

EMPEROR 1331

### **Chapter 1331: Profound Sea Monarch**

While Li Qiye was chatting with Daoist Puresun, a loud commotion came about. A person descended from the sky and aroused the attention of the crowd.

This was a youth adorned with a dragon robe and an imperial crown. He carried great momentum just like an emperor on a tour of his kingdom.

Countless God-monarch rings rotated around his body. Each of them had a god in the center, so it looked as if he had thousands of gods protecting him in addition to millions of citizens in worship.

When his rings came together, a towering figure emerged. It gathered the faith of billions, allowing it to be enveloped by his blood energy. This boundless figure didn't look like a shadow at all. Instead, it was more like a true god. It stood behind him and quietly protected this youth.

This figure could instantly suppress all paragons and weaker God-Monarchs. The youth didn't need to do anything, just this figure alone could sweep through all of his enemies!

"Now this is a True Monarch!" The older paragons were slightly astonished. They understood the significance of the shadow behind him.

When a cultivator reached a certain level within the paragon realm, they could think about opening up their own territory. This was especially true for those who were capable of entering the path of the grand era. They would contemplate starting their own sects or establishing a branch within the existing one.

This was because at this particular level, they could accept the tributes of their citizens, allowing them to grow stronger with the blood energy of their vassals. This benefited both their cultivation and battle prowess. On the battlefield, there was a great difference between those who were receiving tributes and those who weren't.

As for paragons that reached the True Monarch level, not only were they worshipped by their citizens, they would have become deified, thus being nourished by a great amount of blood energy.

Someone shouted after seeing the youth: "Profound Sea God-Monarch!"

"The king of the Profound Sea Dynasty!" Even those who had never seen him before were shaken after hearing his title.

This dynasty was part of Gu Chun's four branches.

An older knowledgeable cultivator with great insight saw the shadow behind him and emotionally stated: "This monarch is quite unfathomable. Not only is he decisive and ambitious, he is also blessed with good fortune. He wants to expand his dynasty's territory."

"Yes, I heard he could be considered an exceptional individual among the dynasty's wise sages who have helped expand the dynasty." Another charming spirit from the Abyss Sea movingly added: "He treats his citizens quite well, which is why he possesses this powerful visual phenomenon."

“With so much blood energy from his citizens empowering him, I don’t think anyone is stronger than him at the True Monarch level.” Another paragon from the previous generation made this verdict.

Opening more territories was very beneficial to paragons of this level. Because of this, many great powers would have numerous branches erected by their own paragons. Of course, this alone wouldn’t be enough. It was not difficult for a True Monarch to expand their territory since they would have ample power to seize lands by force.

Administration was required for these new territories. Only when one could let their own citizens prosper would they be rewarded during the ceremony for the divine investiture. Their citizens would offer even more vitality, relative to the population and level of prosperity.

There was an old saying in the mortal world: if one’s belly wasn’t full, they wouldn’t be thinking about worshipping some random deities or devils. Only when your citizens are blessed by your rule would they grow stronger from a peaceful life. With that, their blood energy would invigorate the territory and the ruler. The stronger the citizens, the stronger the True Monarch after the inauguration process.

However, it wasn’t easy to run multiple kingdoms and bless them with prosperity. Because of this, many God-Monarchs would abandon their administration and choose to cultivate instead. They would, in turn, use spirit medicines and pills to make up for the lack of energy from their citizens.

Even though this was an inferior method, it still gave them a chance to surpass the True Monarch level and perhaps even reach the Godking realm. Nevertheless, this had its disadvantages and shortcomings. With a sufficient amount of blood energy, these True Monarchs could become something even greater than an ordinary Godking. They could become entities praised as World Dominating Godkings, Nine Worlds Godkings, or even a mythical Emperor Assailant.

“The Profound Monarch might not have the ambition to become the Immortal Emperor, but he is aiming to be an Emperor Assailant.” An experienced paragon commented after seeing the great amount of vitality strengthening the shadow behind the monarch.

He was correct. Many talented prodigies could easily surpass the bottleneck of being a True Monarch. However, they couldn’t govern their citizens well enough, so during their divine inauguration, they would fail to receive a great amount of blood energy. Later on, they could still become a Godking, but they would be limited to the Grand Godking or Heavenly Godking levels.

A cultivator who understood him couldn’t help but state: “His edge is far beyond that compared to the other True Monarchs. Look, he has the right hand of god!”

After hearing this, many shifted their attention towards the monarch’s right hand. It was different from the rest of his body. His hand was as white as jade and even more exquisite and beautiful than a woman’s hand. It was as if it was carved from a perfect piece of jade; it gave off an unparalleled gentleness.

Such a flawless hand was beyond criticism. It was no wonder why people would call it the right hand of god.

Someone curiously asked: “What is the power of this right hand?”

The cultivator who knew about it shook his head: "I'm not quite sure. I heard those who have seen the power of this hand are all dead. Some believe that it is quite mighty, others state that it could change something from being rotten to magical. It might even contain the mysteries of the gods."

Under the eyes of the crowd, the monarch boarded the Evil Devourer School's boat and went inside.

This garnered everyone's full attention because the feud between him and Li Qiye was no secret. They all knew that Li Qiye killed his favorite concubine.

He walked into the internal compartment in a domineering manner as if he was the sole ruler of the world. His eyes swept through the room and saw Daoist Puresun. Despite his imperious temperament, he still bowed and cupped his fists respectfully: "Senior Brother, long time no see."

He might be a preeminent character to outsiders, but he was still the daoist's junior brother and showed no signs of arrogance in his presence.

"Congratulations, Junior Brother. Your divine ceremony was quite perfect, it has paved a straight path for you into the future. It is only a matter of time before you surpass me." The daoist stared at the figure behind the monarch and couldn't help but voice his praise.

"I cannot compare with you, Senior Brother." The monarch smilingly said. Despite his arrogant nature, this sentence was quite sincere.

He thought very highly of himself, but he understood his limits very well when standing before his senior brother. Others might not have seen the daoist's matchless talents, but after growing up with him, he knew of his brother's invincibility and power more than anyone!

The daoist only smiled in response.

At this time, the monarch's gaze fell upon Li Qiye. It turned quite cold like two divine blades, sharp enough to sever all creations.

He lowered his tone: "You are Li Qiye!"

Li Qiye smilingly replied: "That's right."

The glint that flashed in his eyes gave off a commanding pressure. No one would question his power since he was among the top ranking members of the younger generation. He stated: "You killed my concubine!"

Li Qiye remained seated there leisurely: "If your concubine's name is Gongsun Meiyu, then yes, I killed your concubine."

The cold aura of the monarch bloomed even more. He chillingly said: "Do you know the consequences of opposing me?"

"I don't." Li Qiye was still all-smiles: "However, I know the result of those who antagonize me. A light sentence would be death, a heavy sentence would be sect destruction."

The daoist only sat there with a smile while watching this confrontation between the two.

### **Chapter 1332: The Profound Sea Monarch's Decision**

After hearing Li Qiye's response, the monarch's eyes lit up with an oppressive bite. An imperial aura emerged. Even paragons would feel pressured under his momentum.

However, Li Qiye was completely unaffected and nonchalantly sat there.

The monarch slowly uttered while maintaining his glare: "It seems like you are full of confidence. Do you think you alone can sweep through the entire Heaven Spirit World?"

Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "No. I know that with my own strength, it is more than enough to ravage the entire nine worlds!"

Anyone else would find Li Qiye's words to be blasphemously haughty. Ravaging the nine worlds was a statement no one would say outside of Immortal Emperors.

The glint in the monarch's eyes sharpened during this staredown. His whole mind was focused on Li Qiye, as if he wanted to figure out something by looking into his eyes.

One with a haunting gaze and one seated leisurely — this went on for some time.

Eventually, the monarch dispersed his horrifying momentum and converged his aura before speaking: "No matter how strong you are, there is always someone stronger. It was her lack of propriety for opposing you, she didn't understand the immensity of the heaven and earth."

Many would be surprised to hear these words come from the monarch. One must remember that Li Qiye killed his favorite concubine, yet he wasn't trying to obtain revenge right now. It was simply inconceivable.

"Profound King, I actually thought you were here for revenge." Ruyan came out after finishing her tasks. She smiled after hearing his response.

Because the Profound Monarch was also the king of the Profound Dynasty, others called him the Profound King as well.

The monarch faintly smiled in response: "Schoolmaster Liu, I will repay certain enmities. If my concubine's killer was on the same level as me, I would absolutely kill them not only for revenge but also to establish my authority!"

She charmingly quipped: "Then what about my Young Noble? Are you saying that you are not on his level?"

The monarch gave Li Qiye a cold glance and snorted without answering Ruyan.

Li Qiye sat there and chuckled: "This is a bit surprising. Anyone else would have a hard time enduring this anger."

The monarch scowled: "Don't be surprised. If it wasn't for the fact that I am unable to see through your true power, I would have made mincemeat out of you. It was her fault for being blind and seeking her own death by opposing you."

Ruyan asked: "Hey now, Profound King, these words are too frank. Are you not afraid that your other concubines will be hurt from hearing this?"

The monarch responded: "Schoolmaster, there's no need to goad me. She was only a woman, this isn't enough for me to involve the entire Profound Dynasty. Moreover, I gave her wealth and prestige. She, on the other hand, didn't find me strong allies and instead only provoked a supreme enemy. Her death was her own fault."

The monarch betrayed all expectations. No one would be able to endure their favorite concubine being killed, yet he could let go of this grudge and not try to obtain revenge.

Li Qiye smiled and told the monarch: "Interesting, sit down for a drink."

The daoist finally spoke at this time: "Brother, why not come with me to the Bonesea? We can support each other."

The monarch cupped his fists towards the daoist before glaring at Li Qiye to say: "Senior Brother, I appreciate your goodwill. However, my willingness to forego this grudge does not mean that I want to befriend him. Even though I do not want revenge, I still don't like him. There's no need for the drink."

Li Qiye clapped his hands approvingly, quite pleased with the response. He said: "Very straightforward, how interesting. Because of this response, I will spare your life even if we become enemies later on!"

The monarch didn't reply to such domineering words. He gave Li Qiye one last side-eye before turning around to leave.

However, he suddenly stopped after remembering something. He turned and asked the daoist: "Senior Brother, it has been a few years, have you made any progress with Senior Aunt?"

"Brother, what are you saying?" The daoist blushed and shook his head.

The monarch stared at him and pressed on: "Why bother hiding when it has reached this level? You aren't the only one who knows this, even she herself knows about it! As the saying goes, don't let one's own fertile water flow into others' fields. She is such a beauty, yet you still want her to marry an outsider? If you like her, you need to make a move!"

"Don't try to egg me on, I have my own discretion." The daoist's face became hot as he glared at the monarch.

"Stop, Senior Brother, I know you too well. Everything about you is excellent outside of your lack of ambition! If I had your talents, I would have reached for the Heaven's Will already. This Meng Zhentian or whatever, I would have cut him down! You are blessed with an unparalleled aptitude, yet you're wasting it away by idling about!" The monarch showed a disdainful look.

He continued on: "Nothing can be done about that, one does not necessarily have to become an Immortal Emperor. However, if you don't even dare to chase after the woman you like, then you would be failing your supreme blessings even more! Senior Brother, you must reconsider. If you don't court her, someone else will win her over. She has many suitors in Heaven Spirit, after all." With that, the monarch finally left.

The daoist only wryly smiled without responding to the monarch.

Many eyes were staring at the giant boat outside. They thought that a fight would break out between the monarch and Li Qiye. However, they were surprised to see the monarch leave. How could such a prestigious character endure this anger?

Nobody knew what was going on, but they didn't dare to comment in the presence of the monarch.

The monarch didn't care for their opinions either and boarded a boneship to head towards the Bonesea.

Back inside the boat, Li Qiye drank a nice cup of tea given to him by Jianshi. He smiled at the daoist: "Your junior brother is an interesting fella."

The daoist smiled back: "He has always been like this. We grew up together and he's perfect outside of being a bit arrogant and competitive. The Profound Dynasty — in his hands — will be able to shine."

The daoist was much greater than the monarch in terms of talents and power. However, the two had a great friendship. The monarch never held any jealousy towards his excellent senior brother.

On the contrary, he felt regret for his brother. In his opinion, the daoist could compete for the Heaven's Will and perhaps be the most likely candidate as well.

Unfortunately, the daoist didn't have this ambition. He chose the path of the grand era instead of the heavenly path. More importantly, he never cared for fame and wealth, so despite holding immense power, he was relatively unknown.

The monarch himself chose the path of the grand era because of his brother. If someone as matchless as his brother didn't obtain the Heaven's Will, then it would be too tasteless for an inferior person like him to reach for it.

Li Qiye smilingly said: "However, your brother is right. If you don't dare to chase after someone you like, it would be an affront towards your innate gifts."

The daoist couldn't find an answer to this comment and let out a hollow laughter.

He liked the Golden Era Palace Master. However, as his martial aunt, she was one generation higher than him. This left him in a difficult situation.

After all, they were a magnificent sect in Heaven Spirit. Countless lineages and charming spirits viewed them as leaders. If he married his martial aunt, it would indeed be improper given his sect's reputation.

"The Puresun Island Lord is incredible regarding cultivation, but unfortunately, you treat a few matters in the way women do." Ruyan chuckled: "Just as the Profound King has said, if you waste this opportunity, won't you regret it for the rest of your life?"

Both the Void Imperfection Three Schools and Gu Chun's four branches were leading charming spirit lineages as well as allies. The two powers mingled a lot, so Liu Ruyan also knew about the daoist's love for the Golden Era Master. In fact, this was no secret in the four branches; any disciple with a bit of influence knew about it.

The daoist quietly pondered for a moment before letting out a sentimental sigh. Shortly after, he said: "Morality and ethics, what can people say about them? Even if I can cross this hurdle, my aunt might not be able to."

“How can you say that without trying?” Li Qiye grinned: “Make an attempt before coming to a conclusion. Plus, your four branches aren’t that pedantic about morality. Your ancestors, Immortal Emperor Gu Chun, Immortal Emperor Chen Hai, and Immortal Emperor Yan Shi, aren’t so old-fashioned in the first place.”

The daoist was still hesitant, not knowing how to voice his feelings.

Li Qiye laughed and patted his shoulder: “Give it a try. The opportunity is in your hands. If you fail to grasp it, it won’t be there any longer. If such a day comes, you will regret it, and remember, there is no medicine for regret.”

The daoist quietly nodded.

### **Chapter 1333: Meng Zhentian’s Enticement**

As the group was preparing to depart for the Bonesea once more, someone else came to visit.

A boneship floated from the Bonesea with two people on board, one old and one young.

The old man looked extraordinary with a sword on his back. This sword was thick and huge, a great contrast to his own stature. Though he hid his aura, there were sharp glints in his eyes like unstoppable sword strikes, evident by his suffocating sword dao.

As for the youth, many people knew that it was Bao Yujiang from the Dream Empyrean.

An older character immediately recognized the old man and blurted: “Cao Guojian!”

“Cao Guojian?” Others shuddered after hearing this name.

This was Meng Zhentian’s youngest disciple. Rumor has it that he became Zhentian’s direct disciple after joining the Dream Empyrean during the Difficult Dao Era.

Although Meng Zhentian didn’t spend a long period teaching Cao Guojian about cultivation, his talents shined during this arduous generation. It was difficult to find a suitable opponent for him during his youth. Others praised him as the best swordsman in Heaven Spirit. Ultimately, he reached the peak by becoming an excellent God-Monarch.

Keep in mind that it was exceedingly difficult to even become a paragon during the Difficult Dao Era, let alone a God-Monarch. After this era ended, he eventually became a Grand Godking.

It has been said that if he hadn’t been born at the wrong time, he could have become an invincible Godking. Even if he couldn’t become a Nine Worlds Godking, he would at least be a World Dominating Godking.

Cao Guojian disembarked his boneship and boarded the Evil Devourer School’s boat. He told the disciples here: “Dream Empyrean disciple, Cao Guojiao. Under the orders of my master, I am here to see Schoolmaster Liu and Schoolmaster Zhuo.”

Many cultivators slightly trembled after hearing this, especially the experienced ones who smelled something different in the air.

“Could it be that Meng Zhentian has begun to recruit the heroes of this world?” A sect master murmured to himself after making this prediction.

Everyone knew that Meng Zhentian wanted to become the Immortal Emperor. These candidates didn't need to antagonize everyone in the world. In fact, throughout history, many great powers were willing to form an alliance with promising candidates.

This sudden visit from Cao Guojian under Meng Zhentian's orders had a different feeling to it.

An insightful elder murmured: “If the Void Imperfection Three Schools form an alliance with the Dream Emperian, he will become a tiger with wings. His path towards Immortal Emperor will be even easier.”

Despite being low-key, the Void Imperfection Schools were still a behemoth of the Charming Spirit Race and Heaven Spirit as a whole. It held a pivotal position in the worldly order.

If they were to ally with the Dream Emperian, then not far in the future, the four branches might do so as well.

If it came down to this, Meng Zhentian would be completely victorious. No one would be able to stop his army.

Inside the boat, Ruyan and Jianshi heard the message from the disciples. Their eyes darted at each other and then Li Qiye.

In their opinion, their schools would definitely follow Li Qiye. He could make any decision in their stead.

The daoist sitting to the side smiled and said: “The guest comes bearing ill-will.”

The daoist was quite a character, so he naturally understood the reason for Cao Guojian's visit.

Li Qiye smiled and added: “I like this type of guest the most. Wouldn't it be boring if everyone was agreeable all the time? Only blood and bones will paint the path of an Immortal Emperor, one full of passion and fun.”

Li Qiye's nonchalant attitude left the two girls with helpless smiles. Even someone as restless as Ruyan, a demoness, wasn't a match for Li Qiye in terms of bloodthirst and murder.

Massacring and clan extermination was just an ordinary meal to Li Qiye. It was as if a day without war and blood would be a boring and lonely day.

“Don't look at me like that.” He shook his head after noticing the stares: “I'm not a murderous demon or butcher, I'm simply stating the truth. The path of an emperor will be paved with dried bones, and even after becoming one, the future will still be full of obstacles and death.”

The daoist smiled in response: “Before knowing Brother Li, I might have felt some regret for not choosing the path of the heavens, but now, I think the path of the grand era is more suitable for me. With you here, there is no chance for me to become emperor.”

These words were not uttered carelessly. He truly had the power and talents to reach for the throne. Even if Meng Zhentian came out, he just needed another three to five years before being able to compete all the same.



“Let him in.” Li Qiye told Ruyan: “If Meng Zhentian won’t come, we can still listen to his disciple for a bit.”

Ruyan followed his instruction. A bit later, Bao Yujiang and Cao Guojian were led inside by the disciples.

Yujiang followed his master in. The moment he saw Li Qiye, his eyes ignited with rage. He glared at him as if this feud wouldn’t end until one of them died.

Guojian politely greeted Ruyan and Jianshi. He found it a bit surprising to see Daoist Puresun as well: “So Puresun Island Lord is also here? It’s a pleasure to meet you.”

“Don’t worry about me, I’m just passing by.” The daoist smiled and left.

Guojian cupped his fists before formally taking out a document. He solemnly handed it to Ruyan and Jianshi while saying: “I have been entrusted the task to visit Schoolmasters by my master.”

The two took a look. This was a formal document of communication between great powers with the personal signature of Meng Zhentian.

The three words “Meng Zhentian” were majestic and exuded a mighty aura that struck at the face; it was as if he was standing before them.

Ruyan accepted the document and cheerfully asked: “What business are you here for, Lord Cao?”

Guojian wanted to speak, but he refrained from doing so after seeing Li Qiye leisurely sitting there.

Jianshi gracefully said: “Young Noble Li and our Void Imperfection Schools are on the same side. Lord Cao, you don’t have to watch your words.” [1. The raw would be “under the same household”, but you can see why it would be weird. This phrase works for allies/families/friends. You can see what Jianshi is implying with this.]

Guojian looked at him a bit more before speaking: “Schoolmaster Liu, Schoolmaster Zhuo, my master’s emergence this time will certainly result in him becoming the Immortal Emperor. I am here to formalize an alliance between our sects in order to lead the charming spirits in Heaven Spirit to a new golden age with our immortalized contributions.”

This was within the two girls’ expectations. Meng Zhentian wanted to become an emperor and actually thought about leading the charming spirits. He would be able to leave behind a great legacy in the future. This type of honor was an irresistible temptation.

Moreover, the support of the Void Imperfection Schools meant that he would also garner the support of the majority of the Charming Spirit Race. Its might would wipe out some of the obstacles in his future.

Jianshi smiled and slightly shook her head in response: “We appreciate Senior Meng’s high evaluation of us. However, our three schools have always been free and have no intention of competing against the world. Send him our regards.”

Guojian was stunned after hearing this. He didn’t expect her to make a decision this quickly, and definitely not this frank of a refusal. He regained his wits and quickly replied: “Schoolmaster Zhuo, there’s no need to make a decision right now. My master hopes that your sect can carefully think about the alliance. You should consult the elders before making a decision.”

Despite the guise of persuasion, this was also a veiled threat.

“I can give you a serious response right now. Our schools have no intention of involving ourselves in this competition. I’m not just speaking on behalf of my Sacred Spring School, my words speak for all three Void Imperfection Schools.”

This was not an impulsive decision or overstepping her authority. In fact, the ancestors from the three schools had already given her a clear answer, Li Qiye!

In their eyes, picking a true whale rider was much better than joining hands with an Immortal Emperor. Their ancestral whale was already powerful enough, and a whale rider would be able to exert its true power. With this combination, they could sweep through the entire world.

Instead of fawning over Meng Zhentian, it was better to pick Li Qiye. Moreover, they also thought that he had a great chance of becoming the Immortal Emperor.

Spending these last few days together with Li Qiye only made Jianshi even more determined. Making Li Qiye stay with them was more important than anything else!

### **Chapter 1334: Slap**

Jianshi’s firm attitude in her direct rejection astounded Cao Guojian. He came prepared. As long as the Void Imperfection Three Schools had any intention to form an alliance, many conditions would be negotiable.

But now, Jianshi didn’t even bother discussing the conditions — this caught him completely off.

Guojian tried again: “Schoolmaster Zhuo, you should take your time instead of answering right away—”

Ruyan coldly interrupted him this time: “There’s no need to think twice. Sister Zhuo’s words represent my Evil Devourer School as well as the Void Imperfection Schools.”

Jianshi’s refusal was one thing, but Ruyan’s words gave Guojian a hard time accepting the result.

All of his preparations and calculations had been wasted. He took a deep breath and told them with great austerity: “Schoolmasters, you two should already know that when my master comes out, no one will be able to impede his path. I’m not self-praising or advertising needlessly, no one in this world is qualified for the throne outside of my master!”

This tone carried great fanfare. However, it was not a shameless boast since it did contain some truth. Even in all of the nine worlds, few could compete against Meng Zhentian, at least for the next ten years.

Li Qiye couldn’t help but laugh after hearing this. At this critical juncture, his laughter immediately changed Guojian’s expression. He already had quite a prejudice against Li Qiye, but he decided to set this enmity aside and prioritized the alliance instead.

But now, this untimely laughter seemed to be aimed at their Dream Empyrean and his master, Meng Zhentian.

Guojian was still quite a character. He didn’t immediately turn on Li Qiye on the spot and instead coldly asked: “May I ask why you are laughing, Young Noble Li?”

Li Qiye chuckled in response: “Nothing, it was just a casual laugh, but since you have asked, I’ll answer you. Your master shouldn’t dream about the position of Immortal Emperor.”

Guojian’s expression turned unsightly. Bao Yujiang, who had been posing calmly next to him, suddenly jumped up.

Yujiang shouted: “Li, don’t be presumptuous! My grandmaster is invincible in the nine heavens, just these words alone justify your death without a burial!”

Li Qiye didn’t bother glancing at the clamoring youth. Guojian slightly waved his sleeve to calm his disciple before lowering his tone towards Li Qiye: “Young Noble Li, I have heard of your feud with my disciple. As a senior, I won’t involve myself in this feud of the younger generation. I know that you are a great talent. If you join my master, I’m sure you will eventually become a great general. Your feud with my disciple will surely disappear as well. My master has a deep appreciation for geniuses, this is a great opportunity for you to rise...”

Guojian was an eloquent man who gave off a very generous tone. This manner of conduct befitted his status.

However, Li Qiye interrupted him and smiled: “Save these words for someone else. Your master alone isn’t qualified to recruit me.”

“You!” Cao Guojian couldn’t endure this blatant disrespect.

His master could deter the nine worlds. Who else would be emperor besides him? But today, a junior like Li Qiye provoked him to this degree, how could Guojian bear this anger?

Yujiang shouted: “Ignorant fool, keep on running your mouth! Master, teach him a lesson—”

“Pah!” Before he could finish, Li Qiye’s slap had already blown him away, causing him to spit out a mouthful of blood.

“What are you doing!” Guojian eventually snapped with a grimace.

Li Qiye faintly smiled: “He said to give me a lesson, so why do I need to be reserved any longer? As his master, is it time for you to teach me a lesson too?”

“Li Qiye, halt your impudence.” Guojian was furious as he uttered: “I might not care about your troublemaking, but this doesn’t mean you can act arrogant before me!” [1. Guojian changed his tone here. His “I” shows that he thinks he is above Li Qiye. The “you” is informal/rude now too.]

At this time, his eyes emitted a terrifying light. The divine sword on his back starting to ring. Even though it was still sheathed, it already exuded a horrifying sword intent!

Bao Yujiang climbed up from the deck and loudly shouted: “Master, avenge me, kill this little animal and flay his skin...”

The cultivators outside didn’t know what was going on. To their astonishment, Bao Yujiang was suddenly blown away.

Li Qiye smiled and came outside after hearing this. He leisurely replied: "Well, I haven't exercised for a few days now. You want to fight, right? Come out then, don't break someone else's boat."

Bao Yujiang was frightened after seeing Li Qiye come out and staggered backward. Even though he was emboldened by his master as his backer, he was still quite scared of Li Qiye from the previous beating.

"They want to fight!" The spectators weren't sure what was going on, but they knew a big fight was about to break out.

"Li Qiye, that's enough!" Guojian knew that his disciple was far from being a match for Li Qiye. He immediately stood before Yujiang and coldly said: "You might be strong, but you can't do as you please! The Dream Emphyrean's disciples aren't so easily bullied!"

While hiding behind his master, Yujiang grew bolder and exclaimed: "That's right! Li, you are nothing yet you still dare to talk about competing against my grandmaster? You aren't even worthy of carrying his shoes, he could crush you with one finger!"

He was still indignant about the previous beating and wanted to kill Li Qiye for revenge, but he knew that he was not a match. He wanted to egg his master into killing Li Qiye. This was the only way for him to wash away the humiliation from before.

Cao Guojian frowned after hearing him. He came for the alliance, but his disciple's words intensified the atmosphere. However, he wouldn't scold his disciple in public.

His disciple had been bullied by someone, so if he were to scold him right now, others would think that their Dream Emphyrean consisted of pushovers.

"Oh? I actually want to see just how powerful Meng Zhentian is. As the saying goes, kill the young and the old will come out, right?" Having said that with a grin, Li Qiye's figure suddenly flashed and went straight for Yujiang.

Guojian was surprised to see this attack. His divine sword left its scabbard in order to stop Li Qiye.

"Lord Cao, if you want to fight, I'll entertain you for a bit!" Jianshi's sword swung straight for Guojian in response.

"Clank!" The two swords collided, causing sparks to fly everywhere. Their brilliance assaulted the sky.

Guojian's expression showed that he was now serious. His blood energy erupted alongside the murderous aura of a Godking. His sword dao instantly expanded and wanted to trap Li Qiye and stop Jianshi's attack.

However, Jianshi showed no weakness. With a buzz, her physique appeared with its dazzling light, the Sacred Spring Physique!

In this split second, her blood energy surged like a storm. It became several hundred times or even thousands of times stronger while empowering her next destructive slash.

Her attack instantly reached its limit like a group of stars exploding. It created an absolute sword domain that came down on Guojian's sword dao.

“Clank!” The two swords suppressed each other to a standstill. In the past, Guojian’s sword dao had the advantage, but it couldn’t advance under Jianshi’s absolute sword domain.

In terms of cultivation, Jianshi was indeed not a match for Guojian who was a Grand Godking. However, she had a half-completion Immortal Physique.

Once her Sacred Spring Physique activated, she would have boundless blood energy, allowing her power to soar wildly.

Even the most ordinary move would become the most domineering and vicious attack due to her endless blood energy.

This Sacred Spring Physique could boost one’s blood energy to undepletable amounts and last forever. This meant that a cultivator with this physique might not be the most powerful on the battlefield, but they would definitely be the most resilient!

### **Chapter 1335: True Power**

While Jianshi’s absolute sword domain confronted Guojian’s sword dao, Li Qiye had already swept Yujiang off his feet and held him by the throat.

Yujiang’s eyes turned white as he gasped for air. Li Qiye maintained his grip and chuckled: “If an ant continues to crawl beneath my feet, wanting to bite, I won’t mind stomping it to death.”

“Ma-master, save me!” When death was this close, Yujiang finally felt fear as he turned pale and begged his master for help.

“Li Qiye, do you really want to become enemies with our Dream Emphyrean?” Guojian was alarmed as well. Even though he was a Grand Godking, he couldn’t quickly defeat Jianshi. Moreover, she herself had an Immortal Emperor Life Treasure!

He had no choice but to shout and reveal his backing when his disciple’s life was hanging by a thread: “Li Qiye, rethink things over! If you kill my disciple today, you will become our enemy! At that point, there will be no place for you left in this world!”

Guojian’s threat was blatant, but it wasn’t just an arrogant rhetoric. Many cultivators shuddered after hearing this, including paragons from the previous generation.

Killing Meng Zhentian’s granddisciple in front of this many people was something unforgivable. Meng Zhentian’s power was as clear as day. If he actually became the Immortal Emperor, one could easily imagine the consequences of being his enemy. Just as Guojian has said, the world might be vast, but there will be no place for them to hide!

Thus, one needed to weigh their own ability after hearing such a threat. However, this didn’t seem to apply to Li Qiye who only smiled in response.

Ruyan also chuckled and emotionlessly said: “Lord Cao, is this your personal opinion, or are you representing your master’s will?”

“I’m speaking on behalf of my master!” He immediately replied: “Li Qiye, if you seek self-preservation, let go of my disciple right now or face the consequences!”

He was afraid of breaking the vase while trying to kill the mouse. He couldn't kill Jianshi in a short period of time and knew that even if he tried to save Yujiang, it would only be pushing him further towards death. Thus, he had to borrow his master's prestige to intimidate Li Qiye into sparing his disciple.

This was met with a carefree smile from Li Qiye: "I actually want to see Meng Zhentian's will and if it can save his granddisciple or not."

Having said that, he clenched his fingers. A cracking sound resounded along with Yujiang's scream. His soul almost left his body from fright as he yelled: "Master, save me!"

Provoking Meng Zhentian this blatantly left everyone stunned silly.

"Stop! Behold my master's decree!" Having said that, Guojian unrolled a scroll.

The word "pardon" was written on it. The character was written in a majestic manner; every stroke contained the rhythm of the dao. It also contained the invincible will of Meng Zhentian since it was handwritten by him.

Someone at his invincible level could impart their will into their writing that would then cause others to tremble in fear.

Many people's knees uncontrollably shook after seeing this word.

It had yet to come down, but its divine aura alone was already enough to instill fear into their souls. One could extrapolate just how powerful Meng Zhentian was from this decree.

Everyone held their breaths after Guojian took out the scroll. The atmosphere instantly became oppressive.

It wasn't just a decree that represented an invincible will. Keep in mind that Meng Zhentian was still alive and would become the Immortal Emperor. This meant that anyone who chose not to give him any consideration would be opposing him — an unforgivable feud. No matter who they might be, they must think twice before making this decision.

The dignified atmosphere made someone as great as Cao Guojian feel a bit smug. After all, his master's prestige could still threaten the world like before. This will, his master's glory was simply unstoppable, so of course he was proud and arrogant.

He had quite a momentum going as he declared: "Schoolmasters, this is my master's inviolable will! If you wish to oppose my Dream Emphyrean and my master, then invite your own masters first. This relates to your schools' future, an existential crisis!"

At this time, the two sides were about to abandon all pretenses. Earlier, Guojian was still quite polite, but he was now furious after the quick exchange. Their Dream Emphyrean was on the rise while his master was the sun at noon. Why should he tolerate such disrespect from the Void Imperfection Schools?

"What's so great about Meng Zhentian's decree?" Jianshi was much more graceful, but the demoness Ruyan didn't share this personality.

She became irate towards Guojian's threats: "Not to mention that he has yet to become emperor, even if he was one, his will does not represent everything! A decree, right? Very well, take a look at my Evil Devourer School's will!"

Having said that, a scroll appeared in her hand. With a loud blast, four words showed up — "World, be exonerated!" They flowed as smooth as dancing dragons and phoenixes. Even though the style was refined and graceful, they had an aura capable of assaulting myriad ages.

It was an ancient scroll, yet its momentum didn't wither in the slightest. Ruyan was already an unrestrained individual, so in her rage, she directed the decree straight at Cao Guojian.

This exoneration decree suppressed the entire region. An ethereal beauty capable of devouring the world seemed to be standing there among the characters.

A paragon who knew what it was shouted: "The decree of the Evil Devourer progenitor!"

Guojian didn't think that Ruyan would immediately fight after a little argument without leaving any room for deliberation. He was shocked and had no choice but to also unleash the decree in his hand against the divine prestige of a grand completion Immortal Physique user.

"Boom!" The word "pardon" pierced the sun and flew across the world. A figure emerged within, stealing the brilliance of the celestials as it looked down on all existences!

"Meng Zhentian's will!" Everyone knew who this figure was right away.

It represented his unstoppable will. Not only was he powerful, he was still alive. This meant that his will would be even stronger. It made everyone think that the real deal was standing before them.

Weaker cultivators couldn't stand straight and had to kneel on the ground as they were unable to handle his pressure.

"Yet to be emperor but already acting like one!" Ruyan sneered. She fearlessly unleashed all the power in her scroll.

"Boom!" This decree seemingly vanished, giving room for a terrifying black hole to appear. The ethereal figure standing in the black hole had her hair fluttering in the wind. She looked around and was ready to devour gods and devils!

This was the will of the Evil Devourer progenitor. Even though she didn't become an Immortal Emperor, she was an Immortal Physique user that could assail one!

With her will crashing down, Meng Zhentian's figure also erupted and grew incomparably tall. He could seize the stars as well as the entire world in his palm. It was as if his stomp could flatten all things. However, this will couldn't hold up against the physique user.

"Boom!" Under the constant suppression of the progenitor, Zhentian's mighty figure suddenly dimmed. His sky-wearing body slowly shrunk.

A big shot murmured to himself: "This is a real grand completion master at the summit. Even if she didn't have this physique, her cultivation back then must have been stronger than Meng Zhentian. This is a real existence capable of hurting an emperor!"

Both were decrees, but Meng Zhentian's was inferior compared to the Evil Devourer progenitor's. Despite the fact that he was still alive, his decree couldn't resist her will.

After all, it was exactly what that cultivator said earlier, she was a true existence at the Emperor Assailant level. Her cultivation on top of her grand completion Immortal Physique granted her unfathomable might!

### **Chapter 1336: Merciless Slaughter**

"Rumble!" Meng Zhentian's gigantic figure was being pressed down and became smaller and smaller. The word "Pardon" was fading away because of Ruyan's decree.

Guojian's expression turned ugly after seeing this. However, he was riding a tiger and couldn't get off. He cried out and summoned a treasure. Under the strengthening of his blood energy, it emitted a powerful battle intent that fused with Meng Zhentian's will, causing it to become much stronger. It was now able to withstand the suppression.

This was a treasure personally created by Zhentian. It contained both his powerful merit laws and battle intent.

"Meng Zhentian really is strong." Many people were trembling after seeing this.

Although it might look like a fight between Ruyan and Guojian, it was a confrontation through time between the Evil Devourer progenitor and Meng Zhentian. Of course, the progenitor won the first exchange even though she was no longer in this world.

However, Zhentian had a treasure combined with his will. This allowed his shadow to stabilize the situation and withstand the pressure.

Jianshi elegantly asked in the back: "Lord Cao, you wish to test our arsenal?"

"Clank!" A sword appeared in her hand. In the blink of an eye, an Immortal Emperor's aura went on a rampage as if an emperor had personally arrived.

"Boom!" Meng Zhentian's figure couldn't withstand this development and collapsed right away. The decree in Cao Guojian's hand suddenly turned into ashes while he staggered backward. His blood energy was churning from the suppression now placed on him.

Jianshi's sword was an imperial weapon left behind by Immortal Emperor Wu Gou. The result had been determined the moment it came out. Meng Zhentian's will was no match for an Immortal Emperor's!

In this brief moment, the scene went silent. Guojian was livid. Jianshi was right, they were comparing their arsenals!

"Your sect's resources are still too weak." Li Qiye chuckled and said: "Meng Zhentian himself might be able to do something, but you are only a fox borrowing the might of a tiger by coming here like this. Go back and tell Meng Zhentian that it doesn't matter how strong he thinks he is, he better start acting smart or else during the imperial preselection, I will take off his head and hang it in the highest location in Heaven Spirit!"



With that, he twisted Bao Yujiang's neck. The boy didn't have time to scream. His eyes were wide open in astonishment since he didn't expect Li Qiye to dare kill him in front of his master.

"You!" Guojian's anger was unrestrainable. He wildly howled and wanted to rush forward, but Jianshi and Ruyan blocked his path.

One person had the decree of the Evil Devourer School while the other had an imperial sword. They activated their half completion Immortal Physiques as well — the Evil Devourer Physique and the Sacred Spring Physique.

It was easy to imagine their battle prowess when they had these artifacts with them.

Jianshi slowly said: "Lord Cao, we have heard of your prestige as a Grand Godking for a long time now. If you want to fight, we'll entertain you!"

Ruyan was even more domineering. She grinned and said: "Lord Cao, I'm not intentionally belittling you, but even with your great cultivation, you are no match for us without an imperial weapon and only something given to you by your master."

The atmosphere became serious and tense to the extreme. It was unfortunate that someone as strong as Cao Guojian had to face Ruyan and Jianshi.

The two sisters were already quite mighty and had stepped into the path of the grand era. Moreover, they also had their physiques to back up their cultivations.

In the contemporary, they weren't necessarily weaker than the Seashield Prince, the Swiftdao God, or the Seven Sea Goddess at all! It was that they preferred to keep a low profile.

Guojian didn't have an imperial weapon, so he didn't have an absolute advantage over the sisters. At this time, it was clear to see which sect had more resources. Even though the Dream Empyrean's progenitor was quite mighty, the sect itself never had an Immortal Emperor.

Li Qiye smiled and threw Yujiang's head to Guojian while flatly declaring: "This is my warning! In this generation, no one but me is qualified to be called emperor!"

With that, he ignored Guojian and went back inside the boat.

Guojian was trembling from anger. He initially came for an alliance, but it ended in a feud with the Void Imperfection Schools on top of his disciple's death. In fact, this could have been avoided if it wasn't for Bao Yujiang's remark. Alas, there was nothing he could do since the wheels had been set in motion. He had no choice but to fight at that moment.

Everyone was holding their breaths. The scene of Li Qiye challenging Meng Zhentian was too shocking. Zhentian was currently untouchable, yet Li Qiye had no qualms at all with his domineering and arrogant style.

Eventually, Jianshi spoke in a serious tone: "Lord Cao, please return."

Guojian gritted his teeth and said: "Schoolmaster Zhuo, you will regret your choice one day! The destruction of the Void Imperfection Schools will be because of this!"

“Lord Cao, thank you for worrying about our schools.” Ruyan chuckled: “Our choice is our own business. Moreover, you should wait until your master actually becomes an Immortal Emperor before talking about destroying us because with his current status, we can still easily suppress him!”

This was a grand declaration! It showed the true power and hidden aces of the Void Imperfection Schools! Many people suddenly realized something! Perhaps the schools still had existences capable of assailing Immortal Emperors right now!

It would be too shocking if this was true. Assailing emperors was a very serious topic! If they still had this type of existence, their schools would be completely unfathomable.

Guojian angrily stomped before leaving, not wanting to stay any longer. He would repay this humiliation one day, but his experienced self told him to endure for now.

The crowd was contemplating what had just transpired in silence while checking each other’s expressions.

Someone murmured: “Fierce is domineering and ferocious enough. Cao Guojian won’t be the only one angry, I’m afraid Meng Zhentian won’t swallow this very easily.”

An older character wondered: “Is this the prelude to the contest for the throne?”

An older paragon from the previous generation explained: “If Li Qiye wants to be emperor, he had to take this step. Meng Zhentian’s appearance meant that he would become the greatest rival to all the young geniuses who want to be emperor. It was just a matter of time before someone came out to challenge him. Since Zhentian has experienced the last competition, he has an advantage over the other geniuses. Nevertheless, Li Qiye is the first challenger.”

The knowledgeable people knew just how cruel the path towards emperor was. Countless geniuses had been buried, their bones paved the way for the next ruler! Meng Zhentian was an unavoidable mountain for all those who want to become emperor. However, no one expected Li Qiye to be the first challenger, and this soon at that.

Someone couldn’t help but speculate: “What is Li Qiye relying on in order to compete? Will the Peacock Tree be his dao protector, or perhaps an invincible ancestor from the Void Imperfection Schools?”

In their minds, Li Qiye was very powerful, but he still wasn’t a match for Meng Zhentian. He was too young; his cultivation wasn’t at that level just yet.

Given the circumstances, this meant that Li Qiye had people strong enough to protect him. Otherwise, he would be killed before being able to do anything.

The daoist commented with emotion after Li Qiye came back: “Your domineering style is something I won’t ever be able to learn.”

“If you had chosen the path of the heavens, you would have a chance as well.” Li Qiye glanced at the daoist and smiled.

The daoist shook his head in response with a wry smile: “No, I am glad to have picked the path of the grand era. My talents might allow me to compete with others, but after meeting you, I learned that I

would have only become dried bones that pave your path towards invincibility. And I'm sure your path will have more than enough bones, so there's no need to add mine to the pile."

He spoke with great confidence while revealing the current balance of the competition!

#### Chapter 1337: Boarding The Boneship

After the storm, the group prepared to board a ship for the Bonesea. This group consisted of Ruyan, Jianshi, Daoist Puresun, Xiong Qianbei, and Fairy.

Ruyan was puzzled by this choice: "Why are you bringing Fairy along?"

Ever since Fairy got here, she rarely talked to others outside of Li Qiye. If she wasn't with him, she would be in her room, alone. It was as if she was out of tune with others. She gave a surreal feeling, one of not belonging to this world.

Ruyan looked at the emotionless fairy and commented: "Maybe she doesn't belong to this world and is an immortal goddess that fell down to the mortal realm."

Li Qiye only smiled in response: "The world doesn't necessarily have immortals or an immortal world."

But regardless of whether there were immortals in this world or not, anyone who had seen Fairy before would be amazed and enchanted.

"If immortals exist, she would definitely be considered one." Daoist Puresun was bewildered after seeing her as well.

At this time, Li Qiye's group was waiting for boneships. Another group of ships had arrived, but Li Qiye chose not to board.

Ruyan saw that Li Qiye had no intention of boarding as more ships passed by and had to ask: "When are we boarding?"

"Waiting for a bigger and sturdier ship." Li Qiye answered while staring at the muddled waters.

He took out a wooden box and protection talismans before distributing them to the group: "Stick this on your body so the skeletons won't attack you after we get on."

These were the talismans he bought from Old Chu. Of course, he was confident in distinguishing good items from fakes.

The group took them and remembered his instruction.

"A big ship is coming." After a long wait, a great ship capable of accommodating more than one thousand passengers finally came. It looked as if it was made from a gigantic skull and emitted a dense white glow.

There were many skeletons lying on the ship. One was an unknown race with four legs and eight arms. A half dragon, half snake creature was present as well among certain gigantic skeletons. It could be said that there were more than just the remains of cultivators on this ship, there were also skeletons of fierce beasts.

All the waiting cultivators could only watch. A few big characters from the previous generation couldn't help but lick their lips. Everyone knew that the bigger ships were safer. Of course, the first condition was to take down all the skeletons.

Without doing so, climbing on board would simply be suicidal. However, the creatures were stronger on bigger ships. If one wasn't strong enough, it would be a foolish endeavor to board. Thus, as this huge ship approached, people only kept on watching.

"Come." Li Qiye ordered and jumped up with Fairy. The rest of the group easily made the leap as well.

Afterward, they followed Li Qiye's instruction and placed the talismans on their bodies. Sure enough, the skeletons didn't move at all; it was as if they didn't notice the intruders' presence. The crowd felt quite envious after seeing the successful boarding. However, it stopped at envy since they didn't dare to follow them.

"Is that a phoenix skeleton?" Ruyan noticed a particular corpse on the deck. It looked like a giant bird. Even though countless years had passed and its bones had been charred, its divinity was still flashing on the broken fragments.

It maintained some divinity after the relentless torture of time. One could easily imagine just how powerful and frightening this bird used to be.

"It isn't that easy to meet a real phoenix in this world. It is a priceless and invincible creature, after all." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "It is already remarkable enough to have some of a phoenix's lineage."

Jianshi curiously asked: "Where did these bones come from? Are these experts who have died while adventuring in the Bonesea?"

Li Qiye answered: "Not necessarily. In a certain sense, the dead adventurers only make up a small portion here."

It was the daoist's turn to ask questions: "I heard the Bonesea contains mountains of skeletons. Are there any differences between the skeletons here and the ones at the Bonesea? Why are they on these ships that follow this pattern of going back and forth?"

Li Qiye chuckled at this question: "This is a key question. Your four branches, starting from Immortal Emperor Gu Chun all the way to Immortal Emperor Yan Shi, could be considered the lineage who has explored the Bonesea the most. You might not know about this, but they certainly were aware of many things."

The daoist cupped his fists and humbly said: "I would like to hear your opinion to have a better understanding."

Li Qiye smiled and politely refused: "I can't answer a few questions because your ancestors have their reasons and plans for not telling their descendants. However, I can answer the last question for you."

He stared into the vast sea ahead and continued: "The reason why these boneships go back and forth is that they have no escape, they're unable to leave the Bonesea. In a certain sense, these skeletons on the ships want to flee from the Bonesea. Alas, it is but a pipedream."

“They want to escape?” The group was astounded after hearing this. Xiong Qianbei had to ask: “But they’re already dead. Is it out of a desire to return to their home to be buried there?”

“A burial at home?” Li Qiye couldn’t help but chuckle. He shook his head and replied: “Heaven Spirit isn’t their home.”

“What does that mean?” Ruyan became curious: “They came from other places when they were alive?”

“You are thinking about a different matter entirely.” Li Qiye slightly smiled: “Very few who have died in the Bonesea are qualified to sit on this particular ship. To be able to get up from the bottom of the sea and onto this ship means that they were extremely powerful!”

“Where did these skeletons come from then?” The daoist’s heart skipped a beat as he thought about some old records from his sect.

Li Qiye avoided the question while calmly commenting: “In a very distant era, they were unwilling and full of regret. Because of that, you can see this scene right now — these boneships drifting in the Bonesea. Some just travel aimlessly while others might make it to the edge, but in the end, escape is not their fate.”

Jianshi asked: “Not even one can escape?”

Li Qiye turned quiet for a long time before answering: “There are some, but that is far back in the past.”

“Just what kind of skeleton is capable of this then?” Ruyan was very interested in this topic. The formation of the Bonesea had always been an unsolved mystery.

Li Qiye smiled again but didn’t answer this time.

While the group was enjoying their chat, Fairy hadn’t said anything after boarding. She didn’t only look at the skeletons but also tilted her head in contemplation. Her beautiful eyes became incomparably bright and enchanting. However, this flash only lasted for a moment before her pupils became dazed again. She thought quite hard, but nothing came of it.

“Did you remember anything?” Li Qiye gently patted her hair as she stood there in a solitary daze.

She stared at him with vacant eyes and earnestly replied: “I seemed to remember something, but it is too vague, nothing specific.”

He gently said: “Some things will come naturally when the time is right. You will remember eventually.”

Still a bit perplexed, she nodded and eventually spoke: “I don’t know why, but my heart aches sometimes as if it has happened before.”

#### Chapter 1338: Indestructible Diamond Physique

The rest of the group stared at the two. They had grown accustomed to Fairy’s speech. These two always talked about strange things that only the two of them could understand.

Li Qiye gently sighed after a long silence: “Heartache is good. It shows that your heart is still beating, that you are still alive. Something like this is unbelievable for you, so you should feel happy instead.”

She quietly asked: "Why is it that this pain lasts for so long?"

Li Qiye looked at her but didn't know how to explain it right away. It wasn't good to tell her before the time was ripe, so he softly said: "There is always pain and parting in this world. Countless calamities have fallen, and experiencing too much can torture the heart. When you understand why things come and go, you will be able to understand everything."

"When I understand it all, will the pain go away?" She looked at him with her pretty eyes in a serious manner.

He found it difficult to answer since he didn't wish to lie to her. In the end, he said: "You will find out when that day comes."

Fairy gently nodded as her eyes became muddled again. Li Qiye walked forward and looked at the old rudder. He smiled and said to the daoist: "Go outside and remove your talisman."

"For what?" The daoist was frightened after seeing this smile. He didn't know what was going on.

"Fishing inevitably requires bait." Li Qiye chuckled: "And you are a very fat and delicious bait."

"Why me? Can I not be the bait?" The daoist replied with a pained expression.

"What are you afraid of?" Li Qiye looked at him with disdain: "You have the Indestructible Diamond Physique, so how are you going to die? Oh right, don't fall down into the sea because you will drown even if your physique was stronger. Maybe you would be okay if it was at grand completion, but what you have right now won't do."

Ruyan smiled and chimed in: "Puresun Island Lord, you are the leader of the charming spirit race, a hero among men. If you don't want to be the bait, do you want weak women like us to be the bait instead?"

"Schoolmaster Liu, there's no need to praise me so much, I'll just go be the bait then." The daoist hastily surrendered with a wry smile.

He went to the deck and took a deep breath. His body exuded a glow with a buzz. It was glittering as if cast from gold and had a cold metallic sensation.

He no longer looked like a living person and more like a diamond sculpture. This was the Indestructible Diamond Physique, one of the twelve. It was completely impervious to weapons and all other existences. Some even said that at grand completion, the user would be unkillable regardless of the attack.

Of course, this was an exaggeration. However, it was prohibitively difficult to kill a user at grand completion; some would even argue that it was even harder than killing an Immortal Emperor.

The daoist's physique was at half completion. In addition to his powerful cultivation, he would always be in an unlosable situation regardless of who his enemies were.

After activating his physique, he looked at Li Qiye and asked: "Can I begin?"

Li Qiye nodded and smiled: "Go for it, attract them and let them beat you up."

The daoist sighed and took off his talisman. The skeletons on the ship immediately reacted. Red soulflames appeared in their eyes.

“Click! Crack!” Bones clinked together as the skeletons stood up and looked at the daoist. These various skeletons and their red eyes were quite creepy. It gave the illusion that the victims were stuck in a realm of death.

Xiong Qianbei was scared out of his mind and stepped back. Luckily, he had incomparable experts with him, or else he wouldn’t dare to come here even with nine lives.

“Squeak—” A human skeleton took out its saber and slowly walked towards the daoist.

“Clank!” Once it got close enough, it slashed downward with a celestial slash that flew across the sky. This was a slash that wouldn’t disperse for a long period of time.

Just how terrifying was this? This saber had signs of rust and withering spirituality. Even though it was once an invincible blade, time had turned it into a piece of scrap metal.

Nevertheless, this saber scar in the sky was indicative of the skeleton’s power, not the blade. But how could such a creature unleash this terrifying slash? Where was its power coming from?

The blade struck the daoist’s body, causing sparks to fly everywhere. The daoist’s metallic body was completely unhurt, not even a little mark was left behind.

It wasn’t because the skeleton was weak. A paragon would die instantly if they were struck by such an attack, but not Daoist Puresun and his unbelievably powerful physique.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” The skeleton unleashed a storm-like barrage on the daoist. Each slash could sever the void. Sparks went flying, but the daoist remained unharmed.

“Screech!” The phoenix skeleton also flew up with a cry. It opened its mouth and spewed true sunfire on the daoist. However, this all-burning flame just seemed like water flowing through him.

“Rawrr!” The giant beast roared and bolted for the daoist. Its huge claws slammed into him. His body seemed to be a fly stuck under its might.

Its sharpness could destroy a mountain range, but the daoist was once again untouched by the attack. The rest of the skeletons noticed this anomaly and all crazily unleashed their onslaught on him.

The daoist hands joined together to form a cross. He let the skeletons attack as they pleased with their sharp claws, blades, spears, and poisons... All of these weapons found it difficult to leave a mark on him. Only a wondrous sword left behind a shallow mark.

The strongest blow struck his shoulder. One could hear the snap of breaking bones; his shoulder actually caved in. However, the wound suddenly melted like water and regained its original form.

Not only was this physique invulnerable, even if a mighty attack managed to harm it, it would recover instantly. This meant that it was impossible to leave behind an injury, let alone kill the user.

Xiong Qianbei was a fan to see the daoist withstanding all of these powerful attacks. Others wouldn't be able to do so. Ruyan and Jianshi, on the other hand, weren't too surprised to see this physique being so untouchable. They were more curious about the skeletons.

Jianshi commented: "They have been dead for so long now, just a bunch of dried bones without any divinity, so why are they still so strong?"

Li Qiye insipidly replied: "Because this is the Bonesea. They were very powerful when they were alive. Even as bones, their old power, flesh, and blood were left for this land. Their stubbornness is also eternal, allowing them to be strong. Leaving the Bonesea would make them lose many things."

"Young Noble, can you control these skeletons?" Ruyan chuckled with a charming wink.

Back at the War Cliff, Li Qiye controlled many skeletal corpses, so she became curious to see if his ability could affect these skeletons as well.

Li Qiye looked at them and replied: "It's possible, but due to this being the Bonesea, it would be very problematic. It would require many steps as well as certain necessary items."

#### Chapter 1339: Unbeatable Fairy

While the group was talking, Daoist Puresun had finished attracting all the skeletons on the ship. He was surrounded by one layer of foes after another, but their mad onslaught couldn't wound him.

Li Qiye loudly shouted at the daoist: "Lead them to the side and I'll throw them into the sea, that's the best solution."

He added: "Get ready, I'm about to do it. Don't fall down or even I can't save you."

The daoist was about to say something, but a loud blast resounded. Li Qiye activated his World Seal and turned into the Yin Yang Immortal Refining Mirror. Two rays that consisted of Yin and Yang rushed out and struck the area next to the daoist.

Under the might of the bright Yin and Yang, bones began to crack. All the skeletons were blown into the sea, even the daoist was knocked away.

However, the daoist was indeed capable. He rushed back against the current as the mirror's light pierced his body. His body was cracking apart as pieces of flesh flew with the wind. Without a doubt, this light was able to harm him.

Despite little pieces coming off here and there, the wounds immediately closed in an unbelievable fashion.

With some more explosions, all the skeletons were sent into the sea and out of sight. The daoist heaved a sigh of relief after making contact with the deck once more. He revealed a forced smile and said: "Brother Li, you almost killed me there with that move."

Li Qiye glanced at him and replied: "Just that can kill you? You have the Ancient Purity Blade; if you can't even survive that, I would be very disappointed. Unless those old geezers are crazy, they wouldn't have let you run around with it if you weren't strong enough."



The daoist smiled in response: "Are you praising or attacking me?"

At this time, Fairy came forward and looked at the glowing golden body of the daoist. She tilted her head and curiously asked: "Is your body very tough?"

The daoist didn't know how to respond. He wasn't one to brag, but he ended up saying: "It's not bad, I can handle one or two cuts!"

"May I try?" She looked at him with innocent eyes.

"Okay, try it!" The daoist didn't mind. Even though Fairy's beauty was matchless, no matter how he looked at it, she was only a delicate girl who couldn't even catch a chicken. Moreover, those innocent eyes were completely harmless.

She reached out with her finger and pointed it at the daoist's shoulder.

"Watch it!" Li Qiye had been looking at the rudder this whole time. He was completely aghast the moment he saw her finger touch him.

It was too late, the daoist was too confident. Even an attack from a God-Monarch couldn't hurt him, let alone a weak girl like Fairy, so he calmly accepted this "attack".

"Bang!" With a loud blast, he was instantly blown away. Blood spattered everywhere as a horrifying hole appeared where his shoulder should be.

The daoist's strength was without question. With the cultivation of a Godking on top of his diamond physique, he should have been unbeatable.

However, the weak touch of Fairy immediately pierced his shoulder. His physique couldn't withstand this blow, so he was blown away into the sea.

Luckily, in this swift moment, Li Qiye turned extremely fast and immediately pulled the falling daoist back from the sea. Otherwise, he would have fallen in there for good.

This scene shocked everyone. Not to mention Xiong Qianbei, even the two girls were astounded with their eyes wide open.

Even if the two of them worked together, conventional methods wouldn't be able to break the daoist's physique. They would have to resort to their extraordinary Immortal Physique Strikes.

But now, Fairy's soft finger completely annihilated his physique and shoulder. Just how horrifying was this?

The daoist forgot to say thanks to Li Qiye for saving him. He stared at Fairy as if she was a ghost. The experience just now was too much for him.

He wasn't one for loud fanfares, but he had great confidence in his abilities. For example, Meng Zhentian. This was someone famed for being powerful, but this type of existence still wouldn't be able to break his physique this casually with one finger.

If Meng Zhentian could carry out such a feat, he wouldn't be Meng Zhentian but a real Immortal Emperor!

“Damn! Is this an Immortal Emperor?” Even his elegant self resorted to vulgarity at this moment while staring at Fairy in fear.

In fact, the girls were afraid as well. As for Xiong Qianbei, his butt was already on the ground.

Fairy looked at him and earnestly commented: “So weak.”

If anyone else were to say this, Puresun would think that they were mocking him. However, her serious expression and pure eyes made it clear that she wasn't being rude on purpose.

Others weren't qualified to mock someone as strong as him, but he didn't feel angry when it came from Fairy.

“I'm really weak indeed.” He wryly smiled while bandaging his wound. He had no choice but to face his own weakness at this moment.

Li Qiye smiled and said: “Losing to her is nothing to be ashamed of. If she truly becomes angry, only a handful of people in the nine heavens and ten earths could survive ten moves from her. Even if the old men crawl out from their graves, they still won't be able to do much.”

The daoist had nothing to say about this defeat. There wasn't much to think about when she could break his physique with a single finger. The two girls carefully observed Fairy once more. From her appearance alone, she didn't look like an invincible existence.

However, her attack from earlier proved otherwise. She was truly invincible!

Meanwhile, on the deck, Qianbei swallowed his saliva. He felt a bit thirsty and didn't know whether he should feel regretful or scared.

With respect to regret, it was because he sold such an invincible fairy for the price of a cabbage, relatively speaking.

As for fear, he actually carried the wooden coffin in secrecy for so long. Moreover, he slammed it more than just once or twice. If during this process, Fairy were to come out and found him annoying, he would be rendered to dust in just one strike — a death without a burial.

Thinking of such terrible consequences made him break out in cold sweat. He had narrowly and unwittingly avoided a disaster.

“Is everyone this weak now?” Perplexed, she asked Li Qiye while looking at him with a hint of curiosity.

The others were speechless. Most of the groups here could travel through the world proudly, especially the daoist who was stronger than Ruyan and Jianshi. However, Fairy made it sound like they wouldn't be able to withstand a single strike, as if they were as insignificant as ants.

But the daoist had no desire of refuting her. Fairy was indeed qualified to call him weak after the earlier event. Xiong Qianbei, on the other hand, was indeed a minor character. If the daoist's group was weak, then someone like him wasn't qualified to even be an ant.

Li Qiye smiled wryly after hearing this. He gently stroked her hair and said: "Times are different. Some people will have to face a few things in the end. Across the eras, many invincible existences have died, so the inhabitants of all races are no longer flourishing at the apex. What we have now is reasonable."

Fairy contemplated this answer.

Li Qiye gently sighed and continued: "One day, the world will return to the apex. However, this isn't a good thing at all. When that day comes, the calamity will come once more. Wane comes after the zenith, this is an inescapable natural order."

Chapter 1340: Controlling The Boneship

Li Qiye's comment was quite mystifying to the listeners. They couldn't understand many things he spoke of. Fairy kept on thinking with her eyes flashing brightly. Ultimately, she became confused again since these short bursts of elucidation weren't enough.

Li Qiye smiled and returned to the rudder. His hands lit up with narrow runes that formed a stream of light. They slowly flowed like time itself and seemingly had their own life. These runes wrapped around the shudder and drilled inside.

The ship's speed increased while giving off a difficult-to-describe sensation. It looked like a stream of water was wishing to fill the entire boneship.

Ruyan immediately asked: "What are you doing, Young Noble?"

He smiled and continued to control the flowing runes: "Taking control of the boneship in order to lead it to wherever I want."

"They can be controlled?" Jianshi was surprised to hear this. The common belief was that these ships couldn't be controlled. Those who board could only let the ships drift wherever they wanted; of course, they also had the option to switch ships during the journey.

Li Qiye smiled in response: "That depends on the person. If you understand the mysteries and fundamental essences of the Bonesea, then you can remove its restrictions and control the ship regardless of one's strength. Of course, the stronger you are, the stronger the ship will be after the takeover. It is quite a big mystery within the grand scheme of things."

Having said that, the entire ship lit up. It was made out of some strange bones and after waking up, it radiated a warm feeling like jade.

One could see the long flowing runes spread across the ship. They were quite delicate and exquisite, making the entire ship look like a carved masterpiece. Upon closer inspection, one would find that these runes were quite complex. There was vegetation as well as rare beasts. They carried a natural and vast aura of antiquity. It seemed that something was recorded in these patterns.

The group carefully looked at them but couldn't read any of it. Even though they could feel a sentimental sadness, its mysteries still eluded them. Only Fairy was relishing their presence in full immersion.

She eventually murmured: "Everything grows until the world restarts."

The group was a bit shaken after hearing this. It seemed that this sentence encompassed an eternal secret.

"Among the long eras, there has not been one that was considered the end of time just yet." Li Qiye shook his head: "It could only be considered a collapse. A real destruction is where all things cease to be and time itself becomes ashes."

"When will that day come?" She looked at him with limpid eyes.

Li Qiye pondered for a moment before answering: "It will certainly come since the great era is not far off."

The startled group seemed to realize that they had just overheard an unbelievable secret.

The daoist couldn't help but ask Li Qiye: "Will the world truly be destroyed?"

He didn't answer the daoist. Fairy continued to stare at Li Qiye as if she wanted to find out the answer from him.

He made a statement instead: "As long as I am still in this world, that day won't come. Everything will continue as is before I receive a convincing answer from the villainous heavens! If what lies above the nine firmaments does not give me an answer, then I shall take it down and make my own!"

It was a very solemn statement. He aimed it at Fairy, not the rest of the group.

The girls glanced at each other. They didn't know what this answer Li Qiye was seeking or why he desired it. They were quite curious, but they didn't dare to ask because judging from his expression, it was a very important matter.

Fairy's eyes kept switching from brightness to confusion as her memories were still a blur.

She sincerely replied: "Even though I don't remember much and my past is a blank, you are definitely greater than me and worthy of admiration."

Li Qiye laughed in response: "It would sound quite sarcastic from anyone else, but I feel quite happy when you say it."

Of course, his expression betrayed his words. Shortly after, he gently shook his head: "Our lives are different, and the same goes for our worth. With regards to greatness and unfathomability, the truth is that I'm no match for you."

She carefully pondered before rejecting the notion: "No, I have never thought about such a distant question since I have yet to reach that level. Outside of surviving and looking at other sentient beings, I have never explored other matters as I have missed the best era. In such an era, I failed to pursue the true meaning at the end of the world."

Li Qiye responded: "No, this is why you are incredible and worthy of admiration. In your heart are other living beings, compassion, and mercy — all of this changed the era itself. I am different from you. You have too many worries and things you care about in your heart while I only think of myself and the

answer, nothing else. Thus, on this path, other existences are only fleeting passersby. I show no mercy to anyone or anything that tries to block my path, and I will never stop for any reason. If I am ruthless incarnate, then you are the embodiment of compassion.”

He ended this with a self-deprecating smile. Fairy looked at him with eyes that seemed to stare straight at his soul. A while later, she solemnly asked: “Are you truly willing to give up everything? Is there nothing in this world that you care about?”

Li Qiye chose to stay quiet, so he didn’t answer her question.

“Buzz!” At this time, the runes finally lit up the entire ship. This vessel now looked like a piece of carved white jade.

A pleasant and crisp noise resounded. Runes in the shape of gears of different colors emerged near the rudder. It looked like each gear was made out of bronze. Their appearance issued a cranking mechanical sound. Li Qiye was glad to see these runes and immediately moved the rudder. Under his influence, the gears shifted and the ship began to move towards his desired destination.

“Success!” The group rejoiced after seeing Li Qiye effortlessly controlling the ship.

Li Qiye smiled and told the group: “Good. Sit tight, it’s time to accelerate.”

The whole ship turned bright. The runic gears by the rudder rapidly spun.

“Swoosh!” The group all shook a little. The boneship was now traveling at an unbelievable velocity through the winds and waves. It was actually jumping in the air above the water due to Li Qiye’s control. Their ship quickly passed by many other boneships, leaving them in the dust.

A lot of people had boarded before Li Qiye, so they had a head start. However, they could only sit still and let the other ships slowly drift away while Li Qiye’s ship sped towards the Bonesea. Many were stunned and thought that they were just seeing things.

A person commented in disbelief: “How outrageous, is there actually a boneship that fast in this world?”

“At such speeds, it won’t take more than an hour to get to the Bonesea while it would take us more than ten days drifting like this.” Someone who had been there before calculated the time.

Of course, not all the ships were drifting towards the Bonesea, some were drifting away. Some had skeletons while others were completely empty.

Qianbei noticed the empty ships and asked: “Why are some of the ships empty?”

“It shows that some people have boarded them in the past and killed off the skeletons before abandoning them, so these ships continue to float.” Even though Puresun hadn’t been to the Bonesea before, he still knew quite a bit.