

Emperor 1601

[Chapter 1601: Forefather Yu](#)

Ancestor Yu calmed down and ordered the disciples inside the mansion: “No one goes outside for now. I will be going to see the forefather.”

The disciples present were moved after hearing this for they understood the significance.

The ancestor traveled deeper into the mansion until he reached a shabby house. He tidied his clothes without any slight and prostrated before the door: “Your grandson greets you, forefather.”

“Come in.” A powerful sound came from within.

The ancestor took a deep breath and entered the building. It was very neat with nothing else but a straw mat with an old man meditating on top.

He had a large stature and wore a hemp garment without any adornments. His gray hair was shining as he sat straight like a rock.

This was Forefather Yu. Descendants no longer knew his real name. They only knew that he was Yu Taijun’s only son.

This was the second Godking from the clan, a very powerful Nine Worlds’ Godking.

The clan once had five Godkings. Outside of Taijun who was an Emperor Assailant, her husband was also a terrifying Godking.

Another Godking was the Yu Ancestor’s father, or the Forefather Yu’s son. He was also another powerful Godking.

Unfortunately, these two Godkings were no longer in this world. Their lives ran out among the slow path towards the grand dao.

Just think about it, a clan that wasn’t an imperial lineage actually had five Godkings and one Emperor Assailant. Despite its small scale, its power and prestige were mighty enough. These Godkings were the reason why the Yu Clan had an illustrious position in the Grand Sea.

After seeing the forefather, the ancestor bowed again and said: “Forefather, I’m afraid we are facing a strong enemy. He had climbed on our twelve scales and used its power.”

“I know.” The forefather slowly nodded: “Who is he?”

“A junior named Li Qiye. He came from the Cleansing Incense Ancient Sect with no real backing to speak of.” The ancestor busily answered.

“Li Qiye, Cleansing Incense.” The forefather murmured these two names and fell into quiet contemplation.

“He came with ill-will. First, he seriously injured our descendant and tortured him. Then he tore apart my grandnephew’s arm. This is a very aggressive man. Right now, he’s using our twelve scales to destroy the Skyfire Warships. I’m afraid he’s coming for us soon.” The ancestor worriedly said.

His nervousness was understandable. Li Qiye came aggressively and seemed to be aiming for his clan. Moreover, he has heard of Li Qiye's title, Fiercest, as well as the notoriety accompanying it.

"Elaborate." The forefather inquired.

The ancestor told Yu Zhan's story again and how he and his uncle were taught a lesson by Li Qiye. They reported the matter to the clan master and the clan master, in turn, reported it to the ancestor.

After hearing this, the forefather gently waved his sleeve and said flatly: "Let the juniors take care of their own problem. The boy is to blame for not being skilled enough and lose. Tell him to train harder. The only thing to worry about right now is the twelve scales." He frowned after saying this.

"Hmm..." Ancestor Yu mulled over the statement as well. He was a bit surprised that his grandfather didn't want to step up for their descendant. However, he didn't dare to remark on it because his grandfather was much more insightful than him. He surely had his reasons.

"It'll be a problem for Fiercest to have control over the twelve scales. We need to eliminate this to avoid further complication." Ancestor Yu said.

The forefather took his time thinking before answering: "Nothing is surprising since there are many great yet hidden masters in the world. However, in our generation, there should only be two people who can completely understand the twelve scales."

"Which two?" The ancestor said.

"The first is Gu Zun from Heaven Suppression. His talents are virtually peerless." The forefather replied: "If he really wants to, he can definitely understand the mysteries within. It's just that Mother is still around so he doesn't want to antagonize her."

"Who is the second then?" The ancestor didn't doubt Gu Zun's talents. After all, this was an eonic genius.

"The second... you won't know this person, no need for me to waste words." The forefather's eyes flashed for a bit but he refused to answer.

This astounded the ancestor. Just what kind of terrifying characters could this be that even his grandfather didn't want to comment on?

"Li Qiye comes with menacing intent but he's probably not on the same side as Gu Zun." The ancestor said quickly: "We're on the same side as Heaven Suppression with good ties with Ye Jiuzhou's people. Gu Zun doesn't need to aim for us, plus, Li Qiye also erased Gu Zun's shadow on the scales."

"We can't predict Gu Zun's actions with an ordinary perspective." The forefather shook his head: "To call Gu Zun a genius is not unreasonable but to call him a stubborn madman is fine as well. A simple junior like you can't speculate his thoughts."

The ancestor obediently kept his mouth shut.

"Mother will be out tomorrow. Select a few descendants and let them see her because she might not see your group again later. As for Li Qiye, she'll make a decision." The forefather said.

“Her Venerable wants to come out!” The ancestor was ecstatic. Though the world knew that she was finished with her cultivation, she still hasn’t left her meditation. No one in the mansion was qualified to see her outside of Forefather Yu.

“Go.” The forefather ended with a wave of his sleeve.

The happy ancestor took a deep breath and bowed again before turning to leave.

“One more thing, no need to be so close with Soaring Immortal. We do not walk on the same path with them.” The forefather added.

The ancestor was dazed for a while. He eventually calmed down and had to comment: “Soaring Immortal indeed wants to befriend us. If we have an ally like them, the benefits will come.”

In fact, the seniors in the clan knew of Yu Yulian’s crush on Long Aotian and were happy to see it coming to fruition. Even Ancestor Yu wouldn’t mind her marrying into Soaring Immortal.

The forefather raised his voice: “What do you know?! In the eyes of Soaring Immortal, we are only tools to be used. Just shallow juniors like you are qualified to talk about an alliance with Soaring Immortal? Hmph, allying with them will bring about a sect-destroying disaster.”

“Well...” The ancestor hesitated and didn’t know what to say since deep down, he wanted to form this alliance.

“Just keep this in mind, no need to investigate any further. You’ll understand in the future, our foolish descendants cannot accomplish anything great, understand?”

The ancestor bowed deeply: “Your grandson will bear this in mind.” Even though he didn’t agree with this view, he was still very respectful towards his grandfather.

In the deepest location of the mansion was a forbidden area. The Yu descendants weren’t allowed here because this was their ancestral grandmother’s living area.

There was an old and simple shrine here that had experienced countless years and beaten by the weathers.

“Squeak.” The tightly-shut wooden doors finally opened. An elderly woman with white hair running down her temples came out. Nevertheless, one could still see that she was an amazing beauty judging by her current elegant demeanor.

She walked to the garden and looked at the flowering old trees and sighed disappointedly: “Old man, the trees we planted have blossomed but you are no longer here, leaving me all alone in this world now.”

“Who?!” Her eyes suddenly became serious during this sentimental moment. Her entire being changed and a mighty aura erupted just like a general that has swept through the nine heavens!

“The grand dao is always a solitary path, you’re not the one alone.” At this time, a young man floated over and said: “Qingfeng, long time no see.” [1]

The old woman was shaken to hear the greeting. Her eyes that were exuding frightening light widened as she stared at the young man in disbelief.

“Is, is this really you?” Her voice was trembling.

“Who else can control the twelve scales besides me? When I changed your constitution back then, you also had the same expression, one that didn’t believe in miracles.” It was Li Qiye who answered with a smile.

“Your Excellency, it really is you!” The old woman shouted emotionally.

“Yes, it’s me.” He sentimentally spoke while looking at her: “It has been a while. Time is truly cruel.”

[Chapter 1602: Matriarch Yu](#)

Yu Qingfeng was the ancestral grandmother of the Yu Clan, the first general of the Black Dragon Legion during Immortal Emperor Yin Tian’s generation. She was prominent as an Emperor Assailant, a truly dreadful existence.

“Qingfeng greets you, Your Excellency.” After calming down, the old woman quickly prostrated on the ground and exclaimed.

Li Qiye quickly helped her up and said: “You are no longer part of the legion so this ceremony is unnecessary.”

After being propped up, she looked at the youth while gripping his hands. After a long time, she finally touched his face.

“Your Excellency, you have truly gotten your real body.” She said emotionally.

“It is to the Black Dragon King’s credit.” He gently sighed: “He went all out and sacrifice the Heaven’s Will in order to get out with my body, then my soul and spirits returned.”

“Your subordinate is ashamed, not being able to aid the dragon king and you.” She sighed.

When the Black Dragon King attacked the Immortal Demon Grotto, she was still undergoing her death cultivation and couldn’t lend him a hand. Otherwise, she would have participated.

“It’s not your fault.” Li Qiye shook his head: “Your lifespan was over back then so it’s already amazing for you to last till now. Hmm, looks like you won’t be able to live for another life, but this death cultivation will at least replenish your lost longevity.”

She became dejected and answered: “The reason I can do this is all because of the old man. He used his own life to replenish mine but he...” She sighed again and stopped.

“He has always loved you and it was his choice.” Li Qiye said.

“We promised to live till the end together regardless of mundane matters but in the end, our descendants are incompetent so the old man changed his mind. He hoped that I could live longer to protect them. It’s just that the fools don’t know our trouble and sacrifices!” She became gloomier.

Her husband was also a general under the Black Dragon Legion though he wasn't as strong as her. The lovers decided against sealing themselves and chose to live an ordinary life until death together.

Alas, their descendants deteriorated one generation after another. Only Ancestor Yu in this generation was capable of doing anything. After him, the Yu Clan had no talents to speak of.

This made her husband change his mind. He decided to let her live longer to protect their clan for a few more generations. Thus, during the end of her lifespan, he helped with the life replenishment.

Despite the successful attempt, her husband couldn't surpass this ultimate trial so he sacrificed himself for her sake.

"How many people in this world can see through death so easily and let go?" Li Qiye smiled and shook his head.

She invited her into the old shrine. It was also very simple inside with a few carved diagrams to the left and right. They were the historical records of the Yu Clan's ancestors.

She sat down and spoke: "I'm sure you will be able to do a lot with your real body in this generation, Your Excellency. If you need my assistance, just stay the word. I shall exert all my power for you once more."

Li Qiye refused: "No, the two of you have gained freedom and left the legion so I won't break your tranquility. It's time for you to enjoy old age instead of being a part of my war chariot."

"I owe you that much, Your Excellency. Without you, I wouldn't be who I am today, no, I wouldn't be alive either. The Yu Clan wouldn't be so prosperous as well." She solemnly said.

"You don't owe me anything." Li Qiye smiled: "I merely guided you and gave you a chance. What you have achieved is due to your own efforts and furthermore, you have paid everything by working in the legion for so long already. And remember, I only did a little bit to help. Your big brother is who actually saved you."

Yu Zhengfeng sealed his sister back then and spent an entire generation to accumulate enough materials before asking Li Qiye to save her. Because of this fateful encounter, they joined the Black Dragon Legion. After many victories and meritorious contributions, Matriarch Yu became the first general of the legion.

"It's all because you showed love for me and our clan." She gently sighed.

At this moment, she was willing to come out again to work for Li Qiye and same with her clan. However, he wouldn't agree to this.

"This is what you and your clan deserve." Li Qiye said with a smile.

"It's a pity that the juniors are so incompetent. Otherwise, this wouldn't be happening to me. Big brother doesn't want to look at these unworthy children so my old bones have no choice but to live on in this sad manner."

"Zhengfeng can still live for a very long time." Li Qiye nodded: "Alas, he has the World-weary Dao. It's understandable that he doesn't care for the descendants. In his eyes, the Yu Clan doesn't need his attention."

“Big brother...” She became sad when talking about her brother.

No one might remember a famous character like Yu Zhengfeng in the current generation, an Emperor Contender hiding in Discover.

But Matriarch Yu will always remember. Zhengfeng started on this invincible path just to save his beloved sister back then.

“Big brother didn’t use to be like this back then. He was a bright and energetic person on top of being very magnanimous but the trial of love overwhelmed him. He grew tired and no longer care for mundane matters.” She stated.

“No.” Li Qiye shook his head: “Your big brother has made peace with his failed love for Immortal Emperor Qian Li. His inner demon isn’t about love but himself. After choosing this dao, it is exceedingly difficult to turn back. The farther he went, the stronger he became and the more he grew tired of mortal issues. In the end, he became cursed, not even the heavens want to take him.”

“He’ll have to stay this way?” She had to ask. She didn’t wish for him to suffer such a dark fate in the upcoming years.

“No one can help him if he doesn’t want to leave.” Li Qiye shook his head: “He knew what he was getting himself into and what he would have to face. Because of this, he fought against Immortal Emperor Qian Li back then one last time but she didn’t want to kill him.”

“He probably made up his mind to walk on that imperial dao just to save me back then.” She smiled bitterly, realizing the price her brother paid just to save her.

“He created his own grand dao back then. In fact, it was a very amazing one so he had escaped the World-weary Dao yet he returned again. His choice was the same as Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo.” Li Qiye commented.

“Mu Zhuo was an emperor then so his fortune and cultivation were greater than your big brother but he still went back to this terrible dao to be forever cursed. It was their choice, no one can do anything about it.” Li Qiye smiled wryly as well.

“Why did the emperor choose this path? He already had an imperial way.” Matriarch Yu didn’t quite understand.

The emperor’s grand dao was enough to shoulder the Heaven’s Will. It was a mighty and unstoppable path. But in the end, he gave up this dao and chose his previous World-weary Dao. No one could imagine such a choice.

“I don’t know. I’m afraid no one knows the reason either, just some guesses.” Li Qiye chuckled: “Some believe that he did it to live even longer. Or maybe this is a type of running away. However, I don’t think so.”

“Then what’s the reason?” She asked.

Li Qiye pondered for a bit before answering: “I don’t know either. We’ll have to ask the emperor himself in order to find the answer but if he won’t tell anyone else, there’s no way to know then.”

[Chapter 1603: Gu Zuns Past](#)

Matriarch Yu exhaled quietly after hearing this. She also wanted to help her brother so that he could have a different life.

Alas, she was powerless in this matter because Zhengfeng was even stronger than her and more knowledgeable regarding cultivation. If he didn't wish to leave the dao himself, there was nothing she could do. The only good thing about the matter was that he would lead a very long life.

He has trained the dao to a cursed level, hated by both gods and devils. It was very difficult for him to die so in a certain sense, he has exceeded the limit of a cultivator.

Li Qiye said: "It's up to him alone now but there is still hope for a changing opportunity. He alone knows what it is though."

After a while, she changed the topic and asked: "Are you returning to take back Heaven Suppression?"

Li Qiye shook his head: "I've never thought about retaking it for my own. Heaven Suppression is separate from me but I do not want to see Gu Zun in charge, that's all. Other than him, I don't really care if anyone else were to take over."

"Gu Zun... He won't give up. It's been three generations already." Her eyes became serious.

"This is why he is exceptional." Li Qiye couldn't help but laugh: "To be perfectly candid, sometimes I do admire the brat a bit. He knows exactly who I am and know just how futile it is but he still won't give up, still hellbent on taking the treasures from me, snatching food from the jaw of a tiger! Such greed will not subside even after I took his creation and imprisoned him in the eye of the sea. Such dao heart is definitely persistent but so misguided. Otherwise, his future would have been boundless as an incredible emperor."

Matriarch Yu nodded her head in agreement. There was no need to doubt Gu Zun's talents but his mistakes have cost him his future.

"He knows you won't kill him, that's why he has no qualm right now without repenting. If it wasn't for the Black Dragon King, he would already be ashes." She was aware of the past.

"The king beseeched for his sake but it doesn't mean that I won't kill him now." Li Qiye chuckled: "My tolerance and patience have a limit. Gu Zun chose not to appreciate it so if I catch him again, there won't be mercy even if the Black Dragon King comes back to life and plead!"

She quietly agreed again. Outsiders didn't know about Gu Zun's imprisonment in the eye of the sea but as the first general of the legion and one of the executors of the sentence, she was privy to the information.

"He won't give up so easily." She speculated from her own understanding of Gu Zun's characters.

"Yes." Li Qiye smirked: "At this moment, his disciple, Ye Jiuzhou, is in charge of Heaven Suppression. Though he isn't showing his face, he's controlling everything in the background. Jiuzhou is only a pawn."

"Great as Gu Zun might be, just give the commands, our men shall capture Gu Zun so that you can sentence him." The matriarch offered.

Though the legion was only in name right now, the old generals from Immortal Emperor Qian Li and Immortal Emperor Yin Tian's generations were still alive.

"No." Li Qiye shook his head: "This started because of me so I shall end it. If he won't repent, I'll personally kill him in order to give the king a fair answer."

She became sentimental and commented: "An eonic genius... A single thought ruined his life. With your guidance and the Black Dragon King's protection, he could have been one of the greatest emperors of the ages. Alas, he has fallen to this level."

It was no wonder that she would have such feelings. Gu Zun had incomparable advantages compared to everyone else back then. It would have been difficult for him to not become an emperor due to his talents and having a supreme overlord like the Black Dragon King as his backer.

Greed destroyed his boundless potential. His fortunes were also taken away from him during his imprisonment. Death would have been his fate if it wasn't for the king.

If it wasn't for his ill-considered thoughts, it wouldn't have been Immortal Emperor Yin Tian's generation after Immortal Emperor Qian Li. Gu Zun would have been the one. In the end, such unparalleled talents were wasted.

"After Immortal Emperor Yin Tian, Gu Zun also thought about becoming an emperor. Maybe he wants to use that power to fight against you, Your Excellency. Perhaps he has the same goal in this generation." The matriarch wandered.

"So what if he becomes an emperor? If he dares to oppose me, I'll kill him all the same." Li Qie said flatly: "The sin of past has been forgiven. However, during Immortal Emperor Ta Kong's generation, he has committed an unforgivable crime, enough for eternal damnation."

"Do you know why I still haven't tormented him just yet?" Li Qiye asked.

"Because of the king." She briefly mused before answering.

"That's right. The king seized my real body again at a great price. He also knew that I won't spare Gu Zun so when that day comes, he hoped for a swift end unlike the torture back then." Li Qiye gently sighed.

The Black Dragon King's expedition back then wasn't only to pay back Li Qiye. A small part of it was due to Gu Zun!

"He has done as much as he can for Gu Zun." The matriarch replied.

"He knows that Gu Zun isn't worth it. It's only because he has promised Gu Zun's older sister to take care of him, and that as long as he is still in this world, nothing will happen to Gu Zun. He thought that he owed her that much, that's why he begged for Gu Zun." Li Qiye sighed again.

Gu Zun was the king's younger brother-in-law, the only relative of his wife. She died early so the king has lived in anguish, thinking that he owed her.

Because of this, he promised her to take good care of Gu Zun, and that as long as he was alive, nothing would happen to Gu Zun! This was why he begged the Dark Crow to spare Gu Zun after the crime. Otherwise, Gu Zun would have died a hundred times over.

“The king is a man of his words.” The matriarch gently sighed. This was one of the reasons why so many people respected the Black Dragon King. Alas, having a brother-in-law like Gu Zun only dragged him down.

“I’ll be swift when killing Gu Zun out of consideration for the king.” Li Qiye said flatly.

The matriarch didn’t say anything else. She could sympathize with the king’s emotions. For example, her descendants were a mess as well so she was quite frustrated.

“I wonder when my clan will fall because of those fools.” She said with feeling.

“With the twelve scales and eighteen crystal cannons, even if the future generations are incompetent and the clan starts to decline, it is still impossible for outsiders to destroy it. Of course, unless they were to provoke some real Emperor Assailants. Otherwise, the clan will still go on.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“That’s why I’m worried.” The matriarch forced a smile: “The fools don’t know that there is always a higher mountain and a better man. They think that because the ancestors are around, anyone will give them some face. That’s why I won’t give them the eighteen cannons, that will only harm them.”

“Makes sense.” Li Qiye laughed: “If they were to experience that power, they will be too happy and think no one can mess with them.”

“I don’t know how much longer I can live.” The matriarch responded: “Zongying doesn’t have that much time either so who knows how long the clan will last if the fools are in charge.”

Zongying was her son, Forefather Yu.

“Living can be a type of pain, even if it is through hibernation.” Li Qiye commented on her mood.

She was quite sad and wanted to wait for death after the passing of her husband but she needed to live longer to take care of her descendants. Living was painful for her at this moment!

[Chapter 1604: The Yu Children](#)

For many eons now, not too many ancestors were willing to give up on their descendants. Because of this, many famous Godkings chose to hibernate underground and lived in the dark in order to stay alive. They relied on their own reputation and power to protect their descendants.

“Children have their own fortune, just let them be.” Li Qiye said.

“I’ll do that after this and maybe the next generation since I’ll be one with the earth by then.” She sighed gently. She was ready to die.

Li Qiye said with a smile: “The years are always changing. There is no evergreen tree and the Black Dragon Legion that has threatened the world for three generations shall end too.” He exhaled in lamentation.

Just imagine how prestigious and invincible this legion used to be. Even imperial legions had to make way.

Alas, no one could live for that long so the soldiers and generals in the legion continued to change. From Immortal Emperor Qian Li to Immortal Emperor Yin Tian and finally, Immortal Emperor Ta Kong, so many brave warriors came and went!

Matriarch Yu was the best general during Immortal Emperor Yin Tian's generation. At the end of this period, she and her husband were granted permission by Li Qiye to leave and start their clan.

Many generals did the same. As they grew older, they went back to their home and lived reclusively.

However, even the strongest couldn't withstand the test of time. Without hibernating underground, they wouldn't live for much longer than one generation. Because of this, many of them have passed away.

"I still remember the generals quite well. I guess it's not possible to see some of them face to face now." He said with a tinge of disappointment.

She nodded sentimentally and responded: "When everyone returned to civilian life, the painting drawn by you is still being stored in my clan. Wait, I'll bring it here for you to see, Your Excellency."

"Generals' Diagram, huh." Li Qiye couldn't help but smile. He nodded: "Alright, it'll be comforting."

She quickly entered the building and took out a painting. Li Qiye personally drew it back then and gave it to the couple before they left the legion.

After she left, Li Qiye went around to look at the murals on the two walls. Some detailed the glories of their clan.

Of course, the couple played a prominent role in the murals since they were the strongest ancestors. Any battle involving them was recorded in great details.

Li Qiye was immersed in this viewing about the couples' old battles. He suddenly went back in time with expeditions across the nine worlds. This was a brilliant era, at least for the Black Dragon Legion.

They reigned for three generations and became synonymous with the Black Dragon King to a certain extent. Unfortunately, after his incredible battle, the nine worlds fell into the Difficult Dao Era. From then on, the legion also disappeared. No one saw its banner again.

Li Qiye sighed while looking at the murals. The king paid too high of a price to save him. Of course, he understood that part of it was the king trying to make up for Gu Zun's crime.

As Li Qiye was relishing this moment, it became loud outside with a row of people filing in, both young and old. They respectfully came inside in an orderly fashion.

The person leading the way was Forefather Yu with Ancestor Yu after him. There were several other influential ancestors after them. Then it was Clan Master Yu and some excellent prodigies. Yu Yulian and Yu Zhan were part of this group.

Today was when the matriarch would come out so the forefather brought the descendants here to see their ancestral grandmother once. In fact, the young ones never had this chance previously, not even the clan master.

Even a Godking like Ancestor Yu had only seen her a few times growing up. The forefather was the one who saw her the most.

“Who are you?!” All the members were shocked to see Li Qiye standing there. Forefather Yu’s expression sank.

This was their important ground and outsiders were forbidden to enter. But now, a person was here out of nowhere. How could the forefather who was responsible for safety precautions here not be shocked? His eyes turned cold as he glared at Li Qiye.

“That’s him!” Yu Zhan reacted like a cat that had its tail stepped on. His face turned white as he pointed and shouted at Li Qiye.

He unconsciously took a few steps back from fear of the last beating. However, he became bolder since all the ancestors were here so he arched his chest proudly.

“Fiercest!” Ancestor Yu and the clan master were astonished to see him. They didn’t expect for him to show up in this place. Of course, they were aware that he might have some plans toward their clan but not this fast.

He ignored the rest and gazed at Forefather Yu. He smiled and said: “Zongying, right?”

“You are...” It was the forefather’s turn to be astonished because Zongying was his childhood name. But now, a stranger actually called him out with it.

“What’s going on?” The matriarch got the drawing from her room and asked after seeing this scene.

“Your Venerable.” Ancestor Yu immediately prostrated on the ground: “Your descendant greets you and wishes you good health.”

“Your Venerable.” The rest of the members who had never seen her before prostrated as well.

Only Yu Zongying was looking at Li Qiye in a daze. In this split second, he certainly thought of something.

“Rise.” The matriarch nodded.

Everyone stood up and became quiet. The ancestor took another look at Li Qiye and reported softly: “Your Venerable, this person is called Fiercest. He harbors ill-intentions towards our clan and actually has grasped the twelve scales’ power.”

“Your Venerable, this person has besmirched our reputation and hurt our members. He even crushed all of my bones. I was useless and couldn’t maintain our prestige so he humiliated me.” Yu Zhan saw Ancestor Yu’s hostility and quickly added some convincing evidence.

Yulian was surprised as well. She didn’t think he would be so courageous as to enter their forbidden ground and provoke an Emperor Assailant in their ancestral grandmother. It was as if he has eaten the heart of a tiger and guts of a leopard. [1]

“Fiercest looks down on everyone and thinks he’s the best. Your Venerable, please annihilate his arrogance and punish him for the crime of insulting our clan.” Yu Zhan wanted to leave an impression with this first meeting so he boldly narrated Li Qiye’s evil deeds.

“Shut up, slap him.” The matriarch uttered with a cold expression.

Yu Zhan was stunned after hearing this, same with Ancestor Yu and everyone present. No one expected for the matriarch to side with an outsider.

“Pa! Pa!” Yu Zongying regained his wits and slapped Yu Zhan twice until blood spilled before pushing him down: “Kneel.”

Yu Zhan helplessly kneeled on the spot.

“Mother.” He then bowed towards the matriarch while glancing nervously at Li Qiye because he had understood a few things.

“Zongying, back at Heaven Suppression during your childhood, do you remember your sun-gazing meditation?” She said slowly.

The forefather shuddered with both excitement and fear. He stared at Li Qiye in disbelief and stepped forward then kneeled before him: “This lowly one didn’t think I could see your hallowed appearance again in this lifetime, please excuse me for my lack of hospitality...”

“Rise, no fault in not knowing.” Li Qiye gently waved his sleeve in response.

[Chapter 1605: Candidate](#)

Yu Zongying stood up with an uncontainable excitement. Not even in his dreams did he think he would get to see the sacred teacher again.

He was very young back then, but he still remembered the sacred teacher taking him out to watch to sunset on a whale at sea. One had to remember, the sacred teacher was a supreme existence, the ruler of the nine worlds. To a large extent, it was only because of his parents’ contribution that he was able to earn the teacher’s favor.

After so many years, the ruler of the nine worlds had visited their clan again. This was the greatest of honor!

Yu Ancestor and the others were wide-eyed. Forefather Yu had a great position in the clan. This was a Nine Worlds’ Godking kneeling before Fiercest today! It was all too shocking!

“Fools, frogs under the well that can’t see Mt. Tai,” The matriarch scolded.

“Forget it, it’s not their fault.” Li Qiye sat on the master chair and gently shook his head.

He would have done something to the others but because of the matriarch, he couldn’t get angry at all. Otherwise, how could someone like Yu Zhan prance around in front of him for so long?

In a short time, the group didn’t dare to breathe loudly. They didn’t know Fiercest’s identity but their forefather was so respectful. Even an idiot would realize that his background was incredible.

Meanwhile, Yu Zhan didn’t even dare to look up while kneeling.

The matriarch was disappointed while staring at her descendants lowering their head. The Yu Clan had fewer capable people as time went on. There was a clear deterioration.

Zongying could take care of the clan as long as he was around but once he became older, only Ancestor Yu could do anything. The decline was near if such a large clan relied on one or two people for administration.

She found the situation quite difficult. It wasn't a lack of resource but a lack of disciples with potential. Of course, this wasn't only in talents.

This prompted her to yell at them: "A bunch of stagnated fools. A lifetime of fortune is wasted on all of you!"

Ancestor Yu and the others didn't dare to say anything back.

"Your Excellency, do you see any hope for them?" She asked Li Qiye.

In her mind, in terms of grooming and recognizing talents, no one could compare to him. He had trained too many peerless characters across the ages.

The group shuddered after hearing her address and became even more afraid of Fiercest's background.

"I'm old now so I don't want to waste their time." He gently shook his head.

She gently sighed after hearing this and knew that her worthless descendants couldn't get into his sight. Otherwise, if any of them were to gain his favor and tutelage, they would have a bright future.

"Everyone, come greet His Excellency." She coldly ordered. This was her attempt to create a safety net for them.

They didn't dare to show any slight and quickly went forward to kneel. Li Qiye only nodded without speaking.

Zongying standing to the side also realized that Li Qiye didn't like any of the children here.

The matriarch looked at them and scowled again: "All of you have so many resources but look at yourselves, some half-ass cultivation, not even as strong as a vagrant cultivator. Too used to playing around, have you forgotten that you're a cultivator? Maybe you think of yourself as a regular noble son and daughter!?"

The kids didn't dare to utter a single word back.

She continued on: "Little Dan, you have been working hard these years but you lack foresight and are too doting on them. The lack of discipline has turned them into these young masters!"

Ancestor Yu has been in charge of the clan. An old person like Forefather Yu rarely asked about daily businesses. The ancestor bowed his head and apologized: "Your grandson is incompetent and had ruined their development, please punish me."

"You shall personally teach them now!" The matriarch uttered: "From today on, our clan shall close its doors. All children and disciples will adhere to strict discipline. Before reaching a certain cultivation, no more leaving the clan in order to avoid losing more face!"

She had no choice but to do this. The members lacked the right dao heart, not resources. They have lived too leisurely and everything came easy. Their high status in life left them complacent.

Because of this, they couldn't resist external temptations and found it impossible to meditate in peace. Thus, the first thing she will do after coming out is to use an iron law to sharpen these disciples.

"I shall obey." Ancestor Yu kneeled down again.

Next was Yu Zhan's turn to be scolded. She said sternly: "You are young so it's fine to be ignorant but you have no skill, only rely on the clan to show off. No more resources for thirty years, go immerse yourself in the marsh for one hundred years to wash away your vanity!"

The boy turned pale. This punishment was not easy for a young master like him but he didn't dare to disobey. He prostrated and said: "I accept the punishment."

She scowled again but was lamenting in her mind. All seniors loved their children but she had to be strict to change the current superficial culture in the clan.

"Your Excellency, how about picking one of them?" She asked Li Qiye once more.

She has dropped all of her pride in order to beseech him again even if he didn't like any of them. She hoped that he would at least give some guidance to just one. That would be more than enough for the clan.

Even if it was a talentless person, they would have the chance to be exceptional under his tutelage. The clan had no successor at the moment. Zongying won't live much longer and same with Ancestor Yu. Because of this, they required a youth that could handle the responsibility.

This was the reason why she let go of her pride to ask him and seize this rare opportunity.

Li Qiye sighed in response. He naturally wouldn't care about this matter if it was someone else but since this was an old general asking, he had to give her some sensibilities.

In the end, he perused the crowd. His eyes ended on Yulian: "Her then."

The kneeling girl was surprised to be chosen by Li Qiye. After all, their last interaction was one of hostility.

"Come over." The matriarch smiled at his concession and waved at Yulian.

The dazed girl still came over and kneeled: "Yulian greets you, ancestor."

"This will be a test for you, will you accept?" The matriarch spoke slowly: "You need determination and will in order to seize the chance at reforging your unstable dao heart."

She stared at Yulian and continued: "This path will not be easy, laden with difficulties even. You need to face pain and hard choices but if you can keep going with a firm dao heart, your future will be glorious."

"I..." She was hesitant with a mix of hope and fear.

Ancestor Yu was anxious and confused at her hesitation. This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Even a Grand Godking like him couldn't be this lucky yet Yulian was given this godsend chance.

“Child, what can’t you let go of?” As an Emperor Assailant, the matriarch has seen everything and understood.

“I...” The girl couldn’t speak.

“Because of Long Aotian?” Ancestor Yu realized right away and spoke softly.

“I don’t know.” She blushed and lowered her head.

In the past, their clan wanted for this to happen but this was no longer the case. Now, he wanted for Yulian to stay. After all, after her training, she would play a pivotal position in the clan.

“The Soaring Immortal kid is not suitable for you. Even if you marry him, nothing good will come of it.” The matriarch poured cold water over her.

“Ancestor...” Yulian cried out but didn’t know what to say.

Chapter 1606: Yulian’s Choice

While Yulian was opening her mouth, Ancestor Yu hurried interjected: “Ancestor, the successor of Soaring Immortal is a grand completion Immortal Physique, one of the strongest candidates for the throne with the arts from five emperors. Quite a rare talent.” He gave a quick glance at Li Qiye without daring to say more.

“What is this about being one of the strongest candidates, it is only fleeting like the early morning dew or the moon on the river’s surface.” The matriarch said coldly: “A grand completion Soaring Immortal Physique still won’t do.”

Her juniors weren’t aware but she knew that all of this was still useless. Moreover, as the first general of the Black Dragon Legion, she understood the result of those who would compete against Li Qiye. Even if the boy was from Soaring Immortal, he would only serve as bones on Li Qiye’s path in the future.

Yulian still kept her head low. The seniors knew that she liked Long Aotian but no one explicitly stated it. A young girl like her felt quite shy at this moment.

The matriarch went on: “I shouldn’t interfere with the younger generation’s love. However, is it a one-sided affair or does he like you back?”

Yulian trembled a bit after hearing this. Aotian didn’t know of her crush at all. It was her one-sided crush since she had never expressed it.

Her expression couldn’t elude the matriarch’s eyes. The matriarch spoke: “So it’s one-sided.”

The girl was pale and didn’t dare to respond.

“Reflect on this for me.” The monarch elaborated: “If he’s the successor of Soaring Immortal with the arts of five emperors and a grand completion physique, so many princesses in the world will adore him. Even though you shouldn’t belittle yourself, some self-awareness is necessary. In terms of talents and beauty, can you compete with all the other women? Can you make him love you?”

Her head tilted down even more. She knew full well that her conditions were good but there were more exceptional women in this world. Long Aotian wouldn't necessarily like her which was why she had never confessed.

"Even if you have the chance to marry into that sect, it's already pushing it for you to be a concubine. There are too many disciples there at the same level as you." The experienced matriarch explained: "If that's the case, why should the sect take you in? It is simply to win our clan's influence in the Grand Sea. They want to take advantage of your ancestors. Outside of that, they don't care for our clan nor you. We'll just be used as tools."

She shuddered again after hearing the assessment. Every girl had some dreams, more or less, in their heart. But now, the frank assessment cruelly pierced through these dreams. She clenched her fists and tried her best to stop trembling.

"Love is human nature so that's not a criticism on you. However, you are still young, yet to see the real world and the resplendent grand dao." The matriarch continued.

"Your talents are fine but now, you are given the chance. Make up your mind and polish your dao heart then your life will change. Once you reach that particular level, you can live for several tens of thousand years while maintaining your youthfulness. At that point when you stand at the apex, your vision will become even broader and you will come to understand that there are even more wondrous and scintillating things in the world. You will meet even more exceptional talents. That is when you will know what you truly want!"

Her sonorous guidance reached the heart. All of the clan members were carefully listening.

Even Ancestor Yu sighed in his mind. A Godking like him could be considered to be an experienced man and had a different interpretation of her words. In the past, he failed to understand this until he was older. Alas, it was too late then since he didn't become a Godking till old age. At this particular level, one had a different perspective on the world.

Perhaps this perspective would change even more at the Emperor Assailant level. That's not something he would dare to imagine, however. He knew that Yulian was the most hopeful child in their clan as well. If she could be groomed, then her future would be quite promising.

"If you sever romance now, you will be able to pick a different path! Do you want to be an ordinary woman or a master smiling down on the world? This is your choice!" The matriarch asked.

A conflict waged in her mind. In the end, she gritted her teeth and said solemnly: "Ancestor, I accept the training and guidance!"

"Very good." The matriarch nodded approvingly while looking at Yulian. She turned towards Li Qiye and said: "Your Excellency, what do you think?"

"I can't stay long so I can't personally teach her." Li Qiye shook his head: "But it is very suitable for you to teach your own descendant. In my view, she's suitable to cultivate the Step Scripture so I'll allow for you to teach her that."

The matriarch was slightly disappointed until she heard the latter part. Li Qiye had guidelines for his followers. Certain merit laws were passable to their descendants and some weren't.

As someone who had cultivated the Step Scripture, she knew better than anyone just how powerful it was. Thus, his permission was a very big deal.

“Thank His Excellency already, others couldn’t ask for such a fortune.” The matriarch told Yulian instantly.

Yulian regained her wits and hurriedly bowed towards Li Qiye. Nevertheless, she had no fitting words for this occasion.

“No need for formality.” Li Qiye waved his sleeve: “Your ancestor seized this fortune for you, do not let her down.”

“Yes.” She quietly affirmed.

“From today on, you will stay in the courtyard so I can teach you.” The matriarch told her.

This was a glimmer of hope for the matriarch. She couldn’t teach all the children at her age but now, she could plant the seed for their future successor.

Yulian bowed again without speaking. Meanwhile, Clan Master Yu was very excited for his daughter. Being taught by the matriarch meant that she would be the next successor. No one would be able to take this away from her.

“Everyone, leave now.” The matriarch ordered: “Zongying, you stay.”

They followed her command and everyone left, outside of Zongying.

Zongying was still shaken all the same. The other disciples didn’t know who they were looking at but he did. This was the supreme ruler of the nine worlds. Ordinary people weren’t qualified to know his identity.

“To see you again, sacred teacher, is beyond my wildest dream.” Zongying said excitedly.

“You have a good memory since you were only learning how to speak back then.” Li Qiye couldn’t help but laugh.

The old man smiled awkwardly. He seemed like a child before someone as old as Li Qiye: “Sacred teacher, I have always looked up to you.”

“The boy never forgot about you and even wanted to join the Black Dragon Legion but the old man didn’t let him.” The matriarch smiled and shook her head.

The past embarrassed him so he let out a hollow laugh: “The Black Dragon Legion threatened the world for three generations with the hallowed Black Dragon King. Sacred teacher also reigned eternally so I really dreamt about leading the troops to battle back then.”

“It’s good that your father didn’t let you or I wouldn’t know what to do. The Yu Clan only has you so if anything bad were to happen, how can I face your parents?” Li Qiye laughed.

“The children didn’t try hard enough.” The matriarch let out a long sigh: “Otherwise, we would have let him train in the legion.”

The couple didn't only have one child but Zongying was the only successful one. His other brothers and sisters have already died before him due to their weaker cultivation.

Because of this, the Yu Clan only had him to take care of everything so his dad didn't permit him to join the legion since any mishap might end their lineage.

[Chapter 1607: Marriage Alliance](#)

While Li Qiye stayed as a guest at the Yu Mansion, news suddenly came from the Grand Sea regarding the marriage alliance between Soaring Immortal and Heaven Suppression. Zi Cuining will marry Long Aotian! They will meet to talk about the marriage at Soaring Immortal's territory.

There was an uproar after this news since there had been rumors previously. However, they came from different channels, not the official ones like right now.

Because of this, though many believed it, some remained skeptical until this official announcement. The alliance was no longer limited to speculation but more of a sure thing.

"Two behemoths in our generation are still deciding to join forces." One ancestor from a great power murmured in a daze.

Any insightful person would know the result of this alliance. It meant that nothing would be able to stop them since one had five emperors and the other reigned for the most recent three generations. Perhaps an Immortal Emperor would be able to stop them but nothing else in the nine worlds.

"Soaring Immortal had been separated from the nine worlds for a long time, they indeed need the support from Heaven Suppression. Nothing could be more perfect and powerful than this alliance." Even Godkings from the last generation were aghast after hearing this.

The great powers in the Grand Sea had the biggest reaction since they didn't want to see this the most. This alliance would infringe on all of their territories. It meant that all decisions on the region could be arbitrarily made by just two sects. Everyone else must listen because these two could turn a great power to ashes overnight. Alas, no one could change the situation.

Meanwhile, many enjoyed talking about it as well, especially the younger crowd. They didn't care for the politics and balance of power, only the angle of romance.

"I heard Heaven Suppression Goddess was very close to Fiercest back in Eastern Hundred Cities. There were some rumors about them being lovers in the Heavenly Dao Academy too." A gossip revealed.

"Hmph, Fiercest is indeed strong enough to be arrogant but nowadays, the only thing that matters is one's origin. He came from Cleansing Incense, that's nothing. It's a different story for Aotian with Soaring Immortal. He has the lineage of an emperor and the arts of five, such a noble upbringing. How can a nobody like Li Qiye match him? With the goddess' proud background, she naturally should be together with a heavenly prince like Aotian." An old-fashioned cultivator said with disdain.

Some immediately became unhappy with this guy who thought he was better than everyone else just because of his background. One young cultivator, who was a big fan of Li Qiye, retorted: "So what if they have noble upbringing? Hmph, Fiercest doesn't give a damn. Oppose him and even imperial children will be slaughtered like dogs, not worth mentioning."

“That’s right.” Many vagabonds agreed with the sentiment: “You think having a noble upbringing is that great? Fiercest never lacked women before. So many prestigious princesses and saintesses are willing to marry him. Fairy Mei, Sword Goddess Bai, all of them are from imperial lineages and they want to follow him anyway...”

Most cultivators from smaller sects and especially the vagabonds disliked hearing contemptuous remarks the most from the nobles. They found such rhetoric to be contemptuous.

Meanwhile, Cleansing Incense was a downtrodden sect. Thus, in their eyes, Li Qiye’s achievement was a breakthrough for them so they viewed him as their pride!

“I agree. Fiercest won’t have a lack of women just because of his accomplishments. He can get as many as he wants.” Another person added: “Heaven Suppression Goddess only agreed to marry Aotian because of the marriage alliance, it doesn’t mean that she likes him. She probably loves Fiercest even more. After all, he was her first love back at the academy...”

The debates became fiercer and eventually turned into scandals. Many began to spout that Li Qiye and the goddess promised to marry each other back at the academy. Thus, the current marriage proposal was purely political in nature.

“Hmph, I heard that Fiercest will steal the bride for sure.” Some unknown cultivators spread this message. Who knows their real intent behind this?

“Steal the bride, really now?” Many were stunned after hearing this.

“One hundred percent. Just think about it, who is Fiercest? Has he been afraid of anyone? Soaring Immortal and Aotian are nothing to him, same with Heaven Suppression City! If Aotian dares to steal his woman, he might try to trample both the city and Soaring Immortal!” A speaker swore to his friend about the validity of this rumor.

Regardless of the ulterior motives of the message, many people found it reasonable. They all knew about Fiercest’s temper and merciless nature. There was nothing he didn’t dare to do in this world. It would be strange if he didn’t try to flip Soaring Immortal over since Aotian was trying to steal his woman.

“Fiercest will definitely teach Soaring Immortal a lesson!” The helpless great powers wanted this particular development.

At the same time, the Peacock Bright Monarch immediately reported to Li Qiye about the commotion.

Li Qiye simply smiled after hearing about the marriage.

“I’m afraid Ancestor Ye’s group is forcing the City Lord. Maybe she lost her authority now.” The monarch worriedly said.

“With me here, Gu Zun’s tricks won’t amount to anything.” He chuckled.

The monarch quietly nodded since she couldn’t do anything with her own power so she placed her hope on him. She stared at him for a bit but refrained from speaking.

“Go ahead.” Li Qiye took note and said with a smile.

She smiled wryly with a strange expression before speaking: "Rumor has it that you and the city lord had a marriage pact back at the academy so a lot of people think you will go steal the bride."

"That's just a message sent by the local great powers." Li Qiye laughed: "Very well, if people want to have a show, then why not? It'll be lively when I go do it."

He certainly understood that people wanted to egg him on. However, he didn't really mind. Since Gu Zun was aiming for him, he wanted to return the favor by destroying the alliance. He went to see the matriarch afterward.

She also heard the news and said instantly: "This is Gu Zun's plan. He wants to drag Soaring Immortal down and use its power to oppose you."

"I know." Li Qiye replied: "Gu Zun knows himself that he alone can't take me on at all so he requires an ally, and who is better than Soaring Immortal? Is there a more powerful lineage compared to Soaring Immortal in the nine worlds?"

[Chapter 1608: Old Mystery](#)

The matriarch shook her head in response: "Even if Gu Zun involves Soaring Immortal, they can't stop you at all even if they utilize their full potential."

"That sect needs to pray for their own fortune. If they grow some eyes, they can continue to survive. But if their eyes are on the back of their head, then I'll just end them." Li Qiye smiled leisurely.

The matriarch was accustomed to such style. For the world, Soaring Immortal was full of experts and could be considered the supreme of the nine worlds. However, for Li Qiye, this was only a big sect at best. He could destroy them whenever he wanted. This was the reason why Soaring Immortal chose not to come out for three generations!

"The sect should know a bit about you, right?" She said.

Li Qiye smiled back: "You lived during Immortal Emperor Yin Tian's generation so you don't understand Soaring Immortal completely. Its power structure isn't simple. It has many external realms with an incredible amount of citizens and maybe more than ten million disciples."

He paused for a bit before continuing: "Its power structure, to put it in the simplest manner, is made up of five branches. It is complex and changes in each era. Whichever branch has the advantage would be in charge."

"That might be so but does it matter which branch is in charge? None of them should try to touch your whiskers, especially Immortal Emperor Tun Ri and Immortal Emperor Ba Mie's branch. The generals under their wings should still be loyal towards you." The matriarch said.

"The times are changing, same with Soaring Immortal. Plus, Tun Ri and Ba Mie aren't considered my students since I only helped and taught them a bit." Li Qiye shook his head.

"Plus, they are powerless too. After all, the sect has its own rules and they have made their pact. Moreover, they are old now and might not have control over anything." He elaborated.

“If they really wish to oppose you, then they’re just frogs under the well seeking their own destruction.” She stated.

Li Qiye revealed a faint smile: “The chance of them suiciding is quite high. Immortal Emperor Ren Xian’s influence is great so his branch should be quite strong now.”

She frowned in response: “Hmm, you think the emperor still had grudges against you back then so he left behind some plans to oppose you?”

“Ren Xian has great self-control. Regardless of his origin and bloodline, he is still an emperor with the foresight to understand what should and shouldn’t be done. In spite of his great achievements, he still showed great restraint after becoming emperor, that’s why he wanted the title, Ren Xian!” [1]

“He wants to get on your good side on top of showing his determination against his origin so his title flaunts a human origin.” The matriarch was aware of the circumstances.

Back then, Ren Xian was the chosen candidate from Soaring Immortal for the Heaven’s Will. However, because of his bloodline, Li Qiye didn’t agree with this but Soaring Immortal was hellbent on having a fifth emperor.

They had a minor fight because of this but the sect ultimately made many promises, even a blood oath. The emperor himself was part of this.

Due to all the concessions, Li Qiye chose to turn a blind eye to the competition.

During that generation, the young emperor didn’t let the sect down. He swept through the nine worlds and seized the throne. Nevertheless, even after becoming invincible, he kept his promise and was still very respectful towards the Dark Crow.

“Although I didn’t agree with him becoming an emperor, he did a good job after the fact. Regardless of his sincerity, he still kept his promise and exercised self-control. He didn’t do certain things just because he was an emperor or his sect was Soaring Immortal...”

“... It’s hard to criticize him in these aspects. The problem is his descendants. They believe Soaring Immortal is the true ruler of the nine worlds, and that their bloodline is the most powerful and precious. These beliefs drove them crazy.”

“Therefore, they were forced to isolate themselves, not allowed to come into being during Immortal Emperor Qian Li’s generation.” She said.

She didn’t personally experience the ordeal but she had heard of it before. In the past, some people in the sects secretly did a few things with their bloodline and invoked the anger of the Dark Crow.

He forcefully searched every inch of Soaring Immortal. The sect trembled before his coming and many big shots were forced to commit suicide! In the end, they isolated themselves from the world. This was the reason why so few disciples from the sect showed up during the Black Dragon King’s three generations.

“A bunch of idiots being bitten by their own blood, thinking that they’re the masters of the world.” Li Qiye said emotionlessly.

“Bitten?” She was surprised to hear this: “Will it devour their body eventually?”

Li Qiye shook his head: “I don’t know but they’ll increasingly be removed from their own race while inching closer to the true nature of this bloodline. This is why the bloodline is so frightening. Even the thinnest strand could have a chance for atavism! That’s why this race was so powerful!”

“Did you find any clues when you searched the sect back then?” She asked after contemplating quietly.

“Just a little bit. They had absolute loyalty to Soaring Immortal. Once they knew that I was about to pry even more, they immediately committed suicide and destroyed all traces. However, I know some of them tried to experiment with this blood already.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“They actually hid it from you? It must be a big deal then.” Her expression slightly changed.

“It has something to do with a supreme artifact.” Li Qiye’s eyes became serious as well: “It’s not at Soaring Immortal but I’m sure it has secretly shown up there every once in a while. That’s the reason why I’m certain the item is still in this race’s possession!”

She vaguely understood what the item was because Li Qiye had been searching for it when he was in control of the nine worlds.

“It doesn’t matter since it won’t escape my grasp in the end.” Li Qiye calmly declared: “I don’t care how many generations or how well they hide it, I’ll take it one day.”

The matriarch knew that Li Qiye has set up a big trap and was just ready for the enemy to fall down.

After a short while, she said softly: “Your Excellency, why did you relent then? If you were steadfast against letting them train Immortal Emperor Ren Xian, they wouldn’t necessarily dare to do it then.”

Li Qiye pondered this question carefully. He closed his eyes and leaned back on the master chair as if sleeping.

He eventually opened his eyes and replied: “No one really has a heart of iron. Or maybe it was because I have killed too many people so I turned soft-hearted then.”

She didn’t reply, only waiting to listen to him.

“Sometimes in the dead of the night, I thought about whether I have massacred too many people. But then again, I should never show mercy on this matter. If humans or any of the races had something to do with this, I should slaughter them.” He said slowly.

“Your Excellency, you were right about this. Only by wiping out this blood completely would the nine worlds have peace. Otherwise, darkness shall still loom over all of us.” The matriarch said solemnly.

“Qingfeng, I know you have always supported and listened to me. But, you have never actually witnessed the periods when I massacred the nine worlds, when I let the blood seep deep into the soil! During those times, some generals started to waver. Tell me, what should I have done with them?”

“Kill.” She answered without hesitation.

“Yes. and killed them I did.” Li Qiye closed his eyes again and said bitterly: “Personally ordering the death of loyal generals with countless meritorious exploits... It’s not an easy thing for the heart.”

Silence took over the room. After a good while, he gently sighed: "Therefore, I am a tyrant, the dark hand behind the curtains. I am someone who can only exist in the darkness. I'm not an Immortal Emperor, a beacon of light, only a heartless butcher who had slaughtered the nine worlds. My hands are stained with so much blood!"

[Chapter 1609: Eighteen Crystal Cannons](#)

The monarch carefully chose her words: "It doesn't matter who you are, Your Excellency. You are someone who shoulders what no one else dares! Immortal Emperors have their shining generations but they only shoulder an invincible power, not the immense weight of the nine worlds! Who is the one doing so, besmirched with infamy, but still protect the nine worlds? It's not the Immortal Emperors and the myriad races and powers. You are the watcher, Your Excellency, the stopper of the darkness. Your existence allows for the brilliant Emperors Era."

She paused for a moment before continuing: "Without you, the darkness would be coming again sooner or later. You have been doing your job, wiping away this bloodline all this time, not the emperors. They were indeed amazing and there's no denying that they had walked on a path paved with bones too, but none had ever committed a massacre of your magnitude. It's not because of their inability, it's because they did not wish to do so! They were enamored by their own reputation, not wanting to be reviled by future generation as a butcher who slaughters the innocence..."

A sigh interrupted her speech: "They cherished this reputation too much and feared that doing evil deeds would end with criticisms. For example, killing innocent people after becoming emperors. Many of them were aware that at the beginning of the Emperors Era, this bloodline was still flowing in the nine worlds. They scattered with hybridizations everywhere. With this information, they also knew that the darkness will come again but why didn't they do a mass cleansing? It's all due to their own self-absorption. Because of this, all along, you're the only one who has to shoulder the curses of the world. You're the only one who doesn't care about the respect of others or whether they fear you or not. Due to your lack of ulterior motives, you are able to correct the grand mistake by raising your executioner blade to sever the bloodline!"

She earnestly continued: "You were indeed a butcher, the dark hand behind the curtains. However, without your continuous cleansing, what would the nine worlds look like now? Like you have said, the blood will bite back. With the slightest incaution, the myriad races will cease to exist. Humans, spirits, golems will be no longer; only one race will be left. It won't just be an enslaving darkness since by that point, every race will have become just one."

"Thus, all creatures in the nine worlds should be grateful to you. Your conquests made it possible for them to live to the present. But maybe you are right, I have never experienced one of these great massacres. However, I can see one thing for certain, the future of the nine worlds without you. Because of this, I will support you. If you need to purge the world once more, just give me the order, I shall carry it out without wavering!" [1]

Li Qiye seemed to be sleeping on his chair. After a long while, he chuckled in response: "People have the rights to their own opinion. Each general back then deserved this right. A few things can't be forced in this world."

“In each generation, the world had always praised the emperors and their majestic accomplishments. However, they cursed your name without trying to understand your exploits. Even if they actually knew of your existence, they would still only react with fear. This is due to their own lack of foresight.” She said.

“Let them be.” Li Qiye smiled leisurely: “Since I’m a butcher, I should be raising my blade against the nine worlds. The particular narrative is fine.” He gently sighed at this point.

As the Dark Crow, he didn’t care about the words of the world. However, when his loyal and accomplished generals resisted him, personally giving the order to kill them was an unwilling and painful choice!

Nevertheless, someone needed to do so just as the matriarch had said. Every dreg of that blood must be swept clean or the darkness might come again!

The matriarch - his old comrade that had been to hell and back with him - stared at this seemingly ordinary man. She knew that he might have lost feelings due to his iron dao heart, there were substantial pain and unwanted memories lurking below!

This was why she truly admired him. He quietly endured the suffering and infamy in order to protect the nine worlds. Even emperors paled in comparison to his sacrifices.

“It’s fine to do another purge.” Li Qiye sat up and said: “If Soaring Immortal wants to come, then let them. I want to see what they have hiding in this generation!” His eyes flashed with a cold glint.

The monarch was ready for the incoming bloodbath after seeing his expression.

“But I’m a little tired of killing all the time now.” Li Qiye said with a smile: “Your eighteen crystal cannons haven’t been used for a long time. Take it out to test its strength now. Killing a chicken with an ox blade is very amusing.”

“I’ll bring them here, Your Excellency.” She walked away.

A moment later, she brought back two crates. One was overly large while the other wooden one was very very portable.

They were protected with many layers of seals, indicative of the content’s value.

The matriarch then opened the seals and plumes of glittering and translucent light came out from the large one.

A sizable cannon made from crystals and decorated with mighty runes was contained inside. The material emitted a mysterious power. The strange part was that the cannon wasn’t just one barrel but a cluster consisting of different sizes.

“The eighteen crystal cannons.” Li Qiye smiled after seeing it: “This type of crystal is indeed the finest. Only the Crystalfowl Immortal Mine would be able to produce them. It’s a shame that those geezers are too stingy.”

These cannons were the defining treasure of the Yu Clan, their ace card. Even those who were aware of their existence in the clan hadn’t seen them in person before.

“This is your love for us, using such precious materials to craft this peerless weapon for our clan.” She said.

“I was only bored and practicing.” Li Qiye said with a smile.

The cannons weren’t created with a method from this epoch. It shared the same origin as the Netherlord Hexagear Launcher but their own blacksmithing art had been lost in history.

The main difference was the material type. The launcher was much more precious and the cannons were created afterward.

After creating the launcher, Li Qiye rarely used this blacksmithing method again but due to the matriarch and her husband’s contributions, he created this weapon with some materials at hand and gave it to them.

She opened the other crate too. This one had a neat row of red diamonds serving as ammunition. Each resembled the sun itself with a spectacular flame.

“Dragonflame Uranium!” Li Qiye looked at each diamond and smiled: “Loading then firing them will be spectacular.” [2]

“Your Excellency, you had to squeeze the essence out of an entire sun just to make these diamonds.” She said with emotions because she had seen the devastating power of this weapon before.

[Chapter 1610: Coming In Person](#)

The Soaring Immortal Sect made a camp in the sea region they occupied after arriving at the Grand Sea.

The area used to belong to some demon great powers. They did try to resist but it was futile. In the end, these demons were forced to retreat while Soaring Immortal gained complete control.

Such a move attracted plenty of criticisms but nothing came of it due to the sheer power of the sect. In fact, before the reign of the Black Dragon King, Soaring Immortal’s influence spanned across the nine worlds.

After all, they had five emperors so they had extraterritorial headquarters all around.

Strangely enough, during Immortal Emperor Qian Li’s generation, the sect suddenly left all of these headquarters; not a single disciple was left behind. From then on, they rarely showed up in the nine worlds again.

People didn’t know what the heck was going on but the disappearance of this behemoth was a good thing for many great powers. Nobody actually wanted to have such a threat looming around them.

But now, the sect was back and used an unstoppable momentum to take over this region. This worried the cultivators in Mortal Emperor. The announcement of the alliance with Heaven Suppression shook the mind even more.

Henceforth, many eyes were fixated on their every move. Of course, others paid attention to Fiercest as well. The majority of people, especially the ones in this area, wanted to use Fiercest to retaliate against Soaring Immortal.

The romance rumors between Fiercest and the goddess became even more intense as if it was the truth. Whether it be deliberate or not, in short, everyone knew that these two had a marriage pact back at the Heavenly Dao Academy.

The young generation had a wonderful time talking about how Aotian dared to compete against Fiercest. They wanted nothing more than to come and watch the bride-stealing show in person.

“Fiercest is here.” People immediately discovered the moment Li Qiye and the Peacock Bright Monarch made it to the Soaring Immortal Sect’s territory. This news immediately spread with an unbelievable speed across the region.

“Is he really taking the bride away?” All eyes were on Li Qiye. The great powers became excited since this was what they have been waiting for. Fiercest was actually here.

“What did I tell you? Fiercest is invincible and prideful. He isn’t afraid of anyone. Someone like Aotian is nothing, this guy thinks he can steal Fiercest’s woman? He’s about to be annihilated!” Some young fans felt their blood boiling after seeing Li Qiye.

However, a few noble youths disagreed. One snorted in response: “Fiercest might be strong but all of you are blind, can’t even see who Young Emperor Long is. His backing is the Soaring Immortal Sect with countless Godkings and even Emperor Assailants. Hmph, no one has dared to oppose Soaring Immortal all this time. Nothing good will come of it.”

“So what? Aotian is just a dog relying on his sect then. Fiercest will kill the weakling so fast.” Li Qiye’s supporter retorted.

“Don’t be so sure. Young Emperor Long has a grand completion physique. He’s unstoppable among the young generation. Even the older generation can’t take him on.” Long Aotian’s fans instantly shouted back.

“Fiercest has thirteen palaces, one and only in the ages. A grand completion Immortal Physique is shit, there have been too many of them already!” Li Qiye’s support bit back.

“Young Emperor Long has triple saint talents and the arts of five emperors.” The other side contested.

“Fiercest has thirteen palaces!” This sentence was repeated to show Li Qiye’s unique achievement and invincibility.

“Young Emperor Long is the Denary King; he fought against the world for ten days and ten nights without faltering, going against millions and even killing Godkings...” Aotian’s supporters were still unconvinced.

“Fiercest has thirteen palaces!” Li Qiye’s supporters chanted this sentence even louder.

“You!” Aotian’s side trembled with anger without a response.

Fiercest’s amount of palaces had rendered all geniuses in this world breathless. Neither their achievements and brilliance mattered; all paled before the thirteen palaces.

Since the ages, there have been many Immortal Emperors and grand completion users. However, Li Qiye was one-and-only.

At this time, the duo entered Soaring Immortal's area. They saw immortal energy and mist everywhere. Pavilions could be faintly seen in the distance along with big ships. Trees were connecting together to form large landmasses.

People had to admit that the sect was able to turn this area into a land of immortals in such a short time. It showed just how terrifying the number of resources they had at their disposal was.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that their trash could please a great power. This was the style of a sect with five emperors.

"Clang! Clang! Clang!" The gong of war resounded. The disciples from Soaring Immortal became vigilant. Both ordinary members and even elders were getting ready for battle.

Soaring Immortal might claim its supremacy but it didn't underestimate Fiercest at all. They knew of his battle records all too well. Most recently, he destroyed their Skyfire Warships. In the past, he killed their Godkings and banished their spatial channel. This was a worthy foe!

The eruptive atmosphere between the two sides robbed the breath of spectators. Some were eager for a fight already.

"What? This is how your sect treat a guest?" Li Qiye leisurely smiled and said as if strolling through a garden.

Even his enemies or those who hated him admired his boldness. Being able to smile before Soaring Immortal was very impressive. Their legs would be trembling if put under the same situation!

This leisure attitude made the experts from Soaring Immortal glance at each other. They didn't know whether they should start fighting or not.

"Is Long Aotian going to fight?" One cultivator murmured.

"Long Aotian isn't here. He led some experts and ancestors to hunt the sea monsters right now at the depths." A well-informed spectator shook his head.

"Li Qiye, what do you want?" An instructor from Soaring Immortal took a deep breath and asked with a serious tone.

Soaring Immortal found this situation difficult to accept. All of this time, their sect has been sweeping through everything without resistance. They have never met such a strong enemy before.

They didn't show the slightest carelessness and understood that elder-level characters weren't enough to stop Fiercest. The lowest requirement to confront Fiercest was Godking!

"Nothing. I heard that my old friend, the Heaven Suppression City Lord is a guest at your sect, so I'm here to see her." He said slowly.

"So domineering, he got straight to the point." The experts nearby secretly praised. Only Fiercest would be so unrestrained against Soaring Immortal.

The elders here were silent in contemplation. If it was someone else demanding this, they might have even killed the guy under their fury. However, they needed to be careful when it came from Fiercest.

