EMPEROR 1291

Chapter 1291: Two Beauties In Waiting

Li Qiye was pleasantly occupied while staring at the elegant and bashful Jianshi. He leisurely said: "Okay, come give me a shoulder massage."

She hesitated for a moment before moving behind him to give him a massage. This was a first for her, so her actions were quite jerky. Nevertheless, a touch as gentle as water still left room for enjoyment.

Ruyan smiled and poured more tea for Li Qiye with a smooth, flowing style that was quite beautiful.

Li Qiye looked at the gentle Jianshi and then the seductive Ruyan before commenting with emotion: "To tell the truth, I'm a bit envious of your Void Imperfection Schools. No matter the situation, it is always of the same heart. Despite being divided into three schools, the disciples have unusual solidarity. This is definitely a rare matter."

"Young Noble, your remark is mistaken." Ruyan chuckled: "Even though I'm helping her right now, discord and competition plagued our youth."

He faintly smiled: "Is that so?"

In fact, the school wanted Jianshi to keep Li Qiye back. Even though she was the main actor and Ruyan was the assistant, the two of them still had a great relationship. Even though they had conflicting views at times and competed against each other, they were still martial sisters who loved each other. Minor things like arguing and fighting didn't affect their true relationship.

For instance, right now. Jianshi was a wise and elegant woman, but she was still very inexperienced and lacked the boldness overflowing in Ruyan. The latter was the one who could help her keep Li Qiye back.

"Competition is a good thing. A sect without competition will stagnate. Competition on top of great comradery, nothing is more precious than this." Li Qiye enjoyed the massage and commented: "Your ancestors did a good job of passing down such a big lineage. It would be difficult for a sect with these characteristics to not last for a long time. Regardless of the era, your sect has always been an enviable existence."

He was only stating the truth. Among the powerful lineages in the Heaven Spirit World, the three schools rarely showed themselves. However, they didn't weaken, their strength remained a deterrence against the rest of the lineages.

Jianshi softly spoke while massaging Li Qiye: "Young Noble, if you will it, the Void Imperfection School will be yours." Her words were gentle like water, making others want to drown in them.

"Are you really willing?" He looked up to meet her countenance only inches away and smiled.

"I wouldn't deceive you." She hesitated for a moment then met his gaze with her limpid autumn water eyes: "In the past, I really didn't want to marry you, but after interacting with you more, this marriage wouldn't be insulting to me at all. In fact, I would be the one reaching above my post."

"People from the Void Imperfection School are indeed wise." Li Qiye smiled but shook his head: "Void Imperfection has its own fate while I have mine. If your ancestor was still in this world, I'm afraid she wouldn't want to see it tied to my war chariot, so forget about this matter."

Anyone else would be excited to no end after hearing about the possibility of grasping this great authority. At that point, beauties and power would come too easily. Who wouldn't desire these things?

However, Li Qiye didn't care for it since it wasn't what he desired, even though Void Imperfection would give him plenty.

Plus, he didn't want to involve the school in his personal goals. Even though Immortal Emperor Wu Gou wasn't his student, the emperor still respected him. Because of this, he was even more hesitant to break the school's serenity. [1. The author used "she" earlier, so this is a female Immortal Emperor, but until it is explicitly stated, neutral will still be used.]

Jianshi gently sighed after seeing his demeanor. She knew that this man had no interest in their schools' power. A man capable of keeping calm when tempted by power was incredibly unfathomable. This only made him even more frightening.

"Let's not talk about such boring topics." Ruyan smiled: "May I ask if you are going to the Bonesea for the item of immortality?"

It was time for Ruyan to lend Jianshi a hand by diverting the conversation away from the refusal.

"The immortal item?" He smiled and shook his head: "I don't pursue immortality. Plus, the Bonesea doesn't necessarily have it."

Ruyan replied: "I heard many people are going there with this goal. Even a few Godkings from the previous generation are coming into being. Gu Chun's four branches, the Roaring Conch, the Seven Martial Pavilion, and the Dream Empyrean — these behemoths are all going for the artifact. If you are not aiming for it, why are you going?"

He chuckled: "Let me ask you that instead, why are you two going?"

Ruyan winked in response: "We are going because of you. Just who is it that made you so charming? Others have no choice but to chase after you."

He gently shook his head and said: "Hahahaha, I do enjoy listening to such flattery, but don't go too crazy in front of me, little beauty."

"We came in search for the skeletal horse." Jianshi spoke softly into his ears. It was a very pleasant feeling.

She continued: "Our ancient scrolls have recorded certain rumors about how Immortal Emperor Bu Si had a mount when he was still alive — a skeletal horse. However, this horse completely disappeared later on. The emperor's destruction was very mysterious, so now when this horse appeared out of nowhere, we are curious to see what is going on."

"Your speculation is right." Li Qiye nodded: "The horse is indeed Immortal Emperor Bu Si's mount. To be exact, it was only his mount during his youth. Later on after Bu Si became an emperor, the mount was hidden away to never be ridden again."

Ruyan immediately became interested and asked: "Why was it hidden away?"

Li Qiye looked at the two and chuckled: "There are several different legends about this. One states that it has something to do with the emperor's origin. Another believes that it has something to do with his ultimate end because he had been unkillable for so long. And lastly, some people think he is still trying to reincarnate."

"Reincarnate?" Both Ruyan and Jianshi were moved after hearing this. Reincarnation was, in fact, another form of immortality. It was just that the method was different.

However, all of them had one similarity — no one was known to have succeeded. Many cultivators believed in reincarnation as part of the cosmic cycle, but no one knew whether it was real or not.

Nevertheless, this mysterious emperor had always been a hot topic. So now, when Li Qiye brought up reincarnation, the two girls were naturally surprised.

Ruyan winked her alluring eyes and asked: "Which theory is most likely correct in your mind?"

Li Qiye looked at her with one eye and replied: "There's no need to rope me into answering. Plus, even if I knew the truth, I wouldn't necessarily let you know."

She coquettishly responded: "I'm only asking casually, why do you have to be so cautious?"

Li Qiye chuckled: "For the two of you, the Bonesea is still worth the trip. If you are lucky, you might be able to find your Void Imperfection School's Windchase Break!"

"What?!" Both of them cried out loud. Ruyan's hands that were holding the teapot were trembling; tea almost spilled out of the pot. Jianshi also stopped her massage and opened her eyes wide in disbelief.

Jianshi excitedly stated: "Are you saying that our Windchase Break was lost at the Bonesea?!"

Although others once claimed that their three schools had the most immortal physique laws, they had lost one of the most important things, an immortal physique strike!

The Windchase Break was the attack created by Immortal Emperor Wu Gou. It was considered the strongest attack of their school.

However, they lost it later on. Juniors like the two girls didn't know how it went missing.

Whenever their disciples toured the world, they would keep an eye out for clues about this attack. Nevertheless, nothing had ever turned up. Thus, Li Qiye's revelation was a pleasant surprise to the two of them.

"Is our Windchase Break really there in the Bonesea?" Ruyan's eyes flared up as she stared at Li Qiye in astonishment.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't answer.

Ruyan calmed down and actually brought the cup next to Li Qiye's lips this time instead of just handing him the cup. Meanwhile, Jianshi gently began to massage his shoulders again.

Chapter 1292: Lithodidae Overlord

Li Qiye looked at the two and gleefully said: "It is indeed possible that your Windchase Break has fallen into the Bonesea."

"How likely is it?" Even Jianshi, who has always been dignified and graceful, couldn't contain herself.

Li Qiye took another sip of tea. He cleared his throat then smiled: "There's no need to be so anxious, little beauty. Since I have said so, it means that the possibility is very high. If it isn't one hundred percent, it would at least be eighty or ninety percent..."

Li Qiye abruptly stopped at this point. His eyes flashed while looking outside.

Liu Ruyan and Zhuo Jianshi were startled a bit, but they quickly regained their wits. Both were true experts, so they exchanged a glance before looking outside as well.

Ruyan coldly glared at the bottom of the boat and declared: "Roll out here, whoever is hiding below."

Jianshi also realized that someone was hiding under the boat, so she became much more cautious.

With that, a figure climbed up from the boat's hull. He slightly wobbled forward after getting on.

It was an old man dressed in gray. He was not especially tall, but his arms were very muscular and powerful. They looked like they would be a match for dragon claws.

Anyone would be convinced that these arms had the power to move mountains and flip seas with their infinite might.

But there was something even more eye-catching than his arms. He had a wooden coffin on his shoulders. It looked ordinary, but countless runes were engraved on it.

His powerful arms were holding onto it for dear life, as if it was a supreme treasure. At the same time, he was stained with blood and wounds from a multitude of weapons. Some arrows were still stuck in his body.

It was a human, so after seeing his own kin, he was glad and stumbled forward. His legs turned weak as he kneeled on the deck.

"Young Noble, please save me!" He was panting heavily after shouting his request as if the words had used up all of his strength.

An old man covered in wounds came out of nowhere with a wooden coffin. No logical person would take him in. Ruyan and Jianshi glanced at each other before looking at this old man.

Li Qiye was also staring at him. To be exact, he was looking at the wooden coffin. His eyes were attracted to it as if there was a supreme treasure or beauty inside. He didn't look away for a very long time.

Their boat slowly stopped. Both girls slightly frowned and knew that something was about to happen.

Ruyan grimaced and asked: "Why have we stopped?"

"Schoolmaster, the Lithodidae Overlord's battleship is in front of us. He wishes to board." The disciple controlling the boat reported with haste.

"Lithodidae Overlord." This name made Jianshi furrow her brows as she spoke: "His notoriety can't be overstated."

With that, she glanced at the kneeling old man. His body froze and was even shivering after hearing this title. Even though he tried his best to control his emotions, he couldn't fool the two girls.

They didn't make a decision and instead turned towards Li Qiye. Without a doubt, they were waiting for him to decide.

After a while, Li Qiye withdrew his gaze and returned to his chair before lazily saying: "Let him board."

After hearing Li Qiye's approval, Ruyan immediately ordered the disciples: "Let him up."

The old man anxiously shouted: "Young Noble, please, please save me since we are both kindred spirits. Save both the old and young!" He was quite frightened.

Li Qiye only smiled without promising or refusing the old man. He quietly sat there and stared at the old man with great interest.

A short moment later, a person boarded the ship. Before he even arrived, a huge shadow was cast on the deck. In the blink of an eye, a burly man appeared in sight.

He had the aura of a tyrannical king that could look down on the entire world. He wore a tight robe, showing off the details of his muscles. His body was surging with power, especially when he clenched his fists, lightning seemed to run through his entire being.

He resembled a mad dragon that could destroy the world anytime.

His forehead was covered with markings, making him look like a giant crab. Although they made him uglier, they also added to his vicious yet regal aura.

The Lithodidae Overlord was a famous ruler at the Dragon Demon Sea from the Regal Valley. This was a lineage everyone knew in this region. It was created by the Lithodidae Sea God, someone who lived during the generation of Immortal Emperor Yin Long, the most recent sea god in history.

His notoriety was not only built on his ancestor's shadow. He himself was quite powerful and stood out even in the vast Dragon Demon Sea. Of course, the reason for his infamy was not his strength, but rather his ruthlessness. He would massacre someone's entire race for opposing him.

Furthermore, he also enjoyed hunting famous people and young talents with great potential even if they didn't provoke him. In fact, he had a penchant for hunting rare races as well.

He enjoyed certain abnormal acts such as taking their heads or other precious things as trophies.

He had hunted enemies more powerful than himself and even poisonous and ferocious creatures. More often than not, it wouldn't be through a head-on confrontation since he was a man of subterfuge. Traps and outnumbering his quarry were some of the methods he would employ in his hunt.

Moreover, he himself greatly enjoyed the process. Because of this, he was notorious. Few would dare to provoke him since the Regal Valley was mighty as well.

"So it is Schoolmaster Zhuo and Schoolmaster Liu. Excuse my sudden visit." He cupped his fist after seeing the two girls.

Despite his polite gesture, his eyes showed flashes of desire after seeing the two beauties. Of course, he hid it quite well.

Ruyan sat right next to Li Qiye while Jianshi was still giving his back a massage.

"Lithodidae Overlord, long time no see." Ruyan gently nodded without moving.

Even though he was a wicked tyrant, in terms of strength, status, and influence, he was no match for Ruyan and Jianshi. The Regal Valley was inferior to the Void Imperfection Three Schools as well.

His eyes fell upon Li Qiye, but he didn't recognize the youth so he turned towards the kneeling old man. He immediately asked the two girls: "Schoolmasters, this person is a traitor to our Regal Valley. He stole our supreme treasure and fled. We have chased him all the way here, so I hope Schoolmasters will hand this traitor over to us. We shall give him a fair and just trial."

"Schoolmasters, I, I am not a traitor to the Regal Valley and I definitely didn't steal any treasure from them since I'm a vagabond. Schoolmasters, Young Noble, you must believe me!" The old man grew nervous after hearing the overlord, so he quickly defended himself.

"Schoolmasters, don't listen to his lies, he is adept at deceiving others." The overlord replied: "If you don't believe me, you can go to our Regal Valley to verify..."

"He'll stay." At this time, Li Qiye casually told the overlord: "You can leave now."

The overlord's expression turned stiff after hearing this response. However, he put on a smile and cupped his fist towards Li Qiye: "May I know your name?"

With characters like the two women serving the youth, the overlord didn't dare to show contempt. He thought that this might be an ancestor of the three schools.

"Li Qiye." Li Qiye casually stated his name. His eyes were on the coffin; he seemed to be particularly interested in the runes.

"So it is Young Noble Li, your prestige has spread quite far. I have been your admirer for a long time." The overlord inwardly quivered after hearing this name. He finally knew just what kind of person he had encountered.

Recently, Li Qiye's fierce fame soared like a dragon to let him become the number one among the younger generation of the humans. His fame had even caught up with the Seashield Prince, the Martial Goddess, and the Profound Monarch.

Li Qiye only casually acknowledged the compliments with a hum. He didn't even bother to look at the overlord.

"Young Noble Li, this man is a traitor to our valley and is holding our supreme treasure..." The overlord was quite dissatisfied with Li Qiye's arrogant attitude, but he managed to endure his annoyance.

Chapter 1293: Xiong Qianbei

Li Qiye interrupted him and dismissively said: "People from the Xiong Clan have never been disciples of the Regal Valley. Don't play tricks in front of me."

The overlord was taken aback after hearing this while the old man echoed: "Young Noble, you are right, I've never been their valley's disciple, he is trying to frame me."

The overlord's expression turned a bit ugly, but he quickly restored his smile: "Young Noble Li, your words are a bit too arbitrary..."

"I've always been an arbitrary person." Li Qiye interrupted him and flatly asserted: "This person is now under my protection, leave."

The overlord's expression dimmed as a fierce flash streaked across his eyes, but he still maintained his friendly demeanor: "I have always respected the heroes of all races, and the same goes for your prestige. If Young Noble Li and the schoolmasters wish to protect this traitor, then I will give you some face and no longer pursue this matter."

This reply was quite generous and sensible. Anyone else would feel their days brighten up. To be given such respect was a kind of honor.

However, Li Qiye was still as cold as before. From start to finish, he didn't even give the overlord a single glance.

Nevertheless, the overlord didn't become angry. He bid his farewell with a smile: "Young Noble Li, Schoolmasters, this is goodbye for now. However, with the world as small as it is, I hope that everyone will come visit my Regal Valley one day. I will surely show you my greatest hospitality."

"Valley Lord, you are too polite." Ruyan and Jianshi were still courteous. As lords of their sects, they naturally had to act gracefully.

Li Qiye, on the other hand, was completely indifferent. His attitude would make others think that he was overbearingly arrogant.

The overlord smiled and left in a cool manner.

Ruyan chuckled after he left: "Young Noble, you are now on that guy's list, and he will never let go of his prey. He's a brute famous for wanting to hunt people stronger than him. You are the rising rookie of the human race, and since you have opposed him, you are now the prime candidate on his list."

"Then let him come and die." Li Qiye simply didn't give a damn about the overlord's pretentious and friendly act.

He had seen countless people ranging from Immortal Emperors to nobodies. What kind of character had he not met? How could the overlord's little play elude his eyes?

The old man felt that he found a path to survival after hearing Li Qiye's nonchalant and confidence-filled statement. He quickly prostrated on the ground to say: "Young Noble, thank you for saving my life. This lowly one will never forget your kindness."

"Thank you, Schoolmasters, for being on the side of righteousness." He bowed to the two girls as well.

Ruyan responded with a faint smile: "You sure know how to talk, putting the hat of being your saviors on our head. It looks like it will be difficult for us not to save you."

The old man coughed, but he still shamelessly bowed before them. [1. If you accept the gesture, you have the responsibility to protect him because of face.]

Li Qiye looked at the old man and asked: "What is your name?"

He quickly answered: "Young Noble, this lowly one's name is Qianbei, a disciple of the Xiong Clan."

Li Qiye lightly spoke: "The Xiong has fallen, they do not exist in the Heaven Spirit World any longer."

Xiong Qianbei felt dejected after hearing this and replied with sorrow: "You are right, this little one is only a wandering ghost."

Li Qiye's attention was on the wooden coffin on the old man's back. He lowered his tone: "Where did you get this coffin from?"

Both the girls became curious as well. Ever since the old man got here, Li Qiye's eyes rarely left the coffin. They were curious about what the contents of the coffin could be to attract someone like Li Qiye who was indifferent to everything.

Qianbei was alarmed. He gripped the coffin even tighter while stumbling backward.

"Ah, Young Noble, these are the remains of my ancestor. I'm looking for a place to bury them." He smiled wryly in response.

Li Qiye responded in a cold tone: "Old man, don't play in front of me. Lying in my presence is a very unwise move. I can save you from the Lithodidae Overlord, but I can also smash you to pieces!"

"I don't care about your life or whether you are human or a sea demon. Your background is of no interest to me either. I did it for the wooden coffin on your back." Li Qiye's eyes turned extremely cold: "If you can understand this, then do not lie in front of me or else you will come to understand what true horror is."

Although Li Qiye didn't emit a scary aura or a suppressive momentum, when his eyes turned cold, Qianbei couldn't help but quiver. He felt chills all over his body while his legs grew weak.

Even masters like the two girls felt chills. A terrifying light flashed across his eyes, a glint capable of annihilating all things.

This was not an empty threat.

Qianbei struggled to calm down, but he managed to speak: "Young Noble, I, I picked up this coffin by chance. Several days ago when the black star was crossing the sky, I was at sea to find some clams for pearls and this coffin suddenly emerged from the sea."

Li Qiye batted his eyes after hearing this. He tried to confirm: "Was there a strange phenomenon such as a chasm splitting open the seabed?"

"How did you know?" Qianbei was surprised. He didn't hide it any longer: "That was indeed the case, the seabed suddenly split to form a deep trench when the dark star flew by, just like the Bottomless

Trench in the Jade Sea. This coffin appeared and countless green branches pulled it out from the bottom. I was lucky enough to pick it up then..."

"... By the time I recomposed myself, the trench had disappeared. I didn't really understand what the coffin was before meeting the overlord. He had been pursuing me all this way while I ran for dear life. Luckily Young Noble was here to save me." He coughed at this point.

Li Qiye only listened to the first half while not caring about the second half of the story. His eyes fell upon the coffin once more.

Ruyan curiously asked Qianbei: "What is in the coffin?"

Qianbei honestly answered: "I don't know either. I couldn't open this coffin no matter what I tried."

"These runes are very old, you won't find any of them in this day and age." Jianshi took a careful look at these indecipherable runes.

Keep in mind that these two came from the Void Imperfection Three Schools, an ancient lineage. As schoolmasters, they were quite knowledgeable compared to ordinary people. Nevertheless, they were completely unable to understand the meaning of these runes.

Li Qiye eventually told Qianbei: "I want this wooden coffin."

Qianbei's expression sank as he took several steps back. He was clearly very reluctant to accept this demand.

"Ah, Young Noble, well... about that..." Qianbei wryly smiled: "I, I need it to make a fortune!"

Ruyan chuckled in response: "You want to get rich from this? Don't forget who saved your life. Can you try to become rich when you are dead?"

Qianbei became embarrassed after hearing this. He stood there awkwardly with a forced smile, not knowing what to do.

Li Qiye leisurely said: "If I take action, regardless of how strong you are or what aces you have hidden, you will still lose the coffin."

Qianbei's expression drastically changed again while he stumbled back even more, distancing himself further from Li Qiye. He awkwardly smiled: "This lowly one knows that you won't rob me. I am indeed very grateful since you saved my life. It is, it is just that I have some predicaments, I hope you can understand."

"I only saved your life because it was a convenient way to get this wooden coffin. Don't worry about that, I won't blackmail you just because of this favor." Li Qiye waved his sleeve dismissively.

"I am ashamed before your noble bearing. If I can offer my service to you another day, I will do everything possible." Qianbei relaxed after hearing this and quickly bowed again.

"What do you want?" Li Qiye coldly looked at him and asked: "What kinds of things will make you willingly hand over this coffin?"

This question left Qianbei pondering. He looked at Li Qiye then the two girls while trying to find the right words.

Chapter 1294: Wooden Coffin

"Speak, there are few items in this world that I can't afford." Li Qiye slowly said: "Of course, you need to act sensibly. Don't push it and lose the opportunity."

Both Liu Ruyan and Zhuo Jianshi were very curious after seeing how much Li Qiye valued the coffin. What the hell was in this coffin?

Xiong Qianbei hesitated for a bit before biting his teeth and making up his mind: "I do not dare to be greedy after being shown such kindness by Young Noble. I, I want a piece of land."

The two girls were surprised by this request. They both assumed Qianbei would want some treasures, elixirs or supreme merit laws, not a landmass.

"Do you know how precious a piece of land in Heaven Spirit is?" Jianshi shook her head. This was a world where land was more precious than anything else.

Qianbei replied: "This lowly one knows that. I won't push my luck, I will be satisfied with a landmass around one hundred square miles."

"You're not pushing your luck by asking for a piece of land the size of one hundred square miles?" Ruyan couldn't help but laugh while shaking her head: "Do you know how valuable this much land is in Heaven Spirit?"

Of course, a one hundred square mile piece of land was nothing in the other worlds. Even the minor branches of sects in those places would be much bigger. An ordinary disciple would be in charge of a territory of this size. However, land was too scarce in the Heaven Spirit World. This little piece of earth became especially precious here.

"A lot of second and third tier sects only have islands this big." Jianshi gently shook her head.

"This old one knows." Qianbei coughed in response: "However, this is a wooden coffin that incited a heavenly phenomenon. A meteor in the sky and a trench at the bottom of the sea — such a phenomenon is quite rare in this world. I believe this coffin is absolutely extraordinary, so I don't think trading it for a one hundred square mile landmass is unreasonable."

Ruyan grinned and said: "Even if it is worth the trade, you still need to have the power to handle it. You might be paying with your life before getting the chance to reap the benefits."

She was telling the truth. If others knew that this coffin was truly worth a small island, many people would definitely try to rob him.

"Well..." Qianbei played the fool to avoid this question.

Li Qiye chuckled and flatly asked: "Even if I give you an island of that size, would you be able to keep it?"

Without sufficient strength, such a landmass would simply be a prize to compete for in Heaven Spirit. The old man could be robbed of it at any moment!

Qianbei solemnly answered: "Young Noble, I will try my best to guard it. If I have a piece of land, I will be able to reform my Xiong Clan. I shall treat it as my lifeblood."

After seeing his serious demeanor, Li Qiye smiled and slowly said: "You desire a piece of land? So be it, I shall give it to you!"

"Really?" Qianbei couldn't believe it. In fact, he didn't place too much hope in this request. It was simply absurd, so Li Qiye accepting the trade made him think that this was a dream.

Li Qiye replied: "My words are made of gold, what I say shall be done."

After hearing his resolute tone, Qianbei was ecstatic and quickly bowed: "Young Noble, this is giving us a new life. We shall remember your kindness for generations to come."

Li Qiye didn't care for such pleasantries and ordered: "Give me the coffin."

"Well..." Qianbei hesitated. After all, he still hadn't received the land yet, so he didn't want to hand over the wooden coffin first.

Li Qiye continued: "Don't worry, I said that I would give you a landmass, so I will when I'm done with my business."

"Young Noble Li is a man of his word." Jianshi added: "Our Sacred Spring School can guarantee you that he will give you what you want."

"My Evil Devourer School will do the same, so you can rest assured." Ruyan smiled as well.

Qianbei was glad to hear these two. They were both schoolmasters from an extremely reputable sect in Heaven Spirit. He could rest easy when these two put forth their guarantee for Li Qiye.

He hurriedly placed the coffin in front of Li Qiye and respectfully said: "Young Noble, the coffin is now yours."

Having said that, he respectfully stood to the side. Li Qiye gave him the side-eye, but Qianbei didn't react.

Liu Ruyan looked at him and teased: "What now, are you still afraid of not getting your land?"

Qianbei shamelessly stood there and smiled: "No, Schoolmaster, please don't misunderstand me. I trust the young noble and you two schoolmasters as well. Ah, everyone must be going to the Bonesea this time, correct? I also want to go broaden my horizons. If you need an errand boy or a coolie, I am ready to serve."

Li Qiye lazily looked at him and casually commented: "Such a shameless disciple has probably never appeared in the Xiong Clan until now."

"Agh..." Qianbei's face turned a bit hot, but he was too thick-skinned and continued to stand there while playing dumb.

Li Qiye ignored him and stood up. He circled around the coffin to carefully read the runes.

Ruyan curiously speculated: "What's in it? Don't tell me it is just a corpse."

"Maybe it's a treasury." Qianbei couldn't help but join in: "But how can you open it? I used all of my strength to hit it, but that didn't do anything."

"I'd like to have a try." Ruyan's competitive nature rose. She stepped forward and placed both hands on the coffin while channeling her merit law. With her blood energy rising, a loud explosion ensued. She used a mighty force to lift it, aiming to remove the lid.

One must know that with her strength, she could easily overturn a mountain. Her going all out would result in an unimaginable power that could only be described by the phrase, "hating the earth for not having a circular handle." [1. This is a peculiar phrase — hating the earth for not having a circular handle. It is describing someone with so much energy and power that if there was a handle for the earth, they could swing the earth around. The other part of this phrase is a hiltless heaven. Hiltless heaven and handleless earth — describing an overwhelming power.]

This force could tear apart the earth and rend the sky vault. However, even with her using all of her might, she couldn't remove the lid of this coffin.

"How can this be?" To Ruyan's astonishment, there wasn't the slightest sign of damage or fingerprint on it. Showboating was not in her nature, but she was quite confident in her own power.

"Just what is this coffin?" Jianshi was shocked as well. They grew up and regularly competed against each other, so Jianshi understood Ruyan's strength. Not even Godkings could stop characters of their level.

"This is beyond your comprehension." Li Qiye smiled: "In terms of forcefully opening it, not to mention the two of you, even an Immortal Emperor might not be able to do it."

This comment surprised both of the girls. What a monstrous claim! Anyone else would think that Li Qiye was just exaggerating, but they actually believed him.

"What the hell is inside?" Qianbei was completely drawn in. Even though he was the one who found the coffin, he didn't know what was inside or what was so special about it.

"We'll find out soon enough." Li Qiye chuckled and placed his palm on the coffin, then he slowly closed his eyes.

His palm remained unmoving. He didn't release a crazy amount of blood energy or unstoppable laws and dao. It was simply him touching the coffin.

As moments passed, Li Qiye seemed to be caught in a deep sleep. Everyone else held their breaths; they didn't want to break his concentration.

Even more time went on while the three remained completely quiet. Qianbei was a bit disappointed after thinking that this coffin might not be opened so easily.

However, at this very second, the runes came together to form the image of a tree of life. A majestic life force engulfed the area as if something was returning to life.

Chapter 1295: Woman In The Coffin

"Buzz." The runes resembling a tree of life flashed. Next, they jumped into the coffin as if the tree wanted to take root within.

After their disappearance, one could hear a clank as if something was sliding within the coffin. Shortly afterward, the clicking of a lock could be heard. The tightly shut coffin suddenly came loose.

Qianbei excitedly blurted: "It's open, it's open!"

"What, how can this be? It opened just like that?" Ruyan was slack-jawed while staring at Li Qiye. She and Jianshi didn't notice Li Qiye doing anything special.

Li Qiye only placed his palm on the coffin; he didn't do anything, yet he was still able to open the coffin. This was simply inconceivable.

In fact, Qianbei wondered the same thing. He had the coffin for several days and used many methods in order to try and open it, but they all ended in failure.

But now, Li Qiye opened it in such a simple manner.

"This is not an ordinary coffin. It already had this form upon its inception, an object created by the heaven and earth. Brute force is of no use, so we have to do it like this." Li Qiye pointed at his heart: "You must use your heart to feel and your mind to sense before awakening it. Only your heartbeat will let it know the location of life."

These words were incredibly profound and inexplicable. The two girls carefully savored his teaching. As for Qianbei, even though he didn't quite understand, he still did his best to memorize them.

With that, Li Qiye slowly opened the lid in a very gentle and cautious manner, as if the ultimate treasure was contained within.

The girls were very curious, so they inched closer in order to get a better look.

After seeing what was inside, both were gobsmacked with flaring eyes. They stared at the coffin in complete disbelief.

Qianbei thought that he was seeing things and rubbed his eyes. However, his vision was perfect. He murmured in shock: "Fairies do exist in this world..."

Ruyan emotionally commented: "The word 'beauty' is not enough to describe her..."

There was a very young woman lying inside the coffin, a beauty beyond the limits of the brush and ink.

Ruyan and Jianshi were ranked among the top beauties in Heaven Spirit. As schoolmasters, they didn't rely on their beauty, but it was a source of pride for them. However, both of them were overshadowed by this woman.

Words failed to convey the sight of her lying in the coffin. Her beauty had reached an unrealistic level. Her ten slender fingers rested on her stomach. She slept soundly and peacefully; although there was no smile on her face, her demeanor made it seem as if she was having a good dream.

After a while, she slowly opened her eyes and eventually climbed out of the coffin, stupefying the three.

The girls were drowned in admiration and felt that her dream-like beauty did not belong in this world.

She was matchless and had a profound and immaculate gaze that stole the light from the celestials in the sky, causing them to be too ashamed to show themselves.

Her figure, with flawless curves, was out of this world. Even the most scrutinizing gaze would fail to find any flaws. Her body seemed to be one with the world, the most beautiful of all objects.

Her oval face was exquisitely stunning, an impeccable masterpiece of the heavens. Anyone who caught sight of it would be in awe and shock.

Even though she wore a plain white dress, this didn't diminish her presence. She was someone who didn't require any decoration, jewelry was simply superfluous.

This ordinary dress was the most suitable for her. Its simplistic style when adorned by her created the most beautiful charm.

Ruyan and Jianshi looked like two maids compared to her.

Among all of Li Qiye's female acquaintances, Ming Yexue and Mei Suyao were one of a kind. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to call them the prettiest girls in their respective worlds.

However, they seemed to be missing a little something compared to this woman. It must be the elegant refinement that came from countless years.

She was a fairy of the ages, groomed for an eternity with the aura of time, empowered by the spirit of the world. She had a charm that others could never hope to attain. It was an innate aura. One either had it at birth or didn't.

Jianshi couldn't help but praise: "Such beautiful eyes!"

"It isn't an exaggeration to call her the most beautiful in the nine worlds!" Ruyan was quite proud of her appearance, but she was full of admiration.

Qianbei was stupefied as he murmured: "She's the most beautiful fairy in this world."

In his eyes, she could only exist in dreams to be appreciated from a distance.

Among them, only Li Qiye remained normal. He wasn't stunned by the beauty of the woman before him.

The woman looked at the group. She seemed to be slightly hazy. Eventually, she looked at Li Qiye and asked: "Was it you who woke me?"

Her voice was intoxicating; it was the sound of nature. The voices of the other two girls were quite alluring and pleasant as well, but there was still a great gap compared to this woman's speech.

"Yes." Li Qiye smiled and stretched out his hand to gently caress her face. Such an action was rude and befitted a cad. However, it seemed incredibly natural when performed by Li Qiye.

She didn't reject him. Her astral eyes met his head on. Their gazes locked onto each other and seemed to be crossing time itself back to an untraceable past.

As he touched her pretty face, he slowly closed his eyes while she did the same.

The whole scene turned quiet. Their physical contact assisted her in feeling his aura. Time seemed to have stopped as the two were falling into a deep slumber.

Even the wind stopped blowing and time halted its flow. Nothing in this world wanted to disturb the two.

It was a destined moment decided long ago. It looked as if they knew each other for a long time and had a deep affection for one another.

After a long time, the two of them opened their eyes at the same time. Their movements were of the same beat.

Li Qiye said with emotion: "Indeed... the eons are too numerous to count, so much has been lost."

The woman slightly tilted her head. Her eyes showed her slight confusion and wisdom as she spoke: "Are you a philosopher?" [1. I put some thought into this one. Wise man, sage, or philosopher. I've used sage for different words in the past, leaning towards the holy aspect rather than wisdom. This is a new word entirely in ED; it has never been used before, at least in my memories. Philosopher is a good fit for it. Wise man seemed out of place since I believe it is a type of status or position. Who knows? Just the nature of translating ED sometimes, especially when dealing with the past.]

"No. I'm not a philosopher." Li Qiye smilingly replied: "Others call me a murderous devil while some prefer the dark hand. There are all kinds of titles, but philosopher is a first."

"You are a philosopher." The confused woman still gave this verdict. Despite her slightly bewildered expression, her eyes had cleared up and now held great conviction.

"Fine, I'm a philosopher then." Li Qiye gave up: "It is only a title, nothing too important."

With that, he took his time sitting down and patted at the chair next to him. She also sat down with a leisurely and natural demeanor. It was just a simple action, yet she seemed to be in tune with nature.

"What's your name?" Ruyan asked with interest while looking at this mysterious beauty.

"Name?" She curiously stared at Ruyan.

Chapter 1296: Fairy

Ruyan noticed her confusion and quickly elaborated: "Yes, name, mine is Liu Ruyan. This is my senior sister, Zhuo Jianshi. What's yours?"

She introduced themselves to her. The woman glanced at Ruyan then Jianshi and tilted her head in contemplation. She seemed to be trying to remember her name, but after a long time, she replied: "I don't know...?"

The girls felt a bit sad while looking at the hazy woman who couldn't recall her name. It felt like something was missing from her life.

The woman's eyes darted over to Li Qiye as she questioned: "Do I have a name?"

Li Qiye looked at her peerless appearance and mused for a moment before smiling: "You have no name in this world. Let's call you Fairy then, a woman from a distant world." [1. Note, fairy here = immortal +

woman. Ren hates using the word fairy for immortal woman. He advocated femmortal instead at one time. The reason I'm pointing this out is because the word immortal is always in high emphasis, especially when Li Qiye said that she is from a distant world. Fairy alone doesn't connect the two.]

Fairy repeated her name and had no objections. Although "fairy" was not a name, the girls felt that it was very appropriate. It seemed that outside of her, no one else should be called "fairy".

Fairy seemed to be without joy and worries. She sat down next to Li Qiye and curiously looked at him: "What's your name, then?"

"Li Qiye." Li Qiye smiled and gently fixed the loose hair on her forehead: "My parents said that I cried for seven days and nights after being born. However, crying is not necessarily a bad thing. It shows that there are still things in this world that can make you sad. If one can't even feel sadness, then their world would be too bleak."

He paused for a moment before continuing: "They also said that I was really cute and cried a lot as a baby. Of course, those were tears of happiness, showing that this world was still splendid and beautiful. On the other hand, if everyone sheds tears instead of just one individual, then that world would be filled with despair. Once its inhabitants lose hope, it would face destruction."

With that, he softly sighed with a complicated expression.

This comment of his seemed to be random and confusing, but Fairy listened carefully with amusement as if she was feeling something else.

The other girls were intrigued as well. They thought about it and felt that his words encompassed many different meanings.

It sounded like he was talking about himself but also not at the same time. Crying was definitely the topic, but it wasn't the fundamental focus.

There were some secrets hidden within these words that the two girls were unaware of. Fairy quietly sat there without replying. Her expression was melancholic, even a bit lonely and dazed.

Her astral eyes were flashing as if she was recalling something but couldn't quite grasp it.

"My heart aches." In the end, she told him this. It was a sudden remark without any reason.

Li Qiye held her jade-like hand and solemnly looked into her eyes: "Pain is good, it shows that you are alive."

"Is it the same for you?" She stared at his eyes as if wanting to peer through the windows of his mind. Her clear gaze would illuminate his inner world.

Li Qiye contemplated her question before revealing a smile: "As long as the heart is alive and beating, it will feel pain. However, a long-lasting pain will eventually lead to numbness. Life and death, departures and farewells — all of this will lead to calluses."

The confused woman asked: "Will it eventually be torn apart?"

"That depends on the person." Li Qiye still had a smile on his face: "I won't let my heart be torn because I am a murderous devil, the hand of darkness. In this world, wherever I am shall be filled with corpses and blood. I am numb to life and death, so regardless of how the world is, I will never taste that tearing sensation again."

"Really?" Her eyes were both clear yet hazy. She stretched out her hand to touch his face as if wanting to feel his existence and heartbeat.

He didn't answer her question. A long silence ensued.

"Your heart will feel pain." Eventually, she sincerely looked at him with the demeanor of a serious child.

Li Qiye's expression turned stiff for a moment. After a long while, he replied: "That day will not come. I won't allow it."

She curiously asked while tilting her head: "Why?"

"Because I am Li Qiye. After making preparations for ages... my hands will find the answer to everything." With that, he slowly closed his eyes.

These words incited some memories within her, but not anything specific. It was as if there were matters or things that had been lingering in her mind. She seemed to hear crying in the distance. It was intangible and surreal.

Fairy asked: "Did you hear the cries?"

Li Qye slowly answered: "I have never heard the cries before, not that I'm able to."

"Why not?" She acted like a little girl ignorant of this world.

He took his time answering: "A murderous devil does not care for the lamenting wails, so I do not hear them."

"You are not a devil." She frowned. Despite her current innocent state, she was quite firm in this response.

"I'm not a savior either." Li Qiye couldn't help but smile.

Fairy ruminated the answer and found it logical before nodding in agreement.

The rest of the group stared at them while listening to this strange conversation. These two behaved so naturally that if they hadn't been watching from the start, they would have mistaken them for old friends.

Moreover, their dialogue was incredibly bizarre and inexplicable beyond comprehension, as if they were from a different world.

She eventually asked him like an inquisitive student: "What must be done for the heart to not ache and the ears to not hear the cries?"

Li Qiye looked at her in contemplation before holding her hands and earnestly saying: "There has never been a right answer to this, but I can give you two possible choices if you must know. First, stop

worrying about it, you will grow numb as time passes. One day, you will stop feeling pain and the cries shall disappear."

Fairy pondered and found that this was not the answer she wanted. She looked at him again and asked: "What about the second?"

"Kill the villainous heavens." Li Qiye was completely serious: "This is a solution to your question. Alas, there is a chance that what you will find is ... more pain and more cries..."

She wholeheartedly considered this second answer for a very long time. This prompted her next question: "Would killing the villainous heavens really give an answer? One without pain and anguish?"

Li Qiye sat back down and spoke with sorrow: "I don't know because no one has been successful before. There is no answer to that question. As I said before, killing him might only lead to even more agony."

She carefully savored his answer. Her star-like eyes were flashing randomly. The same fluctuations appeared again in her memories. In the end, nothing returned.

She eventually inquired after a long reflection: "What should I do, then?"

"That's up to you." Li Qiye gently sighed in response after showing a brief smile: "Everyone has their own path, but not all wish to start this journey in fear of failing and not reaching the end. It might be better to stop halfway."

He sentimentally concluded: "Ignorance can be bliss. Being in charge of the present is to have everything. Some have love, some have authority, and others are content with just having offspring. That is happiness to them. Ignorance is wonderful and very enviable."

Chapter 1297: Bones Island

Fairy mulled over Li Qiye's comment. After a long time, she seemed to understand something and nodded to herself. The rest of the group still found the conversation to be puzzling and indiscernible.

Of course, they didn't know that this confusing story was actually referring to the pinnacle of the world, the ultimate topic among cultivators. The things involved were beyond their understanding.

Li Qiye sat in his chair, seemingly deep in sleep, while Fairy kept him company. Her expression was a bit muddled, as if she was shouldering an eternal burden.

After a long time, Li Qiye opened his eyes and told Liu Ruyan: "Before heading to the Bonesea, we'll take a trip to Bones Island."

"I'm also tired, so I'll be resting." Li Qiye stood up then told Fairy: "You can just follow me."

"I'll prepare a room for you, Young Noble." Jianshi went to accommodate Li Qiye's daily life.

Before following Jianshi, Li Qiye looked at Xiong Qianbei and flatly said: "You also want to go to the Bonesea, right? Good, find something to do, I don't keep idle people around."

"Ah, this lowly one will follow you. Just give me orders whenever you need something." Qianbei was ecstatic and quickly bowed.

Li Qiye didn't respond as he left with Fairy.

Bones Island could be considered a famous destination in the Dragon Demon Sea. It was also very strange and creepy.

True to its name, the entire island was made from bones. There were no vegetation or creeks and streams, only bones and more bones.

Walking on the island was akin to walking on bones. Every single inch of the island was paved with this hard and white substance.

Meanwhile, they came in all shapes and sizes. Tibia, ribs, pelvic bones... There were also little pieces that resembled bird claws and arms as big as a bridge.

The island had all kinds of buildings that acted as pavilions, rooms, and palaces... They were quite frightening as well.

A huge skull was upside down on the ground, serving as a house. Huge elbow bones were put together while more bones were embedded on top in order to form pavilions. Other palaces were more intricate with many bones connected together...

At the same time, the residents here were different as well. Unsurprisingly, they were skeletons. Of course, they were not all human skeletons in the ordinary sense.

People would see skeletons with a crocodile's skull and a human frame with more than ten bone spurs that resembled chicken claws on their backs. The two legs were made from thick and large rhinoceros bones.

These strange skeletons wearing robes and walking on the streets were not strange images at all. The majority of the inhabitants on this island were skeletons made from strange bones.

Compared to these weird creations, a human skeleton was a much stranger sight at Bones Island.

When Ruyan's ship was anchored outside the island, the inhabitants here came to receive them. One of them stood before the docking location.

"Sir, may I ask why you are here at Bones Island?" This thing had an elephant's skull, a body made out of fishbones, and the legs of a crane. Such a frame supporting its large skull was quite unbelievable.

Moreover, its robe was quite loose, resulting in a very amusing scene. Others wouldn't know what to think of it. If this was another location, a talking skeleton would scare the souls out of people.

Li Qiye looked at it and smiled: "I want to meet your island lord."

"Ah, Sir, I'm afraid there is a misunderstanding. Bones Island does not have a lord." The skeleton shook its head and smiled.

Could you imagine a smiling elephant skull? This smile was even uglier than a crying grimace — a truly horrifying scene.

Li Qiye leisurely replied: "Really now? I'll eat first before seeing him. If he doesn't come to see me, I'll destroy this island."

Such words made Ruyan and Jianshi look at each other. Not too many would dare to make this claim at Bones Island.

The inhabitants here were amalgamations of bones. They didn't seem to be that powerful as they were only a bunch of bones put together.

However, no one dared to provoke this area. Rumor has it that a very long time ago, a True God believed that he was invincible and wanted to research the mysteries of the island. Alas, he was captured alive and hung on the island. The people here pulled out his bones one by one. They said that this god screamed for nine days and nine nights before dying. Many experts got goosebumps after seeing his corpse.

From then on, all the troublemakers steered clear of this island.

"Sir, you are too funny." The skeleton didn't become angry, it only cheerfully said: "If you wish to eat, then please go to the Bones Restaurant. This way."

With that, it led the way for Li Qiye. Li Qiye smiled and followed it into the island while looking around.

Bones were everywhere in sight. Strangely enough, it was a very clean location and the air was quite fresh.

If it was any other location, the sheer number of bones would definitely result in corpse energy or a bad odor, but not here at Bones Island.

It was outrageously clean to an abnormal level. Each bone was as white as ivory, as if they had been polished countless times.

Li Qiye appreciated the scenery while following the skeleton. With regards to the bizarre circumstances, there were many places in the nine worlds where bones could walk and speak after returning to life.

However, these creatures would be accompanied by other phenomena. For example, a skeleton in a burial ground would be empowered by a soulfire found in its eye sockets. Another scenario would be that the skeleton absorbed too much evil energy and became a walking corpse.

However, it was completely different here. These skeletons didn't have soulfires or evil energy. They were made up of pure bones.

This prompted the question, how were they created? What was the power fueling them?

This enigma continued to confound all of the researchers because no one dared to maneuver against the inhabitants here.

In fact, Li Qiye was not the only foreign guest traveling on the island. People from all over the seas came to visit.

In normal times, cultivators from Dragon Demon Sea would come to experience the unique magical properties of the island. But now, it was needless to say that everyone who was on their way to the Bonesea had to go through Bones Island. Because of this, they decided to rest here and check out the wonders at the same time. Thus, it was quite lively with many different races from the outside present.

This skeleton brought Li Qiye to a restaurant made from a huge skull. The two eye sockets acting as doors instilled a chilling sensation.

However, the scarier part was that the restaurant was filled with cultivators from the outside. They came from all over the world while the serving skeletons swerved around them with wine and meals. It was a party in full swing. Of course, these cultivators were here for an adventure and to satiate their curiosity, it wasn't for the food.

This scene would be horrifying to unwary spectators. They would think that this was a grand feast of the underworld.

"Meow, meow..." When Li Qiye walked into the restaurant, a skeletal cat that was squatting in front of the counter waved towards Li Qiye. It looked like it was meant to be a lucky cat if it were alive. [1. The Chinese version of maneki-neko or "lucky cat", a Japanese figurine cat usually found at the entrance of shops, restaurants, etc. They're believed to bring good fortune.]

"Lil' Bones, our guests are here, take good care of them." The skeleton told the cat and left.

Even the tables in this restaurant were made from bones. Li Qiye's table was made out of finger bones while his chair was made from leg bones. There was a chilling sensation whenever someone sat down.

A waiter came and cheerfully smiled at him: "Sir, what would you like?"

Chapter 1298: Mu Shaolong

Li Qiye responded with his own smile and said: "Bring out your best dishes."

"Sir, our specialities are ghostblood wine and dried bones." The waiter answered very quickly: "Do you still want some?"

"One serving of each, then." Li Qiye maintained his carefree smile.

"Okay, one ghostblood wine and one dried bones!" The waiter shouted and then left. He came back soon afterward with a bottle of wine.

The bottle was made out of a polished skull. The nose was where the wine came out. The cup was made from bone as well, and there was an eye as big as an ox's with blood inside.

Li Qiye coolly poured wine into the cup. The liquid was blood-red. Some little explosions resounded when the wine entered the cup as bubbles that resembled skulls popped here and there.

The scariest part was the red eye in the cup. It started moving after making contact with the wine. The liquid began to slowly boil and emit a comforting aroma.

Wine made of blood and a cup made out of bone with a rotating eye inside. Even though the comforting aroma was very tempting, how many people would actually dare to drink it with this presentation?

Li Qiye didn't seem to mind and gently took a sip. The alcohol was strong but not dry, pure without being overly concentrated — an excellent taste.

After finishing one cup, he poured another for himself. The eye in the cup seemed to be very close to the drinker, but it didn't disturb Li Qiye at all.

He drank and glanced around at the many varied guests in the restaurant.

Some came to adventure while others came with purpose. Many also only wanted to rest.

The majority of the cultivators were here at Bones Island for the first time, so they were quite curious and looked back and forth.

Among the guests, two young men were particularly conspicuous due to the groups surrounding them. The members of the groups were Virtuous Paragons from the previous generation. Interestingly enough, they seemed to be flattering the two.

They didn't come from the same sect; one grew up to be quite handsome while the other was brave and bright in appearance.

A young cultivator asked with an obsequious grin: "Young Noble Bao, are you going to the Bonesea this time as well?"

"I'm here to scout as a foot soldier for my grandmaster." The handsome youth smiled. He spoke with a fairly reserved tone, but there was an air of pride around him.

"Is Senior Zhentian also coming?" An old paragon was startled and in disbelief.

The youth spoke with pride: "Yes. Gentlemen, I'll share something with you all. My grandmaster has come into being, he will definitely become the Immortal Emperor of this generation."

"Meng Zhentian..." The crowd was shocked as if a bomb had went off. The initially bustling restaurant quieted down. Only gasps could be heard. [1. Meng Zhentian = Dream Suppressing (the) Heaven. A cool name, so you know he's a cool character?]

"Is Senior Meng really coming out in this generation?" The older paragons couldn't hide their astonishment.

This handsome young man was Bao Yujiang, hailing from the Dream Empyrean. This was a mighty charming spirit lineage in this region. However, the thing that people were most afraid of was its Era Evader and supreme existence, Meng Zhentian.

The heroic youth smiled and told the paragons: "Brother Hu, Brother Bao wouldn't hide such a grand event from you."

These two youths were decently strong, but they still had a long way to go compared to the other geniuses. However, they still dared to call paragons from the previous generation as brothers.

Bao Yujiang's master was Cao Guojian, a direct disciple of Meng Zhentian. Therefore, even the contemporary geniuses had to give him some face.

As for the heroic youth, his talents weren't bad, but more importantly, he came from the Celestial Pavilion. Even though the disciples from this sect rarely traveled outside, they enjoyed great respect on these rare occasions.

His name was Mu Shaolong, a relatively high-ranking member of the pavilion. Compared to the grand characters who didn't like to come out, he enjoyed running outside to make friends. Because of this,

even though his cultivation was inferior to his peers such as the Extreme Yang Monarch, he was still famous in Heaven Spirit.

"Brother Shaolong is right. My grandmaster was good friends with Immortal Emperor Ta Kong, so he didn't wish to compete against the emperor as that would ruin their brotherhood. He evaded that era and is coming out for the Heaven's Will this time." Bao Yujiang nodded and held his head high when talking about his grandmaster.

He was not one to bully others due to his background, but he couldn't help but exude great confidence when referring to his grandmaster, Meng Zhentian.

The guests here felt suffocated as cold chills ran through their bodies after hearing this.

Meng Zhentian's name had a supreme effect in Heaven Spirit; anyone would be scared after hearing his name. Rumor has it that he was only one step away from becoming an Immortal Emperor.

Mu Shaolong broke the silence and smiled: "Congratulations, Brother Bao. When Senior Meng becomes Immortal Emperor, you will surely lead an imperial legion across the nine worlds."

Mu Shaolong's vanity was greatly stroked by this comment. He felt quite pleased and replied: "Please, Brother Shaolong, you are too kind. In the future, I will still need your assistance. Who doesn't know that the Celestial Pavilion is a place full of hidden dragons and crouching tigers? If the Lunargrasp Fairy comes out, no one can oppose her in the nine worlds."

Even though Bao Yujiang was gloating at the moment, he didn't dare to flaunt his haughtiness in front of Mu Shaolong and returned the praise.

"My matriarch has been in seclusion for a long time now. Juniors like us don't even have the chance to seek an audience." Mu Shaolong enjoyed the comment, but he still softly sighed.

Bao Yujiang quickly replied while smiling: "Senior Lunargrasp is already invincible. She is enlightened and understands all the mysteries in this world. It isn't strange for her to be seclusive at all."

People were shocked by Meng Zhentian earlier, but the atmosphere became even quieter when the Lunargrasp Fairy was mentioned.

This name had not been brought up for a long time, but it was still more than enough to shake the entire Heaven Spirit World.

The Celestial Pavilion was a mysterious lineage. Being low-key failed to demonstrate their incredible strength. Despite not having an Immortal Emperor, it was even more powerful than an imperial lineage. Rumor has it that celestial immortals had appeared in the pavilion before, but no one knows if this was true or not.

The Lunargrasp Fairy deterred an entire era. This fear only spread when she didn't come into being from one generation to another! Why? It was because she was the most powerful rival of Empress Hong Tian!

Even Li Qiye, who was sitting there leisurely without a care for the two's conversation, batted his eyes after hearing the name "Lunargrasp."

He looked over at Mu Shaolong and calmed himself before asking: "Is the Lunargrasp Fairy still living alone at Fullmoon Peak?"

Li Qiye suddenly stood out in this quiet restaurant. There weren't that many humans in Heaven Spirit to begin with. If the crowd wasn't distracted by the conversation, they would have noticed a human like Li Qiye much earlier.

"Yes, how did you know?" Mu Shaolong was startled and looked over at Li Qiye.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't answer. He was lamenting in his mind as the past resurfaced along with many emotions.

Mu Shaolong smiled and asked: "May I ask for your name, Brother?"

"Li Qiye." He looked at Mu Shaolong and nodded with a smile. His personality normally wouldn't care for other cultivators outside of those who were too ignorant to know any better, so his current attitude towards Mu Shaolong was considered very friendly.

After the words "Li Qiye" sounded, some of the cultivators were aghast. A few even moved away from him to keep a safe distance.

Even though they hadn't seen Li Qiye before, his notoriety had spread far and wide. Many in Heaven Spirit were well-aware of his fierceness.

Sacrificing a billion teeming fish, massacring Wyvern and the Bloodshark Village, and most importantly, killing Shangguan Feiyan — these were all deeds that astounded the masses.

"So it is Brother Li, I have heard of your name long ago." Mu Shaolong cupped his fists politely. Of course, he didn't need to flatter a human like Li Qiye. The Celestial Pavilion had no need to fawn over anyone.

Bao Yujiang was immediately interested and asked with a smile: "Brother Li, you are now famous all over the world, why not sit down and have a few drinks with us?"

"Yes, come and sit with us. If Brother Bao could take Brother Li to see Senior Zhentian, I'm sure the senior would appreciate him." Mu Shaolong could see that Yujiang was interested, so he echoed the sentiment.

Chapter 1299: Old Zhu

In recent days, Li Qiye was preeminent among the humans. Many even thought that he had the highest chance of becoming an Immortal Emperor for his race. The humans here had high hopes for him.

Bao Yujiang wanted to earn Li Qiye's favor. Although he said he wanted to introduce Li Qiye to his grandmaster, this was only to attract him so that he might join his own ranks.

In his eyes, his grandmaster would certainly become an Immortal Emperor. As his granddisciple, he was qualified to lead a legion. If he could have someone as strong as Li Qiye as his underling, it would increase his power and status later on.

Li Qiye only maintained his smile and continued to drink his ghostblood wine.

Yujiang felt disrespected at Li Qiye's lack of response. Even though he wasn't considered a genius, his backing was quite immense and allowed him to do whatever he pleased regardless of the location. But now, this public lack of sensibility from Li Qiye left him in a tough spot, worsening his mood.

Even though he didn't retaliate, he scowled with an angry expression.

"Well, this can be considered a missed opportunity. How unfortunate, it will be prohibitively difficult to get the same chance in the future." Mu Shaolong shook his head when he saw Li Qiye's lack of consideration. Of course, he wouldn't interfere with Bao Yujiang's matter.

"Brother Bao, you should come to the Jade Sea some time, I'll be your guide." After noticing that Yujiang was recruiting, a smart youth immediately tried to please him.

"Virtuous Nephew, the doors to our Sacredheart Gate will always be open to you." Even an old paragon withdrew his strong display in order to earn some points.

The young ones wanted to become his friends or at least underlings if possible. As for the older generation, it was too much for paragons like them to work under Yujiang. Nevertheless, they were still willing to lower their own status in order to befriend him.

Meng Zhentian was coming into being in this generation. In the eyes of the inhabitants of Heaven Spirit, it was certain that he would become an Immortal Emperor.

True to his name, he was powerful enough. Some even said that one would be hard-pressed to find a worthy foe for him in the entire nine worlds.

For many, it was easier to be friend an emperor before they ascended the throne than try to establish a relationship afterward.

Just having the tiniest relationship with an emperor or becoming one of their soldiers was not only a fast way towards success, even their sects would ride their coattails towards glory.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye was only interested in the Lunargrasp Fairy. As for this Meng Zhentian and Bao Yujiang, he didn't place them in his sight at all, so he no longer paid attention to them. Instead, he looked at the time and then outside.

At this time, his food was served. Li Qiye didn't look at it for long before he asked the waiter: "Your old man isn't here today to sell stuff?"

"Sir, are you talking about Old Chu?" The waiter smiled: "The number of visitors has recently skyrocketed. He is usually very punctual, maybe something is holding him up."

Right after the waiter finished speaking, a clank came from outside the door as a person came in.

The waiter cheerfully told Li Qiye: "Speaking of the devil, Old Chu is here."

Li Qiye shifted his gaze towards the door. A person with a complete human skeleton was walking in. He wore a wide robe while carrying a big wooden trunk. He himself was just a tiny skeleton. Appearance wise, he wasn't that special.

However, it was rare to see a complete skeleton on Bones Island; it was much rarer than seeing living beings.

Li Qiye's smile widened after seeing this little skeleton.

"Clang, clang, clang!" Old Chu came inside and rang his bell. A hoarse voice came from his chest: "Immemorial secret bones, heaven-seer divine gaze, the hand of an immortal... Everything is on sale!"

The first-timers were very curious when they saw this little merchant. As for those who had been here before, they were very cautious of Old Chu, but they were curious nonetheless.

"Immemorial secret bones, heaven-seer divine gaze, the hand of an immortal?" A regular visitor couldn't help but ask: "Old Chu, are you selling counterfeits?"

"Counterfeits?" Old Chu stared at this cultivator. Despite not having eyes, his attitude was clear. He retorted: "My reputation has been gold-clad for nine reincarnations, I would never sell counterfeits."

"Hmph, stop with your trickery. Last time, I bought a piece of bone from a Thundervoid Kui, but it was completely useless and almost killed me." The cultivator snorted.

Old Chu explained with a smile: "Oh, that Thundervoid Kui bone? You didn't buy its blood, this type of bone requires the blood of the beast as well before it is able to divert a thunder tribulation."

The smile of a skeleton like this was a macabre sight.

"Then why didn't you tell me this when I bought the bone?" The cultivator was quite dissatisfied.

Old Chu asked: "My bad, I didn't have the goods last time, but I thought you knew. Now that I think about it, I just so happen to have some Thundervoid Kui blood, do you want a bottle?"

The old cultivator wanted to vomit blood. He had been swindled by Old Chu once, but he couldn't do anything about it. No one would recklessly attack the skeletons on this island.

"What are the immemorial secret bones?" Mu Shaolong's curiosity was piqued.

Old Chu looked over at Shaolong and somewhat mysteriously spoke: "Can't say, can't say. When you buy it, you will learn its magical effects right away."

"How much?" Shaolong was from the Celestial Pavilion, so money was not a problem for him.

"My business has but a single rule: I only accept longevity blood, nothing else." Old Chu shook his head in response.

Some first-timers exchanged glances. Longevity blood was too precious for cultivators, especially the older ones.

"How much? One bottle?" Shaolong was very interested in the bones.

"From you?" Old Chu shook his head again: "Your blood won't do. I need at least one bottle of longevity blood from a supreme Godking for this deal." [1. Don't know if Supreme is a rank for Godking or just a regular adjective. Leaving it as an adjective for now until the author indicates otherwise.]

"Longevity blood of a Godking?!" Shaolong was startled after hearing this. Despite having deep pockets, he couldn't come up with this type of item.

When one reached the level of Godking, they wouldn't easily extract their own longevity blood.

"What about the hand of an immortal?" Yujiang felt like asking.

Old Chu happily answered: "Not expensive at all, just ten drops of Immortal Emperor Longevity Blood."

The crowd's expression changed. Ten drops of imperial blood was priceless. Just one drop alone could make a man beyond wealthy. Not even an imperial lineage could necessarily produce ten drops.

Someone who had been here before asked: "Old Chu, why are your goods so expensive this time around?"

Old Chu replied: "The situation has changed. The artifact of immortality has come out and the Bonesea is surging. Recently, I obtained a number of treasures, but in reality, it is everyone's fortune."

Despite this, this sky-high price was not something that they could afford.

"Give me a box of protection talismans." While the others were asking if Old Chu had other items, Li Qiye knew exactly what he wanted.

"Coming. Sir, what kind of protection talisman do you want?" Old Chu started to beam after finding a customer. His skeletal expression was incredibly lifelike.

Li Qiye didn't say anything; instead, he put a small bottle on the table. Old Chu took it and shook it next to his ear. His expression turned serious right away. He opened his wooden box and carefully looked inside before taking out an antique box with an old smell. He placed it before Li Qiye and said in a serious manner: "Sir, these are the talismans that you wanted."

Li Qiye didn't bother checking the contents and casually stored this box away in his robes.

"Old Chu, you still have more talismans?" One of his old customers asked with surprise: "I thought you ran out a while ago?"

Old Chu bragged: "Hehehe, because of the phenomenon going on at the Bonesea right now, I risked my old life to and found a batch of the best talismans. Do you want some?"

A junior asked in response: "What are these protection talismans?"

"It's a talisman for the Bonesea that protects the body from potential attacks." The cultivator stared at Old Chu, wondering if he should buy some or not.

"Can his talismans actually protect people in the Bonesea?" Many eyes lit up after hearing this. After all, everyone wanted to go to the Bonesea.

A cultivator palpitating from excitement asked: "Give me a box, what's the price?"

Old Chu responded: "One bottle of longevity blood."

The cultivator hesitated for a moment before taking out his own longevity blood and handing it to Old Chu.

The old man took out a wooden box from the trunk and handed it to him. The cultivator looked at it and asked: "How come mine is different?"

His box was drastically different from Li Qiye's.

Chapter 1300: The Lord Of Bones Island

Old Chu smilingly responded: "As people say, you get what you pay for. The bottle that gentleman brought earlier isn't something you can afford."

The cultivator was embarrassed after hearing this. He looked at him and asked: "Can your talismans really protect us?"

"Like I said just now, you get what you pay for. If one talisman isn't enough, put a few more on. You won't be able to go too far with these cheap goods though." The old man grinned.

There was nothing the cultivator could do. He felt that he got swindled by the old man again.

Even though some people felt that Old Chu was slightly untrustworthy, several still bought these protection talismans and hoped for the best.

As for irrationally expensive items like this hand of the immortal, they didn't dare ask about buying them.

"Clang, clang, clang..." After seeing the interest die down, Old Chu left the restaurant and began his peddling once more while ringing his bell: "Immemorial secret bones, heaven-seer divine gaze, the hand of an immortal..."

Li Qiye chuckled. He handed money to the waiter and left as well.

Old Chu only left slightly before Li Qiye and didn't walk too fast, so Li Qiye caught up right away.

He was not in a rush to talk to Old Chu, so he leisurely tailed the old man while looking at the buildings and pretty scenes around Bones Island.

It seemed that the old man didn't notice Li Qiye behind him. He walked and shook the bell in his hand while loudly advertising.

In this fashion, the two of them slowly walked through several streets. The moment they reached an alley, Old Chu stopped and slowly turned around.

His cheekbones produced a smile as he asked: "Sir, do you still want to buy more?"

Li Qiye walked forward and looked at him to say: "I don't want to buy anything, but I do want to meet your master, the lord of this island."

"Ah, Sir, I'm afraid there is a misunderstanding. We don't have a master or an island lord." Old Chu laughed in response.

Li Qiye flatly stated: "I don't wish to repeat myself."

The old man was still smiling. He shook his head and replied: "Sir, this lowly one is only a nobody trying to do some business, I don't understand what you are—"

Before he could finish, he was suddenly frozen still. A law from Li Qiye pinned itself to Old Chu's forehead. Li Qiye took action without any warning; he was faster than time itself, so Old Chu didn't have a chance to respond.

"Crack!" With lightning speed, Li Qiye removed a bone from Old Chu's body. At the same moment, the old skeleton seemingly turned into a puppet that was falling apart, scattering all over the ground.

The sound of bones breaking came about. This bone was shattered completely in Li Qiye's hand. However, the crushed powder didn't fall to the ground; it floated in the air and abruptly formed a small black hole.

Li Qiye stepped inside without any hesitation. When he disappeared, the black hole quickly collapsed. Outside of the bones scattered on the ground, it was as if nothing had happened.

"Bang!" When the black hole disappeared completely, the bone that Li Qiye removed came back together and fell to the ground.

"Clack, clack, clack!" The sound of bones coming together emerged. The strangest thing happened when that single bone fell to the ground. All the scattered bones reconnected and a complete skeleton was formed.

Old Chu got up from the ground. He unexpectedly acted just like before by picking up the bell and carrying his big trunk. The bell sounded once more while he shouted away.

Up in the sky where the white clouds drifted in the distance was a floating palace. Its size was modest, and there was a little pool of water in front of it.

A person was lying in a wooden chair, basking in the sun. He looked very relaxed and comfortable while drinking his bloodwine — the leisurely life of an immortal.

To be precise, he resembled the skeleton of a twelve-year-old.

This skeleton was golden; each bone seemed to be cast from gold. A pair of jewel-like eyes were in its sockets.

However, the most eye-catching part of this skeleton was not its golden nature or the jewels for its eyes, but the halo above its head.

This halo was incredibly holy. Others would feel inferior the moment they saw this light and have an urge to prostrate. It looked like the aura of an angel, something capable of cleansing anyone's mind and dispelling the light of this world. [1. First time seeing angel used in ED, seems a bit out of place. The last sentence was weird too.]

The idle skeleton suddenly sat up and shouted: "Who is it?!"

"Buzz." A black hole opened and Li Qiye walk out in front of this skeleton.

Upon seeing this intruder, the jeweled eyes shot out a bizarre light as it glared at Li Qiye with a serious expression.

"Fellow Daoist, may I have your name?" It cupped its fists after not being able to recognize Li Qiye.

Li Qiye revealed a friendly smile, flashing his striking white teeth: "I broke your bones last time, yet you don't remember me? Do I have to do it again?"

"Fuck!" The skeleton suddenly jumped to the side and threw away its bloodwine while exclaiming: "You're that damned crow!"

"You got it." Li Qiye smiled with his dazzling, perfect teeth. He then sat down in the chair without any reservation and comfortably sighed.

"You, you snatched back your real body?" The skeleton stared at him in disbelief.

"Yes, this is my real body. I traveled very far to get here, so shouldn't you be getting the good wine out for a guest like me?" Li Qiye closed his eyes and made himself comfortable.

This skeleton was Lord Bones, the master of Bones Island. Its origin was unknown. At the very least, less than few people knew of its origin across the eons, but it had always been in charge of this island.

Lord Bones stared at Li Qiye for a bit before giving up. It went inside the palace to take out more bloodwine and poured a full cup for Li Qiye.

Li Qiye accepted the cup and drank a mouthful before sighing: "You really know how to enjoy life, hiding this stuff all to yourself."

Lord Bones replied: "Hah, what else can I do? After being tricked by that bastard Bu Si, I can only hang onto this little life in this place and drink a little bit each day to kill time."

"Well, that's true." Li Qiye drank some more and nodded.

"That motherfucker." Lord Bones started cursing after the past was brought up: "That goddamned bastard! I trusted him so much back then, yet he actually tricked me. Look at me now, I can't die even if I want to. I have to go through so much trouble each time I want to sneak back."

Li Qiye only laughed at the cursing lord and replied: "Didn't the brat's skeletal mount run to the Bonesea? You can sneak back to catch it."

"Hmph, I'm not in a hurry." The lord gritted his teeth from anger: "I'm waiting for that brat. If he doesn't succeed, then forget it. But if he does... Hehe, he better not let me see him or I'll peel off his skin again and again so that he'll learn who the boss is. He dared to trick me, so I won't let him off so easily."

Li Qiye leisurely commented: "I don't know if you will have the chance."

"Of course I will, I'll take real good care of him." The lord became quite heated as his murderous intent grew: "It would be a real shame if I don't let him taste some of the most horrifying methods of torture in this world."

Li Qiye smiled and put down his cup to say: "I'm not interested in asking about your feud with him. If you can torture him, then I'll applaud for sure. However, I'm here to borrow something from you."

"Oh, hahaha." The lord turned cautious and laughed: "Damned crow, no, Your Great Excellency, don't joke with a lowly man like me. I am only a wandering ghost, suppressed from above and tortured from below. How could a person like me have anything of interest for someone as amazing as you?"

"Your Excellency, you are the ruler of the nine worlds, an eternal god, the sole master of the nine heavens and ten earths. Nothing in this world could enter your sight." The lord flattered Li Qiye incessantly.

Li Qiye couldn't help but chortle in response: "Bones, your words aren't reasonable since you really are just hanging onto dear life here. The Bonesea has done too much to you. On top of that brat tricking you back then, it really has been tough on you."

Lord Bones continued with his flattery: "Hahaha, Your Excellency, you are still so wise and brilliant. Your insight is matchless."

"However..." Li Qiye proceeded with a grin: "You conveniently took out many items from the Bonesea back then. You were supposed to go fifty-fifty with that brat back then, but you greedily took eighty percent instead. You tell me, if the brat didn't pull a fast one on you, would he have let this go?"