

Emperor 2511

### [Chapter 2511: Surprise Attack](#)

Spectators were still fixated on this fight. One quietly asked: "What techniques will the king use?"

"Maybe he won't use any technique like earlier, just straight up killing." Someone else responded.

Many nodded in agreement after hearing this. Earlier, they thought he would need several moves to defeat Tang Hexiang but he ended up only using his knee.

Perhaps the same thing would happen again.

"You shouldn't be so excited when I'm still alive!" Hexiang furiously roared, unable to handle the disdain shown by both Li Qiye and the crowd.

"Alright, I'll make sure you give up entirely." Li Qiye smiled and started floating into the sky.

It didn't take long before he was at the sky vault. Even someone as large as Hexiang needed to look up.

"Go now, do your best and have no regrets." Li Qiye casually said.

Despite being high above, he still only looked like a fly compared to Hexiang. Just one swat from the shield could end him. Alas, everyone knew that size didn't matter at all in this match.

"Die!" Hexiang shouted; his body as resplendent as a star.

"Boom!" He threw his sky-blotting shield up above and smashed through several stars along the way.

The sky turned dark due to its massive size. Li Qiye looked so insignificant, seemingly on the verge of becoming meat paste.

"Weak indeed." Li Qiye shook his head disapprovingly while looking at the star-destroying shield.

He casually spread out his palm and pushed down. The sheer disparity in size between his palm and the shield created a comedic scene.

"Boom!" However, just this carefree palm strike was enough to stop the shield. It couldn't move an inch forward, unable to affect his palm. The resulting shockwaves from the impact were still plenty destructive to the stars around. Unfortunately, it did nothing to the main target.

"The gap is too great, having a big body and giant weapons can't do anything." Someone from the last generation shook their head.

Logically, Hexiang should be able to crush Li Qiye easily due to the size difference. However, his heavy shield failed to move Li Qiye at all.

"Go!" He roared and sent out his true energy. A starry brilliance crazily engulfed the world as his power surged.

The shield also became resplendent and more powerful. Alas, still ineffective.

"Rumble!" The shield moved back and forth in order to gather momentum to slam into his palm.

It's a shame that Li Qiye's casual positioning resembled the suppression of the high heaven. Even the strongest character couldn't get through his grasp.

"Die!" Hexiang's eyes flashed after seeing the failed attack and added a spear thrust into the mix.

"Whoosh!" The dragon spear turned into a terrible ray aiming straight for Li Qiye's throat to deliver a fatal blow.

It seemed that Hexiang was waiting for this moment for a while now so his speed reached the limit, only taking a split second to reach the target.

Due to the murderous intent and lightning-fast speed of the thrust, the spectators felt a chill by their neck, thinking that the spear was heading for them.

"Clank!" A metallic clanking resounded and the shooting ray suddenly stopped.

Everyone saw Li Qiye stopping the spear with his other hand, using just two fingers to stop the tip.

The crowd heaved a sigh of relief but something else happened right away.

A pagoda appeared and slammed into Li Qiye's back. The sudden appearance of this treasure coincided with the spear thrust. The moment the spear got close to his throat, the pagoda appeared right behind his back.

Since both of his hands were occupied, he couldn't stop the pagoda.

Another ambusher had joined the fray and worked perfectly with Tang Hexiang.

"Boom!" The pagoda oozed out the crushing might of an Eternal. Not only did it crush the space nearby, but it also took down the temporal affinity as well, turning everything back to the primordial chaos.

The shocked spectators found it hard to breathe due to the aura of an Eternal.

He took the full brunt of the strike and fell into the lake, sinking deep into the lake and disappeared from sight.

Everything happened so quickly. From the initial spear thrust to the pagoda sneak-attack only took the blink of an eye.

No one expected this to happen. Liu Chuqing's expression soured as she blurted: "Not good!"

"Hmph!" The aura of the Eternal flowed like mercury in the air and permeated the place. Everyone was frightened by this incredible divinity.

They looked up at the sky and saw an old man standing there since who knows when? The pagoda floated above this godlike being.

"Central Commander Ma Mingchun." No one dared to say his title loudly.

An Eternal had entered the scene with a sneak-attack with immense power.

Remember, the saber saint was very strong but he was still only at the ninth level, still a way to go before becoming an Eternal.

Plus, there were weak and strong Eternals. Among the crowd right now, few would dare to claim having enough power to challenge Ma Mingchun. Not too many in the systems were truly stronger than this commander.

Only great existences, such as the five supreme ancestors, were stronger than him.

“An Eternal has made his move.” This speaker didn’t dare to call it a sneak-attack.

In fact, it was unthinkable that a character as famous as the Central Commander would resort to a sneak-attack in public.

It was one thing for him to directly challenge Li Qiye. After all, his son Ma Jinming was killed by the guy.

Unfortunately, no one dared to criticize him the way they did with Tang Hexiang. Thus, people only shuddered while looking at this Eternal.

### [Chapter 2512: The Last One Smiling](#)

The crowd was still shell-shocked since there was no sign of Li Qiye in the lake.

People glanced at each other, not expecting for Ma Mingchun to do something like this. Plus, his military jurisdiction was given to him by the royal rule. Doing something like this was blasphemous.

It was one thing for him to lead the five legions against attacking the Bingchi. At the very least, he could justify this decision by bringing up the people’s wellbeing.

However, this ambush was inexcusable. He clearly had a personal agenda and ulterior motives. Nothing could wash the stain of this despicable act.

Ma Mingchun carefully peered the lake surface. If the king were to be alive, he would deliver another fatal blow without any hesitation.

He no longer gave a damn since he only had one son to pass on his legacy. Vengeance was a must and reputation no longer mattered.

“Is he dead?” Someone whispered after seeing the calm surface of the lake.

Everyone shook their head and focused on watching. They waited and waited to no avail. The king seemed to have sunk to the lake bottom.

Bingchi Hanyu nervously clenched her fists. Jianyao was also serious, contemplating while tilting her head; an occasional frown would appear.

The one affected the most was Liu Chuqing. She anxiously held her sleeves and started praying for Li Qiye.

Most became dejected. Has Ma Mingchun done it? The king died from that attack?

“There’s no way.” Even the ancestors began to believe it.

Prior to this, they believed that even an all-out attack from Mingchun wouldn’t be enough to kill the unfathomable king. However, as time passed, their belief wavered.

The most excited was obviously Tang Hexiang since this was a great opportunity for him. If Li Qiye had died, it would increase the chance of him becoming king in the future.

A long while later, the lake was still calm with no sign of Li Qiye.

“Looks like that blow was fatal.” Someone quietly concluded.

“Prudence is necessary for long-lasting success, no matter how strong one might be.” An old expert lamented. The king was so strong yet he still died to Ma Mingchun’s cheap shot.

“Hahaha!” Hexiang burst out in laughter and uttered coldly: “See, no one knows what will happen until the very end. That’s what he get for boasting shamelessly with such meager power!”

The guy was lost in jubilation thinking about the easy path ahead. The death of the king vented his anger and garnered great advantages to his cause in the future. All of the humiliation and criticism didn’t matter anymore.

“Unfortunately, I’m always the last man smiling.” A leisure voice interrupted his gloating moment.

“It’s the king!” Someone shouted joyfully after hearing this familiar voice.

People looked around but there was no sign of Li Qiye anywhere.

“Where is he?” They became confused. Where did his voice come from?

“Over there!” Another reacted quickly and pointed at the sky.

The crowd followed his direction and saw Li Qiye lazily sitting on his golden throne once more with his legs resting on the chair’s arm.

He looked so comfortable and satisfied in his spot as if he has been relaxing the entire time without moving an inch.

This naturally astonished the crowd. They saw him being smashed into the lake earlier but from the looks of it now, the victim earlier felt like it was someone else.

No one saw how he got on his throne. Could it be that he has been there the entire time?

If he was knocked down the lake, someone should have spotted him going back up, especially Ma Mingchun.

But if he has been there the entire time, it would be even more terrifying. That was only a dao avatar in action earlier? But then people should have noticed his real body being on the throne.

“What’s going on?” The ones with shallow cultivation didn’t know what was going on at all.

“That’s unreal. His power level is far above anyone else.” An ancestor could see a little of the mysteries and tremble with trepidation.

The king could kill someone without anyone noticing, chopping off his enemies’ head at a moment’s notice.

“You...” As an Eternal, Ma Mingchun also realized something and staggered backward.

Remember, only people like the five supreme ancestors were stronger than him in Nine Secrets. However, he still couldn't spot the fact that Li Qiye has been on the throne the entire time. The guy tricked him so easily.

He took a deep breath, aware of the enemy's true terror. He only had this feeling once before when facing Lucidity King.

"You're, you're still alive..." Hexiang was as white as a ghost as he stumbled backward; his gloating celebration replaced with fear.

Chuqing heaved a sigh of relief, certainly the most excited person here after seeing that Li Qiye was fine.

Jianyao only confirmed her previous belief that the king was unbeatable. Resistance would be futile in the future.

"I've been waiting for your sneak-attack for a while now but you kept your patience. Unfortunately, the attack only tickled." Li Qiye sat coolly on his throne and glanced at the frightened Ma Mingchun.

The Eternal naturally became frustrated. His fatal move only managed to "tickle" the guy?

"One of us will die today! Even if I die, I will still take your head as an offering to my son..." Mingchun gritted his teeth and threatened.

The hatred of an Eternal was naturally oppressive, especially with this extreme declaration. The crowd felt suffocated.

"No, you'll be the only one dying today." Li Qiye interrupted him: "I will send you down to hell so that your son won't be lonely while walking on the Yellow River."

Mingchun started shouting with an unsightly grimace: "Little animal, I will flay you, drink your blood and rip out your tendons!"

The guy was ready to die now, wanting revenge regardless of the cost.

### [Chapter 2513: One Kick](#)

"Alright, time to take care of you all since I've grown bored. Not a single expert has shown up today." Li Qiye stood up and smiled, his attitude was a stark contrast to the furious Ma Mingchun.

The crowd clammed up. In their mind, the saber saint and Jianyao's groups were all geniuses and experts. They could only look up to these beings despite training for a lifetime.

Ma Mingchun was even more impressive. His achievements couldn't be replicated by just anyone. Few could be considered his peers in the system.

Alas, none of them could enter Li Qiye's sight. Not one could be considered an expert. Such a domineering attitude showed that he considered himself unbeatable.

Many smiled wryly, including the geniuses like the saber saint and Jianyao.

If someone else were to say this, they would certainly bark back. Unfortunately, they had to accept the statement obediently when it came from Li Qiye.

“You, and you, go all out already before I wring your neck. Last chance.” Li Qiye smiled at Hexiang and Mingchun.

The two responded with a murderous glare, brimming with hatred from being shown such contempt.

“Boom!” Tang Hexiang channeled the power of the stars once more, becoming shrouded in blinding brilliance. The stars around him started to move as if he was the sky itself.

“Die!” Hexiang was even more eager than Mingchun and rushed towards Li Qiye, attacking with both his shield and spear.

“Boom!” The colossal shield smashed down mercilessly. The dragon spear turned into a cold ray piercing through space, instantly appearing before Li Qiye’s throat.

Li Qiye finally sprung into action in this split second. His speed froze the spatio-temporal affinities.

The scene ahead became clear and crisp to the spectators.

He leaped up with both knees forward. The spear shattered, then the shield.

His knees carried enough force to penetrate everything, turning them back to the primordial chaos. Thus, the formation instantly crumbled and the elites materialized again.

“Poof!” Several hundred elites became mists of blood from the attack.

Li Qiye didn’t stop there and continued towards Hexiang’s chin.

“Boom! Boom!” Two loud explosions finally resounded. These were the sounds of the shield and spear collapsing. It was hard to tell which came first.

“Senior Ma, save me!” Hexiang bellowed right away.

In fact, he had screamed when Li Qiye’s knees broke the spear but due to the guy’s immense speed, his voice only came about right now.

Ma Mingchun also retaliated with his pagoda carrying the might of an Eternal. It broke the worldly laws as it aimed to turn Li Qiye’s head into a pulp.

“Boom!” Time started flowing again and who knows which attack made this explosion?

“No...” Hexiang screamed before death.

“Pluff!” Everyone saw Li Qiye’s knee connecting with Hexiang’s chin. The latter’s head exploded into a mist of blood.

Li Qiye didn’t bat an eye and casually slap the pagoda back at Mingchun.

Mingchun stopped his own pagoda and staggered backward while vomiting a mouthful of blood.

The crowd didn’t have enough time to process all the events before Li Qiye killed Hexiang and wounded Mingchun with a single knee and punch on top of several hundred elites.

While they struggled to keep up, Tang Hexiang’s headless body was falling to the ground.

Li Qiye turned around and glared at Mingchun who was holding his pagoda. The guy was frightened and instinctively walked backward.

"I have already spared you once during the rebellion yet you still keep on pushing your luck. Death beckons you." Li Qiye declared.

Having said that, he did a simple whipping motion with his leg, devoid of any technique and grand dao. Its speed caused the air to split open and left behind an after-image.

Strangely enough, this rather common kick left the ancestors in shambles. It was a sure-kill, no way to escape even if one could make it to the horizon.

"..." Mingchun was astounded by the might of this attack but he knew that escaping wasn't an option. He had to face it head-on.

He roared and the divine rings around him soared to the sky to create his own realm, opening a dao order.

"Boom!" All of his true energy gathered on the pagoda. It rushed forward to meet the incoming kick while issuing wind-breaking howls.

Nine true dragons appeared and aided the pagoda, pulling the treasure and the newly-formed realm to meet the attack.

This was his stronger technique - Nine Dragon Protectors. The pagoda would borrow the might of these dragons. Their auras ravaged the world while their fangs seemingly aimed to tear everything to pieces.

These beasts were wondrously powerful, more than enough to tear out the fabric of reality.

"Bam!" The kick approached with enough force to beat the world back to the origin.

"Raa..." The nine dragons were instantly turned to dust. The space around them was buried into oblivion.

The pagoda was next to be struck. It completely disintegrated; the pieces started falling down.

"Bam!" The remnant power from the kick came for Ma Mingchun.

"Ah!" His body instantly got split in two and his blood poured down like the rain.

"Spash!" The two halves fell into the lake. His blood slowly created a red puddle.

The crowd lost their mind upon seeing this. Killing Tang Hexiang with one knee was impressive enough, but one vertical kick to defeat Mingchun's treasure then split him in two?

An Eternal had just failed to stop a single move from Li Qiye. This story could scare people to death.

The world became silent. The weak-minded felt their legs giving in so they dropped to the ground. Some even soiled their pants.

An Eternal was proven utterly inadequate. Who else in the world could match him?

The fainthearted members of the crowd vomited their stomach juice, legs still trembling.

“That’s unreal...” Even some of the ancestors were horrified.

They realized that this was a being capable of annihilating a sect with a single move.

#### [Chapter 2514: Not Knowing The Limit](#)

The puddle of blood spread wider as Mingchun’s two halves sank to the bottom.

“He’s dead...” An ancestor dropped on the ground and murmured.

Jianyao and the saber saint were stunned too, especially the latter. He had tasted Li Qiye’s power earlier and felt suffocated.

Though they were already aware that Mingchun wouldn’t be able to take on Li Qiye, for him to die to a single kick was something they never expected.

The saber saint felt cold all over and needed to compose himself. Li Qiye didn’t only show mercy earlier; the guy was being extremely charitable towards him.

Mingchun was a real Eternal, far more powerful than him. If Li Qiye wanted to kill him, the guy could do so in a split second and he wouldn’t even have the chance to fight back.

Cold sweats started to run; he had just been to hell and back without knowing it. His life was dependent on a single whim of Li Qiye earlier.

Jianyao was slightly pale. Her dao heart has always been tough, allowing her to stay calm regardless of the situation. However, his dominating power made her hair stand on end.

She remembered how he always referred to people as ants. Prior to this, she felt that he was still being arrogant. Now, it seemed that this was the truth.

Even her powerful sect only consisted of ants in his eyes. It would be too simple for him to destroy them.

She began contemplating his seemingly preposterous acts in the past resulting in him losing the throne. What was the reason for this? He was more than capable to rule the world.

She came up with a ridiculous answer - that he was just playing around! All of this was to cure his boredom.

All of Nine Secrets and its inhabitants were only puppets. When he was in a bad mood, he would play around with them. Otherwise, he would ignore or destroy everything.

It was the same as watching an ant nest. It could be entertaining or he could just throw a torch down and burn all the ants to ashes.

Jianyao had a deeper understanding of this matter than anyone else and it left her horrified. This was a being who could easily destroy all of Nine Secrets. She needed to take a deep breath to calm down.

“Splash!” The lake splashed causing everyone to look over.

“It’s Ma Mingchun.” A spectator shouted.



Sure enough, Ma Mingchun's two halves have come together again without any visible scar.

An Eternal was strong enough to survive the dismemberment. Of course, he still paid a heavy price. He was trembling all over, completely white. Just getting up again required all of his strength.

Fixing his body and stabilizing his wounds required an inordinate amount of true energy.

"Oh? Not bad." Li Qiye smiled lightly after seeing the guy. This development was no big deal to him.

Mingchun calmed his emotions and his trembling body. He found himself utterly exhausted.

"Still alive at least." The spectators heaved a sigh of relief, finding this to be a cause for celebration.

In the past, it was amazing if someone could withstand a blow from him. Now, it was extraordinary for him to survive a move from the king.

"Yeah, he still made it past one move." The ancestors smiled bitterly, not knowing whether to be happy or wallow in despair.

This gave a sliver of hope for the other masters. If Ma Mingchun couldn't even handle one kick, true despair would swallow all of them.

Li Qiye asked with a smile: "Will you kneel and surrender, try to run, or drown yourself?"

The acrimonious statement showed no mercy - telling an Eternal to drown himself?

Of course, Li Qiye could say whatever he wanted to right now and be justified in doing so. This was the privilege of having a bigger fist.

All eyes were on Mingchun, eagerly waiting for his choice. Some put themselves in his shoes and thought about their choices.

In fact, they sympathized even if he chose to surrender or run due to the powerful enemy. This was perfectly normal; no one would mock his action since they might already be on their knees to beg Li Qiye for mercy already.

"One of us will die today!" However, Mingchun stood straight with a fierce glare, not losing the temperament of an Eternal despite being quite feeble.

He didn't beg for mercy or shaking with fear. Instead, he arched his chest proudly to face Li Qiye, still as aggressive as before.

This earned him the admiration of the crowd. An Eternal was special indeed. Such courage and determination were beyond them.

"Oh? Still got more moves to show? I'm waiting then to see how strong they are." Li Qiye said with both hands behind his back.

No one expected Mingchun to still want to fight under these circumstances. They became quite curious about his hidden cards.

"Go!" He shouted with a cry akin to sudden thunder during spring. The soundwave echoed across Nine-linked Mountains.

“Rustle.” Figures popped up in each peak and mountain in this sect with waving banners.

Perhaps more than one million men appeared in these high places in just a short time.

“The Central Legion...” A spectator immediately saw the hint.

“I thought they took camp outside?” Someone leaped up to a high vantage point and looked outside of Nine-linked Mountains. They saw the camp still there with patrolling soldiers.

“It’s the empty-city strategy.” An older expert gently sighed and said: “That camp is only a ruse, looks like the soldiers have somehow managed to infiltrate the mountain range. Tang Hexiang came up with a good plan.” [1]

Prior to this, Mingchun had arrived furiously and demanded Nine-linked Mountains to hand over Li Qiye. However, under the advice of Hexiang, he decided to camp outside.

Now people finally realized that the entire camp was a farce. The two of them must have planned to bring their army inside.

“That’s one of the strongest legions for you, marching so silently. No wonder why so many lineages are afraid of them.” A commenter said with surprise.

Perhaps Nine-linked Mountains didn’t care about the intruders, but it was indeed impressive for them to sneak in like this.

“Are they forming a formation?” An expert could see an array forming with the soldiers being on top of the various peaks all around the mountain range.

### [Chapter 2515: Godslaying Malediction](#)

The soldiers from Central Legion have taken up the peaks and started moving around.

They were wearing regular clothing instead of armor plates, but their ferocious aura remained - evident of their battle experience. The entire sect was engulfed in a ferocious and murderous aura.

“It’s a curse incantation.” An ancestor murmured: “Mingchun wants to throw his entire legion into the mix, is it worth it?”

“Take my chaos and spawn the vilest curse...” Mingchun began chanting.

“Buzz.” His body became indistinct almost like snow melting into water. He was fusing with space and turned into an ancient symbol.

“Take my chaos and spawn the vilest curse...” The soldiers began chanting in unison; their voice lingered on the horizon.

“What is going on?” The youths didn’t know what was happening. The army chose to chant instead of attacking the king.

“It’s the Godslaying Malediction.” An older expert shuddered and took a deep breath: “That’s the secret move of this legion.”

“Is it strong?” A youth became curious.

“Strong is not enough to describe it. It’s very scary, formless and undetectable.” The older expert explained: “This curse is cruel and virtually impossible to defend against because it comes from the heart.”

“What do you mean?” The youth couldn’t imagine it just yet.

“Yes, from the heart.” The expert elaborated: “When your heart has darkness, this curse will come into being and corrode your entire body, including your true fate. Everyone has darkness in their heart, it’s impossible to avoid this.”

“It’s that frightening?” The youth gasped.

“Right, moreover, it is released by all the soldiers. This formation connected their individual strength on top of borrowing the momentum of the land. The stronger the area, the more powerful the curse on top of its innate potential.”

The expert glanced at the mountain range and said: “Well, I don’t need to tell you that this place is one of the strongest lands in Nine Secrets. Borrowing the momentum of this place will double the power of this curse. No one can escape.”

The disciple stammered: “Wouldn’t such a terrifying curse be unbeatable?”

“Nothing is unbeatable in this world.” The expert shook his head: “As long as the victim is strong enough and has enough light in their heart, they’ll be able to withstand the malediction. Absolute strength will crush anything, whether it be light or darkness. But all in all, this curse is very impressive. In the past, under the orders of Lucidity King, the legion managed to destroy a powerful foe of his using this exact curse.”

“Nothing good will come of this.” An old man nearby said flatly: “If they meet a stronger foe, the entire legion will be annihilated.”

“Yes, that’s why I said Ma Mingchun is dragging the legion down the mud with him. He’s betting everything on this curse.” The old expert agreed.

The chants continued to echo across the mountain range.

“Impossibly stupid.” Li Qiye didn’t bother trying to stop the chant.

“Buzz.” The soldiers began to disappear, replaced by multiple symbols emitting an evil presence.

“It’s about to begin.” A spectator said softly: “If they fail, the Central Legion will cease to exist altogether.”

“Mingchun is too selfish, implicating the legion for a personal feud.” A disciple couldn’t believe it.

“Well, this legion is pretty much the Ma Clan’s personal army at this point.” Another master said: “Back during the rebellion, the soldiers that were loyal to the king have been subdued. He’s in total control right now, so he can make this crazy gamble.”

People glanced at each other after seeing this. Everyone knew that the Central Legion didn’t belong to a single clan or power, definitely not the Ma. It belonged to War Saint Dynasty, and in a sense, the entire

system. Its responsibility was protecting the system. But now, Mingchun chose to use them with no regard for others.

The entire sect was now covered with an ocean of ancient symbols in the sky. Their evil strands pricked the spectators like needles.

“That’s scary.” The crowd quickly retreated after sensing this malevolent aura.

Finally, the symbols melted along with the aerial space of the mountain range. Space turned into a thick, black liquid. There was no escaping this tide of darkness.

It immediately flowed towards Li Qiye and trapped him.

“Buzz.” This liquid-form curse drilled into his body, resulting in a shocking scene - Li Qiye’s heart area suddenly turned ashen.

This was akin to a piece of paper being burned. The form was still there but only ashes remain.

This evil curse surged after the successful infiltration and began spreading all over his body.

“He’s cursed now.” Someone shouted after spotting the color change as if he was on fire.

“Will he be able to withstand it?” Another shuddered.

“I don’t know, this is the first time I’ve seen it.” An older expert shook his head and put on a serious expression.

But the victim didn’t care at all. He watched the curse spreading through his body and shook his head: “This curse is like the screaming of a three-year-old child, not worth mentioning. I don’t even need to gather energy, just having a bright dao heart is enough.”

“Buzz.” A strand of light of the holy affinity emanated from his heart. It was as white as snow and impossible to violate; people couldn’t help but feel reverence.

More strands came out and blossomed like sacred lotus flowers, culminating in the opening of a holy world.

Sizzling noises came about. The evil curse couldn’t handle the holy light at all and was refined to ashes. Li Qiye’s body recovered and the corrosive grayness disappeared.

The holy light didn’t stop there. It billowed like a flood and aimed straight for the dark tide.

“Szzz...” The burning refinement continued. The dark tide was being turned into smoke.

### [Chapter 2516: Holy Light](#)

The holy brilliance swept through the darkness of the realms. The evil was refined with no place to hide.

“Buzz.” The curse turned to wafting smoke and dispersed with the wind.

Li Qiye’s light became increasingly denser. In the end, he became a sacred existence looming above the insignificant and feeble darkness. Resistance was futile.

Everyone found that he had become a saint, feeling the urge to prostrate before him while the darkness in their heart had no place to hide. They felt inadequate in comparison to this holy being.

“Is this a merit law for sanctification?” The experts washed by the holy light looked up. Their sin and darkness were being swept away by the flowing light.

Many of the excited crowd were more than willing to join Li Qiye, completely converted.

“No, this isn’t a merit law.” The older experts spoke more softly than before. They didn’t wish to disturb Li Qiye, acting as if being rowdy right now would be a great sin.

“This is the dao heart of a saint, giving birth to an all-penetrating light.” Another master whispered.

The crowd started contemplating in a daze. One older man took a deep breath and asked himself: “Just what the heck is this dao heart?”

A while ago, Li Qiye became a devil with a single thought. Now he was full of light? It looked as if he could easily transform into anything.

For the rest of the world, becoming a devil or a saint required untold hardships and tribulations, unlike Li Qiye. Just what kind of terrible dao heart was capable of this feat?

“Buzz.” He stopped emitting holy light. The remnant brilliance began to fall into the world, illuminating every nook and corner.

Where could the darkness hide before this omnipresent holiness?

Since he stopped exuding light, his holy power was no longer as majestic but became softer and gentle.

Strangely enough, this transformation didn’t result in a weakening of might. It made his holy power become even more unfathomable.

The light was no longer as present and animated as before, but it had fallen into every inch of the land and fused with it. The world became part of his.

The crowd was naturally affected as light lit up in their heart. They dropped on the knees and finally began prostrating.

The ancestors were scared out of their mind. Li Qiye didn’t need to move a single finger and could still force masters into submission. They knew that he was more than capable of converting someone completely into his follower.

“Pop!” The final strand of the evil curse was finally refined so the soldiers from the legion materialized again, popping up all over the peaks.

Unfortunately, a series of faint crumble noises ensued followed by the final screams of their army.

The soldiers began to shatter and disintegrated into bloody mists. The survivors watched their friends die before their very eyes and bellowed.

Their wails of torment assaulted Nine-linked Mountains to the dismay of the listeners. Regardless of how they screamed and ran, destruction was inevitable. The backlash of the curse made them explode like beans being crushed.

When their curse failed to kill Li Qiye, this power would come back straight for them.

It didn't take long before the entire legion fell. Mists of blood lingered in the air and became quite thick.

The trees and leaves were covered in drops of blood from the agglutination of the mists. Next came a rain of blood that stained the mountain streams.

The thick stench of blood made people shudder. It didn't take long before some started to vomit.

This was an army of a million elites. All were dead now in a split second, no longer existing in this world.

"No..." Ma Mingchun screamed painfully at this sight. He woke up from the rage of vengeance and realized the gravity of the situation.

He has been the Central Commander for a long time. So many soldiers have walked on the battlefields with him; their familiar faces were engraved in his heart.

Not one of them was lucky enough to survive this event. The whole thing mercilessly pricked his heart.

Furthermore, the elites of his clan were part of the legion too. They trusted him with their lives only to die without a grave. He became cognizant of the crazy selfishness of his action, resulting in this cruel end.

The guy was still alive because Li Qiye had pointed one finger at him, stabilizing the curse.

All eyes were on him. The crowd began to think about the implications as well. One of the most famous and strongest legions in Nine Secrets was gone now because of Ma Mingchun's desire for revenge.

The prestigious legion turned to smoke, turning Ma Mingchun into an unforgivable sinner in military history.

Unfortunately, it was too late for regrets. He had no chance of re-doing the past and changing his decision.

"What a crime." One ancestor sentimentally said: "Destroying a legion for his selfish desire. History will not be kind to him."

Of course, most also thought that he had brought it upon himself so they didn't quite sympathize.

### [Chapter 2517: Submission](#)

Ma Mingchun dropped to his knees and wept quietly. He had lost his only son and now, all of his brothers that have accompanied him through life-and-death on the battlefields. They trusted him with their lives but he had failed them.

Back outside the Bingchi, he gave a single command and these men instantly changed allegiance. Today, still one command of his and they were willing to fight the king to the very end.

The first was justifiable since it affected the future of the legion. However, fighting the king was the result of a personal vendetta.

Now, his brothers have died because of him, turned into bloody mists. There were no corpses to bury.

Mingchun no longer had the face to see them, ashamed from letting them down and from letting their families down.

“One might be able to survive an act of god, but not a self-brought calamity.” Li Qiye said insipidly.

“Kill me, kill me if you dare!” The man was full of tears and screamed at Li Qiye; his hair had turned white.

He wanted death since it would be salvation. Living was too painful right now.

“You think I would spare you after reaching this point?” Li Qiye smiled: “Although I do want to see you suffer for a lifetime, I’m not in the mood to wait. No mercy to those who deserve death!”

With that, he raised his finger, showing a gray energy floating by the tip - clearly the evil curse from earlier. He shot it straight for Mingchun’s heart.

“Ah!” The man bellowed; his face twisting with pain. However, he didn’t roll on the ground but stood proudly while suffering.

This pain served as atonement and lessened his guilt.

“Buzz...” The buzzing was quiet but loud enough not to be drowned out by the screams.

His chest ignited into a fire and eventually turned ashen. This began to spread all over his body.

‘Ah!’ The shrill screams continued. Everyone could hear it.

The thing meant to kill Li Qiye had targeted Mingchun instead. His cries still didn’t earn him the sympathy of the crowd. This pain wasn’t much compared to the death of the entire legion.

He was the one who created this curse so why should people feel sorry for him?

“Ah...” Finally, his true fate has been burned completely, resulting in death.

The evil curse burned his body into ashes scattering to the wind. It was as if he had never existed.

The world came to a silent still; all became peaceful with reticent breathing from the crowd for they were astonished and speechless.

Li Qiye gently flicked his finger and a holy light flashed.

“Pop!” The evil curse that had ended Ma Mingchun also became refined and destroyed.

Li Qiye sat back down on his throne; his holy light had dispersed completely. He casually rested his legs on the golden table, as nonchalant as ever.

He became an ordinary-looking person again. No, actually, he was back to being the perverted and useless king, at least in appearance.

However, who would dare look down on him right now. In fact, when people looked up to steal glimpses, they tried to be as quiet as possible as if disturbing him was a great offense.

Jianyao wasn't surprised at this outcome. Everything has been determined; Ma Mingchun's resistance was simply futile.

"Anyone else got something to say?" Li Qiye lazily asked.

Given his current lackadaisical and sleepy appearance, no one would believe that this dispirited man was the one who killed Tang Hexiang, Ma Mingchun, and an entire legion. Yes, a useless king fitted his current image much more.

No one dared to utter the word, "no". Existences like them were insignificant insects. Just one stomp of his would crush them in totality.

"In that case, start kneeling." Li Qiye glanced at the crowd and said.

This made them exchange glances. Many people actually wanted to kneel, but being the first to do so was a bit embarrassing.

"Long live the king." Jianyao broke the hesitation by bowing her head, her clear voice comforted the crowd.

Though she got on her knees to kowtow, she was still a perfect fairy, a visual feast.

"Long live the king." Everyone quickly prostrated to show their submission.

Even Jianyao had shown her allegiance, so why should they bother maintaining their face? They paled in comparison to her prestige and status anyway.

They kneeled with bated breath, waiting for him to make a decision.

Previously during his coronation, some of them have come to the imperial palace to greet him. Of course, they weren't actually convinced by him and did so out of fear of Sun Lengying and Silver Secret Legion.

This was no longer the case today. This showing of reverence was all due to the king himself.

Furthermore, they trembled with fear, afraid of the king's fury. This might end with a massacre and the end of their sects.

They felt as if they have returned to Lucidity King's era. No, even worse.

The whole thing felt like a dream. When the king was chased out of his throne, so many people looked down on him, calling him a piece of trash. Today, they prostrated, afraid of invoking his wrath and punishment. This sudden change seemed surreal and unbelievable.

"This is the feeling of being shown disdain." Li Qiye looked at them and chuckled: "I gave you all a chance to be independent, an era of self-rule, but all of you didn't cherish it. It looks like your fate is to be ruled by others."



This was a cruel slap on everyone's face, causing them to feel hot. Of course, they didn't show any anger any were actually thanking heaven that the king wasn't angry.

"Rise, I pardon your crimes." Li Qiye waved his hand and said.

"Thank you for your benevolence." The crowd heaved a sigh of relief and realized how much they were sweating during the wait.

That wave of his hand could have made heads roll on the ground. Moreover, they wouldn't be able to resist at all.

The lack of punishment made the crowd ecstatic. Some on the ground even kowtowed several more times to show their gratitude for this imperial kindness.

### [Chapter 2518: The Color Change Of The Lakes](#)

Trepidation remained after the crowd stood up. They kept their head lowered, hands hanging by the waist. Everyone was afraid of provoking him.

He ignored them and said: "Since we're done here, I can finish my own business."

He took out a treasure box taken from the stone forest. Some of the crowd has seen it before during that process but no one knew what was inside.

"What is that?" A participant from that event asked.

Even Jianyao and the saber saint held their breath, wanting to know what was inside as well as his "own business".

Jianyao found the whole thing perplexing. Remember, he casually handed the nine secrets over to Liu Chuqing.

Given the circumstances, Li Qiye didn't come to kill Ma Mingchun and the legion, not for the nine secrets either.

All three weren't worth a trip from him; doing them was only out of convenience. Perhaps this particular business of his was his actual goal in coming to this place, something worthwhile.

Something as precious as the nine secrets weren't worth his time, but this matter or thing was? It must be something earth-shattering.

Though she has seen numerous treasures and had plenty of experiences, she still wanted to see what Li Qiye was here for.

When he opened the box, a reflection flashed like undulating waves as if it contained jade water.

"Alright, let's begin." He smiled and poured the water out.

"Splash." Sure enough, everyone saw that it was extremely clear water once he flipped the box upside-down.

Everyone became surprised. In the beginning, they thought that it contained a peerless treasure, not just this clear liquid.

Strange enough, this liquid had something about it. It exuded an immortal mist so as it fell down to the lake, it looked like the flowing current of a paradisiacal spring.

Perhaps an immortal realm had a crack, allowing this water to ooze down to the mortal world.

This stream of water seemed especially tiny compared to the great lake, akin to a drop of water in an ocean.

Nothing really came of it in the beginning but after a long while, changes to the lake occurred.

“The water is becoming clear.” The first person to notice told everyone.

The crowd was still wondering what the water was; they looked over after hearing the guy.

Sure enough, the water in the lake was changing at a rapid rate. Prior to this, it had a golden color just like molten gold - dazzling and beautiful.

After the clear liquid started pouring down, the lake turned clear at the dropping point. This clear shade began to spread at an incredible pace. The water of the lake looked just like the liquid in the treasure box now.

Remember, this lake was massive and would require an incalculable amount of clear liquid to fill it up. Strange enough, just the tiny stream from the box was enough to fuse with the entire lake.

“No, not just this one, the other eight are becoming clear too.” Someone spotted this change first.

It seemed that the nine lakes were connected, so the clear liquid spread from the golden lake to the rest.

They initially had different colors and today, this difference was amplified even more. This was no longer the case.

“The world had a wrong understanding of this legend.” Jianyao immediately realized something and murmured.

She found that for millions of years now, the sages and geniuses have misunderstood this phenomenon.

People leaped to the sky and saw the receding colors replaced by clearness. The scene was magnificent and stunned them.

“What is going on?” This question popped up in various groups.

One ancestor emotionally said: “This is the first time I’ve seen the lake changing color like this.”

“No!” He suddenly had an epiphany: “The lake changing color doesn’t refer to their individual shade becoming amplified. This is the real change, this clear liquid! We have misunderstood it all along.”

The experts nearby were taken aback after hearing this conjecture. Everyone came today and thought that the lakes were changing color as planned since this has always been the case in the past. The ancestor’s speculation said otherwise.

A while later, the lakes have finally changed to the clear shade.

“So this, this is the real thing?” An old man took a deep breath.

The common belief of this phenomenon has been shattered today to the astonishment of the crowd.

“Yeah, I think this is it.” An aged member of a clan struggled to calm down.

People exchanged glances without speaking, still unable to digest this new change in belief.

Not only were they wrong, but the geniuses and sages from the past were mistaken as well. This included True Emperors and top prodigies.

“So ridiculous.” Many smiled wryly.

“Well, if this is the real color, what secrets are hidden behind it.” Another reacted.

People said that during the color-changing process, one could find the profundities of the grand dao, even the nine secrets.

But that pertained to the previous misconception of the lakes. If this was the real phenomenon, what was hidden behind it?

#### [Chapter 2519: Nine Immortals Rope](#)

The crowd has come to understand that what was previously understood as the lakes changing color proved to be wrong.

What Li Qiye had done right now was the real phenomenon.

Just what secrets and mysteries were hidden in this place? Thus, the crowd anticipated with excitement while staring at the clear water.

“If it wasn’t for His Majesty today, the world will continue on the wrong path for generations to come.” An elder said sentimentally.

That one stream of clear liquid has changed all the lakes. Finally, the splash stopped since the box was now empty. The original shades of the various lakes were nowhere to be found.

From a distance, one could almost see the bottom of the lakes. They almost served like mirrors, seemingly made from nine pure crystals.

The surface also had thin water vapor condensing into a mist, wafting in a transcending manner. It didn’t take long before people started thinking that the place was a land of immortals.

As they peered into the bottom of the lakes, they felt as if there was a different world beneath, a better one.

The nine lakes looked like entrances, that’s why this immortal mist would ooze out on the surface.

“Is this a portal to an immortal realm?” Someone murmured while staring at the scintillating lights.

Everyone held their breath, eagerly waiting to see the secrets of the lakes.

“This thing has been buried for too long, it’s time for it to see the sun again.” Li Qiye smiled.

While the crowd was still astounded, he drilled his palm into the lake, seemingly wanting to reach its deepest part.

It penetrated the bottom and reached the other world.

The crowd instantly felt the world spinning around and that they have become weightless, losing the sense of gravity and stabilization. The earth beneath them seemed to be shrinking and turning soft. However, this sensation came and went quickly.

Everything returned to normal in the blink of an eye, the chaotic loss of control disappeared.

They looked down and saw that the ground was still the same as ever, not an inch was missing.

The tangibility of the physical realm beneath them remained, but they somehow felt that something in Nine-linked Mountains has been taken away.

Of course, none could sense the presence of this particular thing but after it was gone, they felt that this place seemed to be missing a little something.

In a different location in the sect, Southpeak Woodcutter sighed and said: "Yearned by all for ages yet none could take it. Emperor Zhang and Jiu Ning both failed but he got it so easily with a single reach. This power is unbeatable, no one in Immortal can stop him either."

The old man knew that the item was very important for Nine-linked Mountains but all he could do was watch. He hoped that it would eventually be returned in the future.

Now the focus shifted towards Li Qiye. People saw him holding something in his hand.

It was a rope made from the most ordinary hemp in the mortal world. The entire thing looked old and red, but the red had shades of black - perhaps from being used countless times.

It had nine thumb-sized bells, seemingly made from old bronze. The material itself probably wasn't good or maybe too much time had passed so they have lost the initial luster and were full of spots, even green rust.

Everyone was surprised to see this rope. They assumed it would be a peerless item, perhaps an extremely heaven-defying ancestral artifact.

They already imagined the scene of him being unstoppable after obtaining the great artifact, sweeping through the realms and the ages to come. However, this rope possessed no destructive intent or amazing divinity.

"Umm, someone tell me what's precious about that rope? What does it do?" Someone regained their wits and quietly asked.

The old Li Qiye would have met a barrage of derision and scorn. They would say that the rope wasn't worth a single coin.

However, people still felt as if this rope was the greatest treasure in existence despite its meager appearance.

To be frank, even if he was holding a regular blade of grass, people would still think that it was an immortal vegetation. After all, he was someone who could casually gift the nine secrets away.

Unfortunately, no one could decipher anything about the item.

“Nine Immortals Rope.” Jianyao stared intensely in disbelief before coming up with the name unlike the rest of the crowd.

She wasn’t too confident when saying this title, still full of skepticism.

Li Qiye looked over at her and chuckled: “Little girl, you have many flaws but knowledge is not one of them. You certainly know more than many old geezers.”

“Isn’t it just a legend?” She didn’t mind the criticism from him, only caring about the confirmation. Of course, this could already be considered generous praise from Li Qiye.

She felt that this ordinary rope was too different compared to its legends.

Li Qiye casually played with the rope and laughed: “A legend doesn’t exist, in a strict sense. So is it still one?”

She said: “It’s a rumor started by a villager. According to the text, the villager saw nine immortals plucking hemp in order to create this rope as a present, hence its name.”

She read it in a scroll before during her youth, just casual reading. This anecdote wasn’t really qualified to be considered a tale.

It was too simple, almost like a child’s bedtime story with no hidden layers of intricacies. No one would take it seriously.

### [Chapter 2520: Keeping A Promise](#)

The name of the rope wasn’t familiar to the crowd at all. The experts present haven’t heard of this weapon previously, same with the tale mentioned by Qin Jianyao.

Few would waste their time reading for entertainment. The sects would prefer that they spend their time training instead of idle reading.

Thus, no one really believed the tale of immortals weaving the rope. Perhaps the villager only started this story to put their children to bed. Who would bother memorizing this boring story?

Li Qiye smiled after hearing the story: “Who knows if the nine mortals and the villager are real, but this rope certainly is. The world was just too arrogant and foolish, always confident in their own knowledge.”

Jianyao tilted her head and pondered: “The villager...”

Like Li Qiye had said, the rope was real and the nine immortals might not be, but what about the villager in the story? This person was the one who started the rumors.

If this was the case, the person should know about the existence of the rope but came up with a crude story for future generations. But why?

She was actually interested in the answer, finding that it was worthwhile. She was excellent in this manner, not a woman with big breasts and small brains. On the contrary, she had read plenty of books and had a vast knowledge. Though she didn't travel the world like the saber saint, what she knew in her mind far exceeded his.

"Almost forgot, we have a bet going on right now. You have lost." Li Qiye put away the rope and got up to the sky. He smiled while staring at Bingchi Hanyu.

The crowd also stared at her then exchanged glances with each other. They remembered about the bet and how she had lost.

Initially, they thought that even in the case of losing, she could always renege since her clan was strong enough to do so. They did it once for the marriage pact.

But now, the king has proven to be a terrifying existence. Reneging was out of the question, even suicidal on top of dragging her clan down.

"Just one mistake, what a shame, or the Bingchi would be flying high right now too." An old man took a deep breath and said: "I guess ultimately, it's best to keep one's promise."

The five powers all had a marriage pact with the king, but only Liu Chuqing carried it out!

That's why she had his full favor right now and got the nine secrets. Everyone could see that her status far exceeded Qin Jianyao at the moment.

The latter was famous as a fairy, virtually peerless in Nine Secrets. But now, Liu Chuqing was on a higher level. Who knows if Qianyao would even win the king's favor in the future?

Bingchi Hanyu turned pale, not just from losing the bet but because Li Qiye's abilities far exceeded their expectations.

They assumed they were above this useless person and she herself had shown contempt towards him. But now, it turned out that they were mere ants in front of him, perhaps even inferior to ants.

The worst part was her engagement with Myriad Formation Kingdom. Though they have yet to carry out the wedding, she and the emperor were essentially husband and wife.

Losing this bet didn't only affect herself but also her clan and Myriad Formation Kingdom.

The two old men to her left and right were shaken to the core but they still blocked in front of her.

"Want to play dirty now?" Li Qiye smirked.

She took a deep breath; her eyes became serious as she straightened her back. This accentuated her full-rounded breasts even more, causing people to go crazy.

"I will keep my words without regrets." Hanyu said sonorously while stepping forward: "I'm standing right here, kill me if you want to."

She was ready for death at this moment - closing her eyes and raising her head to make her neck more accessible. Her white-snow neck was as pretty as a swan's, causing others to think that cutting off her head was so cruel. No one would be able to do it.

“Who says I want to kill you?” He grinned.

“...” The girl opened her eyes, not happy after hearing this. She felt fear because death wasn't the worst thing that could happen. Her peaceful state of mind disappeared, replaced by dread.

“You tell me.” His smile widened as he looked at her up and down as if imagining her naked: “Teaching an extraordinary beauty should be quite fun.”

The crowd shuddered and their mind started wandering about the various possibilities. Of course, no one dared to utter a word. Even if some wanted to play the hero, they didn't have enough strength to do so.

“You!” She was shaken, feeling that she was helpless on a platter and he could do whatever he wanted.

“No!” The two old men once again blocked in front of her. They were frightened because given Li Qiye's nature, who knows what would happen once she falls into his hands?

At that point, not only would she suffer but their clan would be humiliated as well. Myriad Formation Kingdom and the emperor wouldn't be spared either.

Li Qiye smiled while looking at the old men: “You two want to fight me?”

This nonchalant response froze the old men. Though they were powerful True Gods, they were completely helpless against him, akin to grasshoppers going against a carriage.

Ma Mingchun himself almost died from a single kick. They wouldn't be able to stop a single move from him. Of course, they had no other choice due to the terrible consequences of her captivity.”

“You need to walk over our corpses to get to her.” One of them gritted their teeth.

“So be it, I've killed an entire legion today already, what's two more?” Li Qiye didn't care at all.

“Uncle Feng, leave, let me shoulder this.” She looked feeble and desperate because resistance was futile. The two old men would only be suiciding.

“Lady, you go first, we'll buy time for you.” They refused and rather used their lives to delay the inevitable.