

EMPEROR 1201

Chapter 1201: Archdevil Armored Shark

Vicious and domineering — these were the two words that people found most appropriate to describe this human boy. Some were truly shaken and couldn't calm down after this spectacle.

This was a blatant challenge to the Teeming Tribe. Just how overbearing was this? Not to mention a single cultivator, even a lineage wouldn't dare to do this.

But now, the human youth named Li Qiye had killed tens of thousands of soldiers of the Teeming Marquis. Moreover, he even ate the marquis' tendon in front of the crowd. This was too much to take in.

"Is he a Virtuous Paragon?" A cultivator calmed down and shuddered: "Even if he isn't a paragon, he must be a Heaven's Equal King." [1. Top level of Heavenly King.]

Li Qiye's eyes went back to the needlefish from earlier. It was not bothered at all and continued to eat the insect powder on the ground as if it hadn't eaten for thousands of years.

Li Qiye didn't bother its meal and only quietly watched on. He eventually smiled when this fish swam to the trap he laid out earlier.

"Whoosh!" He immediately took action. A bunch of hooks connected to long strings emerged from the seabed.

These fish hooks shot out with tremendous speed. Not to mention these needlefish, even a powerful expert would have a difficult time evading them. However, this particular fish easily dodged them and maneuvered its way out from the trap with incomparable agility.

As the fish made its way out from the trap, these failed hooks quickly came together to form a huge net.

This was the so-called immeasurable net of justice that the needlefish was trying to escape. With a buzz, space was sealed and the net engulfed the fish. [2. A widely-used idiom that is hard to duplicate here. Popularized by Justice Bao.]

It then disappeared and turned into two reins. Each of the reins hooked onto the feelers on the fish's cheeks while the ends of the reins were in Li Qiye's hands.

"You won't escape that easily." He held the reins with both hands and grinned.

"Bang! Bang! Bang!" This fish crazily pulled the reins into the Bottomless Trench!

The impossible happened; this tiny fish actually dragged Li Qiye towards the trench. His body slammed and shattered a lot of coral.

This violent scene attracted the attention of the many cultivators who were trying to catch the fish.

"Show yourself!" Li Qiye cried out and channeled a universal law into his reins.

“Clank!” The reins locked onto the feelers of the fish and turned into numerous runes. All of these runes began to rotate as the reins disappeared. Only two great laws were left, acting as huge chains that hooked onto the fish’s cheeks.

The little fish emitted a blinding light while being suppressed by the two laws. An ancient totem emerged along with a temporal portal. Something rushed out from this portal, seemingly coming from the past to the present.

When the blinding light disappeared, the needlefish was no longer there. Instead, a gigantic shark appeared before everyone. It had an archaic appearance; its skin was gray and its entire body was equipped with pieces of armor protecting its vital areas.

Its gaping mouth revealed teeth as sharp as blades. The glints reflecting from them caused people to tremble uncontrollably.

The shark emitted a terrifying aura like that of an awakening primal beast. All the cultivators were frightened by its presence as their legs quivered.

Many cultivators forgot about their current task of catching needlefish and murmured in a daze: “What is that?”

“Archdevil Armored Shark...” Ye Tu and Teng Jiwen were shocked as well. If this shark was able to break the chains, it would meet god, kill god; meet devil, kill devil.

Despite being a disciple of the Void Imperfection School, Ye Tu had only heard of its name and had never seen it before. Meanwhile, the more knowledgeable Teng Jiwen felt a chill inside after seeing the legendary beast. Being able to find such a mythical creature was due to Li Qiye, just how frightening were his abilities?

The other cultivators here weren’t aware of these facts. They were surprised to see the shark but didn’t know its origin.

The shark grew tame after being suppressed by the universal laws. Li Qiye then controlled it and jumped on its back. He stood on the beast in a gallant manner.

“Fellow Daoist, you are quite lucky to obtain a pet like this.” At this time, Gongsun Qianer and her followers came over while looking at Li Qiye.

Of course, she didn’t know what it was and only assumed that it was a typical sea shark.

Li Qiye only coldly glanced at her without bothering to reply.

She was once again enraged by this arrogant attitude. She was a trusted assistant back at the Profound Sea Dynasty, someone who could do whatever she wanted. Few juniors dared to act like this in front of her.

They had a minor conflict prior to this, but now, her murderous intent was incited. However, she restrained herself due to this giant shark.

“Fellow Daoist, how about we make a deal?” She smiled and asked him with an easy-mannered look: “I want to buy this shark, you can name a price.”

“Not for sale.” Li Qiye had no interest in this transaction with the girl and slowly pulled the two laws back by wrapping them around his palms.

“Fellow Daoist, don’t be so quick to refuse.” She assumed a sincere appearance and pressed on: “My lord is the divine queen of the Profound Sea Dynasty and has a love for rare pets. If you are willing to give up this shark, your future will be quite promising and...”

Despite her sincere speech, there was arrogance hidden among the words. She was implying that it was her master who wanted the shark.

The Profound God-Monarch’s concubine, Gongsun Meiyu, liked collecting precious aquatic creatures. Thus, Gongsun Qianer had an idea after seeing this shark: if she were to offer it to her master, she would be loved and held in even higher esteem.

Of course, she didn’t know the shark’s origin. In her eyes, this was at best only a rare and precious pet.

“Not interested.” He interrupted her and pulled on the laws to change the direction of the shark.

This lack of sensibility from Li Qiye made her eyes turn cold. She attacked without any hesitation the moment he turned around.

A purple light flashed. In this split second, she performed her sneak attack with her phoenix hairpin. The hairpin shot out with incomparable speed in an attempt to kill. It was too fast, everyone could only see a purple glint aiming for Li Qiye’s nape.

“Careful!” Both Ye Tu and Teng Jiwen shouted after seeing the sudden sneak attack without any warning. It was too late even if they wanted to help.

In this split second, time seemed to stop with the hairpin that flew towards his neck. It turned out that Li Qiye easily caught it with two fingers.

Gongsun Qianer was aghast to see her most important life-protecting weapon stopped and quickly tried to recall it. However, it was trapped by Li Qiye’s fingers and wouldn’t budge, so her summoning was useless.

“Die.” A cold glint flashed across Li Qiye’s eyes, a glint that cut straight to the heart.

“My master is the divine queen!” She knew that the situation wasn’t favorable and screamed out in order to use her backing. However, she had yet to finish speaking when the sound of something being pierced came about. The hairpin had instantly shot through her skull. A bloody hole appeared as a string of blood began to flow.

Her eyes were still wide open as her body slowly fell down. Not even in her wildest dreams did she expect someone would actually dare to kill her!

“Junior!” Her followers regained their sanity and shouted at the same time before lunging at Li Qiye.

“Rawrrr!” The shark cried out. With a popping sound, it swallowed all of these followers in one gulp.

The coral forest went quiet right away. All of the cultivators here felt pressured and glanced at each other. Not long before this, Li Qiye was massacring the Teeming Sea Tribe. Now, he even killed Gongsun Qianer!

This was not only offending the Teeming Tribe but also the four branches of Gu Chun. What a domineering and arrogant showing!

Dao Attendant Lin and Yan Yanglong were astonished as well. This was doubly true for the attendant. His heart felt cold since he didn't expect this human junior to be so powerful!

Chapter 1202: Untethered Vessel

Li Qiye ignored the others and remounted the Archdevil Armored Shark before shouting: "Go!"

With that, the shark issued a roar and rushed for the Bottomless Trench before disappearing into its dark abyss.

"What does he want to do?" A while later, many people calmed down and began to murmur among themselves.

Ye Tu's and Teng Jiwen's minds returned as well. It was already too late when they thought about following him. In fact, the two of them couldn't catch up to the shark's speed anyway.

Ye Tu looked at Teng Jiwen and asked: "What is this about?"

Teng Jiwen replied by shaking his head: "I don't know either. His actions aren't something you and me can speculate. Maybe it has something to do with the Seacrossing Shuttle. We will have to wait until he returns to find out."

Teng Jiwen had learned about the shark from an ancient scroll from his citadel. However, he didn't truly understand the mysteries involved.

Li Qiye made the shark go to the deepest part of the trench. Its depth was truly of an unfathomable magnitude. Some even said that there was no bottom. Who knew where its base was located?

The shark cut through the trench's waves for a long time.

"Crash!" Eventually, it slammed into a cliff and swiftly rushed inside. At this moment, splashing sounds came about, as if the shark had just leaped out of the sea and into the sky.

It entered a different space, a lonely space without stars, a sun or a moon; only the coldness of the void existed here. Not even time was present, it was a land of eternal banishment.

In this chilling space was a huge naval shuttle seemingly capable of freely crossing through the ocean.

It had an ancient bronze hue, as if it was cast from plain bronze. It had been in this icy void for so long that it was covered with patina and was near the point of rusting.

This gigantic shuttle had two doors to its left and right with many runes and totems on them. They were too archaic to be understood. Outside of the four doors, nothing else could be found. Alas, the ship wouldn't be particularly eye-catching if placed anywhere else.

However, Li Qiye was attracted by this shuttle. His gaze tightly toured over it before murmuring: “Oh, my Untethered Vessel. How can the world know your worth? Only those who don’t understand your value would call you the ‘Seacrossing Shuttle’!”

People in the Heaven Spirit World had spotted this vessel before, and not on just one occasion. These people gave it the name Seacrossing Shuttle.

The name meant that it could be used to traverse through the bottomless trench, but no one knew if this was true or not. [1. Bottomless Trench’s raw is actually Bottomless Marine Trench, but I felt that the sea part was implied already, so its left out.]

However, Li Qiye knew of its real name, the Untethered Vessel! It concealed a great secret involving an ancient race from an unknown era.

Li Qiye told the armored shark: “Go on, pull it out. I will need it to open the portal.”

The shark swam before the shuttle. Its armor began to clank as universal laws emerged on them.

These universal laws came together to form two huge chains that coiled around the Untethered Vessel.

“Rumble—” The shark dragged the vessel outside. The sounds blaring from the slow process made it seem quite heavy. However, Li Qiye was not in a rush as he patiently waited. This was not the first time this had happened.

In the past, he had seen through the secret of the armored shark before. Whenever the Seacrossing Shuttle appeared in the Heaven Spirit World, it was Li Qiye forcing the shark to drag it out.

This was not a simple shark but a type of sealed creature. Because of this, it hid among the needlefish. Of course, the emergence of the shuttle required the shark. In this sense, the shark existed to pull the vessel.

“Whoosh!” The shark finally dragged the vessel out of this icy void. With the splashing of waves, the vessel entered the Bottomless Trench once again.

At this time, it was floating in the ocean’s currents. Ordinary people wouldn’t feel anything while standing next to it, but Li Qiye could feel strands of power from the trench entering the vessel.

He gently patted the shark’s head and took off the laws that were latched onto its cheeks and emotionally said: “Go, maybe you will be able to wait for that day and break through your seal to restore your true form. I will wait for you to pull the Untethered Vessel all the way to the nine heavens towards your desired destination!”

“Rawrr!” The shark roared towards Li Qiye as if it was very dissatisfied at being forced to carry out this task. Nevertheless, it still didn’t attack Li Qiye. It flipped its great tail and swam into the deepest depths of the trench, disappearing from sight right away.

The Untethered Vessel slowly rose while continuing forward at a slow speed. Its course ran along the trench, as if it had been predetermined.

Li Qiye watched without interfering for he knew that acting was useless. Its deep ties with the Bottomless Trench made it impossible to influence, regardless of how powerful the intruders might be.

Unless the person was powerful enough to move the entire trench, there was no way of changing the vessel's trajectory. In fact, this was simply impossible. Even a star plucker or a sun-and-moon crusher wouldn't be able to move the trench.

The Bottomless Trench was not a simple marine chasm at all.

Li Qiye didn't wait for the slow vessel. He turned and rushed out of the trench in order to meet up with Ye Tu and Teng Jiwen.

The duo heaved a sigh of relief when they saw Li Qiye fine and well.

Ye Tu curiously asked after seeing Li Qiye returning by himself: "Young Noble, where is the Archdevil Armored Shark?"

Li Qiye smiled and said: "It has left to go back from whence it came."

The two of them were slightly puzzled and curious. After spending so much effort to catch the shark, he actually released it. They had no clue as to what Li Qiye wanted to do.

"You will find out later." Li Qiye told the two of them: "Okay, we'll go back to Shallow Beach for now. I promised that Sunflower geezer that I would teach something to you. Ye Tu, go back and ask your old men about when I will be able to see the ancestral whale."

With that, he walked away with the duo right behind him.

"What is that?" In the next few days, many cultivators were busy catching the needlefish. There were truly too many of them; it seemed impossible to catch them all. Because of this, they became less and less precious.

On this day, a huge shadow slowly surfaced from the bottomless trench. It was a huge marine shuttle that slowly inched forward.

In a short amount of time, many people stopped as they watched on in a daze as it floated by.

"What is this thing?" The crowd was surprised to see the gigantic shuttle.

These cultivators couldn't be considered big shots at all. Most of them were ordinary disciples from large and small sects alike. Some were even vagabonds, so they didn't know what this huge shuttle was.

"Seacrossing Shuttle!" Eventually, an old cultivator who looked like an old mortal shouted: "It is the legendary Seacrossing Shuttle! It is here again!"

"What is this Seacrossing Shuttle?" Other cultivators were still lost after hearing this old man. They had never heard this name before, let alone knowing what it was about.

"According to legend, the Seacrossing Shuttle can reach the 'Charming Fragmented Realm'!"

"Charming Fragmented Realm..." Dao Attendant Lin and Yan Yanglong from the great lineages were astounded to hear this. They finally knew what this ship ahead was.

They turned and left in order to send messages to their sects about the appearance of the shuttle.

Chapter 1203: Charming Fragmented Realm

News of the shuttle's appearance quickly spread across the entire Jade Sea to the corners of the Heaven Spirit World.

Many cultivators were moved by this information. Many great lineages sent disciples to the coral forest. They had their own speculations regarding this matter. Of course, there were some sects who had no interest in this matter and didn't send out any disciples.

A sect master from a lineage that was interested in the matter murmured: "Wow, the Seacrossing Shuttle is back. It is capable of reaching the fragmented realm and hasn't appeared for generations. What is the meaning behind this? Does this mean that some mysteries will be solved?"

In a powerful lineage that didn't want to participate, an old Virtuous Paragon shook his head and said: "So what about the shuttle? And the same goes for the fragmented realm. It would be a fruitless trip since that place has already become mere ruins."

An expert under his faction spoke: "But I heard when Immortal Emperor Gu Chun was young, he went there and obtained a supreme fortune, the source of the charming spirits." [1. Remember that Gu Chun was the first emperor and made an appearance in the second side story. His title means Ancient Purity.]

The paragon laughed in response: "That is a matter of the past — the Desolate Era. Regardless of whether the emperor obtained something amazing or not, it is a relic of the distant past. Countless generations have gone by since his era and the shuttle has appeared many more times, but until now, no one has ever heard of someone else getting anything from there. It is a forsaken land, nothing is there."

Despite a few big shots believing that there was nothing at the Charming Fragmented Realm, other experts still moved to explore it.

In fact, imperial lineages treated this matter with great importance, especially the ones from the Charming Spirit Race. They sent experts there in a very low-key manner. Most of them concealed their identities while trying to discover a method of entry.

The charming spirits were especially interested in this because one of their wise sages had speculated that this realm had countless ties with their race. Some even claimed that it had to do with their origin.

The shuttle signified the path to the fragmented realm. Generations of charming spirit sages had researched this place, but no one knew what was within.

Because of this, many assumed that it was a forsaken wasteland of an abandoned ancient battlefield.

Regardless of these beliefs, more and more people kept an eye out for the shuttle that was slowly rising from the trench while moving forward.

There had been some changes to the shuttle after its appearance. One of the four portals carved on its hull was slowly lighting up. It seemed that the shuttle was absorbing the power of the trench in order to open this particular portal.

However, this process was very slow. The runes on the door continued to shine as if it was unlocking its shackles.

A paragon from the previous generation saw the current situation of the shuttle and commented: "The portal is about to open. When the entire door lights up, the portal will be usable and the fragmented realm will be right beyond it."

As several more days passed, this door finally lit up completely. All the runes and totems continuously wove together to form a bright portal.

"The dao portal has been formed, we can go to the Charming Fragmented Realm now." The cultivators who had been paying attention were slightly stunned by the portal's emergence, but they quickly calmed down.

"Let us go." An old Virtuous Paragon personally took the lead and disappeared into the portal. His sect's disciples hurriedly entered as well.

"We'll go as well, we will be the second Immortal Emperor Gu Chun once we obtain the incredible fortune within!" Many cultivators quickly disappeared into the portal as well.

In fact, the majority of them had never been here before. It was the legend of the young Immortal Emperor Gu Chun that drew them here. They ignored everything and let caution to the wind as they decided to enter first.

After many rushed into the fragmented realm, Li Qiye and the two boys finally arrived.

"The Seacrossing Shuttle is just as the legend states." The duo was shaken to see the shuttle with their own eyes.

They suddenly had this thought at the same time: the shuttle's appearance must have something to do with Li Qiye and the armored shark.

But as for the details, they wouldn't dare ask the quiet Li Qiye.

After seeing the formed portal, Ye Tu asked: "Will this door lead to the mythical fragmented realm?"

"Yes." Li Qiye nodded: "This is the only path. Without it, people will never be able to reach that realm."

Teng Jiwen looked at Ye Tu and said: "I also heard that the fragmented realm has a lot to do with charming spirits." As a treant, he didn't care too deeply about this realm.

"Only the heavens know." Ye Tu scratched his head in response: "It is only a legend, especially the one regarding Immortal Emperor Gu Chun and his great fortune. Who knows if it is real or not? Outside of the emperor, no one has ever heard of someone gaining anything from there for millions of years now."

"If your forefathers heard this, they might beat your head off." Li Qiye looked at him and said: "I don't know if others obtained treasures or not, but your patriarch, Immortal Emperor Wu Gou, obtained an extremely heaven-defying treasure from there."

"Really?" Ye Tu was stunned. He thought about a few rumors in his sect and began to stammer: "This... this is difficult to believe... Can it be that our, our item is actually from the Charming Fragmented Realm?"

“Correct.” Li Qiye looked at the Seacrossing Shuttle, no, the Untethered Vessel, and said: “Your patriarch personally visited the fragmented realm after becoming an emperor and obtained an incredible item. It is just that future generations weren’t privy to this. On the other hand, what Immortal Emperor Gu Chun’s achieved in his youth was told for ages.”

“What did Immortal Emperor Wu Gou obtain from there?” Teng Jiwen became quite curious.

Ye Tu answered with some uncertainty: “I don’t know too well, but I heard the ancestors say that... it might be the Void Imperfection Spring.”

Having said that, he looked over at Li Qiye in search of an answer.

Li Qiye only smiled and stared at the shuttle.

“The Seacrossing Shuttle has four doors.” Teng Jiwen changed the subject after seeing that Li Qiye had no intention of responding and asked: “Right now, only one portal has been formed. Will the other three doors turn into portals as well?”

“It is no longer important.” Li Qiye shook his head and replied: “Each portal is equal to a world, that’s all you need to know.”

“Will they open then?” Teng Jiwen was a bit surprised: “According to our records, the shuttle only leads to the fragmented realm.”

Li Qiye replied: “There are too many things people don’t know in this world.”

Ye Tu glanced at the shuttle and asked: “Where do they lead?”

“They have never been opened.” Li Qiye slowly spoke: “As for their destinations, who knows? The world will find out once they open. Of course, that day might never come.”

Li Qiye knew full well that it wasn’t easy to open the other three doors of the shuttle. In fact, when the time was ripe, they would open by themselves. However, everything would change when that day comes...

Li Qiye spoke: “Come, let us enter. After finding what I need, I will still have to see your ancestral whale.”

After hearing this, the duo was quite moved because the whale of the Void Imperfection Three Schools was too mysterious and full of legends. However, few had seen it. At the very least, they were not qualified to see it.

The two of them followed him into the portal.

A world unraveled before them. It was a fragmented world full of questions.

Here, the mountains were either shattered or torn asunder. The earth was split by shocking scars everywhere. Even the oceans here had boiled into deserts. Up in the sky, gigantic peaks had been pulled down by universal laws. Enormous stars from up above fell onto the ground.

From these individual scenes, one could imagine the horrifying events that transpired here. It could have been a natural disaster or a heaven-shattering war!

Chapter 1204: The World Beneath The Creek

In this broken realm, Teng Jiwen and Ye Tu had different feelings. They couldn't explain it clearly, but they felt that they were overwhelmed with indescribable emotions.

It was difficult to point out whether this was a happy or sad emotion amidst their confusion. This was especially true for Ye Tu; this sentiment continued to linger within him.

"It is affecting your instincts." Li Qiye explained while the two were still uncertain. He then looked at Ye Tu and said: "You are a charming spirit, so this is even more intense for you."

Ye Tu had to ask: "Is this place really related to our race?"

Though this was his first visit here, he had heard his seniors talking about it before. Their wise sages had made a prediction. Because of this, experts from their race had entered this place many times throughout history. Even their Void Imperfect Three Schools had explored this place, but all left without great results.

Li Qiye maintained his mysterious smile instead of giving an answer. He looked at the horizon and said: "Let's go, there is a place we must reach."

With that, he took the first step forward. The two boys quickly gave chase.

The group took their time. Along their journey, many people from all over the world could be seen entering the realm.

The majority of the cultivators here were eager to find treasures or fortunes among the ruins. Because of this, people were digging deep into the ground or using their divine intents to sweep through the mountains and rivers. Some were climbing to higher places while others drilled into the earth in their search.

Because of the legend of Immortal Emperor Gu Chun, knowing that nothing might come of this trip didn't deter people's enthusiasm and interest. Everyone dreamed of becoming the second Immortal Emperor Gu Chun.

Cultivators dug one mountain after another and plowed the land to no avail. They didn't find anything at all, let alone a great fortune. One of them complained: "The Charming Fragmented Realm is truly a wasteland, there is nothing here."

"How could it be so easy to find a great fortune? It wouldn't be called a fortune if it was easily found." His friend smiled and comforted him: "You know, since the start of time, how many people were like Immortal Emperor Gu Chun? He was the only one! The first emperor of the nine worlds! The first Immortal Emperor! If his fortune came so easily, he wouldn't have been the first emperor."

After hearing his friend, the cultivator regained his spirits and continued to look for fortunes and treasures.

The legend was a great moving force for these adventurers. They continued to look over and over again without giving up. In their minds was the image of the first emperor of the nine worlds, the pride of the charming spirits — Immortal Emperor Gu Chun.

After seeing the fruitless searches of the other cultivators, Ye Tu asked Li Qiye: "Is this a forsaken land? Did it used to hide a great secret?"

Although Li Qiye had mentioned his progenitor's success at finding a supreme treasures in this place, the later generations had never heard of someone else who found something, not even a piece of scrap metal.

"Who says a secret realm must have treasures and fortunes?" Li Qiye looked at the youth and smilingly replied: "Must the forefathers bury treasures or leave behind fortunes in this place so that the future generations can come to find them?"

"But, but Immortal Emperor Gu Chun really did receive a fortune in this place." Ye Tu hesitated a bit before replying.

Li Qiye laughed in response: "Because he is Immortal Emperor Gu Chun. It's just as these people have been repeating, how many were similar to him since the start of time? Nobody, since only one could become the first emperor."

Having said that, he pointed at this head and continued: "In this place, items, treasures, and even fortunes — none of these matter. The crucial part is here. If you can understand, you will have a harvest; if you can't, then there is nothing worth remembering in this place. It will be a wasteland like the people say."

Ye Tu interjected: "Young Noble, our progenitor found something here as well."

"Why is it that Immortal Emperor Wu Gou could find something but others can't?" Li Qiye smiled: "This place is different from the other locations, including the twelve burial grounds. The burial grounds are places with buried treasures, but it would be a huge mistake to use that logic here."

Teng Jiwen asked: "How is this place different from the others?"

Li Qiye pondered for a moment with a forlorn gaze before answering insipidly: "In a distant age, it supported an entire race. And it's not just this land, the shuttle that you both call the Seacrossing Shuttle is included as well. It signified endless hope."

"Endless hope?" Teng Jiwen murmured. This casual sentence from Li Qiye left him with an everlasting aftertaste.

"If you can understand this, then you will become the second Immortal Emperor Gu Chun." Li Qiye looked at Teng Jiwen who was trying to make sense of this.

Teng Jiwen coughed and said: "Sir, you are messing with me. I am a treant, so I can't become an Immortal Emperor."

Li Qiye laughed and replied: "You are right, but understanding the meaning of this place will grant you a lifetime of benefits even if you are a treant."

The youth shook his head: "Sir, you think too highly of me. As everyone said before, Immortal Emperor Gu Chun is unique. As for me... even though my talents aren't bad, I am only an insect compared to the emperors. I know my own worth very well."

Teng Jiwen was telling the truth. As the successor of the Heavenvine Citadel, his talents weren't bad at all. He wasn't looking down on himself either, it was just that he knew he was far from being comparable to the emperors.

The group walked for a long time before they reached a waterfall. It was pouring down from a cliff so high that it seemed to be falling from the sky.

Its current flowed along the terrain, but its stream was divided into several smaller creeks even over yonder.

Li Qiye picked a creek and waded into the water with the two youths. The next second, they sank to the bottom.

At this time, he took out a sea clam, the one that he caught at the Bottomless Trench. He threw it into the creek and said: "Go, you can find your way home by yourself."

Afterwards, he turned towards the duo and warned: "Follow my footsteps closely, do not make the slightest mistake."

His serious expression made the boys shudder. They didn't dare to be careless and quickly nodded.

The clam began to move while wiggling at the bottom of the creek. The pearl within emitted a golden light as if it was guiding the way.

It left behind a faint trace of light. Li Qiye followed it step by step in a very meticulous manner. He knew that one misstep would ruin all of his efforts and that he would have to start all over again.

The duo behind Li Qiye was even more careful. They nervously followed right behind Li Qiye and stepped on his footprints without daring to be careless.

At first, they felt that there was nothing special here. The current of the creek continued to flow with fishes and shrimps swimming about.

However, they suddenly realized that the space around them was a mirage. Suddenly this was an ancient path, no longer the simple path of the creek.

This path led all the way to the sky. They walked upward as if this was a process to ascend to deityhood. However, they saw some terrifying scenes.

In this space, they saw unbelievably gigantic warships. They hovered in space like stars and each of them could carry continents spanning millions and millions of miles.

Such warships had been destroyed. Some were split in two while others had huge holes that went straight through them. Others had uneven gaps while more were shattered nearly to the point of being unrecognizable...

Amidst their daze, they saw countless fragments floating in space, the fragments were bits of cracked sabers, broken swords, and fragmented axes...

Furthermore, they saw skeletons. Some of the skeletons were enormous, as if they were huge monsters that still had a golden glow to them...

Chapter 1205: Mysterious Statue

The duo was jolted after seeing all of these spectacles. They couldn't tell reality from illusion or even if they were actually in this strange place or not.

"Stabilize your mind or you will never be able to come back." Suddenly, Li Qiye's voice rang in their minds like a wake-up call. Their lucidity returned as they sobered up.

They found that they were still down in the creek. The current was still quietly flowing along with the little creatures swimming about as if nothing had changed.

The three continued on this path for an unknown period of time.

Eventually, Li Qiye led them out of the creek. A gentle breeze brushed by and startled them. They found themselves on a flat plain, but just like before, they couldn't determine if this place was real or not.

Fortunately, they didn't go too far before walking to a pile of rubble. Countless bits of gravel were scattered on the ground, but upon careful observation, they turned out to be pieces of stone statues.

The rubble was quite sizable. As they went on deeper into the plain, the two looked at some of the broken statues. They had been destroyed beyond repair. There was simply no way of knowing what they used to look like. The two had a hard time imagining what had actually happened here in the past.

Eventually, they reached the inner part of these ruins and found a complete statue. It was quite tall, more than ten meters high. It had stood strong for countless eras, but these eras left their mark on it. Under the polishing of the years, it had become a bit gray.

Its slender contours and elegant clothing indicated that this was a statue of a woman.

However, the facial features of the statue had grown blurry under the polishing of countless years. There was no way to see through its facial features. Such a statue resembled something carved out of snow, slowly melting away with the passing of time. The vague lines and contours of the statue caused the woman's face to remain a mystery.

The duo gazed at it carefully. They didn't know whether the statue was initially like this or if it had been weathered by time, or if something else had happened to it.

Li Qiye stood before the statue without speaking. He stared at it in a daze, not blinking for a long time.

The other two couldn't figure out what was so captivating about the statue or why Li Qiye was so fascinated by it. Nevertheless, they didn't dare to disturb him.

After a long time, Li Qiye turned around and asked: "Are you two all right?"

The two were surprised and wryly chuckled in their minds. They should be the ones asking Li Qiye this. It was Li Qiye who stood there looking at the statue in a daze, not them.

Ye Tu shook his head and replied: "I'm fine."

Li Qiye smiled a little while looking at two without saying anything.

Teng Jiwen asked: "Sir, earlier, was it real or fake?"

“What are you referring to?” Li Qiye clarified.

Teng Jiwen found that Li Qiye’s response was quite strange, as if they had incongruous viewpoints.

“The things we saw in the creek earlier.” He elaborated despite his slight confusion.

Li Qiye looked at him and replied: “Whether the images are real or fake depends on your dao heart. Real is fake and fake is real, false is also true and true is also false.”

After hearing this, both the youths were lost in the fog and scratched their heads like confused monks.

Li Qiye paid no mind to the two and took out a jade bowl. He whispered to it and performed a complex and strange ritual. It was a very ancient rite with a purpose unknown to even Teng Jiwen.

He whispered for a bit and the ceremony ended with him raising the jade bowl over his head.

At this time, one could hear the splashing of water. Two very small streams of water fell down from above, into his bowl.

Ye Tu murmured: “The statue is crying...” The two of them looked up to see tears coming out of the statue.

They were quite moved and stood there in a daze. They suddenly saw an illusion of the statue being alive. At this point, it was not something made out of stone or marble, it was a living being sealed in this location.

At this point, they could no longer tell the nature of this statue before them.

Once Li Qiye’s bowl was filled, the tears stopped and Li Qiye carefully put it away.

Ye Tu curiously asked: “Young Noble, what is that?”

Li Qiye looked at the statue and said: “Mortal Tears, the tears of compassion and pity for the common people. It can stimulate someone’s desire for life.”

Li Qiye came for this bowl of tears in order to replenish the Peacock Tree’s life.

He glanced at the statue and said: “Let’s go. We have obtained what we needed, there’s no point in insisting on something we can’t obtain.”

With that, he turned and left with the duo trailing behind him. They exited the heap of rubble.

“What a shame.” Li Qiye spoke from the lead: “I thought the two of you would be able to see something after coming here or at least obtain a little fortune. It seems like this was not meant to be.”

“A fortune?” Both of them were surprised. They thought he only came for the Mortal Tears.

“Yes, a kind of opportunity.” Li Qiye explained: “If you two were fated, then you would have been able to see something, especially about these statues. Alas, there were no such visions. This means that it was not predestined.”

Their eyes darted to each other. At this time, they realized why Li Qiye was being so abstruse earlier. After realizing this, the two quickly turned around. However, the ruins were no more and even the flat plain was gone. There was only a vast emptiness.

This sudden development badly frightened the two. From start to finish, they didn't know that they were standing in the void. They couldn't believe their own eyes at this moment.

"Don't look, one can't force a missed opportunity." Li Qiye flatly said while walking in front.

The two felt regretful after hearing this. They didn't know that they had given up an opportunity, one that was skirting next to them.

Ye Tu couldn't help but ask: "Are there any other fortunes and opportunities here?"

"It is different for everyone, so what they meet is different as well. There is no way of forcing this matter. Your inability to see the fortune means that you haven't reached the necessary level." He turned to look at Ye Tu: "However, in this place, there is a higher number of opportunities for the charming spirits."

After hearing this, Ye Tu suddenly connected the dots and blurted out: "Young Noble, are you saying that the young Immortal Emperor Gu Chun also came to this place?!"

Li Qiye only smiled without replying.

The two were lamenting. After all, they had missed a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Li Qiye spoke: "There's no need to feel bad, it isn't something that can be forced. Not everyone can become Immortal Emperor Gu Chun, there is nothing you can do about it."

The two of them could only sigh. Li Qiye had already shown great kindness by taking the two of them here. It was their own lack of ability that made them miss this chance.

"Jiwen, I have taught you what I can, so I have done enough for your citadel and that old geezer Sunflower." Li Qiye continued: "But as for Ye Tu, since you have been helping me out and took the time to come here, I will help you obtain something."

After hearing this, Ye Tu hurriedly answered: "To assist Young Noble is what I should do. If I dared to neglect my duty, the schoolmaster would have broken my bones. How could I dare to seek something from you?"

Li Qiye gently waved his hand and said: "Every cause has an effect; I will not let people who help me do so for nothing. It would be foolish to not take readily available treasures, I am only presenting Buddha with borrowed flowers, that's all." [1. To win favor or influence using someone else's property.]

Ye Tu had no response to this and only scratched his head.

Teng Jiwen, on the other hand, had nothing to say. He didn't think that Li Qiye was being unfair. What Li Qiye had passed down to him was more than enough for a lifetime.

Chapter 1206: Divine Well

The Seacrossing Shuttle traveled along the Bottomless Trench. It slowly floated to the surface but then descended once again, as if it was very slowly returning to the trench.

It looked like there was a force down there that was connected to the shuttle, not allowing it to leave the ocean or deviate from its route.

In the last several days, many experts from the great powers ran here. After entering the fragmented realm, they rarely showed themselves again. This was especially true for lineages from the Charming Spirit Race, such as the Void Imperfection Three Schools. They weren't here for treasures or some intangible and elusive fortunes of legend; their goal was to unravel the mystery. Thus, these experts maintained a low profile and didn't want others to know about them.

Of course, there were also those who put on airs such as the Teeming Crown Prince! Ever since he arrived at the broken realm, he arrogantly announced: "The human named Li Qiye, show yourself! Daring to oppose the Teeming Tribe? This prince will eat you alive!"

Many people stayed far away from the crown prince. They felt creeped out after hearing his desire to eat Li Qiye raw. Everyone knew that in recent days, the Teeming Tribe had been issuing threats.

The crown prince didn't bring an army like the others, only ten old men. All of them were experts with human forms that emitted frightening auras. As for the prince, his blood energy was even more vigorous and powerful.

For the Teeming Tribe, under ordinary conditions, one would be able to fully turn into a human form upon reaching the Heavenly Sovereign realm.

Someone whispered after hearing the prince's declaration: "It might be over for Li Qiye. The Teeming Crown Prince is here in person, this shows that the clan is very serious about this. Who would be willing to save him, a human, and offend the entire Teeming Tribe?"

The crown prince was very different from the Teeming Marquis. Even though the marquis was a noble of the tribe, the position of crown prince was much higher.

He was the regal firstborn of the Teeming Tribemaster. In the Heaven Spirit World, there were millions upon millions of Teeming Fish that made up a million kingdoms. Of course, this number of kingdoms was greatly exaggerated, but there were at least several thousand!

The tribemaster had a pivotal position in the tribe. He could even command the billions of fish and thousands of kingdoms in this world.

Thus, one could extrapolate the crown prince's great status. Today, when he personally took action for revenge, it truly showed their race's stance on this matter.

Moreover, the prince himself was not a useless person. Rumor has it that he was already a Virtuous Paragon. He was quite renowned in this world.

Some said that he might be weaker than the supreme geniuses such as the Profound God-Monarch or the Seashield Heavenly Prince, but his reputation was still immense.

Thus, everyone knew that this human junior named Li Qiye was dead for sure after hearing the prince's desire. Moreover, it would be a very ugly death.

There were a lot of people in a certain location within the broken realm. Some stayed for a long time, unwilling to leave. Among them were many experts.

In fact, there was nothing particularly remarkable about this place. There was a small pit with an abandoned old well inside. Nothing was worthy of a second glance besides this well.

Nevertheless, this kind of place made many reluctant to leave. Some famous experts were here as well, such as Yan Yanglong and Dao Attendant Lin.

Outside of these two, some older people stayed here as well. However, characters of this level were hiding their true forms. After arriving, they didn't move an inch from this place.

Despite deliberately masking their identities, some people still guessed that these experts were charming spirits. Some were most likely from lineages like the Void Imperfection Three Schools.

Only such lineages would pay attention to this place. This location only garnered even more interest because of this. Even though many people were full of interest towards this place, no one dared to act rashly or presumptuously due to the undercover big shots.

There were rumors that this was an abandoned divine well with holy water. However, for some unknown reason, the well dried up and the water disappeared.

In spite of this, each time the shuttle appeared, the big shots from the Charming Spirit Race would come here to research this well. They wanted to use this as an entry point to figure out the secrets of this realm.

Some said that the Void Imperfection Three Schools paid the most attention to this well. Their experts would personally come here each time to explore it.

Because of this, people speculated that these old men concealing their identities were from the three schools.

Among the younger generation, Yan Yanglong and Daoist Attendant Lin, who were quite famous, were staying in order to see if any divine water would start to flow.

For those from the great lineages, they had access to records left behind in their sects. They stated that this well was one of the most notable locations in the fragmented realm.

That went double for the dao attendant due to the belief that the water here had a great effect on those who cultivated the Void Imperfection Physique.

The two youths came closer and took a good look. However, nothing came of it. The well was dried up and there was no water, just as the legend claimed.

Nevertheless, both the young and old continued to stay. The two youths hoped that these great characters could figure something out. Perhaps by lingering around, they would be able to pick up some benefits afterward.

"That fierce person who ate dragon tendons is here!" At this time, someone shouted, resulting in a great commotion.

A lot of people turned and saw Li Qiye slowly walking closer with two lads behind him.

His arrival attracted the attention of both Yan Yanglong and Dao Attendant Lin. A few big shots who were shrouding their appearances looked over as well.

Many people made way for him. This was not because they were afraid of Li Qiye, but because the Teeming Crown Prince had expressed his desire to eat Li Qiye alive. Many people considered him as a plague. No one wanted to catch his unluckiness.

“It’s crazy to eat dragon tendons in public.” Despite knowing his ultimate fate of being torn apart by the Teeming Tribe and becoming the prince’s food, some were still secretly admiring him.

In this world, how many people would dare to feast on tendons so blatantly? How many people would dare to provoke the Teeming Tribe like this? His domineering and arrogant style was indeed worthy of admiration.

Dao Attendant Lin’s eyes flashed with a cold glint after seeing Li Qiye. He had been wanting to kill Li Qiye long ago, but after seeing how Li Qiye killed Gongsun Qianer, he felt some hesitation. Without knowing Li Qiye’s true strength, he wouldn’t carelessly move against him.

Nevertheless, he quietly called for a disciple and ordered him to go tell the Teeming Crown Prince. As long as the prince came, this boy would die without a doubt!

Li Qiye looked around lazily. His eyes darted to the big shots hiding their true forms and smiled: “You’re all here to see if there is any Void Imperfection Spring Water? Don’t be too greedy about certain things.”

These big shots didn’t say anything and just stood there calmly.

Li Qiye didn’t say anything else and jumped into the divine well for a better look.

It was only a pit. If one really wanted to point out something extraordinary in this common well, then it would be the slight protrusion on one of the walls that resembled the mouth of an eagle. Nothing else was notable.

In fact, many people had jumped down before Li Qiye for a better look. They used their divine intent to sweep through this place over and over, but nothing was found.

Yan Yanglong standing above the divine well sneered and said: “Countless charming spirit wise sages have pried at it with divine mirrors to find anything at all. Trying to see through the mystery with the naked eye is mere wishful thinking.”

He had no grievances or feuds with Li Qiye. Someone from the Extreme Yang School like him didn’t need to bother a human boy, it was just that he didn’t like looking at Li Qiye’s arrogant and imperious attitude.

In his eyes, even his master, the Extreme Yang Monarch, didn’t act as haughty as this. What grounds did this human boy have to act like this?!

Chapter 1207: Void Imperfection Water

After doing his round down in the well, Li Qiye turned his head and coldly glared at Yan Yanglong before smiling to say: "Don't use the wise sages of the Charming Spirit Race to make yourself feel better. Just be straight and say that you couldn't find anything even after using a divine mirror. People are stupid to some extent, everyone knows this so no one will laugh at you specifically."

To be publicly ridiculed like this left Yan Yanglong humiliated. His master could deter the entire Jade Sea and he himself was more or less famous.

"Naive fool, such a big tone." Yan Yanglong knew that Li Qiye was not weak after seeing his quick dispatch of Gongsun Qianer. However, he couldn't back down in this situation: "You think you can find some clues alone? How utterly ridiculous!"

"Really?" Li Qiye lazily replied: "Your demeanor indicates how highly you view yourself. If I can find something from this well, then wouldn't you lose all face?"

"If you can make the divine water come out, I won't say a single word and eat all the mud around this well!" Yan Yanglong felt his temper worsening and sneered.

Dao Attendant Lin, who was standing with him, joined in with a mocking grin: "Brother Yanglong, aren't you making things too difficult for him? One would have to be daydreaming to think that a human junior could make divine water come out."

At this time, the cultivators on the sidelines only watched and didn't want to join in this mess. Meanwhile, the real big shots were just watching the fun with amusement.

Li Qiye looked at him with disdain and smiled: "Don't forget your words, remember to eat all the mud here."

"You!" The continuous ridicule left Yan Yanglong with an extremely ugly expression accompanied by murderous flashes in his eyes.

Li Qiye ignored him and placed the jade bowl in front of him before sitting down and closing his eyes.

At this moment, those next to the well were watching with bated breaths. They took note of Li Qiye's confidence and wanted to see if he could gather divine water or not.

In fact, they had their own plans. If Li Qiye were to be successful, would they be able to get part of the soup pot as well?

As for the bet between the two, it had nothing to do with them. After all, most were unwilling to provoke an existence like the Extreme Yang School.

Both Teng Jiwen and Ye Tu were anxious as well. They wanted to see what kind of miracle Li Qiye could concoct. They believed in him. This was especially true for Teng Jiwen, he had absolute faith in Li Qiye's ability to make divine water come out.

As time slowly passed, the well remained calm without any changes.

Yan Yanglong coldly sneered after seeing this: "If this could lead to divine water, then people would be obtaining treasures everywhere in the Charming Fragmented Realm. Hah, stop pretending and just

admit your defeat. Because you are still young, I will be magnanimous and won't be too hard on you. Just prostrate and bow three times before everyone—”

“Splash!” Before Yan Yanglong could finish, the sound of water flowing came out. A small pillar of water shot out from the mud inside the well. It resembled a dragon spraying out water and it fell straight into Li Qiye's jade bowl.

This divine water rattled like little jewels as it fell into the bowl, resulting in a crisp and pleasant sound. Everyone knew right away that it was an exalted type of water.

In the blink of an eye, the jade bowl was full and the stream of water disappeared as if nothing had happened.

Mists that seemed to be divine energy surrounded the jade bowl. This mist slowly rose like the blossoming of a lotus flower crafted from jade. It was beautiful and breathtaking. People's hearts began to palpitate at its sight.

In a short period of time, the four corners went silent. Everyone stared at this scene in disbelief. Who would have thought that this abandoned well would still have divine water?

Someone among the hidden masters saw the water inside Li Qiye's jade bowl and exclaimed: “Void Imperfection Water!”

Li Qiye glanced at this group and flatly said: “You already have what you should, to be more covetous is something even the villainous heavens won't agree to. Must you want everything in this treasure ground?”

This old man was startled and didn't say anything else. He bowed to Li Qiye and quietly stood to the side.

After hearing this, Ye Tu, who had turned into a young attendant, was shaken. He immediately understood where these big shots came from.

Li Qiye handed the bowl full of Void Imperfection Water to Ye Tu and said: “This water is suitable. Even though it is not as plentiful as the Void Imperfection Spring, it is still the same type of water. This bowl will be quite beneficial for you.”

Ye Tu was jolted. Even though his school had the spring, only a few ancestors were allowed to see it. Ordinary disciples weren't qualified to do so. Ye Tu accepted the jade bowl and thanked Li Qiye. He had no words to express his gratitude.

At this time, Dao Attendant Lin put on a humble posture and bowed towards Ye Tu: “My master is the lord of the Immaculate Expanse. His venerable requires a bowl of Void Imperfection Water right away, would brother be willing to sell it...?”

The dao attendant didn't dare to ask Li Qiye and went for Ye Tu instead. He had no choice but to act humble because this water was indeed very beneficial to their Void Imperfection Physique.

The attendant's words carried quite some weight as well because he was asking on behalf of his master.

“Where did this trash roll out from?” Li Qiye coldly peered at him and answered before Ye Tu could do anything: “Opposing me yet you still want to talk about business? Scram!”

Li Qiye simply gave no face to his enemies. It was already merciful enough that he hasn't chopped off his head.

“You!” Being shouted at by Li Qiye left him with an ugly expression.

He was trembling with anger, but he didn't explode. This was him asking for it, but in his mind, the bowl of water was simply too tempting. Despite knowing the inevitable disgraceful outcome, he still had to ask Ye Tu.

Ignoring the dao attendant, Li Qiye shifted his attention to Yan Yanglong instead and lazily said: “Now, isn't it time for you to eat all the mud here?”

Yan Yanglong stumbled backward under Li Qiye's gaze. He wasn't looking his best at this moment, but he couldn't get off the tiger.

He spoke too harshly earlier, so now, when Li Qiye actually drew out some Void Imperfection Water, he had no other choice. However, he couldn't eat all the mud around the well in front of everyone like this!

By doing so, he would never be able to show his face again in the world. Moreover, this would be a detriment to his master and sect's prestige as well.

Li Qiye lazily quipped: “Oh? All talk but no action?”

“You, you are very lucky to be able to draw some Void Imperfection Water... This is a miracle...” Yan Yanglong tried to find an excuse to avoid eating the muddy soil.

“A real man stays true to his words, start swallowing the mud already!” Li Qiye looked coldly at the fella.

The spectators were holding their breaths and didn't want to get involved in these muddy waters.

“Boy, don't push it too far!” Yan Yanglong turned red and struggled with his retort: “You are deliberately humiliating my master and the Extreme Yang School!”

At this time, he didn't have any other plans and could only accuse Li Qiye to escalate the situation and bring up his master and school.

“If your school has cowardly members that aren't able to stay true to their word, am I the one that is humiliating your school?” Li Qiye wanted nothing more than to make this a bigger deal: “If your master's guidance resulted in a coward like you, then it looks like he is not much either.”

People took deep breaths after hearing this. It was an overbearing and suicidal move to put down the Extreme Yang Monarch in front of everyone like this.

However, this was a way out for Yan Yanglong. At this moment, nothing else mattered since Li Qiye had publicly humiliated his master. This was a damning action!

He angrily shouted with a solemn tone: “Little beast, shaming my master deserves a thousand deaths! You will not find mercy!”

“Brother Yanglong, this naive fool dares to offend the Extreme Yang Monarch, this is akin to opposing the entire Extreme Yang School and all charming spirits. A little beast like this should be minced to pieces!” Dao Attendant Lin was happy to create more enemies for Li Qiye.

This was in accordance with Li Qiye’s wish, so their schemes were playing right into his hands. He smiled and pointed at the two to say: “These are the outstanding members of the Charming Spirit Race? To be considered outstanding at such a low level? Does the Charming Spirit Race have no shame, to have the nerve to call yourselves the favored children of the heavens? In my eyes, these trash aren’t even comparable to ants. As for this Extreme Yang Monarch or whatever Immaculate Expanse, they aren’t even shit in my eyes.”

This blatant provocation made the two’s expressions turn red and ugly. For personal grievances, it was true they dragged their sects into this matter. However, Li Qiye’s public disparagement was too much for them to swallow.

“Fool, you don’t know life from death!” A chilling shout came about at this time.

Chapter 1208: Conveniently Dispatching The Enemies

A youth descended from the sky with gushing blood energy and bright lights in an oppressive manner. The aggressive glint in his eyes shot everywhere as he exuded an unrestrained cocky attitude.

There were many old men behind him with great blood energies. None of them were weak.

“The Teeming Crown Prince is here.” One person shouted while others made way for the prince.

This was the firstborn of the Teeming Tribemaster, its future leader. His fame was widespread across the five rivers and four seas. [1. A phrase meaning everywhere.]

Dao Attendant Lin and Yan Yanglong were happy to see him as well. This was a once-in-a-thousand-years opportunity. With his arrival, it would be difficult for Li Qiye to survive.

The prince landed next to the divine well and loomed over Li Qiye to utter: “You are Li Qiye, right? How do you want to die?”

Li Qiye smiled and leisurely replied: “How do I want to die? I haven’t thought about that yet, but I sure know how you will die.”

He laughed at the prince and continued: “If this was any other day, I would have torn your body apart to eat your dragon tendon, but I am not interested today. I shall only decapitate you so that your followers can take your head and tell your father that wherever I appear, your tribe should get as far as possible from me. Otherwise, come one and I’ll kill one, come two and I’ll kill two!”

People gasped again after hearing this as their eyes darted to each other. These words were unbelievably arrogant. This was not just provoking the Teeming Tribe but a blatant declaration of war.

“Hahaha. Come one, kill one, come two, kill two?” The crown prince burst out laughing and exclaimed: “With just you alone? Hahaha, even the entire human race is not qualified to be our enemy. It is not difficult for us to exterminate your lot! So be it, we will treat your race as food in the near future.”

“Is that so?” Li Qiye smiled and stepped towards the crown prince.

One of the old men by the prince's side shouted: "Arrogant junior, come and accept your death!"

With a loud roar, these old men mounted their offense without showing any mercy. Bolts of lightning zipped towards Li Qiye. They were all experts, so this attack was much more powerful than the ones from the other Teeming Fish.

This storm-like lightning offensive engulfed Li Qiye, wishing to burn him to a crisp.

"Elders, we'll lend you a hand!" In a split second, Yan Yanglong and Dao Attendant Lin exchanged glances and immediately took action. However, their target was not Li Qiye but rather Teng Jiwen and Ye Tu.

Lin headed for Ye Tu while Yanglong aimed for Teng Jiwen. They claimed to be helping the Teeming Tribe, but in fact they had their own goals. Lin especially wanted the Void Imperfection Water from Ye Tu.

Ye Tu's expression greatly changed at the incoming attack from the dao attendant. Even though he was a supervisor of the Void Imperfection School, he didn't have an advantage at all against Lin. Moreover, Lin cultivated the Void Imperfection Physique.

He took out his treasures and channeled his laws. Multiple totems that resembled the shell of a Black Tortoise emerged to stop the dao attendant.

However, a holy light rushed out of Lin's body. This was his physique. The moment it came out, myriad laws would be unable to touch him as he soared through Ye Tu's treasures and defensive laws. His hand went forth towards Ye Tu in order to capture him alive.

At the same time, a flame covering thousands of miles around Yan Yanglong ignited to scorch Teng Jiwen. This was his Extreme Yang Physique.

Teng Jiwen was much stronger than Yan Yanglong. He roared and took one step back to create a huge gap between the two. It was not difficult for him to kill Yanglong, he was only contemplating whether he wanted to antagonize the Extreme Yang School!

Alas, Yanglong had no idea. He let out a battle cry and lunged forward like a dragon, sending a blazing inferno towards Teng Jiwen.

"Suicidal fool!" In this moment, Li Qiye's glare became severe. He didn't care for the old men from the Teeming Tribe.

With a boom, the Ancient Void Rune emerged. It didn't matter how powerful the old men were, their lightning strike was instantly devoured by this rune; it wasn't even enough for an appetizer.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye didn't chase after the crown prince. He slightly moved his palm and a divine seal descended from the sky. It headed straight for Dao Attendant Lin.

Lin was startled and channeled his physique to its limit. It was the same as a blooming lotus. He relied on this physique to avoid the suppressing seal.

"Boom!" Regardless of the level that his physique had reached, he couldn't escape the seal. His entire body was pushed down by the seal with blood spurting everywhere.

Li Qiye then flicked out a universal law. With a clang, this arrow-like law aimed straight for where Teng Jiwen and Yan Yanglong were.

“Ahh—” Yanglong simply couldn’t dodge this law and was nailed to the ground.

“Crackle!” In this split second, after the void rune had swallowed up the lightning currents, an even stronger one shot out. The dozen old men from the Teeming Tribe were blown away by the impact and fell to the ground. Smoke wafted from their bodies while others could smell burnt flesh. They were lying on the ground without moving; who knows if they were dead or alive.

This all happened too fast. Some people didn’t even know what had just happened.

The crown prince was shocked. He let out a long shout: “Little animal, die!”

His lightning current turned into a saber that he swung horizontally. This slash turned into a huge lightning vortex that trapped Li Qiye within.

The earth continuously quaked from the loud detonations within the lightning vortex. Many people were amazed by this power. The crown prince was able to materialize his current into a tangible form. No wonder why there had long been rumors about him setting one foot into the Virtuous Paragon realm. It seemed that this was true.

People realized that even if he wasn’t a paragon, he was infinitely close to being one.

Li Qiye didn’t bother taking a glimpse at the electric vortex and casually released a palm attack.

“Boom!” The lightning vortex shattered instantly. Meanwhile, this palm attack was still unceasing and struck the crown prince’s body.

It was truly too fast, so others couldn’t see it clearly. The crown prince didn’t even have a chance to dodge.

“Bang!” His body was stuck to the ground as his blood dyed the soil red.

Everyone was dazed after seeing this. Someone couldn’t help but blurt out: “A Virtuous Paragon!”

At this time, many realized that this human boy in front of them was a paragon, a true paragon. He was different from the crown prince who claimed to be one as the reality was that he had only set one foot into the door of this realm.

Only a true paragon would be able to blow the crown prince away with just one slap.

Shortly after, the scene turned very quiet as fear crept up among the crowd. They glanced at each other in disbelief. Since when did the human race have such a young paragon?

In fact, regardless of the era, all who could reach this realm at such a young age would be geniuses. Even if they couldn’t deter the world, they would still enjoy great fame.

However, no one had heard of the name Li Qiye before. Moreover, humans were too rare in the Heaven Spirit World; such a young paragon should have been famous long ago.

All eyes were on him. Those with weaker cultivations felt their hearts jumping. They secretly praised their good fortune for not fighting with Li Qiye earlier. After all, they would only be fish on a chopping block before a Virtuous Paragon!

Li Qiye slowly turned around and walked towards the dao attendant suppressed by the divine seal. His body had completely shattered under the absolute suppression. He desperately tried to activate his Void Suppression Physique, but there was no response.

Li Qiye coldly stared him down and said: "I didn't kill you earlier because I want you to die with clarity."

With a blanched complexion, the attendant harshly shouted: "My, my master is the supreme master of the Immaculate Expanse—"

He couldn't finish his sentence before Li Qiye completely smashed his skull with a stomp — off to hell with him. People's hearts skipped a beat after hearing this bone-crushing noise. What a vexing and miserable way to go.

He then walked past and looked at Yan Yanglong while smiling: "I have always been a merciful person. If you eat all the soil now, I can still spare your life."

Chapter 1209: Delivering The Skull As A Present

Yan Yanglong couldn't move even if he wanted to. While nailed to the ground by the law, he desperately struggled, but it was futile.

He wanted to use his Extreme Yang Physique to burn this law, but regardless of how much power it emitted, it couldn't burn this single law. The mud and soil around him had melted completely, but the law was untouched.

He cried out in response: "Li, kill me if you dare, what's the point of humiliating me! Even if I die, I still won't eat the mud!" [1. He calls himself "young master" here instead of "me/I". It is a powerful tone.]

Yanglong was indeed unyielding. Even at death's door, he didn't beg at all and his words were still quite strong.

"In that case, I'll fulfill your wish." Li Qiye leisurely smiled.

Yan Yanglong madly howled: "Come on then! Kill me unless you're a coward!" The refined flames of the sun engulfed his body like a volcanic eruption. No one could come close.

He wanted to use his Extreme Yang Physique for protection. As long as Li Qiye was unable to break through it, he wouldn't be able to kill him.

Many people were surprised to see this. Yanglong was still quite powerful despite being nailed to the ground. This was indeed an Immortal Physique; other physiques couldn't compare at all.

How could Li Qiye not see through his thoughts? He smiled and said: "You're displaying your slight skill before an expert. You think you can stay alive by using this little physique? Very well, I love to rip the hope out of people."

With that, he gently reached out with his palm. Even if Yanglong's physique was more powerful, it wouldn't be enough. The descending palm made the volcanic eruption of his physique seem like a candle flickering in the wind — bound to go out at any moment. The physique and refined sunflame instantly disappeared.

Such a scene was truly astonishing. An immediate dispatch of an Immortal Physique — just how domineering and fierce was this style?

"No!" Yanglong never expected that his physique wouldn't be able to handle a single palm from Li Qiye. Unfortunately, it was too late for regret. He was annihilated just like his refined sunflame.

Everyone felt their insides go cold amidst the serenity. They understood that this human boy ahead was completely vicious and unafraid of anyone. He dared to kill Daoist Lin's attendant and the Extreme Yang Monarch's disciple in front of everyone. This was enough to show his domineering nature; a person who didn't care about antagonizing anyone!

After killing Yan Yanglong, Li Qiye slowly walked to the front of the Teeming Prince. At this time, the prince's body was completely fractured like broken porcelain. Just the slightest touch would shatter his body.

He was lying in a bloody pool and couldn't move at all. Nevertheless, he was still quite fierce and looked at Li Qiye to coldly say: "The victor takes all. I can only blame myself for not having enough skill. Do as you will, the Teeming Tribe will have revenge for me by massacring your nine clans one day."

In the face of death, the prince's nature was still as ferocious as ever, true to his race.

"I will wait for your Teeming Tribe to come take revenge for you. The blood of billions shall stain this blue sea red." Li Qiye smiled and swiftly chopped off the crown prince's head.

The prince's eyes were still wide open as he glared at his enemy.

"Boom!" Li Qiye spread his palm and a lightning bolt shot out. The dozen dying old men were burnt to ashes with only one remaining.

The moment this old man got up, Li Qiye threw him a box containing the prince's head and smiled: "Bring this head back to the Teeming Tribemaster. Tell him and your entire race to not come and provoke me, or else he will share his son's fate. If I see any Teeming Fish daring to show up before me, I will kill them all."

The old man was trembling with anger, his face twisted with fury. Eventually, he spoke in a chill-inducing manner: "I will not leave out a single word!"

With that, he left with the prince's head.

No one made any comments about Li Qiye's message. The Teeming Tribe had always been a ruthless bunch and were quite aggressive and competitive recently. Li Qiye's actions would enrage their entire tribe. The billions of their tribe would surely come to kill him no matter what!

Li Qiye broke the silence by patting his palms together and told Teng Jiwen and Ye Tu: "Okay, let us go. There is nothing else to do here."

The duo quietly followed him.

Li Qiye didn't get too far before turning back at the big shots hiding their true forms: "Return from whence you came. The Seacrossing Shuttle isn't a place for you all to ponder. Even if your progenitor was here, he still wouldn't dare to claim success."

These big shots didn't refute Li Qiye's statement.

After leaving the fragmented realm and the shuttle, Li Qiye turned back to see the shuttle still floating away. He gently sighed at the Untethered Vessel and thought about the day that might come in the future.

Ye Tu looked at it and asked: "When the Seacrossing Shuttle sinks back into the Bottomless Trench, will the Charming Fragmented Realm close again?"

Li Qiye answered with a nod: "Yes. Its next appearance will be very long from now. Or rather, this world will have changed by then."

The group returned to Shallow Beach where a Void Imperfection disciple was already waiting. Ye Tu received the news and immediately told Li Qiye with excitement: "Young Noble, the school has sent a message, the ancestral whale is waiting for you."

"Good, I'll set off at once." He patted Ye Tu's and Teng Jiwen's shoulders and smiled: "It is time for me to go now. Do a good job training, maybe we'll meet again one day."

The two bowed to say goodbye. This short period of time with Li Qiye had granted them great benefits that would last them a lifetime.

The Jade Sea was unimaginably vast, almost boundless. Its depths were beyond speculation with countless living beings thriving within. Some of them were wondrous creatures.

Very few cultivators and tribes were here at the desolate edge of this sea because it was simply too far from the central area. Mountains were in abundance at the bottom of the sea. One couldn't see an end to them.

The number of islands could be compared to the number of stars in the sky. However, they were all uninhabited.

This was where the ancestral whale of the Void Imperfection School was sleeping. Of course, this was only a temporary rest. When it woke up again, it would swim everywhere throughout the Jade, Abyss, and Dragon Demon Seas!

In the legends, it was a gigantic whale left behind by Immortal Emperor Wu Gou. It had the bloodline of a true dragon, but it had yet to gain intelligence so it still had its whale form.

In a certain sense, this whale was the ancestral ground of the Void Imperfection Three Schools, a mobile one!

A great deal of resources was contained in this whale. Both treasures and merit laws were divided and some were kept inside the beast.

If one day the three schools were to meet a formidable enemy and be completely destroyed, as long as the ancestral whale was still there, there was a chance to rise again. Unless this enemy was able to destroy the ancestral whale as well, the spark of the three schools would continue to be passed down for generations.

It wasn't an easy matter to destroy an existence like the ancestral whale. An Immortal Emperor going all out might be able to do so, but even Godkings were not sufficient for this task.

Moreover, the location of the whale had always been a secret. Very few within the sects knew its true whereabouts.

Its cruising trajectory through the vast seas was impossible to predict. And after a long journey, it would swim to the depths of the sea to hibernate out of sight.

An old man was waiting for Li Qiye the moment he entered this region. The old man had a full beard and white hair, making him look like an old mortal around the age of seventy. No one knew how long he had lived for.

Nevertheless, his blood energy was still robust. This was a terrifying Godking.

"You must be Young Noble Li." The old man cupped his fists and smiled at Li Qiye.

Li Qiye smiled back and nodded: "Following the ancestral whale has been very rewarding for you. It looks like you have lived for two generations now."

The old man was frightened to hear this. His identity had always been a secret, even to his own sect. His mind shuddered at the sudden revelation of his longevity.

Chapter 1210: Ancestral Whale

The old man took a deep breath and said: "Young Noble, your vision is wonderful. I am full of admiration, please come inside."

Li Qiye nodded and stepped into the sea. In the blink of an eye, they sank to the deepest region of the seabed before stopping in front of a mountain.

"Crack!" A burst of collapsing rubble resounded. The mountain not far from Li Qiye shattered into pieces. Boulders fell down, causing the fish nearby to flee in horror.

When this mountain shattered completely, it suddenly became bright. A ray of light illuminated the bottom of the sea. Before them was a magnificent world, mysterious and sparkling. It resembled a portal leading to a whole new world.

Upon a closer inspection, one would see that this was no portal at all. It was an unbelievably large eye. This eye was previously covered by the mountains.

When this eye opened completely, its light completely engulfed Li Qiye.

"Rumble!" The earth began to quake as if the entire sea was about to be overturned. Tidal waves rose to the vault of the sky as if something was awakening, something capable of destroying the stars up in the nine heavens.

More mountains began to collapse in this area. The islands on the surface crumbled as well and sank to the bottom.

“How can this be?” The old man was shocked and exclaimed: “Why, why is the ancestral whale waking up before the appointed time?”

“Boom!” A tsunami of limitless height assaulted the sky, resulting in a spectacular scene. A monstrous whale emerged from the sea. This region’s geography was changed completely.

This whale was no different than a continent appearing at sea level. There was no end to this whale as far as the eyes could see. It was as long as a mountain range floating above the sea.

This was the ancestral whale of the Void Imperfection Three Schools. Very few people in this world had seen it before. Despite rumors of having a true dragon bloodline, its lacking intelligence prevented it from turning into a true dragon for now.

Li Qiye stood above its gigantic head at this time. It was no different from an island that spanned thousands of miles.

Li Qiye patted its head and spoke with emotions: “In the northern darkness, there is a fish and his name is K’un. The K’un is so huge, who knows how many million li he measures...” [1. A longer passage of this is found here.]

“Oooooo!” The whale roared after hearing Li Qiye. It was a heaven-shattering cry. The soul and the sky both quaked before its reverberations.

“Bang!” A huge water pillar shot straight to the sky from its head. It seemed to be particularly excited.

“This, this is a true whale rider!” The old man was dumbfounded while blurting these words.

He stared at Li Qiye in disbelief. Not even in his dreams would he expect Li Qiye to become a whale rider upon first meeting with the whale — this was too unbelievable.

“Is this predetermined by the heavens? Is it granting us the destined prince that will lead the three schools to new heights of greatness?” The old man dazedly murmured to himself.

He couldn’t be blamed for being so shocked. Although those like him who were stationed near the whale for a prolonged period were called whale riders, they were not real whale riders. To be more accurate, they were whale trackers.

This was because true whale riders could control the ancestral whale. As for them, they didn’t have this ability. The ancestral whale was much stronger than them, so unless they were to be recognized by the whale as its masters, they wouldn’t be able to become whale riders. Only those who were recognized could be called true whale riders.

A few old men like him could only follow the whale throughout its journey. They simply had no way of changing the route and destination of the whale.

After a long while, the old man’s mind returned. He emotionally kneeled on the ground and couldn’t conceal his excitement: “The heavens have eyes, it has bestowed a destined king to us. You are the whale rider of our Void Imperfection Three Schools, we will have a chance to unite again.”

“The heavens have eyes?” Li Qiye burst out into laughter and shook his head: “The old villainous heavens will never open his dog eyes, let alone give a destined king to your three schools.”

“In any case, Young Noble, you are our whale rider, a blessing for our school.” The old man was still excited all the same.

“Whale rider or not, I will be fetching the water from the Void Imperfection Spring.” Li Qiye smiled and waved his sleeve.

“Ooooo—” The ancestral whale cried out after hearing this.

With a buzz, a portal that led into the whale’s body opened.

The ecstatic old man said: “Young Noble, please enter!”

With a smile, Li Qiye entered the portal and was teleported into the whale with the old man right behind him.

It was an incredible scene. Palaces were built among the mountains.

Who could imagine that there were mountains within a whale? This was an entirely separate world with majestic peaks and flowing waterfalls. Those who knew that this was the inside of a whale would find the whole thing inconceivable.

Li Qiye and the old man entered a palace with an even larger dimension within. There was nothing in this palace hall outside of a large lake.

The water in this lake was calm. Due to its serene nature, those who were present would feel like they were floating. The water washed away the seven emotions and six desires. Their body would be covered with an immortal energy. Next, divine rings would emerge around them. They would gain the feeling of wanting to abandon the mortal flesh as they could ascend to an immortal at any moment.

“There are no other places with as much Void Imperfection Water as your three schools.” Li Qiye looked at the lake and insipidly said: “Back then, Immortal Emperor Wu Gou left behind plenty of resources for you all. Otherwise, your three schools wouldn’t have two more grand completion Immortal Physiques and two complete laws.”

“Our achievements today were granted by the great forefathers.” The old man agreed. Li Qiye was simply stating the truth.

They had sufficient resources. As long as there were talented enough disciples with strong willpower, their schools could groom them into excellent beings.

The talented prospects had a chance to enter the Void Imperfection Spring in order to change their constitution. After this process, their cultivation would soar like a tiger with wings.

Thus, the three schools only lacked talents while having no shortage of resources.

Li Qiye took out a gourd and began to absorb a large amount of Void Imperfection Water. For the three schools, this water was extremely precious. Not to mention the disciples, even the ancestors couldn’t easily take it out of the ancestral whale outside of special circumstances.

However, the old man had no objections to Li Qiye's actions because Li Qiye could bring down the Void Imperfection Clouds. According to their ancestral teachings, Li Qiye was qualified to take the water here. Moreover, he was also a whale rider, thus he had the great authority to take as much as he wanted. It was not a big deal.

After taking enough, Li Qiye turned and left. However, the moment he exited the palace, several old men could be found kneeling on the ground with great reverence. They normally stayed inside the ancestral whale for a long period of time.

"What are you doing?" Li Qiye glanced at them and flatly said: "I am not your whale rider, get up."

One of them hurriedly said: "Young Noble, please stay. Our three schools require your leadership. As long as you are there, we will return to one again."

Li Qiye smiled and gently shook his head: "I already said I am not a whale rider, I'm only a fleeting passenger. There's no need to care or pay attention to me."

"But the ancestral whale has chosen you as its rider." This old man answered with haste: "Maybe Young Noble is unaware of the significance of being a whale rider. For millions of years, the countless wise sages from our schools all desired to become one..."

Li Qiye gently waved his sleeve and said: "I know what it means to be one. When your progenitor and the two grand completion physique users are not in this world, the whale rider represents the highest authority in the three schools! This person can reunite the three schools into one again!"

The old man elaborated: "Young Noble, you are completely correct. As long as you stay, all of the disciples will listen to your commands, all of our resources will be for you to use..."

"I understand." Li Qiye was without any interest: "For many people, to become a whale rider is the highest of honors, the greatest symbol of authority, the thing that many wise sages from your schools have been longing for."