Emperor 3561

## Chapter 3561: Just A Casual Meal

Dreamsoul sage was extremely precious. One might have the money yet still wouldn't be able to buy them at the capital. However, Li Qiye planted so many for regular consumption.

The student from the alchemy clan licked his lips: "Last year when my clan master was refining a special pill, he was missing something like this dreamsoul sage. He ran around the auctions and stores to no avail. This guy is actually just eating them..."

Any student with a little knowledge and common sense understood the value of dreamsoul sage. If they were to have one root, they would be able to fetch it for a high price if not kept for their own.

Now, Li Qiye was treating it as a vegetable for eating. Moreover, he had an entire garden filled with them too.

The disparity drove the students crazy. He wasn't far from being a mortal yet he had such good circumstances as if blessed by heaven. Worst of all, he didn't appreciate this at all. The students found this unbearably frustrating.

Meanwhile, the old man brought up a covered bowl of fish soup. He opened it and rainbows emerged in a beautiful manner.

The bowl looked as if someone had broken down rainbows and used them as an ingredient. Though it lacked the same aroma as the roasted meat earlier, it had a faint fragrance of the fish.

It went beyond stimulating the appetite; people felt comfortable as if their pores were open. This pleasant sensation was hard to describe.

Just the smell alone gave this wondrous sensation. What about actually eating and drinking it?

"Seven-colored draconic loach together with dreamsoul sage." The young alchemist murmured: "This is beyond nutrition, it can change someone's fundamental cores, washing the meridians and enriching the essences. It'll greatly boost cultivation speed for fifty years."

The other students heard this and wanted a taste so badly. Even a fool understood the value of that soup bowl.

"Amitabha." Golden Cicada has finished eating the two legs; only the bones were left. He showed no shame or bashfully and came closer to Li Qiye.

He reached out with his bowl and asked: "Benefactor, a karmic deed, perhaps? That fish soup is perfect for the stomach after the roasted meat."

The students smiled wryly. They have offended Li Qiye but even in the case of otherwise, they wouldn't be able to throw away their face for the sake of eating.

Alas, a gluttonous monk like Golden Cicada had no qualms in doing so. His eyes were fixated on the bowl of soup.

"Forget about it." Li Qiye waved his hand as if he was swatting a fly.

"Just one small bowl to save a life, Benefactor, a greater deed than building a seven-story pagoda." The monk didn't relent.

"Gao! Raa!" Lil' Black and Lil' Yellow returned to show their fangs at this unwelcome guest.

The monk immediately leaped backward and placed his palms together: "Amitabha, Buddha values mercy, it's fine to not give anything, no need to try and hurt me."

Li Qiye ignored the monk while the two aggressive animals kept the monk away. The latter could only stare enviously at the bowl from a distance.

Li Qiye called for Bai Fan and poured some soup into another bowl for her: "You have trained hard, drink this."

The girl knew nothing about the value of the bowl. Nonetheless, she would always listen to Li Qiye so she drank it down in one gulp.

Her vitality suddenly billowed with tigers and dragons roaring. An army seemed to be marching inside her, instilling endless power.

"Control your mind and channel the mantra." She was afraid until she heard Li Qiye's voice in her mind.

She immediately sat down in the meditative pose and channeled her mantra. This circulated the churning vitality into the rest of her body in a smooth manner...

"Buzz." She became shrouded by a seven-colored radiance. Rainbows emanated from her as if she was the original source.

The students from Duality became envious. Drinking this soup was a great fortune akin to tiger growing wings.

"Amitabha." The monk stared at Li Qiye's bowl while saliva oozed out of his mouth. However, he didn't dare to get close because the two animals were still watching him.

He drank a little bit and chose to eat the eyes. They looked like pearls and immediately illuminated the area. He didn't think much of them and swallowed right away.

This naturally made the students jealous. They would have taken their time to enjoy the bowl, unlike this distasteful man.

"Okay, I've had enough, you two can drink now." He stretched his body before giving the rest to Lil' Black and Lil' Yellow.

In fact, he had very little compared to Bai Fan. He virtually only ate the eyes of the large fish.

The two excitedly growled before rushing forward.

"Such a waste..." The students couldn't believe it and gritted their teeth.

They felt inferior to a wild boar and dog. They lived so long yet didn't get the chance to taste sevencolored draconic loach. On the other hand, this guy wasted it in such a ridiculous manner. Some had the urge to come over and rob those two animals. However, they still cared too much about their status.

Only the monk didn't give a damn. He has been coveting the bowl the entire time. He used the sleeve of his kasaya to wipe away some saliva on his mouth before walking over.

"Amitabha, Benefactor... no, Big Brother Black, Big Brother Yellow, do a good deed and quench my thirst by giving me some soup?" He said without any shame.

Lil' Yellow gave him no respect and barked at him. Lil' Black played nicer and shook its head.

"..." The students were speechless. The great genius of Heavenly Dragon Temple went as far as calling two animals "big brother".

"I wonder what the sacred monk would do to him after hearing about this." One student wondered.

The monk of wisdom was one of the four grandmasters of Buddha Holy Ground. Now, his disciple threw away his dignity for a bowl of soup along with the reputation of his master and his sect.

"No, the Buddhist child's gluttony is famous. The temple and the sacred monk have turned a blind eye to this." A different student responded.

His sect couldn't do anything about it so they let him do as he pleases.

"This is so sad, just give him a little bit." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head.

"Amitabha, Benefactor, you have the heart of a bodhisattva." Golden Cicada celebrated after hearing this.

## **Chapter 3562: Gluttonous Monk**

"Amitabha." The monk sauntered towards the bowl; his expression made it apparent how happy he was.

The students had no words to describe this. Prior to this, the monk used a Buddhist bowl to hold roasted meat. This was disrespectful enough. Now, it was time for the fish soup.

Even a fool could see the value of that treasure bowl. Many students here knew about its frightening origin.

Generations of sacred monks from Heavenly Dragon Temple kept then passed it down to the next. They also empowered it with their blessing.

Thus, this was nothing short of a holy artifact, a symbol of Heavenly Dragon Temple's boundless abilities. Golden Cidada was given this bowl after gaining the recognition of the sacred monks due to his peerless talents.

Alas, no one expected him to use it for meat and wine instead of subduing evil and spreading Buddhism.

Nonetheless, they still found his current action questionable because they saw the dog and boar licking the soup bowl just now. This still wasn't enough to stop the monk from using his holy bowl.

This was nothing short of sacrilegious and disrespectful to the temple and its sages. Unfortunately, Golden Cicada treated the bowl as nothing more than an old bowl for eating.

"If I do something like this, my seniors would break my legs." A student murmured.

Others shook their head as well. Only Golden Cicada wouldn't pay attention to his prestige and background.

"Not quite true, the supreme had a similar style back then. Everyone says that the Buddhist child might be the next in succession." An older student quietly said.

The group shuddered after hearing the word, "supreme". They didn't dare to comment about this matter.

"Gao! Gao!" Lil' Yellow saw the monk being too greedy and immediately barked.

He didn't only want the soup but also the fish itself. Lil' Yellow naturally wouldn't stand for this.

"Amitabha, I only want a piece, just a tiny piece." The monk said this but he continued to pour the fish into his own bowl.

Lil' Black didn't mind initially but eventually growled after seeing how greedy the monk was.

Lil' Yellow barked louder and louder while showing him its sharp teeth. If it wasn't for Li Qiye, it would have bit the monk's hand already.

If the high monks of Heavenly Dragon were here, they might actually vomit blood at this sight. The temple's reputation was thrown away just like that.

"Little monk, don't push your luck or I'll let my dog bite you." Li Qiye didn't know whether to laugh or cry and shook his head.

"Gao! Gao!" Lil' Yellow became more aggressive after hearing this. Its eyes exuded ferocity, ready to tear off the monk's hand if he dared to take the entire fish.

The monk saw this and instantly let go. He revealed an awkward smile and said: "It's just a misunderstanding, I never had any intention of taking the whole thing."

He only took a portion of the fish before running away to the side and gulping down the bowl.

The two animals also learned from this and started devouring the soup. They didn't even spare the fish bones.

This was the case for the monk too. He cleaned up the entire bowl without leaving anything behind. He continued to lick the bowl as if not satisfied.

The students thought that if it wasn't for his fame, people might actually mistake him for a terrible monk who didn't follow any creed.

"Amitabha, praise be Buddha." The monk rubbed his stomach and smiled: "Benefactor, is your temple still recruiting? I don't mind staying here."

The monk spoke as if he was ready to abandon Heavenly Dragon Temple for good food.

"No, you have a bad stench of meat on you despite being a monk." Li Qiye shook his head.

"Amitabha." The monk placed his palms together and smiled: "Benefactor, my bag of skin might be smelly but my appearance is brimming with Buddhist light..."

"Get out." Li Qiye said without bothering to look at the guy.

"Little monk, provoke my young master and he'll throw you into the wilds as a feast for the beasts." The old man shook his head.

Golden Cicada shuddered and placed his palms together: "Amitabha, thank you for the meal, Benefactors, I'll be going now."

Having said that, he bowed then waved his sleeve, leaving in a cool manner just like a dignified monk. The only problem was how oily his kaaya was.

The students watched him leave and didn't know what to do next. However, a dozen men descended from above. They were from the academy judging by their uniform.

"Finally found you brats." The leader was a middle-aged man with a muscular build. He heaved a sigh of relief after seeing all of them here: "Idiots, you think you're strong enough to run around in Myriad Beast Mountains? You must be tired of living, I might as well throw you all off a cliff."

"Teacher Du." The students obediently accepted the scolding.

"Whatever, it is good that nothing happened." The man glared at them and said: "Remember, you're responsible for your own death here."

Though the academy had abstained from any responsibility, some teachers still tagged along in order to avoid needless casualties. That would be a heavy loss for the academy.

"Who are these gentlemen?" The man noticed Li Qiye's group afterward.

"Teacher, he is Young Noble Li who helped the three of us, taking us in last night." Xiao Ling reported.

"Thank you." The teacher bowed, finding the whole thing strange. He has never heard of people living here before.

Moreover, he couldn't see through the old man at all. On the other hand, he didn't care for Li Qiye because the guy was too ordinary and obvious.

"Leave if there's nothing else, don't disturb my young master's peace." The old man said before Li Qiye's command. He didn't know what the temple meant to Li Qiye but the guy clearly didn't like people arguing here.

"Yes, of course. My apology for troubling you three." The teacher bowed again and left with the students.

Nonetheless, he couldn't help glancing back at the old man one more time, thinking that he looked a little familiar. He thought that they had met but didn't remember the exact location and time.

This was a strange feeling. He shouldn't have met a servant like this in the first place, let alone having a faint recollection.

## **Chapter 3563: Speculations**

Teacher Du tried for a bit and couldn't come up with an answer. Perhaps he hasn't actually met this old man and that this was only a weird feeling. Being stuck in this made him only think about the old man and not Li Qiye.

"Who was that old man?" Teacher Du realized he forgot to ask earlier.

"The young man was Young Noble Li." One of Xiao Ling's two friends answered since they were the most familiar: "We don't know the old man but the young noble calls him Attendant."

"Attendant?" Teacher Du frowned. Those without a name usually had a lowly background. Therefore, he shouldn't have met the guy before.

"Young Noble Li?" He focused on Li Qiye instead. This guy left no impression on him, just another passerby.

"He's a woodchopper." The student named Zhang Yu said, not hiding his disdain and anger.

Someone like Li Qiye wasn't qualified to stand before him. However, the guy still killed his mount. If it wasn't for Xiao Ling, he would have killed the guy.

"A woodchopper?" The teacher became surprised. He noticed that Li Qiye was a Violet Marquis which wasn't that weak.

He could easily become a wealthy man in the mortal world. Why would he be working as a woodchopper?

"Young Noble Li does gather wood and burn them to make charcoal." Xiao Ling said: "But I feel that he might have another reason for staying there."

A while ago, she thought that a cultivator acting as a woodchopper was too illogical and self-destructive. Upon further rumination, this might not be the case.

As the old attendant kept on repeating - his young master had his reasons for doing things. Others couldn't speculate this.

She initially thought that he was just trying to be mysterious. A woodchopper living in the wilderness had no future to speak of, let alone acting inscrutable. She had a change of heart afterward.

"He's nothing more than a woodchopper. He can burn all he wants and won't get immortal metal, only charcoal." Zhang Yu said.

"No precious metal but he still gained a lot living there. For example, that seven-colored draconic loach. He must have been staying there for a long time and know all of the precious materials and herbs." Another girl said.

Xiao Ling and her two friends have changed their perspective on him, no longer looking down on his choice.

"Hmph, he's nothing more than a blind cat coming across a dead mouse." Zhang Yu went on: "There are precious materials everywhere in that mountain range. Anyone else born there would have picked up a seven-colored draconic loach too."

"What are you all talking about?" Teacher Du was surprised.

"Young Noble Li actually boiled a seven-colored..." The friend told the story in detail.

The students who were there became envious. One said: "He's so lucky, even finding that great fish."

"Hmm..." Teacher Du frowned again. He was more knowledgeable and experienced than these students. It wasn't that easy to find a seven-colored draconic loach.

"It's not just luck." Xiao Ling said: "Young Noble Li said that he was used to the place. He probably grew up there and became neighbors with the beasts."

"Is that so?" Teacher Du pondered. This might be one possibility but there was still something strange about the whole thing.

Of course, some students disagreed. One objected: "How can that be? It's the rule of the jungle there. The beasts respect power; any of them can eat him."

"That's right, Princess. He was just boasting so don't believe him." Zhang Yu added.

Meanwhile, Teacher Du contemplated without saying anything.

"Golden Cicada Buddhist Child was there too." Teacher Du smiled after hearing about the monk and the fish soup. He had heard about the youth's gluttonous nature before.

"Seems like this will be fun. Our academy's genius is here too, maybe they'll meet." He revealed.

"Senior Sister Lan is here too?" The students became excited. Some of the males' eyes turned bright.

"Yes." Teacher Du nodded: "We'll see if you're lucky enough to see her in action. It'll be a shame if she leaves too early."

"She'll show her prowess here?" Everyone wanted to watch.

"I'm sure it'll shock everyone, we'll be able to see her supreme temperament and aura." Another female friend said excitedly.

It didn't take long before the entire group talked about this "Senior Sister Lan". Some male students didn't hide their admiration at all.

They were talking about their academy's top genius - Dugu Lan.

She was the most talented on top of being a direct disciple of the current dean - Five-colored Sacred Sovereign. He was one of the four grandmasters of Buddha Holy Ground.

Dugu Lan was known to be undefeated in the academy. Even the majority of teachers thought that they were weaker.

Both the male and female students considered her as an idol or goddess.

She rarely appeared in public so few of them were fortunate enough to see her. Thus, her trip to Myriad Beast Mountains made the group excited.

Teacher Du led them across numerous peaks. Suddenly, gales blew away the clouds.

The students looked up and saw a dragon, no, a massive serpent.

"Three-headed winged serpent!" Xiao Ling and her friends became afraid and had the urge to flee.

However, they noticed that there were people standing on top of the serpent now. This fierce creature has been tamed.

"Divine Ghost Tribe." The academy students noticed the fog and mist surrounding that group.

"Friends, where are you going?" Teacher Du started a conversation.

The old man controlling the serpent also greeted with a smile: "Dao Brother Du, it's nice to see you here."

Duality Academy was one of the strongest powers in Buddha Holy Ground. No teacher there was weak. Some could dominate the entire world. For example, Five-colored Sacred Sovereign.

That's why he wasn't ignored like the students a while ago. The old man from the ghost race exercised prudence and respect when talking to Teacher Du.

No one dared to look down on Duality in the entire holy ground, not even Heavenly Dragon Temple, Vajra Dynasty, or Divine Ghost Tribe.

"Same, where are you heading, Dao Brother?" Teacher Du smiled.

"I heard that someone had found a mystical gem tree further ahead." The old ghost didn't hide this information.

#### Chapter 3564: Dichromatic Ape

"A magical gem tree?" Not just the students but even Teacher Du were surprised.

"The fruits of that tree are magical, capable of changing one's constitution. Just one fruit can fetch a skyhigh price on the market." The student from the alchemy clan said.

"Magical indeed." The teacher nodded: "Yes, it'll change a young cultivator completely."

He himself was tempted after hearing about the fruit.

"Teacher, should we go take a look?" One student became eager.

"Brother Du, it should be good." The old man invited the students from Duality in order to foster a good relationship. He smiled and said: "The tree is still uncaptured due to a dichromatic ape. No one can get close."

"Let's go, Teacher!" The other students lost their patience.

Teacher Du glanced at them and said: "It'll be a waste of time. That ape is a famous monster here at the heaven level. It'll kill you with one slap."

The students shuddered, especially the younger classmates like Yang Ling. Just one high earth-level was enough to make them pee in their pants. Maybe Teacher Du himself wouldn't be able to handle this creature.

"We'll just watch from a distance, no need for the fruit." One student still didn't give up despite fearing the monster.

"Brother Du, it's fine to let the young ones see the world. We'll just stare enviously at that fruit." The old ghost smiled.

"Alright, alright, we can go." Teacher Du saw the eagerness in the students and said: "When we get there, you must listen to me, don't do anything stupid or be tempted by the fruits. Otherwise, don't blame me for dying."

The students applauded. Of course, they only wanted to go for fun. They didn't dare to think about stealing the fruits from such a mighty creature.

They followed the members of the ghost tribe and crossed several more peaks. A big crowd gathered ahead.

In front was a cliff with a tree growing beneath. It had plenty of branches and leaves, causing it to have the shape of an umbrella. The older branches looked like bridges while the leaves were green and shiny.

This was a magical gem tree. It had plenty of fruits the size of a peach. It had different color glows. A red color was a sign of maturity.

It exuded a unique fruity scent that could be smelled from far away. People couldn't help wanting to take a bite.

When the students from Duality got close enough, they heard groanings and moanings. Blood stained the area near the tree along with corpses and dismembered body parts.

The stench and corpses made people tremble.

There were a thousand or so cultivators present from all over the region - Necropolis, Heavenly Dragon, Mortal King, Buddha Emperor...

The various tribes and races were here as well - humans, ghosts, blood members, heavenly devils...

None of these experts dared to get close due to the presence of a large ape. It leaned on the tree like a tiny hill.

Its fur was black from top to bottom with a luster. The thick hair looked like black needles draped on its body - adding to its power and ferocity.

The only other color it had were its eye sockets. They had hair as white as snow around the outline, looking quite eye-grabbing.

Thus, it was obvious that this was the famous dichromatic ape. It lazily leaned on the tree while glancing at the experts gathering around the tree. It seemed to have nothing but disdain for these weak cultivators.

"This isn't a regular heaven chaos primal beast, it's at the high level already..." The students became startled.

The heaven classification was naturally divided into three levels - low, intermediate, and high. The gap between the low and high level was immense. This ape could easily massacre everyone here.

"That's why an ancestor from the Yinmoon Ghost Tribe earlier got killed after one smash." An old cultivator shook his head, not daring to get close.

The students were smart enough to keep a distance as well.

"It's not just the ape." A student noticed more chaos primal beasts resting beneath the tree - coiling serpents, the roosts of massive birds, a leopard, other aggressive apes...

They were weaker than the dichromatic ape but still strong enough to intimidate the cultivators present.

"They're the ape's underlings." Teacher Du concluded.

"Underlings?" Many students found this strange.

"Primal chaos beasts have intelligence after reaching a certain level." Teacher Du said: "Most preferred to be alone but some would team up. Moreover, the hierarchy was strict too, the strongest rules while the weak serve. A large group would be just as powerful as a minor dynasty."

The students learned another thing today after listening. They then stared at the beasts again.

The beasts on both the branches and on the ground kept a certain distance from the dichromatic ape, not daring to overstep their authority. They stared at the beast with great reverence. The ape's dominant status in this group was abundantly clear.

"Has anyone gotten a fruit yet?" The old ghost who led them here asked while looking at the fruits.

Obtaining them would be extremely beneficial for a sect. The scent of the mature ones was irresistible as well.

"No one can break through that defense. People have tried and failed." Someone who was here for a while elaborated: "A high monk from Heavenly Dragon fought several beasts earlier. Eventually, the dichromatic ape joined in and sent him flying with one palm strike. He ran away with grievous injuries."

The students became more impressed at this ape's power, capable of defeating a high monk from the great temple.

Alas, people still didn't want to leave. They thought about waiting for someone else to try then they could take advantage of the distraction and grab a fruit or two. This opportunity was just too tempting to pass up.

"Should we try again?" A few experts from a clan in Necropolis wondered. They were wounded from a previous attempt.

"Forget it, this ape is just too strong." The leader shook his head: "We'll lose our lives before getting to eat those fruits." With that, he led his group away.

"Poof!" A mist of blood manifested on the horizon. It disappeared, revealing a dozen or so cultivators.

They were quite strong. The leader was young but the old men behind him had billowing vitality.

"Experts from the Nightwalker branch." Many recognized them due to their unique mist of blood.

### **Chapter 3565: Mist Sealing Eight Firmaments**

The group attracted everyone's attention. The mist of blood kept pulsing on and off around them. They seemed to be on the verge of disappearing at any moment just from a gust of wind. All in all, they had an ethereal characteristic.

"Nightwalkers..." The crowd focused on the leader.

The majority of the group was old at the sacred level. They were either elders or something higher. However, a youth was still leading them.

The blood mist around him wasn't as concentrated as the old men's. Thus, his cultivation might be weaker.

The most interesting thing about him was his eyes. There seemed to be a red light pulsing deep within them, capable of turning into a blood wheel. It gave everyone a strange feeling.

"Is he a disciple of Eight-tribulation Blood King?" A youth became startled after hearing about the Nightwalkers. [1]

People would always think of the blood king when this race was brought up because he was one of the four grandmasters.

The four beings were top existences in the south, only behind the two great supremes.

"No, not a direct disciple but still from a side branch." A powerful cultivator said: "Zhui Xueyun, the junior brother of Phantom Sacred Child."

"Ah, no wonder why he's leading such a group. Looks like he's capable enough to rule his own domain." Someone had no idea of Zhui Xueyun but has heard of Phantom Sacred Child before.

Phantom was one of the top talents in Buddha Holy Ground. He was the direct disciple of Eighttribulation Blood King, famous alongside Golden Cicada and Dugu Lan.

Some thought that he would be able to unite the Divine Ghost Tribe and compete for authority over the holy land. Thus, being the junior brother of this sacred child was a big deal.

"He is more than just his relation to the sacred child. Just a member of a side branch isn't enough. The real reason is due to his unique eyes, the blood eyes of the Nightwalkers. It's quite powerful." Someone in the know revealed.

Zhui Xueyun's eyes flashed after coming here akin to two turning blood wheels. Staring at them would make people dizzy at first. A bit later, they would feel as if their soul was being dragged away.

"Don't look at his blood eyes for too long or it'll leave an incurable internal wound." A senior warned the curious juniors who were staring into his eyes.

"Rumble!" The elders of the Nightwalker spread out and summoned multiple pillars. They had clearlyengraved runes on the surface and were refined specifically for a grand formation.

"Gentlemen, please give us some room. We're about to start a formation here." Zhui Xueyun addressed the crowd after the pillars were pinned to the ground.

"They want to go big for those fruits." An expert from the previous generation understood their intention right away.

Many started moving back to leave an open field for them. The Nightwalker was a large tribe, not to mention the prestige of the blood king.

Moreover, no one could take the fruits from the dichromatic ape anyway. Why not let this group give it a shot? Perhaps they would be able to attack successfully then the rest could take advantage of this opportunity.

"Virtuous Nephew, you want to have a direct contest against that ape?" An expert familiar with this tribe asked.

"No, we're planning on taking a big risk by separating the primal beasts and sneaking in for the fruits." Zhui Xueyun responded.

"That's possible?" Someone nearby immediately said: "The ape's power is unimaginable, it's impossible to trick it."

Zhui Xueyun was annoyed at being questioned in this manner. He glared at the cultivator and sneered: "Mist Sealing Eight Firmaments is a supreme formation of our tribe."

"Mist Sealing Eight Firmaments." Those nearby became startled: "That's one of their key formations, extremely powerful."

"Not just powerful." An elder from a big sect said while staring at Xueyun: "Your blood eyes will amplify the formation's effects."

"You have great insight, Senior." Zhui Xueyun was happy to hear this and laughed heartily.

Meanwhile, the students from Duality were watching the elders of the Nightwalker set up the formation.

"Can they really get the fruits before the great ape?" One student wondered.

"There's a strong probability." A stronger student commented: "This formation of theirs is wondrous. Once trapped inside, each step has the distance of an entire world. No one can escape this confinement with one exception, Zhui Xueyun. His eyes will serve as the formation control so he won't be affected. He'll become a part of the formation and can use it to stop the enemies, sounds amazing, right?"

The students nearby were impressed. One of them said: "No wonder why Zhui Xueyun is highly regarded by his tribe."

"Failure is likely." Teacher Du shook his head with a serious expression: "Don't look down on the dichromatic ape. It is a famous beast here, very few in the entire holy ground can defeat it."

The students didn't expect this. The holy ground had many hidden dragons and crouching tigers. Nonetheless, they thought that a high heaven-level beast should really be this strong, enough to intimidate anyone.

"Go." The elders moved in unison to control the pillars. The grand formation activated.

"Rumble!" Pillars suddenly burst out of the ground near the tree. Bright dao runes emerged and crisscrossed everywhere.

"Boom!" In the next second, the formation encompassed the entire area around the tree. The mist turned everything white.

"Raaa!" The beasts nearby immediately lunged into action.

Unfortunately, they found themselves to be stuck in the formation. Just half a step here required crossing ten million miles. They instantly became lost in the numerous dimensions.

"Incredible." All the experts became startled. The tree was lost in the formation but so did the guardian beasts.

"Let's go!" The elders shouted at Zhui Xueyun.

He was already prepared so his eyes became resplendent and red like rubies. He turned into a mist of blood and became one with the formation, no longer in sight.

### Chapter 3566: A Single Smash

All of the chaos primal beasts were lost in the misty formation, unable to find a way out. Meanwhile, Zhui Xueyun has integrated himself into the formation.

"Is he about to do it?" Many experts murmured since the beasts had no idea where he was. Success meant that he would be able to grab the fruits - an extreme harvest for his tribe.

The spectators became greedy just thinking about the fruits. Some started scheming in the background.

The ones from Duality Academy watched with bated breath. Teacher Du stared at the misty formation and finally glanced at the ape.

Ever since the Nightwalkers got here with their formation, the ape hasn't moved at all. It seemed to be sleeping, unaware of the development with the sealed area.

"Not necessarily, they're underestimating the dichromatic ape. This formation shouldn't be enough." Teacher Du shook his head.

He wasn't the only one with this belief. A few ancestors felt the same way thinking that the Nightwalkers were thinking too highly of their formation versus a high heaven-level beast.

Of course, the elders of this tribe were nervous as well. They were controlling the formation so they could spot Zhui Xueyun. He was extremely close to the tree now.

In reality, they knew that this formation alone wasn't enough to trap the ape. It was certainly mighty but the ape was a true monster.

For example, they wouldn't be able to trap Eight-tribulation Blood King with the formation. Nonetheless, they hoped that the formation plus the blood eyes would be able to slow the ape down a bit.

They didn't want all the fruits, just three or five would have been more than enough.

"Get ready to back off." They exchanged glances and made preparation.

"It's about to happen." The other ancestors saw this and knew that Xueyun was close to the tree.

The beasts such as the serpent, leopard, and others were still stuck in the formation. They didn't know that there was an intruder either.

"This is the key moment." Teacher Du stared intensely ahead.

The students became anxious as well. They wanted to know if Xueyun would actually be able to do it.

"Is it over? How many fruits did he get?" One student grasped their sleeves tightly and sweated for Xueyun. Trying to steal the fruits from a dichromatic ape was quite audacious.

"Raa!" Just when everyone thought that success was imminent, the ape sleeping by leaning on the tree suddenly opened its eyes.

"It knows!" Everyone became startled right away.

"Boom!" The ape stood up and a terrible chaos energy shot out. The mist of the formation was instantly separated.

"Withdraw!" The elders of the Nightwalker became aghast and made a fast decision.

"Rumble!" The thick pillars flew out of the ground and headed straight for the ape just like thrown spears.

"Buzz." A faint mist of blood could be seen below the tree. Zhui Xueyun didn't get greedy and stopped his mission. He channeled his eyes and shot out of the formation like a bloody arrow.

"Boom!" The ape smashed downward with one hand, carrying the destructive immensity of heaven.

The penetrating pillars weren't effective in the slightest and crumbled beneath its palm strike, piece by piece.

Xueyun was a split second away from getting out of the formation. Alas, the shockwaves of that palm strike still struck him. He was forced out of his mist form and got sent flying, bloodied.

"Go!" The elders weren't afraid and rushed towards Xueyun. They caught him and carried him towards safety before stopping.

Meanwhile, the entire formation finally collapsed from the ape's one move in a loud manner. Once the dust settled, the tree appeared before everyone again. The leaves were still fluttering to the wind; the fruits still had the same tempting luster.

"Raa!" The ape roared again, causing all the spectators to tremble. After seeing that a point was made, it went back to sleep beneath the tree.

"Shit, that ape is so strong!" The students from Duality were still shuddering with fear.

That powerful formation, Mist Sealing Eight Firmaments, couldn't withstand one move from the ape.

"That's a high heaven level beast for you. Cultivators in the same realm still can't touch it." Teacher Du didn't find this surprising.

"He's already lucky to be alive." Everyone saw Xueyun being healed in the distance and thought that he was fortunate.

His condition was stabilized thanks to the effort of the elders.

"Even that formation doesn't work." An expert shook his head with regrets.

"A little bit more, just a little bit more..."Xueyun got up and stared at the fruits on the tree with an ugly expression. He acted haughtily earlier, not expecting failure.

With this development, the crowd thought that no one could take down the ape's defense.

"Don't mess around, the mighty ancestors need to come themselves or no one will be able to get the fruits." A pessimistic air of helplessness permeated the area.

"Who's the first to understand the grand dao, no one else but me..." A relaxed voice suddenly sounded.

Everyone saw a young man slowly sauntered over. He wore a shabby robe and had a woodcutter hanging by his waist. He carried a shoulder pole with timber on it.

"Why is there a woodchopper here?" The cultivators became surprised. Why would there be one here in Myriad Beast Mountains?

"Hi, Young Noble Li." Yang Ling came over to greet him.

This woodchopper with a calm expression was none other than Li Qiye.

He smiled and nodded at her.

"You're looking for firewood here?" Yang Ling and her two friends asked.

"No." Li Qiye shook his head: "The area is still several peaks ahead. I'm just thirsty and will be grabbing some fruits."

#### Chapter 3567: I'm Just Getting Fruits

"What fruits are you looking for?" Yang Ling asked since this was the natural conversational flow.

Li Qiye looked over at the magical gem tree and said: "Overthere, that tree has plenty of fruits."

"Magical gem tree..." Yang Ling thought that she had misheard him.

Initially, Li Qiye didn't garner a lot of attention. Some found his appearance strange but didn't pay any more mind.

However, his comment made everyone stare at him.

"Do, do you know what those fruits are?" The girls' eyes were wide open.

"Fruits are fruits, to quench thirst. What else can they be?" Li Qiye shrugged.

"Ignorant brat." Zhang Yu who had a feud with him immediately jumped in: "You don't even know magical gem fruits. Stop speaking or you'll embarrass yourself even more."

The other students from Duality stared strangely at Li Qiye. Some had disdain in their eyes; others thought that he was as bizarre as can be.

"Gem or no gem, as long as it can quench my thirst." Li Qiye answered with a leisure smile.

"Nonsense, a frog wanting to eat swan meat." Zhang Yu sneered: "You're not qualified to eat those fruits. Hmph, you can't even touch them. That dichromatic ape can smash you to death with a single finger."

"Why must I be subjected to so much blabbering when I just want some fruits. What's so hard about plucking some?" Li Qiye shook his head.

"What's so hard about it?" Zhang Yu purposely raised his voice to stop Li Qiye from backing out: "Am I hearing things? A woodchopper just declared that plucking the magical gem fruits is an easy task? Is he looking down on all the heroes in the world?"

The listeners certainly thought that Li Qiye was being bombastically ignorant.

"The brat doesn't know the power of that ape." A few experts shook their head and didn't like the nonsensical comment.

Those present including the ones from the Nightwalker Tribe have failed to grasp a single fruit. Thus, Li Qiye's comment could be construed as insulting them.

"How ludicrous." Zhui Xueyun was annoyed already from being injured earlier. Now, he snorted and stared at Li Qiye: "The thing protecting those fruits is a dichromatic ape, a high heaven level chaos primal beast. Just one breath from it can turn you into blood yet you dare..."

His strong reaction was understandable. His anger couldn't be taken out on the ape; Li Qiye became the new target.

"Just because you can't doesn't mean others can't." Li Qiye waved his hand and interrupted the guy.

Xueyun's anger nearly rushed out of his throat in the form of blood after hearing this.

"How are you so sure?" Xueyun glared at Li Qiye.

"Of course." Li Qiye smiled, completely nonchalant.

Not a single soul in the crowd believed him.

"No one here can make this claim." An expert shook his head: "I don't think you can ever get one in your lifetime given your power."

"He's just spouting bullshit." Zhang Yu laughed and didn't hold back.

"Can't believe you all are having such a hard time getting a few fruits, looks like your intelligence is far below average. You overestimate yourself by coming to this mountain range for an adventure." Li Qiye smiled.

This line offended virtually everyone in the crowd. The benevolent ones chuckled and ignored it. However, a few became aggressive.

For example, Zhui Xueyun. Li Qiye's comment struck him hard because he failed to grab the fruits just now.

"Haha, I see. If you can get even one fruit, I'll call you Master." Xueyun sneered.

"I don't want a disciple like you." Li Qiye refused.

Xueyun's eyes flashed with murderous intent. He restrained his anger and threatened: "If you can't do it, then you need to bow to me three times. Otherwise..."

He didn't finish but everyone knew what he wanted to do just by looking at his eyes. The two of them had no prior feud. Alas, the guy just needed to vent while Li Qiye purposely brought this on himself.

"So you insist on me grabbing those fruits." Li Qiye became amused and grinned.

Unfortunately, people here were foreign to this grin.

"Scared now?" Zhang Yu said: "Words can't be taken back just like spilled water. It's too late for you to change your mind now."

"If you want to give up now, bow obediently three times." Xueyun uttered coldly.

"Brat, just give up. Your life is more important. It's not shameful to bow to Young Lord Xueyun." An expert wanted to help Li Qiye.

This was reasonable because in their eyes, Li Qiye was only a woodchopper. On the other hand, Xueyun was a genius with boundless potential. A few bows meant nothing.

No one here thought that he would be able to grab the fruits. It was nothing more than a fool daydreaming.

"I was going to grab them anyway." Li Qiye smiled and pulled up his sleeves then walked towards the tree.

"Young Noble Li, forget it. Just apologize to Young Lord Xueyun, that ape will really kill you if you provoke it." Yang Ling thought that Li Qiye was going for real.

"It's no big deal." Li Qiye continued forward.

"Junior Sister, just let him die since that seems to be his wish." Another student said.

"It's courting death." The spectators could see the outcome already.

"Just watch, when he gets closer, the dichromatic ape will crush him to a pulp with one finger." Zhang Yu snorted.

In fact, the ape didn't need to do anything. The other chaos primal beasts were more than enough to devour Li Qiye.

Unfortunately, an extremely bizarre scene unraveled next, causing them to be slack-jawed.

# Chapter 3568: How Many Fruits?

The dichromatic ape didn't need to do a thing against someone of Li Qiye's cultivation. Just any of the other beasts could easily reduce him to a pile of meat.

As Li Qiye drew closer, these beasts immediately got up to everyone's horror. The ape itself actually got up this time too. Hearts started skipping beats.

"Be careful." Everyone immediately retreated several steps backward in order not to be dragged into this mess. They couldn't handle the wrath of the ape.

"The brat's finished." Many had this thought.

Li Qiye had no chance of surviving because a high monk from Heavenly Dragon Temple still couldn't on this ape.

"Stop!" Yang Ling and her friends shouted, feeling very nervous.

Unfortunately, Li Qiye didn't get smashed and betrayed their expectation. They saw the beasts including the ape bowed their head towards Li Qiye with a respectful expression.

They thought their eyes were playing tricks on them. Just think about it, these beasts were extremely strong, especially the dichromatic ape. It could fight against any human cultivator; fear wasn't part of its mentality.

Thus, this development left the crowd in disbelief. The woodchopper wasn't a supreme character or anything. If he were a peerless dao lord, then it would be understandable and acceptable.

Alas, something even more ridiculous happened next.

"Lil' White, get me some fruits, I'm thirsty." Li Qiye waved at the ape with a natural demeanor.

A while ago, this would make everyone burst out in laughter. Why would a high-level heaven beast listen? Truly a suicidal attempt.

However, the ape actually climbed up the tree and plucked several fruits. Moreover, it carefully selected the largest and ripest ones before respectfully handing them over to Li Qiye.

"How, how can this be?" The spectators became petrified. This was more outrageous than certain myths.

"Hey, pinch me, I must be dreaming." A cultivator told his friend.

"How the hell is this happening?" Even the experienced ancestors found this unimaginable.

The ape considered the magical gem fruits as precious as its own life. That's why it spent all day and night protecting this place, always fighting the intruders.

However, the ape actually gave Li Qiye the best fruits. He was nothing more than a woodchopper with average cultivation.

The crowd simply couldn't digest this. On the other hand, Li Qiye had no problem taking a bite and swallowing the fruit. They could hear how watery it was after the first crunch.

"That hits the spot." Li Qiye continued eating the fruit while the crowd salivated.

"Little friend... wait, Dao Brother, are your fruits for sale?" One cultivator had an idea and immediately presented a pouch of primal stones to Li Qiye. He happily said: "I have 500 primal stones right here, a billion times more than what you'll make chopping woods in your lifetime. All for one fruit?"

Though he couldn't get the fruits, he could still buy them off this woodchopper. The guy probably knew nothing, maybe these primal stones would be enough to tempt him. It would be an incredible profit.

"Hmph, can't believe you have the audacity to say something like this." Other experts were moved too.

"Fellow Daoist, I will give you 5,000 stones for one fruit." Someone offered tenfold.

"10,000 here." Another joined in with haste.

"So many cheapskates, I will pay 50,000." A student from Duality participated.

"80,000 from me, Fellow Daoist, I just want one." Someone from the last generation lost his cool.

These prices were all low compared to the actual value of the fruit. The buyers wanted an unrealistic profit and competed for it.

"Friend, I will give you 200,000 and take you in as my disciple. I'll pass the sect's merit laws down to you." Even an ancestor started persuading Li Qiye by extending his branch.

It didn't take long before the other experts offered higher bids. At the later stage, the offers were actually serious and tempting.

For example, becoming an ancestor's disciple was an offer that a woodchopper couldn't refuse. Any weak cultivator would start palpitating with excitement.

Li Qiye only smiled and didn't say anything while eating his fruit. He acted as if they weren't precious in the slightest.

One, two, three... the number gradually dwindled to everyone's horror. They felt the pain from the ridiculous wastefulness.

"Please, please stop!" An ancestor shouted after there was only one left.

Li Qiye's hand with the fruit stopped in midair, adding to the tension. All eyes were on this final fruit, afraid that he would take a bite out of it.

"What?" Li Qiye glanced at the ancestor.

"Aren't you listening to us? Do you know what you're holding?" The ancestor was going crazy.

"Yes, a thirst-quenching fruit." Li Qiye answered in a matter-of-fact manner.

"A thirst-quenching fruit?!" The ancestor shouted loudly, getting the urge to choke Li Qiye.

Everyone else felt the same way.

# Chapter 3569: Reneging

One would be hard-pressed to find a more wasteful event than treating magical gem fruits as something for regular consumption.

"Chomp." Li Qiye bit the last fruit before the astonished spectators.

"No, please stop!" The ancestor screamed while the rest became slack-jawed.

Unfortunately, Li Qiye was a quick eater and the fruit disappeared from sight. Everyone felt their heart bleeding a little bit.

"Magical gem fruits..." One expert wanted to send Li Qiye flying since he had successfully enraged every cultivator present.

"Do you know how much wealth you had just eaten?" The ancestor glared with indignation.

"Wealth? The purpose of this fruit is for eating." Li Qiye replied.

The ancestor tapped his forehead in exasperation, thinking that he was playing music to an ox. This brat had no idea how precious the fruits were, truly an idiot.

However, one smart elder realized something; his eyes shifted back and forth. He told Li Qiye: "Go get a few more fruits and my sect will make you our first disciple. We'll give you 300,000 primal stones and teach you our best arts..."

The ape showed zero aggression towards Li Qiye even though he had consumed its precious fruits. Because of this, it seemed like obtaining more fruit was still possible.

The other experts' eyes lit up after hearing this good idea, especially the ancestors. If Li Qiye were to join their sect, this meant that all the fruits would be theirs as well.

"Not interested." Li Qiye refused with a smile, stopping everyone else from offering.

They didn't expect him to say no to such a tempting offer without a second thought.

"Why not?" An ancestor from a big sect couldn't help but say: "If you join my sect as the first disciple, you'll certainly become famous and soar. All you need to do is to pluck some fruits."

"Do you sell your neighbors' items?" Li Qiye glanced dismissively at him: "Sounds like you're a thief."

"You!" The ancestor had no response.

"What a strange response." Teacher Du found Li Qiye's perspective to be bizarre.

"It's because Young Noble Li considers the beasts here to be his neighbors since he grew up here. That's why he has a deep relationship with them. They live peacefully together so I guess the beasts share their things with him too." Yang Ling said.

"Such a strange thing does happen." Teacher Du stroked his chin and murmured.

He actually didn't believe this too much because chaos primal beasts weren't that nice. Weaker existences were nothing more than food in their eyes.

How could a weak woodchopper be friends with the beasts here? Because they were neighbors?

"He's being foolish in my opinion." Another student commented: "Even a fool knows what to do here. He won't ever have a chance like this again."

Becoming a first disciple was a godsend opportunity, especially for those with weak cultivation or humble background. However, Li Qiye actually refused this.

Thus, the majority of the crowd thought that he was stupid beyond cure. His head must be different from everyone else, rending communication impossible.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye walked to Zhui Xueyun's front and said: "Kneel and bow three times."

"You!" Xueyun turned red with rage.

All eyes were on him now. Everyone nearly forgot about the bet earlier. Xueyun said that he would bow three times if he were to lose.

This should have been impossible and Li Qiye should have been killed by the ape. Xueyun needed to carry out his promise now.

He was in a tough predicament since people were staring at him. His anger was unbearable for two reasons.

First, Li Qiye did what he couldn't so easily. Second, the guy wanted him to kneel and bow? Truly humiliating.

"It was just a joke, no need to take it seriously." An elder from the Nightwalker Tribe tried to mediate.

"I don't treat my words frivolously. Kneel now, don't waste my time." Li Qiye responded.

Xueyun's expression became unsightly and red like a pig's liver. He was a famous prodigy. How could he kneel to a woodchopper in public?

"Don't push it, take one step back and everything will be fine." Xueyun took a deep breath and said.

"It's your loss. A man can handle losing instead of reneging." Yang Ling interjected.

"That's right, don't renege." Other cultivators wanted to stir the pot.

This made it impossible for Xueyun to stop this. Of course, the crowd knew that there was no way Xueyun would actually kneel in public.

"And if I don't? Don't overestimate yourself, there's nothing you can do to me. The weak are prey to the strong, be smart now." Xueyun glared at Li Qiye.

This was a blatant threat. Not only would he refuse to carry out the bet, but he might also kill Li Qiye.

Most found this contemptible but he was right - this world really belonged to the strong.

What could Li Qiye do? His cultivation was too weak to do anything. Further provoking the guy might end with death. It was smarter to just let it end and leave this place as soon as possible.

"So shameless!" Yang Ling naturally took Li Qiye's side. Unfortunately, she wasn't as strong as Xueyun either.

"Raa!" Suddenly, the dichromatic ape stood up and roared while loudly beating its chest.

When people regained their wits, they saw the ape standing near the Nightwalker experts. The other beasts also surrounded this group.

Their bestial auras engulfed the area like a terrible storm, rendering others breathless.

"Shit, the ape is going crazy." The spectators ran far away, not wanting to be crushed to pieces by the great ape.

Those trapped inside were naturally scared out of their mind.

# Chapter 3570: Kneel

The elders from the Nightwalker Tribe wanted to escape but it was too late. Powerful beasts have already surrounded them.

The ape, in particular, stood in the opposite direction. They had no chance of fleeing.

"What do you want?!" A frightened elder unsheathed his sword, causing a loud clunk and a pulsing flash.

The disciples of the tribe also readied their weapons, ready to fight the beasts.

"Hoooo!" The ape roared and took one step forward, completely spittling the ground. A terrible torrent of power rendered resistance futile.

Even the elders staggered backward from just the soundwave. As for the other disciples, their chest was smacked repeatedly. Some dropped to the ground.

The spectators nearby were pale and didn't dare to get close, let alone trying to save the Nightwalkers.

"See? My neighbors won't stand for this unfair treatment. They have my back." Li Qiye smiled and said: "It's not too late to bow or don't blame me for being cruel when you're nothing but meat paste. After all, my neighbors have a hot temper, it'll be out of my control when they go crazy."

The Nightwalkers couldn't help staring at Zhui Xueyun after hearing this, the same with the spectators.

It was true that Li Qiye couldn't do a thing to him or his tribe. However, no one expected these chaos primal beasts to interfere for his sake.

"How magical." An expert murmured while staring at Li Qiye.

"So the brat really grew up here and became the favorite of the mountains? He must have deep ties to the beasts here." Another elder found this unbelievable.

Chaos primal beasts and other creatures were wild and ferocious. This made it impossible for a peaceful co-existence with cultivators, let alone possessing a good relationship. The only exception was when a cultivator was strong enough to control them.

However, for something like the dichromatic ape, even a Heaven Sovereign couldn't command them. Now, it was willing to stand up for a mere woodchopper.

Thus, they agreed with what the elder said earlier. That seemed to be the only logical explanation.

"Just accept defeat and kneel." The strongest elder of the Nightwalker was terrified. Forcing their way out was impossible against those beasts. The price would still be monstrous in the case of success.

"Nothing's more important than staying alive." Another elder said: "Heroes suffer setbacks at times, lose today and win tomorrow."

Zhui Xueyun's expression was extremely ugly. To kneel before a woodchopper in front of everyone was more agonizing than death.

He thought that he was stronger than Li Qiye so he reneged. Now, any of these beasts could easily kill him. Even the elders told him to kneel.

If he didn't do so, the entire group would die here. He would become a sinner of the sect. Thus, his knees fell to the ground.

He immediately bowed his head three times, thinking that he would never forget about this humiliation. His hatred for Li Qiye was deep to the bones.

He tried to stand up afterward but Li Qiye stomped down on him. Normally, he would have cut the guy to pieces but the circumstances were against him. He had to swallow this anger.

"What are you doing !?" He gritted his teeth.

"You haven't admitted defeat despite losing." Li Qiye smiled.

Everyone thought that Li Qiye was being a tad overbearing. However, this was to be expected of the loser.

"So domineering." One student quietly praised.

"It's idiotic, he better changes his ways soon or death will come knocking." Another student scowled and disagreed.

Many agreed with the latter. After all, not just Zhui Xueyun but the rest of the Nightwalkers wouldn't forgive Li Qiye for this humiliation.

Xueyun's expression was as twisted as can be beneath Li Qiye's foot. Unfortunately, his peers and seniors were staring at him.

"I fully accept my loss." His words betrayed his thoughts. Alas, he needed to endure this shame.

"Now that's better." Li Qiye said: "Remember to open your dog eyes wider in the future or you won't be as lucky."

Xueyun clenched his fists tightly, swearing of eventual retribution.

"Okay, I'm no longer thirsty. Time to go." Li Qiye laughed and patted his hands. He then picked up his carrying pole and left without looking at anyone else.

"Young Noble Li, where are you going for wood?" Yang Ling asked.

"A place with good ones, of course." Li Qiye's voice came from the distance and he started singing again.

Everyone watched the guy disappear into the forest, forgetting about the beasts. However, they have already dispersed and returned to the tree to rest.

"I'll never let this go." Xueyun's fingers dug into his palms. Revenge was necessary in order for him to have peace. He wanted to let Li Qiye taste a fate worse than death.

"Let's go." The elder of the Nightwalker told the disciples. There was no need to stay here any longer since they have failed to grab any magical gem fruit. Plus, they have been humiliated enough already.

"What a devilish brat." One expert said regarding Li Qiye.

"A miraculous one, a product of Myriad Beast Mountains. I wonder what he can do in the outside world. Perhaps more miracles?" An older master praised.

"I've never heard of anyone being able to live in harmony with the beasts here. Truly unprecedented." One ancestor stroked his chin and mused.

"We're going." Teacher Du didn't say anything and stood there in silence for a bit. He eventually led the students away.

The latter didn't dare to linger around and gave chase.

Teacher Du found the whole thing very strange. At first, his sole focus was on the old attendant. Now, it looked like Li Qiye was the one deserving his attention.