultivation strength will gradually come back." Lu Linlin flew to Hao Ren and waved the small golden weaving shuttle at him. "Reward..."

"Well, I'll put it away." Hao Ren put the golden weaving shuttle into his necklace. For some unknown reason, he felt refreshed all over after the fight with Qin Shaoyang.

Beep... Hao Ren's cell phone began to ring.

Hao Ren realized that they were now on First Heaven and took out his cell phone.

"Ren, your mom and I will attend an important banquet tonight. You can go home and have dinner with your grandma," Hao Zhonghua's resonant voice came through his cell phone.

Chapter 358: Praising Zi

“Ok. I got it,” Hao Ren answered.

“Where are you? How come it sounds so windy through the phone?” Hao Zhonghua asked.

“I’m behind the library, and there’s a vent nearby,” Hao Ren hurried to explain.

They were on the top of First Heaven which was almost 2,000 meters above the ground. With planes coming and going, it was undoubtedly quite windy.

“Anyway, your mom and I won’t come back for dinner tonight.” Hao Zhonghua hung up.

Hao Ren put away his cell phone and put up a red energy sphere around him before riding Little White toward the East Ocean University.

When Qin Shaoyang climbed out from the crater with a black face, Zhao Haoran who was in a suit was sitting in the armchair in the CEO’s Office on the top floor of the headquarter of the Mingri Group with a cup of coffee in his hand, glancing at the news on Wallstreet Journal.

The Mingri Group’s funds were behind some of the recent international financial activities. Since the group went abroad, it had become one of the main force behind the curtain of the global financial market. Since Zhao Haoran was leading that group, Zhao Guang didn’t even know about it since he was only in charge of the domestic businesses.

It was ridiculous and suicidal for the West Ocean Dragon Palace to attack the business of the East Ocean Dragon Palace!

After finishing the last page of the paper, Zhao Haoran tossed it onto the desk and turned to Zhao Guang who was sitting on the couch by the wall. “You’ve contacted them all?”

“Yes, we have,” Zhao Guang answered.

Zhao Haoran didn’t reply; he picked up another newspaper, Financial Times, and began reading.

The elders had personally gone abroad to buy the papers for him since Zhao Haoran was used to reading newspapers while drinking coffee each morning.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

The measured knocking came from the door, showing that the person on the other side of the door was afraid to disturb Zhao Haoran.

“Come in!” Zhao Haoran said without looking up.

Elder Lu and Elder Sun walked in.

Zhao Haoran put the newspaper on his lap and sipped his coffee. “Speak.”

“Your Majesty, the South Ocean Dragon Clan took the notice of war and didn’t give an answer,” Elder Lu said.

“Your majesty, the North Ocean Dragon Clan also took the notice of war and didn’t give an answer,” Elder Sun reported.

“Ok.” Zhao Haoran nodded with no expression.

Elder Lu and Elder Sun exchanged a look while Zhao Guang who was sitting on the couch had a grim expression on his face.

Accepting the notices of war meant that they had taken the challenge issued by the East Ocean Dragon Clan. If they sent acceptances of war back to the East Ocean Dagon Clan in a day or so, the war would begin.

However, the notices of war had been issued, and it was impossible to withdraw them.

Despite all this, Zhao Haoran sipped his coffee before lowering his head to continue reading the newspaper.

Without further instructions, Elder Lu and Elder Sun stood still. They looked like they were in their fifties and sixties, but their physical strengths were more exceptional than athletes and could stand there all day long. However, the situation...

After more than ten minutes passed, Zhao Haoran was still reading the newspaper.

In the spacious office, the only sound was the rustling of the newspaper.

Hua!

Zhao Guang stood up from the couch abruptly and hurried toward the door.

“Where are you going?” Zhao Haoran looked up at Zhao Guang and asked.

“Father, I need to make arrangements. Since Brother Kuo is not in the dragon palace, I’ll lead the generals,” Zhao Guang answered.

He sounded a little displeased. He wasn’t happy with Zhao Haoran’s iron-handedness and the current attitude.

“When did I tell you to leave?” Zhao Haoran looked at Zhao Guang casually and said.

“I...” Zhao Guang refrained from retorting.

“Elder Lu, Elder Sun, sit down!” Zhao Haoran said to them.

The two elders walked to the chairs in the office and sat down uneasily.

In fact, they wanted to hurry back to the dragon palace to inform people of the situation and get prepared.

Zhao Guang stood where he was, not knowing what to do.

“You deserve to be punished for your failure in disciplining Zi!” Zhao Haoran looked at Zhao Guang sternly. “Stand! You’re not allowed to sit!”



With that, he lowered his head and sipped the coffee before him while continuing reading the newspaper.

Sitting in the chairs, Elder Lu and Elder Sun looked at Zhao Guang who stood in the middle of the office and felt a little embarrassed for him. However, it was the old dragon king's order.

While time ticked on, Zhao Guang was burning with impatience, and the two elders were also fidgeting with unease. Meanwhile, Zhao Haoran flipped through the newspapers and poured himself another cup of coffee.

The sun rose to the top of the sky above the Mingri Group's headquarter before descending in the west.

Zhao Guang didn't move a muscle while standing in the office for a whole day, and Elder Lu and Elder Sun sat stiffly in their chairs.

Zhao Haoran began to doze off at noon as if nothing was happening.

Knock! Knock! Knock!

Cautious knocking sounded at the door.

"Come in," Zhao Haoran opened his eyes and said.

A secretary walked in. "Mr. Chairman, the Black Tortoise Group called us today. They will resume the oil development project that had been paused last week. They said the funds have arrived, and the project can continue. The Vermilion Bird Group called us around the same time and said they would make plans for the new port project that had been put on hold."

Zhao Guang turned to look at the secretary at the door. "Did they call us on the phone?"

"Yes, Mr. Chairman. They called almost at the same time, and I came here to report as soon as I confirmed the information," the secretary answered respectfully.

The Black Tortoise Group and the Vermilion Bird Group respectively represented the on-land businesses of the North Ocean Dragon Clan and the South Ocean Dragon Clan. People in the business circle knew that these two groups were close allies and did things together. In fact, besides their alliance in business, they were also allies in the Dragon Tribe.

Different from the East Ocean Dragon Clan and the West Ocean Dragon Clan, the South Ocean Dragon Clan and the North Ocean Dragon Clan were comparatively weak in strength and wealth, which was why they had allied with each other. Obviously, before the calls, they had consulted with each other.

The softening in business showed their weakening in strategy regarding their attitude toward the East Ocean Dragon Clan!

Through their actions, they expressed their unwillingness to be rivals of the East Ocean Dragon Clan!

In other words, they didn't want to get involved in the conflict between East Ocean and West Ocean and suffer losses.

In the last two days, the overseas funds of Mingri Group surged in and began acquiring the businesses and companies under Conqueror Group which were controlled by the West Ocean Dragon Clan. If the

South Ocean Dragon Clan and the North Ocean Dragon Clan continued supporting the West Ocean Dragon Clan, the fire would soon spread to their territories.

The West Ocean Dragon Clan was declining while the East Ocean Dragon Clan suddenly became tough, willing to wage an official war. In this crucial moment, South Ocean and North Ocean had finally understood the situation.

“Ok. “Zhao Guang waved his hand.

The secretary silently backed out of the office.

“Elder Lu, Elder Sun,” Zhao Haoran called out.

“Yes, Your Majesty!”

Elder Lu and Elder Sun stood up in high spirit.

“The two of you go to the West Ocean Dragon Clan immediately,” Zhao Haoran said.

The two elders froze and waited for Zhao Haoran to continue.

“Send the notice of war to Zeng Xin,” Zhao Haoran continued.

Zeng Xin was the real name of Oldman Zeng who was just a junior in front of Zhao Haoran.

When Zhao Haoran was sweeping over the world, Zeng Xin was only an errand boy!

Oldman Zeng was proud because he was a powerful senior member of the Dragon Tribe. However, before Zhao Haoran, the leader of the Dragon Tribe in the great war several hundred years ago, he was nothing!

“Yes, Your Majesty!”

Elder Lu and Elder Sun took the order.

In fact, they were surprised that Zhao Haoran wouldn't stop even though the crisis had ended. He planned to give a heavy blow to the West Ocean Dragon Clan!

With this casual order from Zhao Haoran, the East Ocean Dragon Clan and the West Ocean Dragon Clan had now become official enemies.

However, the situation had changed, and Elder Lu and Elder Sun were now confident.

They walked out of the office with energy.

“Well, if Zhao Kuo is here, the situation wouldn't have come to this state,” Zhao Haoran said with a little sigh.

Zhao Guang stood where he was and remained silent. Although his temperament was different from Zhao Kuo's, they were brothers, and he missed Zhao Kuo very much. He wondered where his brother was.

Meanwhile, in Class Two of Grade Eight at LingZhao Middle School, the Class Advisor, Luo Ying, was standing on the teaching platform and lecturing the students about the upcoming final exams.

“It’s only half a month away from the final exams, and you must all work harder. Those who did well in the mid-term exams shouldn’t slack, and those who lagged behind in the mid-term exams must put in more effort to raise your rankings. Don’t think that you can relax and play after the final exams. After all, after this summer break, you will be in Grade Nine, facing high school entrance exams...”

The students in the classroom sat up straight, not daring to show any inattention while Luo Ying was giving a lecture.

Just released from the dragon palace, Zhao Yanzi had finally returned to school. With her hands behind her back, she sat very straight as well.

After Luo Ying’s lengthy lecture, all the students relaxed and began packing up their bags when Luo Ying suddenly said, “One more thing. I want to give special recognition to Zhao Yanzi.”

The students were surprised since they knew that in Luo Ying’s eyes, Zhao Yanzi was a poor student who always caused trouble.

Zhao Yanzi’s eyes widened in surprise as well.

“Zhao Yanzi had taken sick leave for a few days and just returned to school. However, the day before she was sick, she was on cleaning duty, and she did an excellent job!”

Luo Ying said with sincere appreciation and clapped her hands.

The students followed suit and applauded. Zhao Yanzi blushed, remembering that Hao Ren had helped her to do the cleaning. “I hope you will all stay for a while and watch how Zhao Yanzi cleans the classroom. We must all learn from her!” Luo Ying continued.

Clap... Another wave of applause sounded.

Zhao Yanzi’s face turned from pink to white.

“Hao Ren, you jerk...” Zhao Yanzi gritted her teeth in frustration.

### **Chapter 359: High-End Banquet!**

The golden sun was shining brightly in the sky.

When the day’s classes ended, Hao Ren went back to his dorm to put down his books before meeting Xie Yujia at the girls’ dorm and going back home together.

“Ren! Ren! Are you from a family that is worth tens of millions of yuan?” Zhou Liren chased after him and asked.

“No!” Hao Ren answered him with exasperation.

“Yu Rong told us the Bentley that appeared worth more than ten million yuan, is it true? Hey, we are good buddies. Can I go to your home and have a look?” Zhou Liren chased him downstairs and continued.

"If you go to my home and find out that my parents are Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang who came to give lectures in our school, you will be even more surprised," Hao Ren thought to himself.

He quickened his steps and dashed to the first floor.

"Damn! Why do you run so fast? Are you flying?" Zhou Liren steadied himself by holding the rail and couldn't catch up with Hao Ren.

Hao Ren was dashing out of the dorm building when he saw a huge black object blocking the entrance.

In the setting sun, the Bentley looked exceptionally majestic.

Hao Ren stopped running so he wouldn't crash into the door of the Bentley.

"Gongzi Hao, you are invited to attend the banquet hosted by the mayor," a middle-aged chauffeur who was wearing white gloves stood beside the car door and said respectfully.

Zhou Liren now caught up with Hao Ren. After hearing the words, his jaw dropped so much that two eggs could be squeezed into his wide-open mouth.

"Ugh. Who else will attend?" Hao Ren froze for a moment before asking.

"The old dragon king and Ms. Zi," the chauffeur answered while slightly lowering his head.

"Zhao Yanzi was finally released from the dragon palace," Hao Ren thought to himself.

"The banquet will begin in half an hour, so we must hurry," the chauffeur continued.

"Ok." Hao Ren nodded. After a moment of thinking, he asked, "Can I bring someone with me?"

"It's a banquet held in the City Hall. I'm afraid you can't bring other guests," the chauffeur answered.

"Then I can't bring Xie Yujia with me..." While he was pondering this, Xie Yujia walked toward Hao Ren's dorm building with her bag on her back.

Hao Ren strode towards her. "Zi's grandpa asked me to attend a banquet. I'm afraid I can't go back with you to have dinner with Grandma."

Glancing at the Bentley at the entrance of the dorm building, Xie Yujia smiled and replied, "Ok! I'll go back and have dinner with her then!"

Hao Ren looked at her apologetically. "Zi's grandpa just returned from abroad..."

"It's ok! You must try to please the elders." Xie Yujia smiled again.

"I'll head off then!" Hao Ren turned and asked the chauffeur, "Can you drop her off at my home after driving me to the banquet?"

"Yes, I can," the chauffeur answered politely.

"Good!" Hao Ren pulled Xie Yujia into the car.

Standing at the entrance of the dorm building, Zhou Liren looked at Hao Ren and Xie Yujia in a daze.

Watching the Bentley driving toward the gate of the dorm area, Zhou Liren woke from his daze.

“Damn! You are mean! I want to sit in the ten-million-yuan Bentley and feel the difference!”

When the Bentley drove out of the dorm area, it attracted many girls’ attention. Fortunately, the unique car windows blocked their views. Otherwise, Hao Ren and Xie Yujia would be the main topic of their gossip.

Xie Yujia planned to take a bus back. When Hao Ren pulled her into the car and asked the chauffeur to drop her off, she felt a little awkward and a little touched as well.

“What kind of person is Zhao Yanzi’s grandpa?” Xie Yujia asked.

“Well, he’s an old man with great dignity,” Hao Ren answered her after a moment of thinking.

“Is he also a member of the Dragon Tribe?” Xie Yujia asked quietly.

“Yeah.” Hao Ren nodded and added silently, “And a strong man with intense murderous spirit.”

“Today, I made copies of all the notes of the courses we have together. I’ve crossed off the unnecessary parts, so you’ll pass if you review these notes.” Xie Yujia dug out some papers from her bag and showed them to Hao Ren.

“Thanks a lot!” Hao Ren smiled at her.

“It’s nothing!” Xie Yujia gave him a light punch before putting the papers back in her bag. “I’ll take them home and put them on your desk. You should read them when you have time, and the exams shouldn’t be a problem for you.”

“Ok! Ok!” Hao Ren nodded.

With Xie Yujia, the super excellent student, helping him with his final review, Hao Ren didn’t worry about failing the exams. He had more time to cultivate.

After all, Xie Yujia was fully supporting him.

The car arrived at the entrance of the City Hall. Hao Ren got off the car and asked the chauffeur to drive Xie Yujia home before passing the security check at the gate. Then, he walked toward the City Hall.

The City Hall was blazing with bright golden lights. Hao Ren quickly passed the special security check at the door since he had nothing on him but his cell phone, keys, and wallet.

In the hall, the mayor of East Ocean City was warmly greeting high-profile business people including Zhao Guang and Zhao Haoran.

Zhao Guang looked quite dashing in his silver suit, and Zhao Haoran’s black suit was better than Zhao Guang’s both in design and fabric.

The deputy mayor, Huang Xujie’s father, was present, but he had no chance to speak at this event; all he could do was smile and greet others.

Hao Ren looked around and saw Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang being surrounded by a group of people in the center of the hall.

“Uncle!”

A clear voice sounded behind him.

Hao Ren turned and saw Zhao Yanzi in a long red dress, standing with Zhao Hongyu at the entrance. She glared at him, wrinkling her nose.

“Ren, here you are.” Zhao Hongyu smiled at Hao Ren.

“Yeah. Hello, Auntie!” Hao Ren hurried to greet her.

“Why are you standing at the entrance? Come in with me...” Zhao Hongyu took his wrist and brought him into the hall as if he was one of her family members.

Walking on the other side of Zhao Hongyu, Zhao Yanzi rolled her eyes at him.

If she didn't need to demonstrate how to clean the classroom before her classmates, she would have been here earlier.

However, for some unknown reason, she was pleased to see Hao Ren anyway.

Long red dress, white stockings, and a pair of high-heeled shoes made her look vivacious and pretty.

Only a few kids could attend today's event. Even Huang Xujie, the son of the deputy mayor, was not qualified to enter.

Only the kids of prominent figures could come.

While Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi walked into the hall with the famous architect, Zhao Hongyu, they caught everyone's attention.

“That girl is Zhao Hongyu's daughter, and her father is the CEO and Chairman of Mingri Group,” some businessmen began to talk among themselves.

“Who's the young man on the left?”

“He seems to be the son of Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang, but he doesn't like showing his face at public occasions.”

“The two families are very close. When Hao Zhonghua took the position of the head of the Ocean Research Institute, Zhao Guang donated 100 million yuan as its research fund.”

“They must have known each other before that...”

“A few days ago, when Mingri Group was in a crisis, Hao Zhonghua called his friends to help the group out of difficulty.”

“It seems that the Conqueror Group has somehow offended Mingri Group. In the past couple of days, Mingri Group has brought back an acquisition team from the U.S., and it has been trying everything to cut off the business chain of Conqueror Group.”

“It's at the request of Mingri Group that the mayor hosted this banquet, and the aim is to restore the influence and reputation of Mingri Group in the region.”

"I think Conqueror Group is no match for Mingri Group. We'd better stand with Mingri Group, or we will be bought by it one day..." One of the businessmen said cautiously.

While they were talking, Zhao Hongyu took Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi to Zhao Guang and Zhao Haoran.

"Grandpa..." Zhao Yanzi looked up and greeted Zhao Haoran in a low voice.

After his return from abroad, Zhao Haoran had been staying in the Mingri Group's headquarter day and night, issuing orders. At the same time, Zhao Yanzi was grounded in the dragon palace; this was the first time that the grandpa and granddaughter met.

"Eh!" Zhao Haoran replied coldly.

Zhao Haoran didn't show any fondness toward Zhao Yanzi, a lazy cultivator who was almost 1,000 years younger and even lost her natal dragon core.

Discouraged, Zhao Yanzi stepped back to stand behind Zhao Hongyu.

Seeing Hao Ren and Zhao Yanzi's arrival, Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang disengaged themselves from their acquaintances and walked toward Zhao Hongyu and her group.

"Good Evening! Mr. Hao! Yue Yang!" Zhao Hongyu stepped forward to greet them.

In her beautiful dress and matching pieces of jewelry, Zhao Hongyu looked very elegant.

"Good evening! Hongyu, Mr. Zhao!" Yue Yang nodded at Zhao Hongyu politely and greeted them with a smile.

"This is my father, Zhao Haoran," Zhao Guang introduced his father.

"Nice to meet you!" Hao Zhonghua reached out his right hand graciously.

As one of the significant figures who were behind the scenes in the U.S. financial market, Zhao Haoran looked dignified even when he remained silent. He lifted his hand and shook hands with Hao Zhonghua.

"This mortal is quite extraordinary," Zhao Haoran thought to himself after seeing Hao Zhonghua not being suppressed by his aura.

He looked toward Yue Yang who was standing by Hao Zhonghua's side and found her also quite unique with her bright eyes and elegant temperament.

At this moment, another guest walked in.

It was the world-famous painter, Qin Shaoyang, who was dressed in a casual purple suit.

### **Chapter 360: Zi's Reappearance**

There was a three centimeters long scar on Qin Shaoyang's left ear. Yet, because of his long hair, the injury wasn't noticeable.

"Mr. Qin..." the mayor quickly greeted Qin Shaoyang.

If Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang were known as the leading figures in East Ocean's science community, then Qin Shaoyang would be known as the most significant person in East Ocean's art community.

Leaders and talented people were needed to develop a city's economy and reputation. Therefore, it was a must for the mayor to greet Qin Shaoyang personally because of the latter's popularity within the art community.

Qin Shaoyang cracked a charming smile as he shook the mayor's hand. However, his wound hurt a little as he smiled.

"This Qin Shaoyang, didn't he become the associate dean of the Arts Program in your university?" Hao Zhonghua asked Hao Ren.

"Mm. Dad, you know him?" Hao Ren asked.

"Not really. I have seen him a few times before at a few events. There was one time when your mom and I received an award overseas, he was one of the guests," Hao Zhonghua said.

"It isn't necessary to be too close to him," Hao Ren advised immediately.

Because of Hao Zhonghua's status, he would definitely be able to meet people like Qin Shaoyang. In turn, Qin Shaoyang could also get in touch with Hao Zhonghua in some ways.

At this moment, Hao Ren worried about Qin Shaoyang getting close to his family!

However, Hao Ren was also confident that if Qin Shaoyang dared to harm his family, even if the Dragon God Shrine were supporting the latter, he would not hesitate to eliminate him!

"This man is very talented, but we are in two different circles after all." Hao Zhonghua smiled. Although he had friends who were in the art circle, he had no intention of getting close to Qin Shaoyang.

"I have been to his art exhibition once. A few of his paintings are quite unforgettable," Yue Yang said.

"Sister Yue, you like paintings as well?" Zhao Hongyu asked with a smile while she took a glass of red wine from a passing waiter.

"Sometimes. I usually just go and see them when I get tickets from my friends. Hongyu, you should care about arts more than I do, right?" Yue Yang tilted her head a little bit and asked Zhao Hongyu casually.

Since Yue Yang decided to stay in East Ocean City, the relationship between the two moms became closer and closer; they even regretted not meeting sooner.

While the two of them were talking to each other happily, Hao Zhonghua and Zhao Guang started talking about the developments of their career and businesses.

Zhao Yanzi and Hao Ren looked at each other. Then, Zhao Yanzi pouted and snorted.

She ran to the food area to pick the freshest strawberries.

"Ohohoh, The big boss of Mingri Group, Mr. Zhao!" After some small talk with the mayor, Qin Shaoyang smiled and walked toward Zhao Guang.



Zhao Guang was a well-respected man in East Ocean City, and Qin Shaoyang was also considered an important figure of the city. Since Qin Shaoyang was also an inspector, Zhao Guang couldn't offend him openly.

Therefore, Zhao Guang reached out and pretended to be nice, "Mr. Qin, I've heard so much about you!"

"Mr. Zhao's business is growing bigger and bigger. I haven't had the time to visit you since I came to East Ocean City!" Qin Shaoyang shook Zhao Guang's right hand with both of his hands as he appeared to be very sincere.

"Oh, this must be the widely known Mr. Hao and Mrs. Yue!" Qin Shaoyang said as if he was surprised to see Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang next to Zhao Guang.

"Hello," Hao Zhonghua reached out his hand.

Hao Ren, who was standing next to Hao Zhonghua, looked at Qin Shaoyang vigilantly.

If Qin Shaoyang tried to do anything harmful to Hao Zhonghua, Hao Ren would attack immediately!

Fortunately, Qin Shaoyang only shook Hao Zhonghua's hand casually and then let go immediately. However, the inspector immediately saw Hao Ren's nervousness.

Hao Ren clenched his fist instantly; he saw the threat and mockery in Qin Shaoyang's eyes.

Bang...

Suddenly, a heavy and sharp force flew past Hao Ren.

Dun! Dun! Dun! Dun! Dun!

Qin Shaoyang, who just shook Hao Zhonghua's hand, suddenly took five steps back!

Waa...

Also, a champagne tower ten meters away from Qin Shaoyang shattered and collapsed.

The sudden change shocked everyone in the banquet hall.

"It's okay; it's nothing. Just an accident!" The mayor, who oversaw the event, immediately raised his arms and yelled.

With the arrival of the cleaners, the banquet hall quieted down slowly.

"Mr. Qin, nice to meet you!" Zhao Haoran's cold and harsh voice suddenly appeared behind Hao Ren.

Hao Ren stepped aside as Zhao Haoran showed himself.

Qin Shaoyang looked at white-haired Zhao Haoran. Suddenly, a chill struck his spine.

"Based on that force, Zhao Haoran could've killed me instantly!" Qin Shaoyang immediately made the correct judgment.

"Mr. Qin, are you okay?" Hao Zhonghua asked.

“Nothing, I’m okay... I slipped,” Qin Shaoyang said while he was wiping the sweat off his forehead with a tissue.

He was planning to get some information from East Ocean by attending this event. However, he was deterred by Zhao Haoran!

If he were to act rashly at this event, this old dragon king would strike without hesitation!

At this moment, Zhao Yanzi held a plate full of fresh strawberries as she walked around the puddle of champagne and headed toward Hao Ren.

Qin Shaoyang took a closer look at Zhao Yanzi and almost doubted his own eyesight... “How come this Zhao Yanzi, who lost her dragon core, suddenly has the aura of a cultivator!? And it seems like she has reached the Foundation Establishment Realm.” he thought.

“Within a few days, 85 openings turned into 98 openings. Not bad,” Zhao Haoran said flatly.

Qin Shaoyang looked at Zhao Yanzi and then at Hao Ren, who was next to her. Finally, he understood the situation; within the time of a few days, Hao Ren’s dragon core had obtained several more openings!

What a terrifying rate of progress!!!

After Zhao Guang heard Zhao Haoran’s comment, he was stunned as he looked at Hao Ren as well.

Zhao Haoran had been cultivating for over 1,000 years and had reached top-tier Qian-level. It was a piece of cake for him to see through Hao Ren’s cultivation progress.

Since he said that Hao Ren now had 98 openings, then it would definitely be true!

“What and to 98?” Yue Yang asked Zhao Hongyu quietly.

“That’s... some sort of index,” Zhao Hongyu didn’t know how to explain it either.

Yue Yang nodded and didn’t ask further.

On the other hand, Qin Shaoyang, who remained standing in the same spot, suddenly understood everything.

Zhao Haoran thought highly of Hao Ren’s potential, and that was why he decided to protect the latter at all cost! He was giving Qin Shaoyang a warning when he unleashed that violent force!

“Hao Ren is part of East Ocean, including his family. They are all under the protection of East Ocean. Whoever dares to harm Hao Ren and his family will face only one thing – death!” that was the message Zhao Haoran was conveying.

Qin Shaoyang quietly took a few steps back and held his own hands awkwardly. “I have some friends over there, excuse me.”

He quickly walked to the corner of the banquet hall; he was staggering a little.

“This Qin Shaoyang, what a nuisance,” Zhao Yanzi muttered as she lifted the plate to Hao Ren’s face.

“Yo, take some strawberries. I picked them out, and they are all very sweet!”

Hao Ren smiled as he took a toothpick from the plate and poked at a strawberry.

Unexpectedly, Zhao Yanzi suddenly moved the plate and laughed, "Haha, just kidding. These are not for you!"

She took a gorgeous turn and ran to Hao Zhonghua and Yue Yang. "Uncle, Auntie, these strawberries are for you!"

"Haha, Zi is so lovely!" Hao Zhonghua patted Zhao Yanzi's head as he was delighted.

Hao Ren held the toothpick in his hand and felt a little helpless.

Zhao Yanzi was showing filial respect to everyone with the strawberries, and the edges of her long dress swung left and right as she ran around as if she was a red butterfly. Once the strawberries were all taken, she ran toward the food area again.

Yue Yang started to like Zhao Yanzi more and more as her eyes were filled with joy.

"Ren, do you want to come and learn something at my studio this weekend?" Zhao Hongyu suddenly asked Hao Ren.

"I am quite busy recently..." Hao Ren was about to reply before Yue Yang suddenly interrupted. "He won't be able to go this weekend because Zhonghua is planning to take him and Zi out on a field trip."

Hao Zhonghua sighed. He hadn't even expressed his opinion, and Yue Yang already decided for him.

Yue Yang made it evident that she wanted to treat Zhao Yanzi as her future daughter-in-law, and there was nothing Hao Zhonghua could do about it.

"Since we are talking about this, I still haven't thanked you for letting Hao Ren learn at your studio," Yue Yang continued.

"Not a problem. Ren is very talented; he will do great in the future," Zhao Hongyu kindly replied.

"Zi is great too, Congming and lively..."

The two moms complimented each other's kid one by one while Hao Zhonghua looked at Hao Ren with a powerless expression.

On the other hand, Hao Ren looked away and saw Zhao Yanzi devouring the fresh fruits at the food area; he broke out in a cold sweat.

"This girl, she has only been grounded for ten days at the dragon palace. Now, she acts like a hungry wolf once released, really not afraid of getting fat at all..."

"Where is Congming by the way?" Yue Yang, who was happily chatting with Zhao Hongyu, suddenly asked.

"Zhen Congming?" Hao Ren asked, surprised.

"Yeah. Your dad picked him up from school and brought him along," Yue Yang replied.

Hao Ren's eyes immediately scanned the room and noticed a little girl who was dressed in a school uniform and stood beside the mayor. The boy who was also dressed in a school uniform and stood beside her was Zhen Congming.

The little girl was cute and quiet. At a young age, she already gave people the feeling that she was a girl from a respectable family.

"Who is that little girl?" Hao Ren asked Yue Yang immediately.

"Oh, that's the mayor's daughter, Wu Luoxue. She goes to the same elementary school as Congming, and she happens to be in the class that was beside his. Because your dad is close to the mayor, he conveniently brought her along as well," Yue Yang looked toward where Hao Ren pointed at and replied.

"Uh..." Hao Ren immediately felt like something was stuck in his throat.

Zhen Congming was trying to stay close to the little girl, yet that girl was keeping a distance from him and stood quietly beside her dad, the mayor.

Clearly.... Zhen Congming had unrequited love toward her...

"Although Wu Luoxue is very quiet, she is already at level six in piano. She can also play the violin, dance, draw; she can almost do everything," Yue Yang said.

After hearing this, Hao Ren couldn't help but look toward Zhao Yanzi who was in the fruit area... He saw some words hanging above Zhao Yanzi's head: Piano, big red cross; violin, big red cross; dancing, big red cross; drawing, big red cross; personality... big red cross...

Hao Ren then looked past the fruit area and saw the Vice Principal of East Ocean University, Lu Qing, appearing at the front door.

Lu Qing looked around a few times before immediately rushing toward Hao Ren's direction. He approached Zhao Guang and said something quietly.

Zhao Guang's expression instantly changed.