

Emperor 4371

Chapter 4371: Courting Death

Little Diamond's members have been surrounded by sword rays. Though Wang Weiqiao and Elder Hu tried their best, the young ones couldn't handle the intensity and felt sharp pain as if there were thousands of holes in their body.

"Back!" Wang Weiqiao roared again and swung his hatchet, hoping to make an escape path back to the room.

"You're not going anywhere." The disciples from Phoenix Ground easily repelled them.

Thus, they had no choice but to suffer the sword rays again. It was obvious that the enemies weren't trying to kill them. They couldn't push it too far or it would be hard to answer Goldbird Monarch.

There were other spectators not far from there. Some were laughing and loudly instigating. A few seniors occasionally came over and observed from a distance without stopping.

In their eyes, these men were as insignificant as worms. The monarch had made an exception to let them come into Phoenix Ground, let alone commanding disciples to serve them.

Therefore, the spectators were pleased to see this and became less annoyed. As for the seniors, it wasn't a big deal for the juniors to play with them.

What could they do in retaliation? They had no power to speak of. In fact, these big shots wouldn't even find sect destruction a big deal.

"What are you doing?" Li Qiye walked out and gazed at the battle.

"That's the sect master of Little Diamond!" Someone shouted and all eyes fell on Li Qiye.

"Really?" Most were surprised and even felt disappointed.

They thought that he would be slightly imposing and dignified. Alas, he looked as average as can be.

"He's trying to oppose us?" Another snorted with disdain.

"Ignorant fool, he's not leaving Phoenix Ground alive." One more uttered coldly.

"He killed the young lord and our members, we need to avenge them." An older disciple's eyes turned cold.

Quite a few who knew about the event started shouting unfriendly words. Capturing Li Qiye served two purposes - avenging their fallen brethren and pleasing their sect master.

Most importantly, this should be easy. A sect master like Li Qiye posed no threat.

"You're Little Diamond Sect Master, Li Qiye, right?" Sky Eagle's eyes turned brighter as he spoke.

"And?" To which Li Qiye responded.

"Good, then come save your sect members then, show us what you can do but don't blame me for being merciless if you're too weak." Sky Eagle laughed.

“Clank! Clank! Clank!” The sword rays suddenly intensified and poured down like waterfalls.

“Ahh!” A few youths from Little Diamond bellowed in pain.

Sky Eagle attempted to forcefully humiliate these youths and put Li Qiye in a tough situation.

“Come save them already before it’s too late.” The crowd started shouting.

“Senior Brother Sky Eagle is holding back or they would all be dead already. Let’s see how he’s going to save them.” Another said.

“Senior Brother is a top genius. He might not be on the same level as the lady but few can compare to him. Hmph, that guy can’t even protect himself, let alone his sect members.” An older one added.

“Senior Brother, show him the power of Phoenix Ground!” A spectator roared.

“Senior Brother, teach him a lesson first then take him to Dragon Citadel so that the sect master can deliver judgment! Our young lord and fallen brothers shall be avenged!”

“Death to all transgressors! Take him to the capital, let the sect master deal with him!” The crowd seemed eager to watch Sky Eagle teach Li Qiye a lesson.

Thus, Sky Eagle became lost in the heated atmosphere. His blood boiled as he fantasized about the possibilities.

Though Phoenix Ground was under the Jian’s jurisdiction, both were still beneath Dragon. Contributing Dragon might result in a brighter future than staying in Phoenix Ground.

“How can you watch your fellow members suffer as the sect master?!” He roared.

Little Diamond’s members might be esteemed guests right now but the crowd disagreed. They thought that these nobodies weren’t qualified for the current privileges.

“Seems like someone wants to die a little sooner. Fine, I’ll help out.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Insignificant fool, you have no clue what you’re doing. Know your place!” A crowd member shouted.

“I alone am enough to destroy your ‘Diamond’ sect.” Another glared at Li Qiye.

None of them paid this sect master any respect.

“Since you boasted so shamelessly, let’s see what you can do then. Come out!” Sky Eagle shouted, wanting to use this opportunity to kill Li Qiye.

Chapter 4372: One Swing

Li Qiye seemed amused after being challenged by Sky Eagle. He joined the fray and borrowed Wang Weiqiao’s hatchet before smiling: “One swing to send all of you to the afterlife.”

“One swing?!” The crowd clamored right away, especially those supporting Sky Eagle.

“Fool, don’t you know our senior brother has the bloodline of the divine eagle, a branch with incredible defensive potential!” One of them shouted.

“Just wait, Senior Brother’s feather rain will pierce his heart soon enough, he won’t be able to have time for regret before being minced to pieces.” One more joined in.

“Kill him, Senior Brother!” The egging continued.

“Don’t do it so quickly now, take your time teaching him the might of our sect and the consequences of his impudence.” Someone else sneered.

“So noisy, shut your mouth or I’ll cut off your dog head.” Li Qiye looked around and threatened.

This infuriated the crowd and prompted them to become louder.

“We should destroy your sect too, brat!” The first shouted.

“That’s too merciful, it has to be clan extermination!” The second roared.

“Li, I will kill you right now! No need for Senior Brother to waste his time!” The third stepped forward.

“Enough.” Li Qiye’s eyes turned cold as he swung the hatchet.

“Buzz.” A bright glint from the blade flashed and the shouters had an idea what was going on.

In the next second, heads were tossed into the air and they could see their own headless body. Blood gushed out from the severed neck like blossoming flowers and eventually, their body fell to the ground.

They wanted to scream but no sound would come out regardless of their effort. The heads smashed the ground and rolled everywhere. They only saw Li Qiye swinging the hatchet before death.

Nonetheless, the consolation was that they didn’t feel any pain, only a brief moment of fear and helplessness.

The swing took down a dozen shouters or so and caught everyone off guard.

“You dare?!” Sky Eagle roared in that split second but it was too late.

“Your turn.” Alas, he didn’t have time to think because Li Qiye’s second swing was aimed at him.

His eyes became wide open and managed to react since he was ready on top of being more powerful than those disciples earlier.

“Activate!” Loud metallic clanks resonated as he spread his pair of wings. The feathers turned into bright swords and created an impregnable fortress around him.

“Screech!” The image of a divine eagle appeared above Sky Eagle. It poured down runes and sealed the area around him, also boosting the cultivator in the process.

He was indeed impressive and talented, only inferior to geniuses such as their young lord and Jian Qingzhu.

He chose to be defensive because he felt threatened. He used his strongest defensive laws in order to stop the swing.

“Bam!” The swing finally came, looking as normal as can be versus the flashy defense. There was no aura, divinity, and shifting variations.

Spectators actually questioned its potential. Alas, once it hit the target, the entire area shook.

“This is bad!” A senior watching from a distance blurted out.

“Stop!” A great demon became startled and flew over to help. Alas, it was too late.

The seemingly weak swing carried enough power to split the earth.

“Ooo-” The divine eagle bellowed and was reduced into the nothingness. The swing then struck the wall of swords and easily eradicated it.

“Nooo!” Sky Eagle bellowed in horror, wanting to turn and run but it was too late. The blade of the hatchet split him into two halves. His organs fell into a pile on the ground next to the two pieces.

He believed that no one in the same generation could break his defense with one move. It was no problem for him to survive a duel.

Unfortunately, this sect master cut his defense down as if they were tofu. Nonetheless, he performed better than his fellow members earlier. At least he had the chance to resist despite being oblivious to the outcome.

The members of Phoenix Ground couldn't believe their own eyes. Their senior brother was certainly a genius and not that many youths were stronger than him. Alas, this sect master killed him and the others so easily.

Chapter 4373: Threat

Blood seeped into the ground and stained it red. The stench made the crowd shudder.

Those from Phoenix Ground were no strangers to death but this still intimidated them. As for the young ones from Little Diamond, they became nauseous from the sanguine stench.

No one could regain their composure in a short time, not even the senior demons observing from a distance. The outcome was truly unexpected and unimaginable.

Members of Phoenix Ground thought that Li Qiye's cultivation should be negligible compared to any of them. He was only a slightly bigger worm at best; any of them could stomp him to death.

However, the actual result was completely different. The seniors, in particular, found it more astonishing since they knew how capable Sky Eagle was. In their opinion, only a few youths in the current generation could kill Sky Eagle in this manner.

“Brat, you're finished!” One of them landed in front of the residence. He wanted to save Sky Eagle earlier but it was too late.

“Boom!” He was livid and activated his bestial aura, releasing a devastating roar.

He revealed his true form - a giant bear demon with a frame as large as a hill. His aura swept through the area, wanting to crush everything.

“Raa!” He roared intimidatingly.

“A demon king!” The young ones from Little Diamond turned pale. Some of them felt their knees buckling since they could see themselves being swallowed by the bear’s enormous jaw.

“Bear King!” The members of Phoenix Ground were startled as well.

He was Sky Eagle’s master. Alas, his ferocious nature frightened his fellow sect members.

“Brat, blood for blood!” He shouted deafeningly as his eyes turned red with rage. It seemed that he had no intention of sparing Li Qiye or his allies.

“Clank!” A golden sword landed and released its energy, pushing the bear back.

A new figure joined the fray, one shrouded by golden radiance.

“Demon Monarch!” Everyone bowed deeply after seeing him.

Who else could it be but the current lord of Phoenix Ground - Goldbird Monarch.

“Demon Monarch, what is the meaning of this?!” Bear King bellowed.

“Bear King, do not be disrespectful to our esteemed guests.” The monarch’s expression darkened.

Bear King was not a member of the Jian, only Phoenix Ground. Nonetheless, he was still under the monarch’s jurisdiction.

“How are they esteemed guests?! He killed my disciple and another dozen member, he deserves death for this heinous crime!” Bear King barked back.

Their fellow sect members watched with bated breath. Though the ones here clearly challenged his authority by provoking Li Qiye, they still didn’t dare to show any disrespect. He had earned his status and reputation as a demon monarch.

“Demon Monarch, what you are doing is protecting a murderer! Don’t forget you are the leader of Phoenix Ground. You need to protect its prestige and members!” Bear King shouted.

Many actually nodded in agreement but didn’t dare to voice their support.

“If you have an issue with my conduct, bring it up before the elders but right now, leave! Young Noble Li and Little Diamond are guests here!” The monarch uttered coldly.

“You!” Bear King activated his aura again. It took the form of a light pillar shooting into the sky.

“Hmph!” The monarch released countless sword rays. A kingdom of swords appeared behind him with a surging dao. His aura also swept forward like a flood.

Bear King couldn’t handle this and staggered several steps backward despite his huge frame.

“If you insist on causing trouble, don’t blame me for being merciless.” A sharp glint flashed within the monarch’s eyes.

The youths from Little Diamond couldn’t believe it. They thought that he was an easygoing and amicable person, not expecting him to be so awe-inspiring.

His divinity overwhelmed the bear demon once he became serious.

“Fine, fine! We’ll see how long you can protect them for.” Bear King didn’t want a direct confrontation because that would be idiotic given the gap in cultivation. He angrily stomped on the ground once and then left.

Chapter 4374: It’s Not Easy Being A Demon

The crowd was no longer rowdy as they watched the bear demon leave. They didn’t understand why their monarch insisted on protecting Little Diamond.

By this point, most knew about the feud between Li Qiye and Peacock Monarch. As the leader of one of the three branches, the monarch seemed to be opposing his own sect.

This left them frustrated because without the involvement of the ancestors, Goldbird Monarch was still in charge of Phoenix Ground regardless of his unreasonable stance. Thus, no one voiced their objection or it could be considered traitorous.

“Young Noble Li and the members of Little Diamond are our esteemed guests. If anyone else dares to be disrespectful, they will be punished in accordance with our sect’s laws.” The monarch gazed sharply at the crowd.

The demons couldn’t handle the intensity and lowered their head instantly. They then left the scene.

The monarch then glanced at the corpses of Sky Eagle and the others, letting out a sigh. He had expected this but couldn’t stop it because he was preoccupied with something else.

Nonetheless, this gave him more insight into Li Qiye. Why was the guy so confident? It was due to his own abilities. This was a hidden master who didn’t need any backers. Therefore, the guy was actually telling the truth.

Of course, that casual swing wasn’t much in the grand scheme of things but this was obviously not Li Qiye’s limit. Otherwise, he wouldn’t be so nonchalant while staying in Dragon.

Sure, Dragon was mighty right now and unafraid of anyone. Alas, he was wise enough to also see that Li Qiye had to be strong and confident in order to be here.

In his opinion regarding an all-out battle, even a victory would be pyrrhic in nature. After suffering these losses, they would no longer be able to contend against Lion’s Roar in the future.

“I apologize for my members’ disrespect.” He invited the group back in and then apologetically cupped his fist.

Li Qiye smiled while the others returned the gesture. The latter didn’t dare to accept it from such a big shot.

“I’m sorry for being late. I was busy talking to the elders about your interest in our roost. After deliberation, we have decided to make an exception for you to visit.” He said.

This was not easy for him. The price was rather large before getting the elders of Phoenix Ground to agree.

The roost had pivotal significance and importance. Such a request from a nobody wasn't well-received by the elders.

Normally, one of them could have become furious enough to order the destruction of this tiny sect. However, they actually agreed.

Of course, this had nothing to do with their insight and open-mindedness. The monarch made plenty of concessions for this goal. He had done everything in his power.

"Let's go." Li Qiye smiled and didn't care about the details.

"Right now?" The monarch didn't expect this.

"I'm sure you're not that confident, this is to avoid needless complication." Li Qiye glanced at him.

The monarch smiled awkwardly after hearing this because it was indeed the case. He was afraid that an ancestor might suddenly change their mind and all of his efforts would be in vain.

"Either way, I will still keep on trying my best." He sincerely answered.

"Sometimes, trying your best isn't enough. There are too many stupid people, hence the reason for the destruction of their sect. More would be around now otherwise." Li Qiye smiled.

The monarch sensed zero sarcasm in this casual comment. Alas, he could somehow see Li Qiye destroying sects and kingdoms with a smile on his face.

He had a bitter expression, aware of how unlucky Dragon was to provoke someone like Li Qiye. He realized that he was talking to a legendary existence at this point.

Alas, he couldn't convince all the ancestors in Dragon. The thing he worried about the most might actually happen soon.

"Well, we'll see how smart your sect is eventually." Li Qiye added.

"Young Noble, you are a dragon soaring on the horizon, please don't mind insects like us. Please show mercy later on." The monarch became nervous and bowed deeply.

"At least Dragon is lucky enough to have you two." Li Qiye said then walked out the door. The monarch took a deep breath and followed right after.

The roost was located deep in Phoenix Ground, always heavily guarded. Not to mention outsiders, even its disciples weren't allowed entry without permission.

This was a mysterious and magical place. Rumor has it that one could obtain a fortune here. This wasn't baseless due to the stories regarding Divine Luan Dao Lord.

She came after Myriad Eyes Dao Lord but her cultivation didn't have anything to do with Dragon and Phoenix Ground despite being from the latter. During her youth, none of her merit laws came from the sect.

Chapter 4375: Phoenix Roost

The roost was located in a minor dimension. The entrance was guarded by numerous experts and ancestors.

As they got closer, the monarch told Li Qiye: "The roost is a place for dao comprehension. Since you are not a disciple of Dragon, Young Noble, I have to accompany you."

Normally, only geniuses recognized by the ancestors were allowed to come inside the roost to learn. They would come alone because they must rely on themselves. Seniors weren't allowed to interfere.

Since Li Qiye was an outsider, the elders forbade him from doing this. They required the monarch to travel with him.

They worried that he might do something detrimental to the roost. Thus, the monarch was there to keep an eye on him.

"Is there a difference?" Li Qiye didn't mind at all and moved forward.

The monarch followed along and found Li Qiye's goal quite strange. He had offended Peacock Monarch but instead of dealing with this issue, he chose to go to the roost first.

Could it be treasures, merit laws, or just dao comprehension? In that case, he would have been better off heading to Demon Realm Palace instead of the roost.

Did he know some secrets and mysteries about this place? Thus, the monarch was very curious and wanted to tag along.

According to the rumors, anyone lucky enough to enter always got something out of it. The most famous of them all was none other than Divine Luan Dao Lord.

She entered the roost and comprehended something amazing, allowing her to become a dao lord later on. Thus, its value to Phoenix Ground was immensely high.

However, one would be sorely mistaken if they thought that the roost was a paradise. Anyone entering for the first time would be disappointed after seeing its appearance.

It was nothing like their imagination, devoid of immortal mist and fog or anything transcending. There were no dao transformation and harmony either...

There was only a small hill that wouldn't take too long to climb. The soil was red and ashen, seemingly scorched in the past. This was a combination of ashes and dirt.

The hill didn't look special outside of not having a single blade of grass. On the peak was a hollowed section in the shape of a pot. A pile of ashes was stacked inside.

Upon closer inspection, there were still burning branches and firewood, only the size of an arm or so. They were half-burned and extinguished right after getting through the bark.

Anyone would be disappointed after seeing this place due to a lack of magical scenes. After all, this started the quest for a dao lord.

It should have golden springs, myriad laws morphing and changing, the sounds of the grand dao, divine flowers blossoming, and the rotation of the celestials...

However, there was nothing here, not even a blade of grass. Disciples from Phoenix Ground would certainly have mixed feelings after coming here.

Li Qiye, on the other hand, crouched down in front of the firewood. He reached and touched them, realizing that they have turned into glazed stones. The ashes turned out to be stony specks as well.

This could also extend to the rest of the hill. At first, one would mistake the ground for a mixture of dirt and ashes. However, they seemed to be a type of precious stone.

Touching the “firewood” didn’t move them at all. They were one with the hill itself, a type of stone that has grown out of the ground, or that everything was a single piece.

It would be more accurate to call this place the Phoenix Stone. There was no roost to speak of here.

“Ancestors for generations believe that this is a phoenix stone.” The monarch said softly while staring at the ruminating Li Qiye: “It looked like a roost up here at first, hence the name.”

“Have you meditated here?” Li Qiye patted the firewood stone and asked.

“Young Noble, I certainly did during my youth after being acknowledged by the ancestors.” The monarch nodded.

“What did you learn?” Li Qiye smiled.

“Nothing noteworthy. I meditated for three years. The first two years were uneventful. As for the third, I felt something warm coursing through my body, seemingly burning my chaos energy and smoothing the flow.” The monarch smiled wryly.

“This chance certainly helped my cultivation but it’s still limited.” He added.

Most wouldn’t talk about the details of their cultivation. They would only share it with their closest and most trusted but he still revealed it to Li Qiye.

“It has to be my limited talent, not to the level of the sages before me. I only felt the warmth, not the burning sensation. Our ancestor, Sacred Luan, had his bloodline evolved through this.” He admitted.

“That’s not all.” Li Qiye said with a smile: “An actual flame can manifest this place too.”

“Young Noble, you do know everything. Yes, that is possible but it only happened once.” The monarch smiled wryly, not expecting Li Qiye to know this.

“Divine Luan Dao Lord, that is what happened when she trained here.” Li Qiye went on.

Chapter 4376: True Appearance

The dao lord made the hill lit up in flames so she was rather special. Future generations assumed that she had learned a supreme grand dao in this place, hence the special phenomenon.

This was the primary reason why the entire sect considered the roost to be a significant location. She didn’t learn the top techniques of Space Dragon Emperor or Myriad Eyes Dao Lord. Her path was completely different and originated from this place.

This meant that by learning the mysteries here, one would embark on the path culminating in the final cultivation realm. This was priceless for any sect.

Therefore, the entry requirements have been stringent. Alas, no one had been able to replicate the feat. Nonetheless, Phoenix Ground still hoped that this might change in the future.

“Divine Luan Dao Lord was the only one who could spark the flames here. No one else managed to eke out a single ember, not even the most promising demon gods.” The monarch said.

Phoenix Ground had attempted numerous experiments before. One of the most hopeful was none other than Nine-tailed God, a member of the three branches.

His talents on top of the three branches’ full support gave him a chance to enter. Of course, he surely benefited from the trip but it was nothing compared to what Divine Luan Dao Lord had obtained.

This failure made some ancestors feel like giving up. He was extremely gifted on top of having their full support yet this was still not enough. This dealt a great blow to the ancestors.

Perhaps only the chosen ones could ignite the flames here - those meant to be dao lords. Thus, entering the roost gradually became a method of training instead. Getting true success became a matter of luck and fate.

“Not everyone can obtain a fiery rebirth.” Li Qiye said.

“That’s what it is?” He became emotional.

This was speculated before - both Sacred Luan’s transformation and Divine Luan Dao Lord’s supreme comprehension. Many ancestors certainly thought so.

Though the dao lord didn’t talk about it, they knew that it had to do with the flames of the phoenix. The rebirth could work on two levels - a physical and a grand dao one.

Li Qiye only smiled and sat down on top of the firewood.

“Young Noble, are you meditating to learn the dao here?” The monarch asked.

“It’s not quite the dao, just an innate gift.” Li Qiye said.

“Gift? Whose?” He became confused.

“What do you think this place is?” Li Qiye glanced down and said.

“Well...” He looked around and didn’t answer. What should he say? The roost of a phoenix?

It certainly didn’t look like one. An immortal stone? Perhaps in terms of appearance, but not quite either.

“Move back, you can’t handle this power.” Li Qiye didn’t reveal more and waved his hand.

He took a deep breath and kept a considerable distance from Li Qiye.

With him gone, Li Qiye placed both hands in front of his dantian and started forming mudras. He closed his eyes, looking like a Buddha sitting on a golden lotus.

The monarch watched with bated breath. His first reaction was that Li Qiye was trying to comprehend the dao. However, Li Qiye said something about an innate gift.

This was even more confusing because innate gifts were present from birth. It was impossible to obtain them afterward. Was he trying to obtain one here?

“Buzz.” The firewood beneath Li Qiye suddenly lit up. This was akin to cooling charcoal still having a little spark in them, on the verge of burning again.

The monarch couldn’t believe it; his mouth became wide open. He had personally trained here for three years and attempted many methods. Alas, he got nothing, not even managing to heat up the firewood.

On the other hand, Li Qiye only sat down for a bit and managed to activate them.

Though he couldn’t see what Divine Luan Dao Lord did here previously, he was certain that she didn’t do it as fast. He felt that he could ignite the flames again.

Sure enough, a heatwave greeted him a moment later. It was as strong as an erupting volcano releasing lava.

He hurriedly retreated and activated his chaos energy for protection. This was only an initial spark yet it could injure him. The fully activated flames should be horrifying.

“Buzz.” The outer layer of the firewood suddenly melted. After the heat removed this layer, it turned out that these things were actually wood, not stones or anything else.

Chapter 4377: Bathing In Flames

“Poof!” An ember flew out of the firewood and kindled the entire thing.

Gentle sizzles could be heard, confirming that these were firewoods, not stones or anything else. The flames looked rather unique, resembling cultivation flames but not quite.

There was a golden hue and they appeared rather animated. They danced like spirits with dao runes surrounding them.

As one observed closely, they would get the illusion that they were staring at an ocean of dao runes, not just flames.

The runes seemed to be changing and deriving grand dao, wanting to turn into a peerless merit law. They were accompanied by unbearable heat, akin to being so close to a rising sun.

Goldbird Monarch instantly moved back to a safe distance. At the start of the melting of the outer layer, the temperature was already high enough. Now, when the flames actually appeared, it became frightening.

An expert like Goldbird still couldn’t stand the heat. If he hadn’t run fast enough, he would have been injured.

Eventually, even the ashen top layer of the hill started melting into a thick liquid. The monarch took a deep breath, realizing the reason for the appearance of the hill.

The flames from the firewood had a temperature high enough to melt the ground, leaving behind the cooled glazed substance seen prior.

This was only the start too. If these flames could be used as an attack, it would incinerate any sect in Sky Border. Their territories would then assume the same appearance as the roost.

This wasn't the only thing frightening him. The other was Li Qiye.

Just think about it, he only needed to sit down for a moment to rekindle the flames. In all of Dragon's history, Divine Luan Dao Lord was the only one managing to do so.

There weren't scrolls depicting the details of her cultivation and dao comprehension. However, it did mention that she spent a considerable period of time in the roost.

Li Qiye's case was completely different. The monarch knew just how tough it was to resonate with the flames yet Li Qiye had no problem doing so.

He should be close in age to her back then. After igniting the flames, she went on to become a dao lord.

What about Li Qiye? He did it even better so would he become a dao lord as well?

"Am I witnessing the birth of a dao lord?" The monarch murmured.

Sky Border has produced numerous experts in this generation. Thus, if Li Qiye were to reach the apex, his path would be paved with blood.

Nonetheless, the monarch was quite emotional. Although he didn't gain much from the roost, it was an honor witnessing a potential dao lord candidate right now.

"Poof!" The flames became stronger and stronger before shooting upward like an inferno. Thus, Li Qiye was swallowed up by the unceasing flames.

A black hole appeared above since they were capable of burning everything. Even the black hole started burning up.

The entire hill started melting like ice cream to the monarch's astonishment. He did everything he could to withstand the temperature. Alas, if this went on, he would be reduced to ashes.

"This can't continue..." He was afraid that the roost would be destroyed.

The climax of the inferno was akin to a great star exploding. Endless shock waves rushed out in a destructive manner.

"Screech!" A true phoenix cry could be heard, capable of piercing through time itself.

The monarch had heard the cries of numerous birds, even duplications of phoenix cries. Alas, he felt his soul being pierced right now and became submissive. The cry wasn't something he could resist. It came from the king of all birds. This was certainly the role of phoenixes.

It overshadowed anything else he had heard before.

"A phoenix?" He prostrated on the ground and panicked. He had never seen a true phoenix before but within the flame was a divine and magnificent image.

It made his true form look like a chicken in comparison. He realized what it was right away.

The emergence of the image prompted Li Qiye to action. He stood up and clenched his hand.

“Pop!” An apocalyptic force manifested into reality, instantly extinguishing the flames.

The monarch felt like an insect as a result.

Chapter 4378: Phoenix Space

The power dispersed afterward and the monarch could stand up again.

“Where are you?!” The monarch was startled since the roost was empty. He looked around and saw no sign of Li Qiye.

Moreover, the roost appeared the same as before. Even the firewood in the middle of the hole had the same glazed layer around them now. This was the case with the ashen ground as well.

Thus, everything he had witnessed just now could have been an illusion. The inferno, the phoenix cry, and the unstoppable power were no longer present.

The only change was the disappearance of Li Qiye who was meditating there. He was at a loss for words, unaware of what was real and what was not.

“Did he die?” The monarch thought that Li Qiye could have been reduced to ashes.

After all, the inferno and terrible force earlier couldn’t be stopped by many. Li Qiye probably became a victim doomed to a terrible fate.

He kept on looking around but didn’t see any sign of Li Qiye, not even his ashes. This made him certain that Li Qiye was alive.

If that’s the case, where was he?

“Impossible.” The monarch murmured and used his divine intent to scout the roost. Li Qiye must have gone somewhere else. He even speculated that the guy might have figured out the true mystery of the roost.

This made him take a deep breath. Even Divine Luan Dao Lord probably didn’t figure it out back then because she never mentioned anything to the sect.

Did this mean a new dao lord, once capable of shocking the ages, was coming?

He waited patiently instead of leaving, wanting to see the changes. As long as Li Qiye was alive, he would appear at the roost again.

Of course, he didn’t know how long he would need to wait. He entered a state of meditation for a while.

After some time, he suddenly awakened after sensing something.

“Peacock Monarch.” He sensed the aura of his peer.

In the past, they had an amicable relationship because both were demon monarchs. Goldbird respected Peacock for being powerful as well.

However, Li Qiye was a variable that changed everything. Goldbird looked around again and Li Qiye still wasn't there. He had no choice but to leave the roost.

Li Qiye was indeed gone since he entered a different dimension.

"Screech." Supreme laws floated above and poured down immortal energy. A magnificent and inscrutable rune continued to transform.

Each rotation gave birth to a new world consisting of celestials and billions of lives.

"Screech!" A phoenix crossed through the sky and poured down bright particles. Once they touched the ground, they erupted in a magnificent manner and released a wondrous sound. This was a melody of a supreme grand dao.

When the screech dissipated, so did the image of the phoenix. This was another rotation - the screech, image, and the melody...

The great phoenix continued to appear and disappear - a process seemingly lasting for an eternity.

Thus, there was no flow of time in this dimension. A million years could pass in the blink of an eye during the continuing cycle.

"Phoenix Space." Li Qiye said while observing the spectacle.

This was a dimension unavailable to regular people. Not even invincible dao lords could reach it. Only an immortal beast in the legend like a phoenix had this ability.

It required all the perfect circumstances and timing. Using brute force alone was not enough. This was the case for Li Qiye.

However, he had set up these circumstances and planted the seeds a long time ago. Thus, he was able to enter.

All in all, immortal beasts only existed in the legends. If there were no immortals, there were no immortal beasts either.

Most believed that phoenixes didn't exist in reality, so they had no idea about a dimension like this.

Li Qiye focused on the massive rune in the sky. It was the ruler of this place and the skeleton of this space. Its presence allowed the special dimension to exist.

"Screech!" The cycle continued above.

"Rebirth, the innate gift of a phoenix." Li Qiye commented.

Of course, these images weren't phoenixes. However, their appearance had the same type of cyclic rebirth.

If anyone were to somehow see this cycle, they would attribute it to mere illusory images. They didn't know that the cycle contained the mysteries behind rebirth.

All immortal beasts had a unique innate gift. Rebirth was given to phoenixes. While watching this scene, one might think that there was only one phoenix in existence. It had undergone this cycle and appeared time and time again in history.

Li Qiye's eyes were focused on the area beneath the rune where there were golden threads of energy brimming with life.

Chapter 4379: Golden Egg

The dao laws released from the supreme runes were mantras of the phoenix. Each contained a supreme grand dao.

Just learning one of them would allow a cultivator to be unbeatable in their generation. This was a martial treasury raining down from above.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that the rune was the source of the dimension and all the powers here. Perhaps it contained the secret of rebirth itself.

One would become lost while staring at the brilliant laws here. As long as one had enough talent, they would be able to learn all of these top techniques.

One could spend a lifetime without realizing a single grand dao, let alone the rune. However, Li Qiye was attempting to do so.

He activated his heavenly gaze and pierced through the laws, observing their transformations. He saw the various aspects of a phoenix - their flying movements, flames, undying nature...

This would shock any other spectators but he maintained his focus on even the most complex of grand dao.

He comprehended their profundities in time. Eventually, he made it to the golden strings right beneath the rune.

The source of the strings was none other than an egg, relatively tiny compared to this dimension. However, it was still far larger than any other bird egg in the world.

It turned out that the laws were pouring down and intertwined with each other before reaching their final destination - the egg.

They would turn into drops of pure dao essences. The egg has been treating them as nutrition for countless years now.

"Buzz." Each drop fell into what seemed to be an ocean; the egg could easily absorb them. Both time and space rippled subsequently.

Thus, the egg gave off the feeling of possessing immeasurable vitality and life force. Of course, this was indeed the case.

The pure dao essences were wondrous treasures. Normally, it would take millions of years for one drop to form naturally. Any knowledgeable soul would be in awe at the sight of a single one.

These drops came from the source of the dao itself and contained immense power. Nonetheless, this egg could instantly absorb the drop without requiring an absorption process. It looked as if it could handle something even greater.

Beneath the egg was a special-type ear of grain known as Conqueror Grain. This was rumored to be owned by immortals only. Alas, they were being used as bedding for the egg.

It drank the essences of the grand dao while resting on Conqueror Grain. Nothing else in the world had the same privilege.

Thus, Li Qiye only focused on the egg, not the essence drops and the grain.

Despite looking as if it was made from gold, the shell gave off the feeling of being thin and brittle. One could see imagine molten gold being poured on and gradually cooling outside, resulting in a thin layer. It seemed weak enough to break down after a single touch.

Given the favorable circumstances, it wouldn't be surprising to see a phoenix coming out of the shell. Alas, for some reason, the feeble nature of the egg would make people think that the baby inside was flawed and deficient.

The egg gently trembled every once in a while; the creature inside seemed to be alive and well.

Li Qiye came over and placed his hand on top of the egg. It shook once more, whether it be out of fear or simply being on guard.

However, his touch was in tune with the rhythm of the egg right away. A silence took over the dimension and the breathing of the egg became audible. There seemed to be a tiny heart beating in there.

"Screech!" An image appeared in Li Qiye's head at the same time - a phoenix leaving a blazing trail in its path, traveling to the dangerous unknowns, sweeping through the realms...

However, this invincible creature was ambushed one day and couldn't handle the unceasing barrages. It tried to fight the invaders during the great calamity but ended dying as a result.

The golden egg was left behind afterward, protected by the hidden dimension. Its origin was no stranger to Li Qiye.

Unfortunately, it wasn't a perfect phoenix egg, the same with the creature inside. It had defects at the start and needed years of gestation and nourishment.

Chapter 4380: Peacock Monarch's Arrival

"Perfection from refinement and birth from fire." Li Qiye said: "Even your incredible gift can't resist the will of the heaven."

If a phoenix could hatch from this egg, it would be a monumental event in history. Alas, heaven didn't allow for such a creature to exist.

It would absolutely send down a tribulation - one strong enough to overcome the cycles of rebirth.

He then sat down, raising one hand and summoning tiny laws. With the other hand, he created a unique dao truefire. It had a primordial origin and carried the warmth akin to a mother's embrace.

"Buzz." The tiny laws flew upward and mingled with the dimension's laws. It continued onward and aimed for the gigantic rune.

"Rumble!" An unstoppable divinity descended as the rune attacked Li Qiye with a phoenix flame. It instantly appeared above him while carrying enough firepower to incinerate myriad worlds.

"Screech!" It assumed the form of a phoenix and engulfed the entire dimension.

"Boom!" It certainly had enough power to burn all of Eight Desolaces into nothingness, eradicating every single sect and cultivator.

Li Qiye, on the other hand, chanted a mantra and became shrouded in a supreme light. He turned into a descending immortal capable of subduing the divine beasts.

Even a true phoenix would be tamed by him. This current state allowed him to be completely untouchable.

The hand that released the tiny laws earlier released a seal. Time came to a halt and the incoming phoenix stagnated, becoming a billion times slower than before while its flaws were magnified.

This seal rendered everything else insignificant. Even a divine beast would be subjected to its domination - in this case, the phoenix flame.

The bird let out a groan before falling down to the ground and turning back into strands of laws.

"Seal." Li Qiye commanded, aiming for the rune.

This rune represented the innate talent and dao of a phoenix. Nonetheless, he still easily suppressed it.

His own dao manifested into reality above - signally a return to primordial chaos. Primordial energy took over the entire dimension.

Tiny laws shot out of the dimension and built a spatial passage through Phoenix Ground all the way to the depths of Ravaged Land.

All of these above factors caused the dimension to be engraved with something unique. The process was fully focused on the golden egg. Meanwhile, the flame from his other hand started surrounding the egg.

It could sense that something was amiss and tried to resist, intending on breaking Li Qiye's seal and escaping. However, Li Qiye's dao energy had suppressed everything so struggling was futile.

"Sizzle." The flame began refining the egg and leaving behind indelible markings. His laws also spun around the egg like spiderwebs.

He meditated for this goal. Time was not flowing in this dimension so a million years in here was no different than the blink of an eye.

As he was occupied in the special dimension, clamor broke out in City of Demons and the capital.

“Buzz.” A five-colored radiance illuminated the sky above and shocked the inhabitants.

“Sect Master!” The members of Dragon shouted in astonishment.

“Peacock Monarch.” Everyone knew the source of the light and felt that something big was going to happen.

“Screech!” Next came an ear-splitting phoenix cry that can be heard from anywhere in Dragon. It intimidated both beasts and men due to its supreme nature.

The sky turned dark for a moment before colorful rays took over. Demonic gales gathered above and turned into a majestic figure.

This wind-like entity flew towards City of Demons at a speed faster than lightning.

“He’s coming.” A spectator gasped.

Normally, he never needed to visit this city because it already had the three branches. Ancestors and the other monarchs had administrative control so he didn’t need to worry. He rarely came back after becoming the sect master.

Everyone in Dragon became emotional after seeing this. Even a fool knew his reason for coming.