Emperor 1991

Chapter 1991: Ren Sheng's Coronation

While Li Qiye and the old man were chatting about the world, the power of the heaven and earth gathered outside with the appearance of the Heaven's Wills.

The cultivators in Arrogance were lost in a furor.

"Rumble!" With a resplendent and blinding light, the power of the wills crazily gathered and could suppress everything.

This power has alarmed numerous cultivators. All eyes were on this area.

"Boom!" Imperial hymns resonated with laws flying across the world and taking charge of the grand momentum. The aura of an Immortal Monarch engulfed everywhere and wouldn't disperse. This resembled the breaking of the chaos in the primordial time.

"A new Immortal Monarch has been born." Even those who couldn't see it knew what was going on.

"Ren Sheng is now an Immortal Monarch with four wills!" This shocking news swept everywhere in Arrogance like a storm.

People were quite elated, especially the humans.

"Ren Sheng is the pride of our race." Some considered it a great honor, especially the young ones who were a big fan of him.

"Our race does need someone like him to preside over the situation." Even the older human experts were happy and had high hopes in him.

"Four wills at once, such rare and great talents. What a damn shame." A human ancestor said sentimentally while clenching his fists: "If he wasn't ambushed by the heaveners, he could have been a twelve-will Immortal Monarch."

"He's still our pride even if he's not one. His outcome is due to his ambush on Jin Ge, that's why the heaveners got their revenge. His sacrifice is for the sake of the human race." Another expert adored Ren Sheng.

Not everyone in Arrogance was surprised by this news since Ren Sheng was a top candidate among the human race to become a monarch.

Inside the small city, the old man and Li Qiye were alerted as well. They opened their eyes and peered through space to see the ascension area of Ren Sheng. They witnessed the entire process.

After finishing, Li Qiye only smiled since he has seen these ascensions too many times.

"No experts from the heaveners interfering this time. Looks like an agreement has been reached." The old man said.

Without any interruption, the process went smoothly. Of course, there were emperors protecting him this time around but perhaps the peaceful occurrence had other reasons.

"I don't think a twelve-will emperor will come out in this generation." The old man said with a tinge of emotion.

There were too few of them in history already. Now, the top two talents in Jin Ge and Ren Sheng have lost their chance as well. Perhaps this generation wouldn't be able to produce one.

"Everything is possible, a new one might just come out." Li Qiye calmly smiled.

"Sacred Teacher, who then?" The old man became surprised because he knew that a character like Li Qiye wouldn't make a baseless statement.

This meant that there was someone in the thirteen continents that Li Qiye was bullish about. Remember, a youth viewed highly by Li Qiye was certainly exceptional.

"It's too early to say. When that day comes, I'll naturally announce it." He chuckled again.

The old man nodded again without prying.

"Senior, may Qianxuan have an audience?" Suddenly, a clear and pleasant voice interrupted them. It was profound yet comfortable.

The old man sighed after hearing this.

"So many people are still watching you even if you hide in the mortal world. These top emperors are still interested." Li Qiye smiled.

The old man smiled wryly back. He has seen too many emperors, including the top ones.

"Come in." He said.

A moment later, a sweet fragrance blew by. It was a young girl whose presence lit up the room and gave it an orchid fragrance.

She was a looker indeed. With a white dress, she looked as if she had just gotten out of a painting. It was an ethereal and illusory appearance like an immortal. Just a single gesture was supreme. A real goddess couldn't top her. Her eyes were spirited and animated like the limpid autumn waters.

A transcending aura surrounded her as if she was not part of the worldly rhythm.

Just a frown or smile was enchanting but no one dared to have any impure thoughts. Just looking from afar was more than enough.

She was quite surprised to see Li Qiye sitting with the old man since it meant that they were on the same level.

Nevertheless, she quickly bowed and respectfully said: "I'm here under the request of my senior."

With that, she took out a letter. It was majestic and full of divinity, clearly belonging to someone incredible.

She also bowed at Li Qiye in a respectful manner despite not knowing his identity. This was definitely someone amazing too to be on the same level as the old man.

The old man accepted the letter and didn't open it just yet. He knew who it was from already.

"I'm done here, time to leave." Li Qiye chuckled and stood up.

The old man quickly stood up to see him away. Li Qiye gently pushed him down and said: "No need for that, we'll meet again."

After leaving the courtyard, Li Qiye continued to walk around in this little city because the old man had reasons for picking this place as his dwelling.

The old man wasn't a top emperor and his amount of Heaven's Will was quite pitiful. Nevertheless, he was considered one of the most amazing emperors. Even someone like World Emperor still called him a "sage".

He was a miracle in the thirteen continents, reaching a balance with the heaven and earth. This allowed him to walk in this world unhindered by the Heavenly Execution. He could even live for an eternity.

This was the reason why so many top emperors visited him and asked him for pieces of advice. Ultimately, all of them wanted to avoid the execution but he was the only one capable of reaching the balance. He didn't take anything from nature; this wasn't the case for the others.

He walked in the mortal world and would change location and job in each era. For this particular one, he was a tofu maker. Such a normal job was pushed to the limit by the old man. It was a grand dao to him; he needed to keep trying to reach the very end of this path.

Chapter 1992: Qianxuan

Li Qiye was quite amused after his stroll in the city. The old tofu maker was quite impressive in his deed not disadvantaging himself while not taking from nature at the same time. Other emperors couldn't replicate his accomplishment.

Of course, the theory was simple but carrying it out was a different story. Li Qiye didn't try to copy his state because he had a different pursuit.

As he was about to leave the city, someone caught up to him.

"Senior." A pleasant voice rang again - the woman who came to visit the old man rose to the sky where he was floating.

Li Qiye was naturally still taking his time. If he truly wanted to cross the planes, there was no way for the woman to catch up.

"My name is Yu Qianxuan, it is my pleasure to meet you, Senior. Please excuse my ignorance, will you tell me how to properly address you?" The woman bowed respectfully and asked.

She came to visit the old tofu maker at the beseech of her senior. After seeing Li Qiye, she was aware that he was an incredible being, perhaps an amazing emperor.

Alas, she racked her brain and couldn't pinpoint him to an existing emperor. Nevertheless, she didn't dare to be disrespectful because he seemed to be on the same level as the old man.

Li Qiye looked at her and chuckled: "I'm only an idle passerby, not an emperor."

Qianxuan was smart enough not to pry. An existence of this level naturally had his reason for walking in the mortal world.

"I have only made my dao debut recently as a teacher in Celestial Academy, so please excuse me for any offense due to my shallow experience." She said.

Li Qiye smiled: "Quite rare, a seed from the Archaic Repository coming to the academy to be a teacher? That's quite something since the repository passed down their secrets to you, so why are you at the academy?"

This casual comment made her shudder. Just a single glance was enough for him to see through her identity as if she was completely naked, unable to hide anything from his gaze.

"Dear Senior, I'm inexperienced so I wish to learn more. The academy was kind enough to let me teach there. To tell you the truth, I'm afraid that I won't be a good teacher to the students there." She said sincerely.

Li Qiye was amused: "Though the academy is unfathomable, your repository isn't inferior at all. Your presence at the academy is quite interesting, indeed."

A simple remark revealing everything. She felt a cold chill and found this ordinary-looking man to be terrifying. She no longer dared to talk.

"Forget it, I'm just spewing things, no need to mind me. I have deep ties with your ancestors. Is your sect doing fine?" Li Qiye stopped making it hard for her.

"Thank you for asking, Senior. Our sect is well." She hurriedly said.

"If Min Ren was around, the repository could look down on the thirteen continents and the Qian Clan and Celestial Court wouldn't be the top powers right now." Li Qiye sighed wistfully.

The fact that Li Qiye said, "Min Ren", shocked the soul out of her.

Her sect was the strongest imperial lineage in Arrogance outside of special ones like the academy. Few sects around these parts would dare to challenge them.

Created by Immortal Emperor Min Ren, it had a total of seven emperors. Immortal Emperor Tun Ri and Immortal Emperor Qian Yu joined later on on top of another five emperors produced later. This was quite a rare achievement.

The most exceptional thing was naturally their pillar, Immortal Emperor Min Ren. He resembled a majestic and unreachable peak, forever indomitable.

An emperor once said that wherever Immortal Emperor Min Ren stood, that place was immovable. He was a monster during Emperor Hunt, stopping the members of the three races. He was certainly strong enough to take on World Emperor too!

During that prosperous era, the Ancient Repository was the pearl pagoda of the human race. As long as it remained standing, it could show the way for the humans and gave them hope.

This was Yu Qianxuan's sect. Her status within was mysterious as well but ultimately, just the fact that she was a member was enough to show her prestige.

In theory, it was enough for her to stay there but for some reasons, she decided to teach at the Celestial Academy? This was indeed worth musing over.

She was still in a daze as Li Qiye stated nonchalantly: "However, the academy is indeed a good place, a cradle for the hundred races. Min Ren has also spent some time there, so being a teacher in that place does not be mirch your status."

"Right you are, Senior. The academy is boundless - just to understand and learn a little bit there will be a lifetime of benefits." She quickly answered.

The words weren't completely exaggerated since it was indeed the truth. Many emperors from the hundred races have spent time at the academy.

"No need to call me Senior all the time." He looked at her and said: "Look at how young I am? You are making me seem old by using that address repeatedly, call me Young Noble instead. That's more fitting of someone as handsome and elegant such as myself."

"Uh..." She was speechless and didn't know what to do. After reaching a certain power level, age didn't matter from an external appearance perspective.

There was no doubt that this existence has lived for a long time. She assumed that he should be stately and act in a fitting manner.

Thus, his words and gestures were completely opposite to her expectation; they should come from someone of his level.

Young Noble." She listened and after speaking, she found it to be much more intimate.

"May I ask where you are going?" She grew bolder because he was much more easy-going and approachable than expected.

In her mind, there must be an earth-shattering purpose for his appearance in the mortal world.

"Just a casual stroll. Oh right, didn't you say earlier, the academy is boundless, so as someone who is behind the time, I also want to take a trip there to learn for a bit, read a couple more books and use more ink. I'm sure it'll be good for me."

Of course, this wasn't his real purpose in coming to the academy.

She had no response to this and only smiled wryly. If someone like Li Qiye wanted to learn more at the academy, then juniors like them should just hang themselves.

"When you enter the academy, Young Noble, everyone else will learn from you." She ended up speaking.

Who would dare to teach someone like Li Qiye? Even the strongest and most knowledgeable teacher there would only be a student before him - a being of the emperor level.

"Teaching, huh?" He was slightly emotional while recalling the distant past. He had indeed done something like this before at the academy.

"It's not a bad idea." He smiled and said: "Eating and sleeping for free at the academy there, hmm, that doesn't look good. Very well, I will teach for two days, I'm sure that will be fun. Go tell the old geezers about it."

She was completely stunned this time since she thought he was only playing around, not actually coming to the academy.

"Will that be okay?" She spoke with uncertainty.

"Go, tell the geezers that I want to stay in a study room and teach whenever. Oh, also tell them not to disturb me." He gently waved his hand.

She bowed deeply, not daring to show any slight: "I will immediately go back and tell the seniors."

This matter was surely not so simple but she didn't dare to pry and immediately followed his order.

Chapter 1993: Celestial Academy

Li Qiye smiled after she left. Teaching at the academy was only a sudden whim to him though he did want to visit the academy.

He found this whole thing to be quite entertaining because the academy was worthy of remembrance. It was once a paradise though it has changed a bit.

He took his time walking through Arrogance to meet old friends and allies first. This was also a place full of unforgettable memories to him. He adored the entire nine worlds but Arrogance was a special place in the tenth.

This was once the main camp of the hundred races, and his as well. They once mobilized their armies from this place; the start of Emperor Hunt. Thus, there were too many memories here. Alas, Arrogance remained but his lovers and friends were gone.

Some started on the ultimate expeditions while others were gone with the wind. Of course, some preferred a reclusive life, never to show up again...

He inadvertently became disappointed since he couldn't say goodbye to some of them, not seeing them one last time. From now on, they were forever separated - people such as Qian Li and Qi Zhen. There was no returning for them.

He continued on in this manner, resting and seeing old friends, before heading for the academy.

Celestial, this name threatened Arrogance and all the continents. Virtually every cultivators in the world have heard of this place before.

One had to bring up someone when talking about the academy - Immortal Emperor Fei.

Back in his era, not to mention the racial injustice, Immortal Emperors had a hard time ascending to the tenth world. They were preys to the three races.

He came after Immortal Emperor Jiao Feng but strangely enough, he received quite a reception after arriving. He was an honored guest to many emperors from the three races.

The guy was the heaven's favorite, born with exceptional talents. Even in a place full of prodigies and masters, he still overshadowed many of the other Grand Emperors.

This was the reason why he earned the respect of the three races. Back then, Deep South Divine Emperor, a tyrant in the thirteen continents, was very protective of him. The emperor even went as far as marrying his daughter - the prettiest of the three races - to Fei.

Keep in mind that Deep South was the fourth to have twelve wills. His status was comparable to Flame and Origin!

Thus, this propelled Immortal Emperor Fei's status even more. Back then, this place was still named White, not Arrogance.

The hundred races didn't have a good time here but the emperor still established the Celestial Academy. This was the only sect in the thirteen continents where the hundred races were allowed to cultivate.

Before its inception, the hundred races also had other lineages. However, they weren't officially recognized by the three races and suffered the occasional pressure.

This was not the case for Celestial. His wife offered the emperor a lot of support and planning. At the same time, Deep South also added his assistance.

All of this made the emperors recognize the Celestial Academy as a sect. It became the first one that could publicly recruit students from the hundred races.

From then on, the hundred races began to prosper and more and more citizens were born in White. Thus, this place could be viewed as a cradle for this group.

Fei wasn't as domineering as Jiao Heng and didn't antagonize and sweep through the three races then change the name of the continent to Arrogance. He was also not as patient as Immortal Emperor Wan Gu, hiding and biding his time for years before entering an agreement with the races for Pure's independence.

Nevertheless, his achievements to his race were certainly not inferior to these two emperors. The academy started by him became a great foundation. It produced one expert after another. These experts would come out and fight for their people.

Thus, in Arrogance, people certainly remembered Jiao Heng but they didn't forget about Fei either. The most lamentable thing was that later on, Fei and Deep South started the third expedition. From then on, they disappeared from the world.

It was the start of a new semester so the academy became rowdy with excitement. The vacationing students or those who went back home were quickly returning.

The academy was massive with several entrances. All were lively and filled with people.

"Screech!" A young man on a crane landed outside an entrance.

"You're back, Baihe. Your fellow students are waiting for you to take them on a journey." A group of senior students was responsible for welcoming people back. One of them came up to Baihe with a smile.

"I found a group of spirit eagles this time on my trip to Cloud Mountain. Here, everyone can have one." Baihe smiled back.

This surely pleased his peers, evident by their cheers.

"Roar!" The earth quaked outside of the gate. A gigantic beast ran over, towering at one hundred meters. It had a huge horn with great agility despite its enormous frame.

Another charismatic young man rode the beast. He had a hint of arrogance in his aura.

"Senior Chi Xi is back." Another student responsible for registering newcomers laughed happily. [1]

"Friends, I found a lot of Crimson Jades back in my clan's mine, I brought some for everyone." The beast slowed down before reaching the entrance in order to be respectful. The rider jumped down and told everyone.

"How generous of you, Senior." The eyes of the students from his class lit up after hearing this.

The academy accepted students from everywhere as long as they possessed the right qualifications. Thus, the student body was very diverse.

Some students were ordinary mortals once; some were from smaller sects. Of course, there was no lack of students from the great powers and imperial lineages.

Even imperial successors came here to learn. Their sects' merit laws were certainly amazing - too many to learn in one lifetime, even. Nevertheless, they were still lacking certain things compared to the academy.

This place had too many emperors participating once, such as Fei, Fei Yang, Qi Zhen, Tun Ri, Min Ren, Hao Hai.... These famous Immortal Emperors have all been here and taught their dao before.

As for the Immortal Monarchs - Six Dao, Yiye, Jilin... These top members of the hundred races have also visited the academy and taught here before.

Of course, legend has it that even Deep South from the Divine Race had famously taught here too.

In the thirteen continents, the academy might not have the most merit laws and treasures, but it definitely had the highest numbers of different methods for cultivation.

It wasn't the strongest clan or sect in the world, but it certainly produced the most talents and masters.

Its alumni were usually exceptional. After becoming god or emperor, some would come back and stay to teach at the academy for a short while. Some of them even chose to leave behind their merit laws and secret arts.

Due to the new waves of talents in every generation, the academy stood strong. This enticed imperial successors to come and learn. It was a good way for them to broaden their horizon.

Therefore, in each new semester, these imperial successors would come. This was quite a common occurrence so the students here got used to it by now.

Chapter 1994: Geniuses In Droves

The quiet academy became lively again due to the new semester with students coming back. Some imperial successors were coming as well. Their arrivals caused quite a stir. After all, they were quite generous and gave many good stuff to their classmates.

This was another reason for being here - making friends and establishing connections for their future.

"Buzz." A pathway abruptly emerged in the sky with a youth walking on top.

He had an archaic yet free style - relaxed yet imposing; something akin to an immovable peak lying in nature.

"Gu Guo is back!" Someone shouted emotionally.

"South Emperor huh? Truly badass, I heard he had an adventure at an ominous ground." A powerful student was convinced.

"I think he's about to graduate. A teacher says that he only need one year to do so. I don't think anyone else in the world can match his talents." A female student was infatuated.

South Emperor Gu Guo, perhaps the most famous character at the academy right now, even exceeding an alumni named Ren Sheng!

Few knew of his background. Some believed he was from the Mysterious Bamboo Mountain, a sect with six emperors, while others said otherwise.

All in all, back in the last semester, he directly entered the Mortal School to be the only student there.

The academy was divided into five sections: Mortal School, Emperor Mansion, Sacred Institution, Hundred Halls, and Study Room.

Mortal School was the top class in the academy. There were generations when no one was qualified to enroll. Just one in each generation was amazing enough.

For example, Ren Sheng. He was quite an amazing fella with incredible talents and a unique bloodline. All of this was not enough for him to enroll in Mortal School.

Rumor has it that this classroom only trained potential top emperors and Ancient Gods so naturally, the requirements were stringent.

Whoever graduated from it would certainly have a wonderful future. One example was Six Dao Monarch.

Though the academy has never admitted this, everyone implicitly considered it as the truth. If one could enter Mortal School, their future accomplishments would be incredible even if they couldn't become an Ancient God or a top emperor. After graduating, joining these realms was only the beginning.

Thus, his admittance to Mortal School after joining the academy caused quite a stir. Even the retired schoolmaster personally came out to become Gu Guo's teacher.

Of course, this incited some jealousy as well. Even Ren Sheng didn't receive this treatment and only learned at Emperor Mansion. Because of this, some speculated that Gu Guo's achievements would be much greater than Ren Sheng.

After taking all of this into consideration, people accepted his self-proclaimed title as "South Emperor".

In fact, this was a domineering and borderline unreasonable move. People wouldn't pick a title before becoming an emperor but Gu Guo still did it. Just how confident was he?!

Therefore, certain fans of Ren Sheng were antagonistic and jealous of Gu Guo. They were eager to see him make a fool out of himself.

It would be hilarious if he couldn't become an emperor or fail to match Ren Sheng later on.

By all means, Gu Guo was still very famous and adored. After all, his strength was unquestionable. No students could actually take him on; only the teachers were qualified to do so.

After arriving, Gu Guo didn't stop at the gate. He entered the academy and disappeared into the rolling hills inside.

"Senior Gu Guo will certainly become a twelve-will Immortal Monarch." A beautiful female student watched him the whole time and said as if drunk with infatuation.

"Not necessarily because he's born in the wrong generation. We already have three emperors, the pressure is too much if he wants twelve wills." A jealous male student responded.

These little conversations were everywhere about Gu Guo until the next arrival at a different gate.

A supreme beauty came about. She was inordinately blessed in external appearance and would attract all eyes. However, the most interesting thing was not her physical appearance but rather her transcending temperament.

She was untouched by flaws just like an immortal. Each of her gestures was enchanting and stirring, certainly not belonging to the mortal world.

"Sister Suyao!" The greeters cheered with excitement, especially the members of Emperor Mansion. The male students ran over to greet her.

"Sister, your arrival brings colors to our Emperor Mansion, we've been waiting for you." One male student declared.

His feelings were as clear as day but he wasn't the only one. All the other youths were completely intoxicated.

She was another famous character in the last semester. What earned her fame was not just her beauty. She wasn't all looks and no brains.

It was certainly her frightening talents, allowing her to be accepted into Emperor Mansion instantly. Keep in mind that many imperial successors would need to pass multiple examinations before joining this classroom. Once again, people thought that her talents were higher than Ren Sheng.

She had a calm demeanor like the water in a well and only answered with a slight nod before entering the academy.

The students have grown used to her attitude. In the beginning, she had countless suitors - some were imperial successors from famous sects. There was no lack of geniuses in Emperor Mansion. Alas, no one could win her favor. She was friendly without any trace of arrogance but there was an invisible distance or barrier. No one could actually step in her world.

"I wonder who can capture Sister Suyao's heart?" A young female student said with anticipation while looking at Suyao's back.

Meanwhile, the males were in a stupor looking at her. No one has been lucky enough to successfully court her just yet.

"Click, click, click..." At another entrance was a stopped carriage. It was simple with an even simpler looking old man as the driver.

Nevertheless, eyes lit up when the woman inside stepped down.

In terms of appearance, she wasn't as supremely beautiful as Suyao. However, her noble and serene aura made up for that. Her elegance was relaxing and people couldn't help stealing a second glance.

"Sister Miao Chan!" The greeters and students smiled. They ran down to greet her.

"Sister Miao Chan, did you do well at the Mysterious Ravine during the break?" A student from Emperor Mansion started a conversation.

"Thank you, senior. I did quite well." She slightly nodded - showing off her noble and graceful charm.

"I told my friends that given your wisdom, you would surely have a big harvest." The senior laughed and said.

There were many friends circling around her. She joined last semester and had to pay a fee to enter Hundred Halls.

In the beginning, she didn't display amazing cultivation talents or tried to make friends. However, her insightful vision and expert planning made her well-known around the academy.

In fact, her friends in Hundred Halls voted her as the flower of their classroom. In general, she was welcomed at the academy.

In spite of this, she maintained a low-profile. Alas, this wasn't enough to hide her intelligence. Thus, whenever her peers had any questions, they would come to ask for her opinion and help.

Chapter 1995: Seeing Yao Ting Again

When Li Qiye made it to the outskirt of the academy, the registration for new students was about to end so the entrances were less frequented.

He was slightly moved while staring at the place from the distance. People came and went; geniuses replaced by young faces after each generation. Regardless of these changes, the academy remained standing.

If it were to fall one day, the hundred races would face an existential crisis.

It wasn't to say that the academy was the root of the hundred races. However, losing it would result in a loss of morale and a sanctuary.

It was different from other sects. The latter could be narrow-minded and selfish but the academy was all-accepting.

Thus, cultivation aside, the alumni from here were more knowledgeable after training and living with others.

It was to open the shackles of the mind, so that these youths could see how vast the world was and build relationships with others.

Thus, Arrogance could afford to not have lineages like Archaic Repository and Mysterious Bamboo, but it needed the academy.

Without these sects, other imperial lineages could rise up and take their places. There was no way of rebuilding the academy.

Why? There would never be another Immortal Emperor Fei or Deep South Divine Emperor. To a certain extent, it wasn't just Fei who spent tremendous effort on its creation. The academy was also Deep South's masterpiece.

The majestic sceneries here stirred Li Qiye. Too many talents have been here including Immortal Emperors from the nine worlds. He himself had taught here.

Alas, he didn't leave his name behind like Immortal Emperor Fei Yang and Immortal Emperor Hao Hai, only acting as the secretive crow like always. Thus, though he had taught some invincible characters, there was nothing written about him here.

As time passed, people eventually left regardless of how powerful they were unlike this eternal academy.

Images began to play in his head even before reaching the entrance. Certain youths came in, full of vigor. Eventually, they came out as masters. Today, he has returned but all of these people were no longer around.

Some students were still rushing back to the academy. The majority of this group were ordinary students because those from powerful sects could run back whenever. They had more access to resources and dao portals.

As for the other group, they were either training or going back to visit family. Most had to either travel on the ground or fly. Perhaps some had access to dao portals with limited range. This was the reason why time was more pressing for these students to return, especially if something unexpected happened during their journey.

These rushing students didn't give Li Qiye a second glance. After all, he was too ordinary in appearance. There was no time for them to care about a stranger.

Eventually, he withdrew his gaze and started walking towards the academy.

"Dao Brother Li." Suddenly, a cute voice came from a girl running over.

It was Yao Ting. She was slightly out of breath with a pink complexion, heaving up and down.

Li Qiye stopped and smiled at her.

"We meet again, Dao Brother." She was pleasantly surprised to see him since she didn't expect another meeting after the village.

"It's a small world, fate is all you need to meet again." Li Qiye chuckled and said.

Though she was vigilant back at the village, she felt an indescribable sense of closeness to him. It was impossible to describe but ultimately, she felt as if he was a family member.

She thought that he was a student from the academy and said: "So you are a senior at the academy. I'm from the Hundred Halls, may I ask for your class?"

In terms of talents, Yao Ting was certainly top-notched. However, this was the gathering place of the talents in the hundred races. She didn't quite stand out here as much.

People shouldn't dream about joining Mortal School. As for Emperor Mansion? It was exceedingly hard to join as well. The ones currently enrolled were all top geniuses in the world, such as Ren Sheng in the last generation or Mei Suyao in the current.

Sacred Institution also recruited many students but their requirement was tough as well. Thus, the majority of them were from the great powers, primarily the successors and descendants.

Hundred Halls was the most diverse one with people from all over the place. Some students were purposely hiding their background here too.

It was the easiest to enter. There were two methods: passing the examination or paying enough chaos stones.

The top classrooms couldn't be paid to get in but Hundred Halls was different. Even if one was as dumb as a pile of manure, they could still join to learn. Thus, not all alumni from this class became exceptional. Some were certainly useless idiots.

This group got in due to their parents and families paying in order to gain some prestige of the academy.

Of course, this wasn't to say that the place was useless. On the contrary, it has produced many heroes and High Gods for the hundred races.

Yao Ting naturally didn't pay to get in. She was chosen by a teacher there and brought to the academy. After passing the examination, she became an official student.

It could be said that a girl from a remote village like her being able to join the academy had changed her fate. After finding out that she was a student, the king of her country personally came out to greet her in a grand ceremony.

Li Qiye looked at her and said with a smile: "Your talents are just normal but your foundation is great. You have done a great job cultivating the Emperors Art. Your achievement today can land you in Sacred Institution."

At the academy, the initial selection wasn't permanent. With enough improvements and achievements, one could enter the upper classrooms.

"Thank you, Dao Brother Li." She wasn't arrogant of her achievements and said softly: "I still need more training. Teacher says I can try the examination after this semester."

Once again, a village girl going from Hundred Halls into Sacred Institution was extremely difficult. She would bring great pride and honor to her ancestors.

If she were to actually do it, the king of her country would ask her to take on the Grand Tutor position.

"Certain things are inevitable..." Li Qiye commented with a tinge of emotion. Her ancestors wanted their descendants to live as ordinary mortals, away from cultivation. Alas, she still chose to walk on the same path as them, despite not knowing of their glorious past.

"What do you mean?" She didn't quite understand the random comment.

"It's nothing. The path is long, just take your time and appreciate it. I guess this is fate at work." Li Qiye answered with a smile.

Chapter 1996: Celestial Academy

The two of them started walking towards the academy. Yao Ting suddenly remembered her question earlier: "Dao Brother, which class are you going to?"

"Study Room." Li Qiye nonchalantly responded.

"Study Room?" She was surprised to hear this unexpected answer.

The academy indeed had five sections with Study Room as the fifth.

However, people only really talked about Mortal School, Emperor Mansion, Sacred Institution, and Hundred Halls. Though Mortal Hall rarely recruited students, it was still a hot topic.

On the contrary, no one talked about Study Room because even if they were chosen, they wouldn't want to participate in this particular class.

It was indeed a part of the academy and had teachers teaching the dao and merit laws. Nevertheless, the students here usually traveled the world and learned about history.

For cultivators, the main goal in joining the academy was to learn the dao in order to shoulder the Heaven's Will one day. Thus, sightseeing and history weren't on their agenda. They wanted to learn how to fly and become stronger, not to become bookworms.

This resulted in a low participation rate for this classroom, albeit not as low as Mortal School. For example, there were only a few students there this semester.

Yao Ting glanced at Li Qiye again. She wasn't involved with Study Room but she was aware of the names of the students there. Li Qiye was not one of them.

"Well..." She didn't quite know how to ask.

He decided to tease her after seeing her appearance: "I only got here just now."

"Oh, but this semester doesn't take in new students." She slightly frowned, worrying about him: "If you want to join Study Room, I'm afraid it won't be possible. You will have to wait till the next semester."

Li Qiye leisurely said: "I'm here already, might as well go take a look. Nothing is certain in this world, perhaps I'll be lucky and get accepted this time anyway."

"Maybe." She pondered for a bit and agreed due to her positive impression of him: "Dao Brother, Study Room is closest to the southern gate, so you should that way. Coincidentally enough, the seniors from Hundred Halls are in charge over there and I know them. Let me take you."

Having said that, she led the way for him.

He only wanted to tease her but didn't expect her to be so enthusiastic. He smiled faintly and saw the shadow of an old acquaintance in her.

It would be more accurate to call the academy a country due to its massive size. The land here spanned for more than a million miles.

Even though the two of them were flying at a fast speed, it still took nearly half a day to reach the southern entrance.

A conversation sparked again when Yao Ting thought about something that has been haunting her: "Dao Brother, may I ask you something?"

"Go for it." He said flatly.

She picked out her words carefully: "You weren't just passing through when you came to Yao last time, right? Of course, excuse me if I am wrong."

"You're right, I was taking a look there." He had no intention of hiding.

She pondered a bit before asking: "Because of the shrine in our village?"

In fact, she was quite certain of this already.

He gently nodded: "Indeed, I haven't seen it in a long time and it was on the way."

"What's inside?" She blurted out without hesitation this time.

She was truly curious about the shrine but asking the elders in the village, no one had a clue about its origin and how it was built. The oldest grandpa said that it has been there before his parents' generation. Perhaps it was already there when the village came about.

Everyone in the village has grown used to the existence of this inconspicuous shrine, including Yao Ting during her childhood.

This was no longer the case. She tried many different methods and exerted all strength only to fail in opening the ordinary wooden door.

She didn't dare to claim to be a peerless master but she was still a talent at the academy. In terms of physical strength, she could move a mountain but this wasn't enough.

Her failure told her that the shrine wasn't as simple as it seems. There must be a secret hidden inside.

Thus, she thought about Li Qiye but he had already left. How was she going to find him in the ocean of people? Thus, she was naturally excited to see him again and couldn't resist asking about it.

He looked at her and she stared back with eyes full of hope and anticipation. He gently sighed inside since she had seen this pair of eyes before with the same emotions flashing within.

"Of course, please excuse my lack of propriety if you do not wish to speak, Dao Brother. Just pretend that I didn't say anything." His silence made her think that he didn't wish to disclose the secret so she quickly added.

He answered: "It's not that I don't want to divulge the information, but this requires fate. Without it, even if you gain the knowledge, you won't be able to do anything. It will only be a nail in your mind, impossible to be taken out - an inner demon in your dao heart."

She was not expecting this response.

"If you truly want to know, then use your heart to feel and listen. Then you will know how to open it." Li Qiye pointed at his heart and said.

"My heart?" She became astonished once more.

Li Qiye nodded and said softly: "But remember, whenever you open a new door, another one closes. There is no right and wrong here, only your own choice that will decide your path."

"Closing another door?" She ruminated and murmured about the profound statement.

He gently sighed out loud this time. If it was in the past, he wouldn't have told her since this was the decision of her ancestors to remove them from fighting and killing. But now, this was no longer the case. The golden age was nearing the end so the future was full of perils. He decided to give her a choice in order to be the master of her own destiny. This was a possible way out for the village as well. They needed to rely on themselves now.

The two reached the southern gate before they knew it due to the engaging conversation.

There were only five-or-so students there responsible for greeting the returning students. The place was desolate because the closest section was Study Room which had few students.

The students here became charged after seeing these two. Of course, their flashing eyes were on all Yao Ting.

After all, she was still quite pretty though not on the same level as Mei Suyao.

"Sister Ting, you're back so soon? Your village is so far away so I thought it would be another few days." The oldest and most handsome among them stepped forward. Surely the guy had a crush on Yao Ting, evident by his enthusiasm.

"The village was fine so I came back earlier." She was a friendly girl so she spoke without a hint of arrogance.

"I actually wanted to come and pick you up from your village but Teacher arranged for me to be at the reception. It's really too bad." The youth spoke again.

"Thank you, Senior." She nodded and introduced: "This is Dao Brother Li. He's coming to Study Room and we traveled together. And this is an exceptional talent from Hundred Halls, Senior Yan Chensheng."

Chensheng and the other youths here finally noticed Li Qiye. A bit ago, they were fixated on Yaoting and someone as normal as Li Qiye wouldn't earn a second glance from them.

He was a bit unhappy to hear that Yao Ting was traveling another man since he had a crush on her. This was a natural reaction.

But he was worrying for no reason. She felt a closeness to Li Qiye hence the introduction.

"You are a student of Study Room?" Chensheng's tone was completely different towards Li Qiye, especially after seeing his appearance.

After all, he was a genius in Hundred Halls while someone like Li Qiye posed no threat to him. The guy was clearly not worthy to be his opponent.

Chapter 1997: Taking Someone Down A Notch

"No." Li Qiye flatly answered the inquisitive youth.

"If you're not a student there, then why are you going? Celestial is not a place for the idle." Chensheng was antagonistic from the start so his attitude showed it.

Yao Ting was the opposite so she spoke up for Li Qiye: "Brother Li is a new student, wanting to learn in Study Room. Senior Yan, could he wait here for a bit while I go talk to the teacher, to see if the academy will be okay with it?"

She assumed that Li Qiye wanted to become a student here. Plus, Study Room had few students so the requirement should be fine. If she were to talk to a teacher, maybe he could actually join the academy.

"Sister, this isn't an enrolling semester, the academy won't take in anyone." Chensheng became even more annoyed after seeing her enthusiasm and hurriedly replied: "If you bring random people here, it won't be good if something were to happen. In my opinion, he should just return from whence he came."

Having said that, he posed as if ready to stop anyone from coming in.

Li Qiye ignored the aggressive reception and asked: "Is Miss Yu Qianxuan here?"

The youths' expression changed after hearing this name. They all glared at Li Qiye.

Who was Qianxuan? This was the goddess in the male students' dream. Her being from Archaic Repository indicated her nobility. Her supreme beauty was enough to steal the souls from spectators. Her unfathomable cultivation was enough to convince anyone of her worth.

Virtually, everyone knew her at the academy and even more adored her.

"Dao Brother Li, you know her?" Yao Ting was surprised because this name was too sonorous at the academy. In her eyes, Qianxuan was an unreachable goddess - someone she could only look up at.

"Just once before, so I want to see her now." Li Qiye chuckled.

She was startled because of his nonchalant tone and gently tugged on his sleeve: "Dao Brother Li, Qianxuan is a teacher at our academy, not a student. Furthermore, her status is very high here, not just anyone can see her."

She thought that Li Qiye misunderstood and didn't know of Qianxuan's position.

"Ah, so it's a fan of Teacher Qianxuan." A student nearby sneered: "No wonder he traveled so far here to join Study Room, it's to see her."

This made the the other students explode in laughter.

"A frog wanting to eat a swan!" Chensheng snorted: "Take a look at yourself again, someone like you wants to see the teacher? Scram already."

"Senior Yan, please don't say that." Yao Ting quickly defended: "Dao Brother Li only wants to join Study Room without any other intent."

"No other intent?" He grew increasingly frustrated as Yao Ting continued to defend Li Qiye: "Sister Ting, you are inexperienced and can't read people very well just yet. Some like to hide their wicked thoughts while doing evil deeds. You need to stay far away from people like that in order to avoid being hurt."

Yao Ting viewed Li Qiye as a friend so she didn't take this comment very well at all. Her expression became stern, same with her voice: "You don't need to worry about me, Dao Brother Li isn't that type of person."

Yao Ting normally smiled when speaking to others and was friendly with everyone. Because of this, Chensheng thought he had a good chance of courting her. But now, she was getting angry at him because of a random guy appearing out of nowhere? He became furious at Li Qiye.

"The academy doesn't admit random people; not just any dog or cat can enter." His expression became cold as well: "Be smart and scram now!"

"And if I don't?" In the beginning, Li Qiye didn't really care for the youth's attitude but now, his eyes flashed with a cold glint after being provoked multiple times.

"No?" A murderous intent appeared in Chensheng's eyes: "If you want to cause trouble, you will become the academy's enemy!"

Regardless of right and wrong, he decided to frame Li Qiye first. Even if the teachers were to scold him later, he could say that Li Qiye caused trouble first and that he was only upholding the integrity of the academy.

"Senior Yan, you are out of line!" Yao Ting stood by Li Qiye's side and could watch no longer: "Dao Brother Li only wants to join Study Room, how is that causing trouble?! No need to accuse him of such a thing!"

Chensheng didn't expect such an aggressive response from Yao Ting. This made his complexion turn red.

"Sister, don't be fooled by this scoundrel and his flowery words." The embarrassed youth immediately fought back: "If he really wants to join our academy, why didn't he do so at the beginning of enrollment? Who knows if he has some hidden agendas? He's only using your kindness to enter the academy."

"He's right, Sister, don't be fooled by this outsider. Senior only wants what's best for you." A few other students sided with Chensheng.

This was because Chensheng also came from a great power on top of being a genius. People wanted to be his friends due to his strong backing.

"Lying scum, daring to sneak into our academy? I will not let you go so easily. Get ready to be a cripple." Chensheng wanted to strike first so he rolled up his sleeves, looking as if ready for blood.

"How impudent!" Pleasant this voice might be, it also had an unquestionable power to it.

A girl landed down from the sky just like a fairy. Orchids started to bloom just like the return of spring.

"Teacher Qianxuan." Someone shouted at seeing this. [1]

Qianxuan's presence made hearts palpitate but no one dared to have impure thoughts.

Her sudden arrival stunned the crowd. They didn't expect for her to appear here since she was normally quite elusive.

"Teacher, this person wants to cause trouble!" Chensheng seized the initiative.

"Shut your mouth!" Her eyes became stern and sharp like a sword, instilling fear into others.

She loudly continued her scolding: "A frog under the well, ignorant and rude! Disrespectful to your superior! Be ready for a punishment or worse, expulsion!"

It wasn't easy for Qianxuan right now. Of course, the academy wanted someone of Li Qiye's level to visit so it agreed to his request right away.

Because he didn't want to be disturbed, the academy didn't carry out an official ceremony for his arrival. Instead, the reception's responsibility was on Qianxuan. She has been keeping an eye out but didn't expect for something like this to happen.

Her scolding naturally stunned the crowd, especially Yao Ting whose jaws nearly dropped to the ground. She stared at Li Qiye, speechless. In the beginning, she thought Li Qiye came to study, but now, it looked like he was actually a teacher.

"Young Noble Li is a newly appointed teacher at the academy. Hurry up and apologize." Qianxuan sternly scolded.

Chensheng took a while before calming down. His expression darkened from being yelled at but he didn't dare to oppose Qianxuan: "Teacher, I... I was only keeping an eye out, he was sneaking..."

She simply glared at him. Her prestige frightened the youth and he stopped talking. All his peers felt their knees giving in.

He no longer dared to try anything else and unwillingly apologized with a bow: "My apology, Teacher."

There was no sincerity, only fear towards Qianxuan. He wanted to get this done as fast as possible.

"Pop!" A resounding slap came from Li Qiye. He didn't even have the chance to dodge and was blown flying while spewing blood and several teeth.

Chapter 1998: Study Room

Li Qiye put down his hand and didn't give the flying Chensheng a second glance. He simply said: "I'm not that forgiven of a person. A disobedient boy deserves a slap."

The students here were scared out of their mind. This was the first time they saw a teacher hit a student so hard. This guy didn't go easy at all.

"Go back." Yu Qianxuan looked at the students and ordered.

"Young Noble, please enter. I represent the academy to welcome you in as a teacher to our humble abode." She then told Li Qiye.

Li Qiye nodded at her before turning to Yao Ting and get her a playful flick: "Little girl, try your best in order to not bring shame to your ancestors. Come find me if you need anything."

With that, he followed Qianxuan into the entrance.

Yao Ting stood there in a daze, unable to digest what had just happened. In the beginning, she thought that he was only an ordinary expert, not someone who could become a teacher at the academy.

Keep in mind that the teaching requirement was unreasonably high at the academy. In terms of cultivation alone, they needed to at least be High Gods. So now, one could easily extrapolate his power level. It was quite silly for her to help him previously, so she thought.

Meanwhile, Yan Chensheng had already run long ago, carried away by his friends. He wanted to teach Li Qiye a lesson but he ended up losing all fate with no way of paying the guy back. Even if he was more furious, he could only swallow his anger.

Qianxuan led Li Qiye towards Study Room. It was still ten thousand miles away despite being the closest to the southern gate.

One would be completely surrounded by nature while traversing through this place. Enormous rivers and divine peaks in the clouds, mountain ranges seizing the land and trees covering the sky. All in all, the sceneries here were majestic.

Buildings and pavilions scattered on top of these landmarks. Cities on the river and peaks, filled with people and merchants. This was pretty much a country without the governing infrastructure.

"Study Room only has three students." She explained during their walk: "Is that alright with you, Young Noble?"

"That's fine." Li Qiye didn't mind: "Time is changing, everyone is in a rush to cultivate nowadays, forgetting about a few other things. But perhaps not, maybe people have always cared more about immediate and obvious benefits, and I'm only looking through rose-tinted glasses."

"I heard the elders say that in the older eras, there were more students in Study Room." She smiled wryly.

How many would actually want to learn history at the academy? They were here to cultivate and learn merit laws and techniques. The former seemed to be a waste of time and effort in the eyes of cultivators.

"That's the difference between ordinary people and sages." Li Qiye continued: "Some people understood this and could handle the boredom, so they eventually stood at the apex. The emperors left behind Study Room not only for others to remember them or to be written down in the historical annals."

"If people could understand this, they would never lament a lack of techniques to learn." She nodded, much more aware than others due to her origin: "Mortal Reversion Ancient God is one of them."

Everyone knew that Study Room recorded the deeds of the emperors and the tales of the thirteen continents. They believed that this was a library in order to pass on the tales and majestic achievements of the emperors.

Alas, the academy was a monstrous and ancient existence. It left behind something like Study Room and listed on the same level as the other four classrooms? It surely had its reasons that ordinary people wouldn't understand right away. Only those who could handle the loneliness of the dao could benefit from this place.

Mortal Reversion was the perfect example. His techniques weren't from Study Room, but he was able to focus all of his time into research here. Ultimately, he gained the most complete version of the Mortal Reversion Art in the world, establishing an incredible foundation for him.

"Nothing we can do about it, people can do whatever they want." Li Qiye leisurely said.

"Is there something you want while staying at Study Room?" She asked.

"Just meals should suffice, nothing else." Li Qiye chuckled and said.

She didn't know what to say. A character like him wouldn't have come to their academy for no reason. No one at that level would have so much free time. Alas, she had no way of guessing his intentions. Neither did the elders at the academy.

"What's wrong? Go ahead and speak." Li Qiye smiled after seeing her hesitation.

"The elders want to know if you actually need anything. They can help you find it." She said with prudence.

"I know." He smiled: "Those geezers are restless, thinking that I'm up to something, but that's quite normal. Is Asura still alive?"

"Ancestor Asura is still in this world." She shuddered after hearing about this existence.

"Take this to him, he'll know who I am." He casually handed her an item before ordering.

She took a gander at it but couldn't see anything special before putting it away: "Rest assured, Young Noble, I will give it to the ancestor. Is there anything else you want?"

"Not right now, let me rest for a few days." Li Qiye smiled and said: "Little girl, I know you have questions. That's right, I'm indeed here to find something, but the elders won't be able to help me. Even emperors like Fei and Deep South couldn't research it, let alone them."

This nonchalant statement made her astounded. These were top existences that have started an ultimate expedition. But now, he said that they couldn't find this item? Just what could this mystery be?

"What now? Since when did the academy become so careful? The relationship between it and the repository is strong, but even without your sect's help, no one can touch the academy anyway. Since when is it afraid of others?" Li Qiye continued.

She hesitated because certain things shouldn't be said.

"I see, a few things have changed." Li Qiye said: "The era is changing and so is the academy. Perhaps this is a type of tribulation."

The topic was too heavy and outside of her jurisdiction, but she felt that he had guessed a few things.

Study Room was different from the other classrooms, desolate and not as crowded.

It was built among the hills scattering everywhere. Just like that, one could see buildings on top and even around the sharp cliffs.

Stone bridges connected the perilous gaps. Lonely stony paths connected everywhere while the leaves fell from the trees. This place looked quite serene.

It was as if this place didn't wish to be disturbed. People walking here felt an urge to soften their pace.

But once inside Study Room, only those who were strong enough could sense something special. Ordinary cultivators couldn't feel this aura at all.

"So many emperors have stayed here and left behind their marks. Fei and Deep South truly toiled to leave behind this land. Unfortunately, the future generation doesn't understand it." He chuckled and said.

Chapter 1999: Ye Xinxue

The main building of Study Room was quite large with many architectures connecting together, resembling a small city.

Though these buildings and pavilions were right next to each other, there wasn't an imposing or grand aura. Each building was exquisitely built and gave a scholarly aura.

The things in abundance here were naturally books of all shapes and forms - old manuals, ones made out of wood or jade...

Some said that this was certainly the biggest stockpile of books in the world.

Alas, the majority of them had nothing to do with cultivation. One would be hard pressed to find a merit law in this place. Of course, some got through the net and a few big shots purposely hid merit laws here. Nevertheless, they were quite hard to find, waiting for the fated ones.

Outside of the academy's effort, others also donated books. Emperors and High Gods helped out as well.

The great powers were more than happy to give historical scrolls to the academy because this could be a good place to store their ancestors' achievements and glory and their kingdoms' expansion for an eternity. Even if their kingdoms were to be destroyed, they would still be recorded in this place.

As for the merit laws that were hidden in this place, the most famous one was probably the complete version of the Mortal Reversion Art, found by the Ancient God.

As Qianxuan took Li Qiye inside, a girl who was reading quickly put her book down and went to greet them.

She wore a simple and rather cheap-looking dress. Her white face was without make-up as her soft hair draped over her shoulders. Her eyes were especially bright, albeit without a flash of confidence. Delicate and gentle - the type that would make one have the urge to protect and love.

She became anxious after seeing Qianxuan and didn't know how to react. Qianxuan was simply too famous at the academy for a multitude of reasons. Others could only become her fans, not her peers.

Thus, her sudden appearance here made the girl awkward. Few people came to Study Room, let alone a famous teacher.

"Teacher..." The girl nervously greeted, not knowing where to place her hands.

"You're Ye Xinxue, right?" Qianxuan recalled her name.

Despite her nervous state, she was still quite elated when Qingxuan remembered her name.

"Yes, Teacher." She nodded three times; this little excitement was quite cute.

"This is Young Noble Li. he will be your teacher from now on and is in charge of Study Room." Qianxuan introduced.

The excited girl was taken aback. Their Study Room never had an actual teacher due to the low enrollment number. The teachers didn't want to teach just three students in this place, it would be a waste of their energy. Thus, students from Study Room also went to the Hundred Halls for the lectures. Of course, no one cared whether they went or not because cultivation wasn't their main focus.

The girl was surprised because someone actually wanted to come to Study Room for the three of them.

"Nice to meee-t you, Teacher." She quickly bowed toward Li Qiye.

"Good. I'll be staying here from now on." Li Qiye withdrew his gaze from the books and told Qianxuan.

"As you wish, Young Noble." Qianxuan nodded. In fact, the other teachers all had their own grottos and enjoyed great treatments. No one would want to stay with the students, but she didn't dare to say anything.

"Is there anything else you would like, Young Noble?" She asked respectfully.

"No, just don't disturb me, I'll be researching in the upcoming days." Li Qiye waved his hand and said.

"I will certainly pass on your message to the elders." Qianxuan didn't dare to show any slight and told him. This supreme existence was surely going to do some incredible research here.

"Go now." Li Qiye ordered.

Qianxuan didn't dare to waste his time. She told Xinxue a couple of things before drifting away like a goddess.

Xinxue stood there - petrified - after seeing the conversation between the two. Not to mention the students, even the teachers were respectful towards Qianxue due to her cultivation, background, and beauty.

But now, this ordinary-looking man, no, teacher, had this type of attitude towards Qianxue. He waved his hand as if her godlike status didn't matter at all.

"Little girl, why are you just standing there?" Li Qiye flicked her forehead and said.

She immediately regained her wits and turned red from acting so silly in front of a teacher. She spoke quietly: "Teacher, please, please come over here, to your place."

There were too many empty rooms in this place. It wasn't a problem for Study Room to accommodate fifty thousand students. Thus, Li Qiye easily got a place.

Nevertheless, she still found the best pavilion for him. It took up an entire peak by itself and had a full view of Study Room. When standing in this place surrounded by clouds, one could actually reach for the stars.

Li Qiye didn't need to say anything. Xinxue moved around like a spinning top, cleaning and sweeping the pavilion until not a speck of dust remained.

After she finished, Li Qiye nonchalantly sat down and looked at the girl with sweats dropping down her forehead.

"Why did you pick Study Room? Others rather go to Hundred Halls or something else." He carefully analyzed her.

She was nervous to be under his gaze. She felt as if nothing could hide from him, that she was staring naked before his all-seeing gaze.

"My..." It took a long time before she answered with a soft voice: "My family... can't afford the fees for Hundred Halls."

She lowered her head in shame after admitting this. Li Qiye responded with a smile: "What do you like the most here?"

There was no oppressive aura or divinity, but his leisure stare was scarier than everything else.

She didn't dare to lie to him and whispered: "I like... reading the books here."

"Hmm, there are indeed countless books here, some are quite interesting. Though they can't improve one's cultivation like the merit laws, but they can grant you a lifetime of benefit and higher vision. A few records from the emperors are especially profound and insightful." Li Qiye nodded seriously.

She completely agreed with his statement so her eyes lit up: "You're right, Teacher. There are so many things here, rumors about the emperors that no one else know about. Some even had stories about the nine worlds, the elders and seniors don't want to talk about this matter."

The girl was a bookworm since an early age. Of course, the things she read were considered a waste of time by cultivators, such as historical scrolls.

Nevertheless, she viewed these books as treasures and always enjoyed reading them.

Chapter 2000: Legend

Why did people walk on the path towards the dao? For cultivation, learning amazing merit laws and imperial arts. No one wanted to waste time.

Just imagine, how many cultivators would read for entertainment? They would consider it a fruitless endeavor.

Thus, a girl like Ye Xinxue should have had a bright future but due to her penchant of reading to kill time, she has virtually become a bookworm. In the eyes of others, she was a useless idler.

On the other hand, Li Qiye was amused after seeing her excitement. He noticed a thread-bound book in her pouch and smiled: "Which book is that? Let me have a look."

She was surprised by the request. This particular book was very precious so she always kept it with her. She liked it enough to memorize each word in the book.

"This is my favorite." She wasn't in a position to not give it to him so she handed it over with both hands.

Li Qiye accepted it and took a look. The book was quite thick and heavy with the title, "Legends of the Human Race". He smiled after seeing this.

He flipped the pages. Each word was neatly written by the author himself; this wasn't a copy version.

Despite its length, the author took his time crafting each word.

"It's written well, as if all the stories are real." Li Qiye praised.

"Right, I think so as well. The author says that there is a shadow protecting our human race, from nine to the tenth world. There are a lot of evidences within indicating so." She became animated as if meeting a good friend.

The book consisted of old stories about a human guardian lasting for eras. Though the actual details were lacking or purposely vague, one could make a direct connection between the characters in the tales and actual emperors from the thirteen continents.

"They're just stories. The author probably picked a few emperors as models then added some embellishments mixed together to form a legend." Li Qiye said.

In fact, the author was talking about the Dark Crow. Alas, he didn't dare to actually write with details so he only listed some stories as an excuse to avoid getting into trouble. It looked fake but had some truth to it.

"Not necessarily." The gentle girl became much more combative when it came to her favorite book: "Maybe it is the truth since the characters are based off emperors. Perhaps our hundred races actually have a guardian, it's just that lowly people like us don't know about this savior."

"There's no savior in this world. People need to rely on themselves. Waiting on someone else to save them will result in just-deserved death." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head.

She boldly retorted: "There must be one! I, I've read an old book about a war named Emperor Hunt in the thirteen continents. The person behind this war might be our savior who will save the humans in times of need."

It was quite amusing for him to refute his own existence while this girl was so stubborn about it.

"There's no way to obtain proofs and evidence for these stories." Li Qiye leisurely said.

She felt as if he was pouring a basin of cold water over her head and lowered her voice: "Some of these stories are quite vivid, perhaps we can go look into it."

"What are you waiting for?" Li Qiye smiled.

She became dejected and took a while to answer: "Because... I can't. The journey is too long and there are too many destinations."

She was certainly interested in the validity of the stories and truly wanted to verify them. However, how could her family ever let her be drowned in these intangible tales rather than cultivation? Traveling across the thirteen continents would require a massive amount of chaos stones, not something she alone could handle.

Li Qiye took note of her dispirited self and said: "But then again, everything is possible. Maybe you're right, they're not necessarily made up, it's up to you whether you want to keep on believing."

"Then you think they can be real too?" Her mood changed for the better instantly.

"My opinion doesn't matter here." Li Qiye leisurely said then changed the topic: "Where are the other two students?"

The shift caught her off guard for a bit before she answered: "Old Liu and Big Brother Wang... right, they're studying right now!"

She looked diffident while stealing glances at him with her head lowered as if she was afraid that he would notice something.

Her sneaky behavior was caught by Li Qiye. He smiled and said: "Studying, huh. Okay, take me to them then."

Her voice became even softer: "Well... I'll, I'll go bring them here, okay?"

"No need for that. I'm a teacher here now so the least I can do is to go see my students." Li Qiye waved his hand.

There was nothing else she could do but to take him along.

Study Room didn't only consist of these buildings. It encompassed the entire land of this region with books everywhere. Even the cliffs and caves had books hidden inside. Even the stones, paintings, and statues told a story.

The majority was left behind by the previous generations of students or guests. The emperors also added things as well.

The carvings and paintings were either masterpieces or just casually done at a whim. Most had nothing to do with cultivation, more about the arts.

Xinxue took Li Qiye to a stone forest with varying shapes. On these stony peaks were characters and even paintings.

The people here didn't put a lot of effort into carving them but at the very least, they were different in scales, spanning from a few words to a grand story. Some had signatures while others didn't.

The two traveled deeper into this formation and saw someone climbing on top of a large monolith. He draped a large piece of cloth over this hill and began copying the characters on the monolith.

This was a muscular middle-aged man with a tan complexion. He wore golden rings on his wrists, giving off quite a mighty look.

"Big Brother Wang." Xinxue enthusiastically greeted from the distance.

"Sister Xinxue, you're here? Wait a bit, I'm coming." The man laughed loudly while copying the characters.

"Big Brother Wang loves to copy stuff. He had done so to many paintings in Study Room." Xinxue quietly told Li Qiye.

Li Qiye didn't say anything and only watched the man copying word by word.

After a while, he finally finished copying the entire thing and finally jumped down.

"Oh? Our Little Sister is finally growing up, no longer just hiding and reading in your room. You're on a date now? What an improvement, I'm quite impressed." He gave a thumbs-up after the two of them together.