Emperor 3201

Chapter 3201: Rules Of The World

His expression clearly showed pride when talking about this minor dimension.

It didn't inherit his merit laws or his overbearing attitude; he didn't put much effort into it either versus his system back in Three Immortals.

He focused everything he had into building that system. Now, he did interfere but this amounted to a pitiful amount of work.

In this dimension's history, he often served as a spectator and would only interfere in order to fix a few problems.

This indirect style of his actually worked for the benefits of the minor dimension. He was prouder of this community than his own system. The latter was pretty much forgotten by this point.

"Do not worry about scarcity, but rather about uneven distribution." Regalia reflected. [1]

For most people, ultimate power and abilities weren't their pursuits. They only wished to have a home and ample food and clothing.

On the outside, the tiny number of capable cultivators were the ones changing their world for the worse, bringing chaos and war.

"It's always been like that." Li Qiye smiled.

"Why are you here, Sir?" Regalia asked Li Qiye after revealing his own story.

Li Qiye was the second guest to this minor dimension, hence his curiosity.

"Was just passing by and found this place by chance so I went in to take a look. The orders and peace here interested me so I stayed for a bit then came here to see the person behind it all." Li Qiye chuckled.

Regalia didn't find this surprising. He wouldn't have been able to hide because Li Qiye had numerous ways to find him, given the guy's abilities.

"You wish to change the rules of the world?" Regalia became serious.

His conjecture was understandable. In his eyes, Li Qiye was unbeatable and could change the order of Three Immortals.

"No, I'm just a passerby, Three Immortals has its own orders and watchers, I don't need to change anything." Li Qiye shook his head: "Plus, you have done a good job in this place but replicating it back there might not be suitable."

"Please elaborate." Regalia asked.

"Too weak. This place is great if there are no threats of foreign invaders. It is fine for a minor world but for Three Immortals or bigger places? They need capable existences or they'll be wiped out in one blow." Li Qiye answered.

"You're right." Regalia agreed with this point: "I don't have any more ambition in life. I only wish to stay here and hope that the natives can live their peaceful lives."

"It's possible. This place is blessed by the high heaven, the same as Three Immortals and the expanse. It's incredible that they have been around for so long." Li Qiye said.

"Three Immortals is large but the expanse is even vaster. Both places are full of treachery and danger. That's why I like this minor dimension and wouldn't mind spending my last days here." Regalia replied.

Each progenitor had a different pursuit. It's just that the majority preferred a dangerous place like the expanse. Regalia who lacked ambition was a rarity.

The two of them talked for a bit. Regalia revealed everything while Li Qiye helped him with questions.

Regalia truly benefited because Li Qiye explained the hidden mysteries regarding Three Immortals. Most importantly, Li Qiye also helped him with cultivation, allowing him to see the sun behind the clouds.

He has been stagnating after staying in the dimension for so long. Moreover, without stronger combatants, his cultivation didn't improve in the slightest. That's why Li Qiye's guidance was so helpful and enlightening.

They eventually finished speaking and Li Qiye had no other reasons to stay.

As he was about to leave, he gave Regalia several top-ranked spirit medicines and grass, extremely effective in healing the guy's old wounds.

"Thank you, Sir, your kindness has moved me to tears." Regalia got on his knees to show his gratitude. Li Qiye had granted him a lifetime of benefits.

Li Qiye accepted the grand gesture then left the minor dimension.

After leaving the entrance, he banished the coordinates once more so that the dimension would be even harder to find.

He continued traveling and training while meeting all types of people.

He saw peerless progenitors and their descendants, the emperors and Eternals who followed them to this place as well.

He crossed through numerous realms, too many to count. Alas, this was still only one corner of the expanse.

Some of the cultivators he met were quite famous back in Three Immortals. Many of them have greatly improved, going from the imperial progenitorial level to the immortal level. Some True Emperors actually made it to the immortal level as well.

Of course, a few also stagnated or became less powerful. The bold ones destroyed their previous path in order to start from scratch for an entirely new route.

Everyone sought for something different in this vast and dangerous place. Someone like Emperor Zheng had obtained it all and wanted nothing else. Martial Ancestor continued to search for a unique path. Regalia only wished to live in peace...

Back in Three Immortals, the progenitorial realm was considered the apex.

This wasn't the case at the expanse. This realm was only the beginning. After obtaining this power, these progenitors could make different choices.

Romances and friendships weren't lacking either. In fact, they were potentially more brilliant and beautiful given the dangerous circumstances.

Li Qiye entered a remote sea with a chaotic space. He jumped in and found an extremely cold domain.

Everything was covered in a layer of ice. The ocean itself was frozen. One could see a sky-high tsunami in an ice form. Dragons from the water became ice sculptures along with other divine birds... All in all, these spectacles were magnificent.

The cold bit deep into the bones. This level of coldness was rarely found in the outside world. In fact, even progenitors would have a hard time dealing with it.

Li Qiye himself was slightly caught off guard. The coldness here didn't come from nature but rather created.

In other words, someone or something was the source of this terrible coldness lasting for eras.

Chapter 3202: Legendary Fairy

Existences would have a terrible time trying to survive since progenitors themselves wouldn't last long.

Li Qiye crossed through the coldness to reach the depth of this place where the source was located.

The awe-inspiring sight included a heavenly stream flowing in the sky like a river. The coldness emanating from it froze space itself.

Strangely enough, the water itself wasn't frozen. There was a girl laying there, gorgeous enough to be called a fairy.

The brush failed to describe her beauty. Many would start thinking - how can such a beautiful girl exist? She didn't belong to this world. Someone like her could only be found above the firmaments.

Anyone would be mesmerized by her perfect features, just not Li Qiye.

He focused on the water itself. Though it wasn't frozen, one could see tiny ice crystals floating in the stream.

This meant that the coldness wasn't coming from the water but rather, the girl in there. He only glanced at the girl for a split second before looking away.

This was enough for him to notice a red string tied around her waist and draping downward. Upon closer inspection, it turned out to be blood.

He followed the stream of blood and found that it was connected to another person sitting at the bottom of the water - completely frozen just like a statue.

His face was still visible - peerlessly heroic and handsome. Time had left its mark on his face but from his features, he was certainly extremely good-looking during his youth. Nonetheless, it gave him a mature appearance - a different style of charm.

Li Qiye also didn't focus on the middle-aged man; his eyes turned back towards the blood.

Now, he found that it was actually flowing backward, not from top to bottom but the opposite. In other words, the man was sending his blood into the fairy's, providing nourishment.

Li Qiye walked closer for a better look but suddenly, the layer of ice around the man cracked and exploded.

"Who are you?" A glint in the middle-aged man's eyes could pierce through time itself.

"Just a passerby." Li Qiye smiled while rubbing his chin.

The man heaved a sigh of relief since no animosity could be found on Li Qiye. He cupped his fist for an introduction: "My name is Xuan Xiao, may I have yours?"

This name could definitely shock any listener, especially those from Myriad Lineage.

Xuan Xiao had crossed through more than one hundred levels back in Bewildering Palace. He eventually found a coffin with a fairy inside. They then ascended to Immortal Lineage.

Some believed that he was too lucky to make it that far. Others believed that this was due to his peerless abilities.

All in all, everyone agreed that the two ascended to Immortal Lineage. Therefore, Xuan Xiao became a symbol of good luck.

Who else was as lucky as him in history? Able to find a fairy and enter Immortal Lineage so easily. He was truly the heaven's favorite.

Afterward, plenty of other legends popped up. One stated that the two have gotten married. Another said that the fairy abandoned him to return to her immortal world. Xuan Xiao couldn't forget her and entered the expanse searching...

Some believed that he was a True Emperor, others said progenitor.

Today, Li Qiye had met these two legendary characters.

"I know who you are." Li Qiye smiled and looked up at the fairy.

"She is my wife. Why are you here, Sir?" Xuan Xiao asked while becoming cautious.

"Don't worry, I'm not here for her. She is indeed valuable and highly coveted but for me, it doesn't matter whether I have her or not. Plus, I won't take someone else's wife." Li Qiye shook his head.

"I appreciate your kindness." Xuan Xiao lowered his head towards Li Qiye.

"Just know that the dead can't come back to life." Li Qiye said while looking at the blood flowing out of the man.

"I know, but I still want to try no matter what... I must." Xuan Xiao understood.

"Rebirth and reincarnation are taboo." Li Qiye glanced at the fairy and shook his head.

"Sir, you know that cultivation is about defying heaven." Xuan Xiao said seriously: "We have done plenty of that in our life, why worry about one more?"

"She's as dead as can be, no imprintation or traces left. Your wife has a special background but I'm sure you know this. The high heaven won't allow it. The world itself won't allow it. Nothing will." Li Qiye smiled.

"I know, but I will still do everything I can regardless of the consequences. This place is the expanse and Three Immortals, I don't care if the high heaven and the world won't allow it. It's fine as long as she can live on." Xuan Xiao said with determination.

"Very well." Li Qiye nodded approvingly and continued: "She is extreme yin while you're extreme yang and extreme force, this physique is as rare as can be. I do agree that your yang true blood gestating her yin blood might give her a chance to survive again."

"However, the odds are..." Li Qiye sighed without finishing.

"I know that it is awfully low, one in a billion." Xuan Xiao paused for a bit before speaking: "This is akin to creating a new life, not a domain we should interfere with."

"Yes, even the heaven is careful when it comes to granting life." Li Qiye said seriously.

"Nonetheless, I still keep on trying. A million or a billion years later, or until my last breath, I won't stop when there is still a chance to revive her." Xuan Xiao said while looking at his wife with nothing but love in his eyes.

"Can't ask for more love than this." Li Qiye commented.

A while later, he spoke with an earnest tone: "Let's say that she will really come back to life despite the minuscule possibility. That possibility might not be what you want since it is taboo. It will be a terrible beginning, the start of a nightmare."

"I'm aware of what you're implying, Sir. I know the possibilities and have thought about the possible solutions. Alas, I'm willing to face the consequences." Xuan Xiao pondered for a long time before declaring.

"What if she wakes up and becomes the thing you don't want to see the most?" Li Qiye brought up something quite serious. He seemed to genuinely care about these two.

Xuan Xiao was staring at his wife. He slightly shuddered after hearing this but Li Qiye still caught it.

He clenched his fists, clearly having an internal conflict.

Chapter 3203: Eternal Abyss

Xuan Xiao stood there a long time, biting his lips while maintaining a firm expression. He seemed to be a man with a heart made of steel. Nothing could shake his conviction.

"I will personally take care of it." Xuan Xiao said softly but no one would question his determination.

"Yes, the burden shall be mine since I'm the one who started it." Xuan Xiao took a deep breath and had a complicated glint in his eyes. He stared at her, seemingly recalling their time together.

Li Qiye sighed and didn't say anything else. He turned to leave.

"Sir, you're at the apex, a thousand times greater than I. I wish to ask, is there anyone who would make you risk it all, that you would lose your life for?" Xuan Xiao shouted at his departing back.

"No. I am alone." Li Qiye paused for a while before giving an answer.

"The apex is emotionless. Although that's not entirely true. You worry about the grand scheme of things while I'm bound by romance, I'm ashamed to say." Xuan Xiao stared at Li Qiye for a bit before replying.

"No one has the same pursuit in life and we mustn't judge them. You have the strongest physique possible and incredible talents. Your obsession with love also allows you to excel in the dao." Li Qiye turned around and smiled.

"It's just that our choices are different. I will not stop for anyone, that's my choice. You can call this being emotionless or selfish, it's fine." He continued.

"You're certainly not selfish or you wouldn't be here right now. There are things you must do and worry about, they move you to action." Xuan Xiao finally showed a wide smile.

"Think what you will." Li Qiye chuckled.

"Are you lonely?" Xuan Xiao earnestly asked.

"You're lonely, which is why you will pay any price to revive your wife. Her existence gives meaning to your life. Your unique physique and talents are meaningless and ephemeral without her. With her comes the spring and happiness." Li Qiye didn't answer.

"You're right." Xuan Xiao sighed and said: "And I see now, your loneliness allows you to move forward. I wonder if this will ever change."

Li Qiye smiled and left without answering.

"Just one man. Just one is enough to save the ages, enough to change the course of history." Xuan Xiao reflected afterward.

He then looked up at the sky and murmured: "It would be great if you were here with me. I miss you."

Having said that, he sat back down and the extreme cold froze him again. It was as if Li Qiye had never been here in the first place.

Li Qiye left this area and resumed his training. This wasn't the only thing in his mind since the dark existence hidden in the expanse also interested him.

He wasn't trying too hard to find this being but when an opportunity presented itself, he wouldn't miss the clues. Most importantly, this was his target to warm up.

Of course, Li Qiye was always one to plan before a battle. Thus, he needed to fully understand a few things beforehand.

There was a bottomless abyss engulfed by darkness at the expanse. This place was his next destination.

Eternal Abyss - a dangerous area and a paradise for treasure seekers. It looked like the jaw of a great monster, ready to devour anyone and anything.

It used to produce many divine rocks and stones, a great vein of resources. This made people forget about the danger here.

A few supreme metals and rocks would appear beneath. Numerous progenitors and top characters would come here to find their desired materials.

Later on, the terrible existence came to the abyss and refined this place before disappearing altogether. No progenitors wanted to visit afterward.

The terrible existence had left a dreadful power here. Who knows what he was trying to do here? Alas, the remnant darkness was enough to poison even the most unyielding progenitor. Staying here meant undergoing a reckless mental test.

The vast expanse had other mines available. No need to take the risk found in Eternal Abyss.

"Boom!" The entire abyss quaked violently with waves rushing to the sky. Cracks appeared all over the walls of the abyss and they eventually crumbled.

"What's going on?" Numerous masters in the expanse became startled.

All eyes were on the abyss. They saw a domineering brilliance chasing away the darkness in a shocking manner.

"So strong, who is it? Is this a challenge?" A progenitor wondered.

Since the darkness was gone now, they could see a person meditating in the broken abyss. Immortal flames danced around him as if he was a true immortal.

"That's Li Qiye alright." One progenitor recognized him.

Li Qiye has been here long enough to meet many top existences in this place. His fame had spread as well.

"He's finally challenging the supreme existence." They knew what he wanted to do.

In a sense, the darkness created from the refinement at the abyss was a symbol of the terrible existence's supremacy and authority.

Now, Li Qiye had destroyed the abyss and swept away the darkness - a move akin to stomping on the dark being's symbol of authority. This was undoubtedly a declaration of war.

"Let's have a fight." Li Qiye's leisure voice echoed across the expanse.

This fiery form made him look like the only true immortal around. He seemingly possessed everlasting life and ultimate power.

Everyone felt respect towards him since it has been several million years since someone dared to challenge this existence, especially alone.

"Will the being come out?" Many watched with bated breath.

The terrible existence had disappeared completely after the great war back then along with many progenitors.

However, there was no way this being was killed. Perhaps a more treacherous plot was being planned in the shadow.

Many progenitors have tried to find the being's whereabouts to no avail. Now, Li Qiye had declared a direct challenge.

The spectators wondered if the terrible existence would actually accept it and show up.

Chapter 3204: Challenge

The true immortal sat in the meditative pose, looking down on the nine heavens and ten earths.

All other masters were nothing more than ants before him. They could only stare with admiration and respect. The members of the Decemvirate wouldn't dare to oppose him.

They didn't know why they were afraid of his pulsing light.

Those who have met him before knew how frightening he was and his purpose. Those who haven't? They still knew that he was a monster judging by his current appearance.

"Buzz." The immortal light around him burst out.

Each strand of light was akin to a portal leading to an immortal world. One of them was enough to shoulder three thousand worlds.

They weren't blinding like the explosion of a thousand suns. However, even those back in Three Immortals could see the bright strands.

Space and time no longer constrained them. People at the edge of the horizon or before him could see their strangely-comforting flashes.

People felt as if he was meditating right in front of them. He didn't exude any pressure but everyone still became startled, feeling the urge to get on their knees.

The strands reached Three Immortals, causing its inhabitants to look up towards the expanse. They saw lights blossoming there in a beautiful fashion.

"They look just like immortal light, has a true immortal descended to the expanse?" One cultivator became shocked.

"Wait, Prime Progenitor, maybe?!" One expert took a deep breath and blurted.

"Prime Progenitor has become an immortal?!" This news took Three Immortals like a storm.

Everyone got on their knees and started bowing in that direction.

"His ascension is a blessing for our world!" Many even started crying.

Though they couldn't watch this event in person, they were still shaken because this was the ultimate glory for Three Immortals.

As for the old tree demon, he quietly watched the whole thing. Only characters at his level could gaze this deep into the expanse.

Ultimately, all eyes were on Li Qiye due to his impossible-to-miss radiance. In other words, those hiding in redemption lands or deeper in the expanse or other secretive areas still spotted this light.

Therefore, the dark existence, wherever it was, had to notice this declaration of war as well.

A pair of eyes opened at the bottom of the expanse in an incalculable place that was impossible to find.

This person had shrouded all of their auras. Even if one was standing inches away from this being, they still wouldn't be able to notice the eyes or its movement.

The eyes watched Li Qiye's radiance without a single ripple of emotions. It seemed to be the calmest spectator in the world, a stark contrast to even the progenitors.

Li Qiye continued to meditate in that spot. The flow of time seemingly stopped.

A long period passed and the dark existence still didn't show up to accept the challenge.

"Keep on hiding, I'll find and kill you all the same." Li Qiye finally got up and left this comment behind for the listeners everywhere.

"A fight is inevitable." The top masters realized this after hearing Li Qiye's determination.

"Maybe it's time to sweep through the expanse and end this all." One progenitor murmured.

These top masters realized the looming threat to the expanse and Three Immortals as long as the dark existence was around. Alas, they have tried to destroy it to no avail.

Li Qiye didn't mind the refusal to fight. He marched onward across the expanse to traverse the dangerous lands and kill monsters as preparation.

Of course, he wasn't preparing for this dark existence but rather the creation of his epoch. This was his ultimate goal here at Three Immortals and the expanse. No place was more suitable than the expanse to serve as a foundational block for his epoch.

The next area he entered was one of eternal night. Daylight didn't have a place here.

"Boom!" A beast crushed the sky and made the stars fall down.

It clearly had a power similar to a progenitor. Of course, this wasn't rare at all. Many gigantic monsters here were so powerful that progenitors didn't want to provoke them.

This beast's target was an old man who was using treasures and the myriad dao to stop its onslaught.

He had gray hair but still a young, friendly face - almost like the god of longevity in the paintings. A mystical dao order engulfed him.

He stood on top of a shoal rock, completely immovable. Meanwhile, the beast launched a relentless assault.

Due to his old age, he needed to use pills in order to replenish his vitality and energy. This still wasn't enough to deal with the ferocious beast.

Alas, the old man clearly wanted to protect the shoal rock. The two were clearly contesting it. This piece of shoal rock didn't look that special - gray and could be found anywhere else.

"Scram." Li Qiye arrived and waved his hand, releasing a peerless grand dao power.

The beast got blown into the ocean, causing a massive splash. It knew that Li Qiye was terrible and let out a soft cry before running for its life.

"I appreciate your saving me, Sir." The old man bowed towards Li Qiye despite being a progenitor.

However, by this point, everyone knew Li Qiye now in the expanse - the man who challenged the dark lord!

"Get up." Li Qiye said: "You should change your title from Alchemy Immortal to Alchemy Idiot, about to throw your life away for this item. You would have been in that beast's stomach eventually."

"I've been watching this thing for 100,000 years by this point. It's hard to let it go." The old man turned red with an awkward smile.

Chapter 3205: Golden Longevity Leech

Yes, this old man was Alchemy Immortal, the progenitor of Longevity Valley.

In Myriad Lineage, everyone knew that he didn't partake in a regular style of cultivation, only in alchemy. This made his alchemy dao quite peerless.

Some even said that he could create pills that can grant immortality. Of course, this was only a legend.

Nonetheless, the pills made by him were highly coveted. If one were found, it would be sold at a skyhigh price. Many would try to seize it no matter what.

Alchemy Immortal was quite famous among the progenitors in the expanse. He was only average in terms of actual cultivation, unable to compete with the brilliant ones. However, many respected him because he could craft pills that can prolong lifespan or cure injuries.

That's why even the strongest progenitors would need to ask him for help eventually. For example, in the case of qi deviation or problems with cultivation. Thus, a few progenitors stronger than him would call him "Older Brother" to show respect.

Alas, he didn't care for any of this for his heart was set on the dao of alchemy. He spent his time refining pills and searching for materials. His footsteps could be found all over the expanse. He knew more about the locations of alchemy materials than anyone at the expanse.

He has been guarding this particular material for 100,000 years. Today was a special day because it was near maturity. That's why the beast earlier came for it.

He wasn't a match for the beast but still didn't want to give up after spending so much time and effort already. Fortunately, Li Qiye came and saved him.

"There's no alchemy when you're dead." Li Qiye shook his head.

The old man naturally understood this but he was too caught up with the dao of alchemy. Whenever he found a good ingredient, roots seemed to grow at the bottom of his feet and he couldn't leave.

Suddenly, the shoal rock below him started cracking.

"It's coming out!" His eyes lit up and he rubbed his palms with excitement.

The rock dispersed like sands into the waves. It became smaller and smaller until the water covered it completely.

"Starry-night Coral, only found in the Night Ocean. Eight million years just to have one, then another million years till death." Li Qiye watched and said.

"Your knowledge puts me to shame." Alchemy Immortal said. Very few people knew this rock beneath him

Li Qiye only smiled in response.

"Pop!" Golden light strands came out of the dispersing rock.

Eventually, the thing inside became exposed - a long shell golden from top to bottom with a spiral pattern that looked like the rotation of the heaven and earth.

A tiny jade-like tentacle came out of the shell with a sweet fragrance spreading afar.

It seemed to notice something dangerous and quickly pulled back into the shell before shooting out with lightning speed.

However, Alchemy Immortal was ready and grasped it with greater speed. The thing struggled but couldn't escape.

"Golden Longevity Leech, finally got it after 100,000 years." He laughed with happiness.

Normally, progenitors had a stable dao heart and wouldn't feel emotions too easily. This wasn't the case for Alchemy Immortal. Finding good materials truly gave him matchless excitement and joy.

This leech was quite rare. It loved alchemy materials, especially this type of coral.

The latter required many years to reach maturity thus finding a leech like this was extremely difficult. No wonder why the alchemist was so patient.

"An old folk prescription for longevity medicine, I'm not sure the result will be good." Li Qiye knew what he was trying to do right away.

"You're right, but I have eaten too many ingredients so they have lost their effectiveness. I have to try something different despite knowing the low probability." The old man smiled wryly.

As the best pill-maker in the world, he naturally consumed more pills than anyone else. Thus, pills became less effective for him versus anyone else.

"A good swimmer is more likely to drown." Li Qiye chuckled.

"I lacked moderation during my youth. My dao heart wasn't firm enough to realize this logic. Now it's too late. I have already abused too much." The alchemist said.

During his youth, he could already refine incredible pills because of his talents. Others had no chance of eating pills of that level yet he ate them like rice.

Alas, this actually left negative side effects on top of causing him to be dependent on pills. As time went on, they became less effective and he needed higher grades of pills. He couldn't defeat this addiction.

Li Qiye shook his head. He has seen this situation too many times before.

"Will you come visit my place for a bit?" The alchemist invited Li Qiye since it was rare to meet such a peerless existence.

"Sure." Li Qiye had just finished training in a dangerous ground and didn't have anything else to do.

"This way." The happy alchemist led the way.

They crossed through many dimensions and made it to the alchemist's place.

The alchemist wasn't staying alone. His home was a sealed domain covered in fog and mist - a very powerful formation.

A progenitor would find it hard to enter without knowing the entry method. This particular domain was a glimmering ocean with plenty of large islands.

It wouldn't be unreasonable to call them continents due to their size.

This place was very lively with numerous cities and more than one million inhabitants. One would think that they were back in Three Immortals.

Divine peaks hid among the clouds. Cranes played in the sky while birds pulled carriages in this peaceful paradise.

This place was undoubtedly another minor dimension. The alchemist introduced: "Several friends and I built this place together. We had other companions with us who decided to stay here and start a home."

Li Qiye wasn't surprised to hear this.

Progenitors didn't come along to the expanse. They brought along their generals and strongest followers. Thus, these people eventually had offsprings.

That's why some progenitors didn't return to Three Immortals since the expanse had become their new home.

Chapter 3206: Previous Battle

Alchemy Immortal lived alone on a peak. His young learners immediately came out to greet them and prepared firewood for boiling.

Next, he told them to invite several old friends. A while later, three progenitors arrived. Their presence caused visual phenomena above such as clouds and rains.

The inhabitants in this world naturally knew that their progenitors had gathered. They naturally became curious.

The progenitorial aura created golden springs and blooming lotuses, adding to this beautiful paradise.

"These three friends are staying with me in this land. It is thanks to their effort that this place is so prosperous now." Alchemy Immortal introduced them to Li Qiye: "On the other hand, I rarely stay in one place and haven't done much for it."

"Brother, you're being too humble. This wouldn't be possible without your alchemy materials." One of the three smiled and shook his head.

"This is Brother Yang Radiance, Brother Pure Yang, and Brother Resting Bull. We have lived here together for who knows how many years." The alchemist became sentimental. [1]

These three progenitors were quite famous back in Myriad Lineage and have left behind their dao system.

Yang Radiance Progenitor's title was the same as his name, Wang Yangming - the progenitor of Yang Radiance System. He used to be a student at Academy of Light before coming up with the Brightheart Scripture to become a progenitor.

Wang Yangming was a middle-aged man with a feather fan and a cloth cap, as scholarly as can be. The absence of his progenitorial aura would cause others to mistake him as a strategist or a teacher from a private school. [2]

Pure Yang Progenitor also wore a feathered robe with the visual phenomenon of a blazing sun behind him. He himself felt like a rising, radiant sun. His system had the same name.

Resting Bull Progenitor was a hybrid with a human body and a bull head. He could swallow the sun and moon just like a divine bull with a majestic aura. He had a muscular and tall frame, seemingly able to shoulder the entire sky.

His Resting Bull System faltered due to a lack of a successor. Its territory became ruins. Later on, Elucidation True Emperor found his scripture and restored the entire system.

After finishing their introduction, the alchemist introduced Li Qiye: "This gentleman is..."

"No need, we know who he is. Who in the expanse doesn't know him right now?" Resting Bull interrupted him and smiled before bowing towards Li Qiye.

The other two also bowed and said: "Welcome, Sir. You are a dragon visiting our humble abode. It is an honor."

The three of them were famous and have accomplished plenty of great deeds. Today, they assumed the role of juniors before Li Qiye.

He casually accepted their showing of respect.

The five of them sat down while the alchemist's young learners prepared tea for them. Li Qiye played along and took his time enjoying his tea.

A while later, he placed the cup down and looked at the four: "I heard a few progenitors say that the four of you participated in the war back then."

The four became frozen for a bit before exchanging glances.

"Surviving is quite impressive." Li Qiye added.

Wang Yangming was the first to put down his cup and sighed before answering: "It was a very long time ago and it's not really a secret or anything. Many friends in the expanse know about it."

"We're among the very few survivors." Resting Bull added: "Or to put it frankly, we escaped earlier so everyone has their own opinions on it."

"They have asked about it before and we clearly told them why." Pure Yang revealed a natural smile.

Alas, there was a faint hint of disappointment, helplessness in their expression. They also wrung their wrist beneath the table.

"Zither Empress and her followers had a call to arms." The alchemist softly said: "I was good at medicine so I told these three to join with me so that we can contribute to help the future of Three Immortals."

"The four of us followed one Dao Brother to the battlefield. He is the strongest among us." Resting Bull continued the story: "His cultivation is unfathomable on top of being wise and resourceful."

"Certain things happened next, causing this Dao Brother to make certain choices. Wang Yangming said seriously: "This ended our part in the war."

"He threw himself into the darkness." Li Qiye smiled, speaking without hesitation unlike these four.

The four of them had an ugly expression and a forced smile, clearly confirming Li Qiye's comment.

"Yes. We don't know what caused him to do so but this choice happened too suddenly. He was an amazing person, whether it be his cultivation or his contribution. Both are virtually peerless. He had done a lot for Three Immortals." Yangming took a deep breath.

"I know." Li Qiye knew exactly who they were talking about: "A member of the Decemvirate is indeed powerful with plenty of accomplishments. Their aspirations and heart are exceptional as well."

The four of them had a bitter smile. They refrained from saying anything malicious about this person. One could easily see their respect for him in the past.

"The war was tough, we toughed it out through the troubles with true sincerity." Resting Bull sighed while recalling the past, feeling terrible as a result.

"I still don't know why he made that choice. Didn't Zither Empress manage to persevere?" He mumbled.

The four clearly loved their dao brother since they have been through life-or-death scenarios together.

"Though we didn't know why he did it, our goals became different so we stopped following him. He didn't make it difficult for us either, no attempt at recruiting us. We eventually went our separate ways, a break up on bad terms." Wang Yangming said with regrets.

"This is the reason why we left the war early and why some misunderstood us." The alchemist said.

"We stopped going outside and talking to the others." Pure Yang smiled.

They left the war in dejection and stayed in this dimension with the exception of the alchemist who continued to search for materials. They no longer socialized with the other progenitors.

Their dao heart was certainly firm but even a member of the Decemvirate had fallen. This made them more cautious, wanting to be reclusive and maintaining a certain distance with the outside world. This was one way to protect their home.

"Fortunately, the war eventually ended. It might not be a good end but it still ended all the same. The goal wasn't met but the darkness was contained, no longer ravaging the expanse. The dark ones have disappeared for a long time now." Yangming said.

Those who participated in this war didn't wish to talk about it more than they have to.

Chapter 3207: Stealthiest

Their friend, a member of the Decemvirate, still faltered to the darkness. This was too much of a blow for the group to take.

That's why they disliked talking about it and carefully chose their words when the conversation was necessary.

"Everyone has a different perspective and choice, then there's the issue of the dao heart." Li Qiye wasn't interested in this story.

"Not just one, right? There were more than one dark beings back then." Li Qiye smiled, getting straight to the point.

The group exchanged glances. Wang Yangming nodded and said: "Yes, we don't know how many there were but only one should be left though. We joined relatively late and didn't know all the details.

Outside of Zither Empress and Fire Ancestor's group, Nine Secrets and Bao Pu should know more."

"Right, the war had been raging for a while once we got to the expanse. Maybe even before Bao Pu's time." The alchemist added.

"From what we know, the dark existences have been here for a long time. In the beginning, the three immortals were in charge then Bao Pu, Fire Ancestor, Dragon Ancestor, and Zither Empress joined later. For some unknown reason later, the three immortals disappeared as far as we know, so the empress' group took over. She's the one who recruited us." Yangming mused and said.

"In fact, this war wasn't always active, there were pauses and such." Pure Yang joined in: "But the period after our involvement was definitely the conclusion. It ended not long after our retreat."

"Interesting." Li Qiye rubbed his chin with amusement. He knew more than them about certain things but was still interested in a few details.

"There should be two dark existences during our time there. One of them had a plan and gathered many monsters. Some from Three Immortals also joined him." Pure Yang said.

"Very few did so during this period. Later on, I heard the three immortals got involved so the dark existence lost and fled. Zither Empress and the others pressed on and tried to find it." Wang Yangming said.

"There's still one more." Li Qiye knew everything about this defeated existence.

"The other one hid so well. We've never seen it in action and only killed its henchmen on the battlefield." Yangming said.

"Not to mention us, I think very few people have actually met it." The alchemist shook his head: "I've talked to Zither Empress but she herself has never seen it."

"Fire Ancestor saw it at least." Resting Bull added: "I'm sure of it. That's why the expanse felt the wrath of the forefather. It must have been something more than just Fire Ancestor succumbing to the darkness."

"Fire Ancestor did." Li Qiye confirmed with a nod.

"All in all, this existence is hiding so well. I believe the three immortals are looking for it too. Some believe that it has never shown up ever since it got here. Maybe only that one rock at the abyss saw it, no one else." Pure Yang sighed.

He was referring to the black rock suppressed on the expedition ship.

All eyes were on Li Qiye now because he was the one who destroyed the abyss and the darkness there.

"I haven't been to the abyss since the darkness and don't know what this being did there." The alchemist said.

"A dao portal, but its plan failed probably to the three immortals. However, it still left in time." Li Qiye smiled.

"Yes, there's no way it dares to show up when the three immortals are after it. I think even Fire Ancestor and the others don't know where it is in the expanse." Resting Bull said.

"This being is far scarier than the one that lost. It has just been hiding and poisoning people. Many monsters and even progenitors joined the darkness as a result." Yangming paused for a bit. His expression became dejected: "In the final battle, to tell you the truth, we simply fought our own people. The thing never showed up at all and didn't lose anything."

The other three sighed after hearing this. They were actually present during this period of the war. It was a terrible feeling to fight those who used to be their brothers.

"I'm sure it has an even more sinister plan. We just don't know about it." Yangming went on.

"Indeed, it is afraid of being found since three immortals will not let this go." Li Qiye smiled.

"That's why it didn't show up to answer your public challenge. It won't care for face and reputation, only obtaining the end result through any means necessary." Pure Yang said.

Everyone knew that this existence certainly heard the challenge. It just chose to ignore it.

"It's understandable. If it were to show up, the three immortals and your group won't be trying to fight it one-on-one." Li Qiye laughed.

The group chuckled in response. This was indeed the case. Their alliance would do anything necessary in order to kill this dark existence. This applied to the three immortals as well.

"There won't be peace when it is still around. A calamity will come one day because of its nefarious plan. The three immortals are worrying about this." Yangming said.

"It is very composed and patient, virtues of a successful man." Li Qiye said: "In the case of success, everything will be over. The three immortals won't be able to defend your world."

The four progenitors' expression soured. Though they didn't want to return to Three Immortals, they still didn't want it to be destroyed. Plus, the expanse probably wouldn't fare much better by this point.

"No one can do anything if it keeps on hiding." Resting Bull said.

"No rush, at least it knows about the new problem now, plus, it will come out eventually, just a matter of time." Li Qiye revealed a grin.

The four progenitors were surprised to see Li Qiye's confidence.

Countless methods across millions of years have failed to draw this dark existence out. They couldn't think of what Li Qiye could do to be successful in this impossible endeavor.

Chapter 3208: Killing Millions

The conversation lasted for a long time pertaining to the expanse, the dark existences, and the previous battles.

Of course, the four progenitors were worried about the hidden existence the most, hoping that Li Qiye could kill it.

"The dark being will absolutely return and once it does, it'll be fully prepared. All of the expanse will be at risk of falling to the darkness, no one will be able to escape. We can't just worry about ourselves." Wang Yangming concluded.

The four were rightfully worried because they didn't want to lose their second home. Alas, this dark existence was too good at hiding.

Of course, Li Qiye only smiled. He had his own plans and didn't need to rush.

Li Qiye didn't linger for long. He decided to leave after getting the information required.

"I pray for your triumphant, you will definitely be able to kill that dark existence, Sir." The group expressed good wishes to him.

"Yes, no rush though. I can kill it whenever. I have other businesses to take care of right now." Li Qiye smiled then said goodbye to the four.

He crossed through the expanse for more dao enlightenment in order to perfect his laws. As he said, he wasn't in a rush to find and kill the dark existence.

In his opinion, as long as it was still around in the expanse, he would have the chance to kill it eventually. It was only a matter of time once it showed up.

A long period passed afterward as he traversed the land. He pushed his supreme grand dao to the apex while polishing his laws for the new epoch.

Both were essential in order to create an epoch. All the other dao and cultivation methods would be derived from these two things.

Strangely enough, he didn't go looking for trouble. Trouble came to him this time.

Ferocious monsters including beasts and poisonous insects gathered into numerous groups. They assembled into a massive legion.

One could hear horns blaring everywhere in the expanse as more creatures joined this great legion.

Tsunami could be seen everywhere in the expanse. From the bottom of the ocean, a colossal devil turtle the size of a continent started crawling. A skeletal whale could be seen as well. In the sky was another gigantic three-headed dragon pulsing with draconic aura...

All in all, the sky was blotted out by this legion heading for Li Qiye.

This mighty mobilization naturally alarmed many existences in the expanse, including the progenitors.

"The four great monsters are teaming up and recruiting the other monsters in their territories." One progenitor immediately recognized their leaders.

"They want revenge against Sir Li Qiye." Everyone understood their intention after seeing their path.

The nine great monsters used to reign over nine separate regions. They were dangerous and intelligent with plenty of followers. Ordinary progenitors wouldn't dare to provoke them.

Recently, Li Qiye had shown no mercy and massacred everything in his path. Five of the great monsters and their nests have been taken down by him along with millions of beasts.

The remaining four immediately felt that they needed to do something about this threat. They realized that Li Qiye didn't just randomly kill some of them. He intended on killing all nine. Thus, this beastly crusade against him was necessary.

Many monsters have been afraid and running away from him, choosing to hide. Now, this alliance gave them hope in killing him.

"Blood will stain the ocean again." One progenitor commented.

The waves of beasts were a magnificent scene. Since so many of them have gathered, Li Qiye's area seemed tiny in comparison. Just their stampede alone could destroy everything.

"Junior, today's your last!" The devil turtle roared. It was one of the remaining four great monsters.

"Rumble!" They issued the order to attack. The rest of the expanse quaked from the onslaught.

"How futile." Another progenitor spectated and shook his head.

Most people were watching with their heavenly gaze by now. This progenitor was right.

This alliance was going to their death. These four monsters might have killed progenitors before but they stood zero chance against Li Qiye.

"Boom!" A punch of annihilation was the answer. The destructive shockwaves broke through everything like dried branches.

"Boom! Boom!" The punch nearly flipped over this part of the ocean. The calm water turned into the most violent tsunami. One could see the bottom now.

There was no scream or howl. Nearly all the monsters who lunged at him turned into blood and painted the tsunami red.

These monsters couldn't resist at all and were annihilated by the energy of the punch. They didn't even see his hand movement.

The strongest ones leaped for the sky, wanting to escape. Alas, he slapped his palms together and unleashed a thunderous sound edge. Even those at the deepest crevice of the sky vault were instantly decapitated.

Blood rained down in this area along with deafening blasts as huge corpses slammed onto the water that has fallen back down.

Chapter 3209: Sweeping Through Uncrossable Expanse

The spectating progenitors have seen plenty of things in their life. Some of them have done their fair share of massacres.

Alas, they were still shaken all the same by this brutal feat.

Remember, not a single one of these monsters was weak. They dominated their own region without a problem.

Just two moves from him were enough to kill countless beasts. The worst part was how effortless it was. They didn't even have the chance to scream, let alone fight back.

Not even a member of the Decemvirate could kill this legion in the blink of an eye.

"Boom! Crack!" Li Qiye stomped down on the continental turtle.

"Ahh!" It screamed and struggled, crushing numerous seamounts. Unfortunately, it couldn't get out from beneath his foot.

"Ahh!" Eventually, the shell broke and blood gushed out like a flood.

Remember, this turtle was one of the nine great monsters. Its physical toughness was insane, capable of withstanding ancestral weapons.

As for its shell? It could be the toughest continent in existence, virtually impossible to break.

Nonetheless, its body was cracking inch by inch from the force exerted by Li Qiye's stomp.

"Splash!" The remaining flesh and blood splattered away like a torrent of mud and stones. The turtle was as dead as could be.

Meanwhile, he reached for the neck of the gigantic dragon. It tried to spew out its vilest toxic flame but couldn't. Its claws and tail struggled and tore space apart yet still failed to hurt him.

As he slowly closed his fingers, its neck started to break. It couldn't even scream.

Its body disintegrated from the force with blood gushing down like a waterfall. Eventually, he added more force and made the entire thing explode. Nothing was left of this dragon, another of the nine great beasts.

At the same time, the ferocious whale opened its jaw, waiting to rip his other leg off. He suddenly grew as large as can be, nearly causing the bottom of the ocean to cave downward.

"Boom!" His foot became large enough to jam the whale's mouth. Its dreadful teeth were as sharp as swords but all were broken now.

The sides of its mouth were torn off and he didn't stop there, seemingly wanting to crush the entire whale. It roared furiously in pain but could only get out muffled groans.

Eventually, he crushed its stomach and its inner organs spilled out in a disgustingly nauseating manner.

"Crack!" He pulled back his foot then decided to tear the fish into two halves.

Its corpse floated on the ocean like two large continents. Another of the ten has fallen.

The last one suffered the most. It tried to deliver a fatal blow but couldn't even get close to him.

"Pop! Crack!" First came a pop, then the sounds of bone breaking.

Li Qiye pierced through its body with his finger, instantly destroying all of its bones.

This massive monster exploded into a bloody mist afterward. It never even got close enough to him to do anything.

This part of the ocean became awfully quiet. The seawater seemed to have been replaced with blood. This stench might last for a thousand years.

The spectators shuddered while looking at this hellish scene.

Four great monsters and their legion were decimated without a single survivor.

This domineering massacre couldn't be done by just anyone. Plus, someone with this power wouldn't have done it in such a brutal manner.

The progenitors could see that Li Qiye wasn't as harmless as his appearance would indicate. He would kill anyone who stands in his way without showing any mercy.

"The dark lord got a tough foe this time." One progenitor said.

The hidden dark lord has been making everyone anxious. However, this fierce newcomer seemed determined to kill. No one would question his murderous intent by this point, that he would stay true to his words about killing the dark lord.

"How boring, not even a chance to train." Li Qiye patted his hands and shook his head.

This made the progenitors smile wryly. That legion earlier couldn't withstand a few moves from him. It obviously wasn't a good training session.

It seemed that not even a member of the Decemvirate would be a decent sparring partner for him.

He has been training long enough to perfect his supreme grand dao. Moreover, he had enough power to start a new epoch now.

The only ones at the expanse capable of truly fighting him were the hidden dark lord and the three immortals.

Some brilliant progenitors have met the three immortals before. For example, Zither Empress.

These three beings used to be around a long time ago but eventually stopped showing up for some reason. Thus, Zither Empress, Bao Pu, and Fire Ancestor became their messengers.

Eventually, they stopped sending information, seemingly evaporating from thin air.

"Total domination." One progenitor commented: "Finally someone who can control the expanse after so many years, this is good."

The three immortals used to be in charge before but they weren't as ruthless as Li Qiye.

Later on, the dark existences also terrorized the expanse but lacked total control. They preferred to work in the shadows.

Now, Li Qiye's style was as direct as can be - killing everyone in his way with wanton regards. Even the strongest foes would still fall before him.

"I hope it will come out soon so peace can return." Another became hopeful.

They wanted the battle between Li Qiye and the dark existence to happen as soon as possible. The threat from the latter was just too great.

Even Fire Ancestor fell to its whispers, they didn't know whether their dao heart would be firm enough to withstand the same experience.

Chapter 3210: Mantra

Li Qiye left after killing the four great monsters and their legion.

Peace returned to the expanse afterward. Wherever he went, the monsters there would hide and tremble at the bottom, not daring to utter a single sound.

Some even ran before his arrival, millions and millions of miles away.

His fame and reputation preceded him. He was even more notorious than the dark existence due to his painting the ocean red.

He stopped finding monsters to kill and simply entered the dangerous grounds to see the mysterious creations of the universe. They were also smart enough to not cause any more trouble.

After so many years of researching and polishing, he had reached a peak beyond anyone else. He was ready to create an eternal outline thanks to his unique path.

A thousand years passed by in the blink of an eye. Li Qiye had seen countless profound creations by this point.

Today, he meditated in an area in a zen state, almost becoming a statue. Another five hundred years flew by.

The expanse was still as peaceful as ever. No demon or monster ravaged the land. The dark existence didn't show up either.

Well, he wouldn't notice any changes in the world regardless. Another five hundred years gone by in accordance with the worldly order and rotation.

"Buzz." This ended with a radiance exuding from Li Qiye. The specks of dirt on his body disintegrated.

His body became freed from all impurities with a natural grand dao and supreme temperament.

"Buzz..." A dao rhythm emerged in the entire expanse. Everything else started harmonizing with it.

A new order emerged with a blinding radiance. The myriad laws had life once more. A supreme power seemed to be awakening and proliferating.

"Clank! Clank! Clank!" Laws including those dictating the dao, life, and natural orders all emerged.

Spatial laws began circling in the sky; one earth law stretched out of the ocean; a life law swam back and forth in the endless water...

All cultivators who trained in the dao could sense this change. The strongest among them began losing control of their own grand dao.

The members of both the Decemvirate and Ten Radiance found their own grand dao wanting to leave their body.

They activated their best merit laws but still couldn't suppress this development. The entire world has been affected by this new rhythm. This was an unprecedented power never seen by anyone before.

It began reconstructing the orders of the expanse. Everything needed to obey.

Thus, many tried to find the source and found Li Qiye. Billions of grand dao formed layers around him and created an eternal domain. Li Qiye was its creator and ruler, capable of actually creating life within this domain, acting as the high heaven.

Though he was incredibly far away, they felt as if he was right in front of them. Time and space no longer confined him.

Even a blind person could see this glorious existence. He had imprinted his mark in everyone's soul.

All possible laws in existence were going there and lining up in a particular order. They came from the clouds, the oceans, and the various fabrics of reality...

This looked like an army inspection where all the soldiers conversed, waiting for their generals and king to arrive.

"Laws, some of you are still not here yet?" His casual words became a supreme and eternal mantra.

The laws and grand dao heard him. They seemed to be stretching out their neck so that he would notice them.

None wanted to be left behind. They acted as if not being seen by him would be akin to being abandoned by this new order.

"Buzz... Buzz. Buzz." The grand dao finally surged out of the progenitors' body.

Remember, these progenitors have all created a unique dao belonging to themselves. Alas, all were gone now.

These grand dao and secret laws flew to the sky and exuded blinding lights.

For example, Alchemy Immortal's grand dao transformed into a medicinal lotus with an intense fragrance. Emperor Zheng's grand dao took the form of a mighty star atlas. Martial Ancestor's grand dao was a white tiger lunging and roaring...

These grand dao hovered in the sky in a shocking manner. The most brilliant progenitors weren't spared from astonishment.

"I am Lord, heaven and earth are my subjects, the grand dao are my followers!" Li Qiye's voice echoed across the realms. Each word turned into the highest order of mantra and imprinted itself into time and space.

"Dao Lord!" He stood up and declared. This became the final conclusion - the ultimate iron-clad order.

His might frightened the myriad ages. All dao and laws prostrated before him, ready to obey all of his orders.

By this point, he could easily create these progenitorial grand dao or break the progenitors' ultimate techniques.

He stood at the apex of the dao with no one worthy to be his peers.

All masters in the expanse got on their knees. Even the world itself had become his subject, the rest had no choice but to show their loyalty.

"Dao Lord..." Everyone murmured this title.

I am Lord, heaven and earth are my subjects, the grand dao are my followers! Some understood that when Li Qiye spoke this line, he had finished establishing a foundation for the new epoch. This was the raising of the curtain.

A new epoch was about to begin and he was its creator.

"I wonder if Three Immortals will be a part of it?" One progenitor became emotional.