## Emperor 4891

Chapter 4891: Imperial Seal's Uses

"Nonsense, you didn't think I was being serious?" Monochromatic Master laughed at Li Qiye.

"You claimed to be loyal and wanted to purge the dissidents." Li Qiye said with a serious expression.

"Your Majesty, I didn't expect you to be so earnest. Well, here, I've invited two powerful cultivators for you." He was nearly driven to tears while tapping on Fire Ape and Toad King's shoulder.

"Well then, I order you all to attack Wild Dynasty right now." Li Qiye said.

"Hahaha!" The trio exchanged glances and started laughing.

Everyone could see that they were here to cause trouble, Li Qiye might be the sole exception.

"I'm gonna die." Toad King held his stomach while guffawing.

"There is something wrong with your new king's brains. Does he not know his own precarious situation?" Fire Ape told Monochromatic.

The latter couldn't help laughing loudly as well. He then said: "Your Majesty, excuse me for what I'm about to do."

With that, the three of them became ready for battle. The guests and villains immediately retreated away from the monument.

Only Venerable Dragon God or Wild Dragon could stop the trio, no one else.

"Your Majesty, I'll be honest. With the late king's death, this dynasty is only an empty shell and I have zero interest in it." Monochromatic Master thought that he had full control of the situation.

He was forced to join the dynasty after being defeated by Eight-stallion Dao Lord. It was either join or die. At the very least, submitting meant being alive and having some authority.

"Eight-stallion will become piles of bricks soon enough, why would I want to stay here?" His tone became cold.

"If that's the case, why do you want the imperial seal?" Li Qiye acted naive.

"It seems like the commander hasn't told you." Monochromatic glanced at Firerage.

"What?" Li Qiye asked.

"The imperial seal is not only a symbol of authority, heh, it is also the key to the treasury containing the treasures and techniques accumulated by the late king. You had no idea, did you?" Monochromatic sneered.

"Guard Commander, is it true?" Li Qiye stared at Firerage.

"Yes, Your Majesty, I didn't tell you because the timing wasn't right." Firerage lowered his head.

"There won't be any opportunity in the future." Monochromatic laughed: "This treasury will belong to us."

He then told Firerage: "Guard Commander, I am not heartless. Hand the imperial seal and I'll let you leave."

The implication was clear - telling Firerage to kill Li Qiye and take the seal.

Though he didn't care about his reputation, he had worked for Eight-stallion Dao Lord before. Killing Li Qiye meant branding himself as a traitor. He preferred for Firerage to shoulder this infamy instead.

"Traitor, I will not let you harm His Majesty even if it's the last thing I do." Firerage strongly responded.

"Haha, what a loyal subject." Monochromatic smirked: "Well, you will be able to contribute today."

He then told Li Qiye: "Your Majesty, will you hand the seal over, or do I have to chop off your head first?"

"What a hard decision." Li Qiye looked around while touching his nose.

"No need to look around, no one will be able to save you. Northern Monarch and Venerable Dragon God are busy right now with Wild Dynasty." Monochromatic said. It seemed that Wild Dynasty came under his calling.

"Okay, fellow guests, do whatever you want since Eight-stallion will be no more after today." He then told the rest of the crowd.

"Hear that, you brats? Aren't you here to get a piece of the pie? Get started already." Toad King told the villains.

"Go!" Some villains started shouting and attacking the soldiers and officials.

"Treasures shall be ours!" Others shouted and rushed toward the palaces, wanting to rob anything of value.

"Maintain your post! Protect the dynasty!" The captains and commanders were ready to stop the villains.

Chaotic battles ensued in the blink of an eye. Screams and cries could be heard everywhere.

As for the neutral guests from the prestigious sects, they tried their best to not be dragged into this mess. Some started leaving right away.

"The dynasty is finished. Your Majesty, hand the imperial seal over." Monochromatic demanded.

"Don't even think about it." Firerage stood by Li Qiye and ignored the other skirmishes.

"Your Majesty, this is the final warning." Monochromatic said.

"Your Majesty, there is another way to prevent Eight-stallion from falling." The spectating Demoness suddenly spoke again.

"Oh, what is it?" Li Qiye asked.

"Let me be the regent and tell Northern Monarch and Venerable Dragon God to obey me, I will protect you from these villains." She suggested while an enchanting and beautiful glint flashed in her eyes.

She wanted the dynasty as a whole, not a broken one. It would be meaningless to rule without Northern Monarch or Venerable Dragon God. This was her opportunity to be a rightful regent.

"Guest Minister, don't forget your role. This is the time for you to support His Majesty." Firerage chastised.

"Guard Commander, I have no obligation to do so. In fact, being the regent is my way of showing support." Demoness said.

"Demoness, don't you know that it's easy for us three to kill you and your Warship?" Monochromatic sneered given the circumstances.

"Feel free to try, Civic Deputy." Demoness smiled.

Her confidence took him by surprise. He didn't know whether she was putting on an act because Warship's actual power remained unknown.

Chapter 4892: Fire On A Cold Day

"Sigh, it is a cold day. I need to warm up." Li Qiye seemed to be lamenting the situation. He rubbed his palms together before using fire tongs to pick up a piece of charcoal from the brazier.

The moment it was taken out, the embers dissipated.

"Are you cold, little girl?" He asked A'zhui.

Though A'zhui was a dao lord's daughter, she couldn't do anything in this perilous moment. She was too weak compared to the enemies.

Alas, she couldn't run either. As the princess, she was ready to die with the dynasty.

"Run away." She whispered to Li Qiye, realizing the gravity of the situation.

Li Qiye smiled and glanced at the charcoal: "Okay, feeling a bit warmer."

He then turned toward the enemies and asked: "Where were we?"

"You are picking death, do not blame me for this." Monochromatic became annoyed and uttered coldly. He exuded a chilling murderous intent afterward.

All Ten Monsters were ruthless. His eyes caused members of Eight-stallion to shudder as if they were trapped in a layer of ice.

"It is not too late to kneel and beg for forgiveness." Li Qiye stared at the charcoal as if it was a priceless treasure: "Otherwise, today will be your last."

"Who is going to kill me, you?" Monochromatic suddenly felt Li Qiye becoming a different person, no longer as naive as before.

"Yes, it is not hard for me to kill a few dogs." Li Qiye didn't bat an eye.

This infuriated Toad King and Fire Ape. Others quivered in fear after hearing their title. Some immediately got on their knees upon sight. Being called "dogs" by a nobody was unprecedented.

"Your remark deserves a flaying." Fire Ape shouted.

"That's too merciful. Let me marinade and take my time eating him. He'll feel every bite." Toad King smiled nefariously.

Fire Ape was terrifying but Toad King was even creepier and nauseating. Of course, both of them had done this before. The latter enjoyed eating humans.

"Appreciate your last seconds then." Li Qiye said softly.

Listeners found this hilarious. A junior daring to threaten the Ten Monsters?

"Die brat!" Toad King sucked in and his mouth became larger.

"Shit!" Many immediately fled after seeing this.

"Whoosh!" He then spat out a liquid miasma of cyan color.

It brimmed with death energy. Even the palaces nearby turned into fluid; the ground was next.

"Ahh!" Weaker cultivators had festering boils, unable to stop the corrosion regardless of their merit laws and treasures.

"Watch it!" Firerage shouted and unsheathed his saber. He swung it to release six slashes, creating a fiery domain to stop the miasma.

Alas, the saber domain capable of burning everything couldn't stop the miasma and started melting.

"Zzz..." One particle touched him and his body started corroding right away. He used his dao flame to burn that part to no avail. He then decisively cut off a piece of flesh, finally managing to rid himself of the miasma.

"Your Majesty, retreat!" He could only help Li Qiye run away from these mighty foes.

"Mmm, it's nothing." Li Qiye said and blew on the charcoal in the direction of the miasma.

Little fiery sparks blew in that direction and burned all the miasma at an incredible pace.

"Boom!" After a loud explosion, all the miasma in the air and on the ground disappeared from sight.

"Ahh!" The sparks then fell on Toad King, causing an inferno to engulf him.

"Destroy!" He spat out miasma from his mouth and all other potential holes. This poisonous fluid could destroy a kingdom. For example, the domain of an Immortal Sovereign couldn't stop it earlier.

Therefore, it could extinguish flames as well. Alas, it only intensified the inferno ravaging him. Only one second passed before his physical flesh was reduced to ashes.

"Whoosh!" His true fate protected by the two sacred fruits escaped into the horizon.

Alas, the inferno caught the true fate as well. The dao fruits exuded their power and chaos energy but this was useless.

All three entities became trapped in an ocean of fire.

"Ahhh!" His last screams echoed across the battlefield.

"What is this sorcery?!" Fire Ape was shocked and went on the offensive, spewing out a beam of fire from the head on his chest.

"Maddened Dao!" The entire capital became subjected to unbearable heat.

Chapter 4893: Incinerated

Fire Ape's flame was weaker compared to Flame-eater Child's version. Nonetheless, mountains and buildings nearby started burning as well.

"Extinguish them!" The dynasty members had to prevent the total destruction of the capital.

Alas, some of them who were touched by the flames were reduced to ashes.

The beam's target was still Li Qiye. Everything beneath its path turned into lava. A black hole was eventually formed since time and space couldn't tolerate this temperature either.

"Watch out!" Firerage and A'zhui shouted at Li Qiye.

Alas, no one could save him, not even Northern Monarch and Venerable Dragon God since they were busy themselves.

He looked at ease while raising the tongs holding the charcoal forward. A miracle occurred - the fiery beam was sucked into the charcoal.

The latter resembled the bloody jaws of a great monster, capable of devouring all the Maddened Flame. Next, it also absorbed the flames ravaging Eight-stallion Dynasty. This only served to make it a bit redder.

"What the hell is this thing?!" Fire Ape yelled in astonishment.

"Patrimony Fire." Li Qiye smiled and pointed the tongs at Fire Ape.

Before the demon could react, the charcoal has somehow reached his forehead.

"Ahh!" No one saw how Li Qiye did it but he branded the demon's forehead, prompting him to scream in agony. Others could hear him from a thousand miles away.

"Zzz..." Smoke oozed out of the mark while he continued to scream. It eventually pierced a whole straight through and destroyed his true fate and sacred fruit.

"Bam!" His huge frame fell backward to the ground. His eyes were wide open and filled with torment. The last agonizing seconds of having his true fate burned to a crisp were unbearable. This left the crowd frozen. No one knew what the hell this charcoal was. It first killed Toad King and now, Fire Ape. They couldn't stop this slightly heated charcoal from ending them despite their impressive cultivation.

"Sigh, always fighting, when will this end?" Li Qiye sighed and blew on the charcoal, releasing some fiery sparks again.

"Fuck!" Mad Pyromancer saw the sparks and swung his torch instantly, releasing another inferno to form an unbreakable domain.

Unfortunately, the domain didn't save him from being touched by the sparks.

"Nooo!" As a fire genius, he knew that this was bad news. His body instantly became engulfed in flames.

He tried to suppress this through various methods but it didn't work.

"Ahh!" It only took a few seconds before only ashes were left of him.

Firerage, the imperial guards, and other officials stood there in a daze. Three members of the Ten Monsters were killed just like that.

"Do you understand your bloodline's mysteries?" Li Qiye, who was unaffected by the killing, turned toward A'zhui and asked with a smile.

She didn't answer because she was still lost.

"Have a taste of having your ancestral blood lit ablaze." Li Qiye used the tongs to touch her with the charcoal.

She couldn't react in time before feeling as if her body was melting away due to a fusion reaction with the charcoal.

She let out a blood-curdling screech after feeling a level of pain too harsh to be put into words. Every inch of her flesh was roasting. Normally, this excruciating process would knock someone out or kill them in no time at all.

Alas, she remained alive and fully conscious. Her veins and meridians started burning as well, causing her to twist in agony while screaming.

"Princess!" Firerage ran over but Li Qiye stopped him while shaking his head.

"Boom!" The power of a dao lord suddenly erupted as if Eight-stallion Dao Lord was still here channeling his might. This carried the mark of Heaven Authority. Six dao halos rushed upward and crushed the stars.

Her bloodline blossomed in a magnificent manner, turning her into a being similar to her father. Everyone in the lower three continents became alarmed.

"What an incredible method, Eight-stallion couldn't pull this off." Uncle Xiang was astounded after looking at the sky.

"Eight-stallion is returning to life?!" The other dao lords and dragon lords became startled and gazed in the direction of the dynasty.

"Boom!" The halos rotated around her but couldn't stop the flames from invading her.

"Ahh!" She opened her eyes and shot out two fiery beams, incinerating the sky itself and all high peaks along the way.

"What the hell?!" Wild Dragon saw the beams flying straight for him and his floating dynasty.

It instantly pierced through him and the mountain, leaving two large holes.

"Ahhh! Go!" He bellowed before leaping into the air.

"Rumble!" All of Chaos shook violently.

Meanwhile, inside the Ten Mountains of Demon, a divine tablet floated up into the air.

Chaos suddenly turned dark as a figure of a serpent appeared above. It coiled around Wild Dragon and teleported him away.

"Serpent God Tablet!" Many big shots recognized it right away.

Chapter 4894: A Bit Chilly

Spectators were in awe since they were looking at a legend right now. The Serpent God was one of the six great demons of their lineage. Today, Wild Dragon once again relied on it to escape.

Most didn't have a good grasp of these deities. They realized the reason why Wild Dragon was able to survive despite losing to Eight-stallion Dao Lord repeatedly.

However, the thing shocking them the most was his escaping from Eight-stallion's daughter. He himself couldn't believe it. He didn't have to go all-out against Venerable Dragon God but those two fiery beams pierced his body so easily.

The crowd didn't understand how she managed to muster so much power just like her father. They also connected the beams to a mythical figure - Maddened - due to their power.

Of course, this was not related to Maddened in the slightest.

"Ahh!" Meanwhile, the girl was still suffering from the burn. Her six halos couldn't protect her from this terrible fate.

On the outside, no one saw any flame ravaging her. This was an internal process - her everything including the true fate was being burned.

The only things keeping her alive were the six dao fruits imprinted inside her as well as Li Qiye's apogee of fire mastery.

She was normally very stubborn and tough. Alas, her blood, dao, and true fate were all being roasted.

Once her body reached the breaking point, Li Qiye pulled the charcoal out of her body with lightning speed. It seemed less heated than before.

A'zhui fell to the ground, twitching while unconscious.

"Quite fortunate to possess the bloodline of the heaveners." Li Qiye smiled and said: "The primal flame shall be hers to inherit."

Firerage, the guards, and everyone else were left speechless. This was the end of the coronation?

"Bam!" Something smashed into the ground next to Li Qiye's feet, attracting their attention.

This was none other than Monochromatic Master who was captured by Venerable Dragon God.

He had fled the moment he realized that something was off. Alas, what happened next caught him by surprise as well. This gave Venerable enough time to catch him due to the power disparity.

"My Civic Deputy, didn't you want the imperial seal?" Li Qiye stared at him.

"Your Majesty! This servant was wrong, please spare me!" He begged for mercy.

"A temporary lapse in judgment is understandable." Li Qiye smiled: "However, you have committed many offenses."

"Scheming against His Majesty, traitorous to the dynasty, conspiring with villains against fellow subjects. Any of these is punishable by death." Venerable uttered coldly.

"Dragon God, this is all false, His Majesty said that I should invite Fire Ape and Toad King to the coronation!"

"Oh, I almost forgot." His comment seemingly reminded Li Qiye of something. The latter absentmindedly loosened his grip on the tongs, causing the charcoal to fall and hit Monochromatic.

"Ahh!" It immediately burned a hole through him.

"Please sp-pare me, Your Majesty!" He screamed and begged, seemingly experiencing the cruelest torture possible.

Listeners shuddered and got chills to the bones.

"You are not worthy of being a dragon god." Li Qiye stared at him and said.

"No-" Monochromatic was reduced to smoke, completely disappearing from existence.

Li Qiye picked up the charcoal and placed it back into the brazier. He shuddered and complained: "Sigh, it is still so cold."

He sat back down with his legs up, gazing straight at Demoness.

She trembled in fear but was smart enough to come closer. She took off his shoes and placed his feet next to her chest. She looked up and said: "I'll warm you up, Your Majesty."

"Mmm." Li Qiye leaned back and closed his eyes before giving the command: "Kill all troublemakers."

"Affirmative." Northern Monarch and Venerable Dragon God have taken control of the situation.

Villains who wanted to take advantage of the situation were surrounded by soldiers.

"Kill them." The two of them ordered before joining the battle.

These villains, albeit strong, were no match for the duo and Soaring Stallions, looking as helpless as lambs being decapitated.

The stench of blood permeated through the capital. Corpses scattered everywhere.

Although palaces and buildings were in disarray, the dynasty members' morale was at an all-time high. It didn't take long before all the villains and malicious guests were dealt with.

Only those deemed as neutral and friendly were spared and gathered back to the square in front of the monument.

The soldiers then cleaned up the battlefield, taking away the corpses.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye who resembled a mortal king was enjoying the moment, resting his feet in the warm embrace of a beauty.

The winds became colder than before but the crowd didn't dare to speak. Once the corpses and ruins were removed, the atmosphere became dignified once more.

Everyone lined up in front of the monument, waiting to see Li Qiye's next command. Most thought that this coronation would be the end of the dynasty. The opposite actually occurred.

Four monsters have fallen while Demoness showed her subservience to Li Qiye. As for Wild Dragon, he fled back to Demon after being defeated by the princess.

It only took one day for Eight-stallion Dynasty to get rid of all of their problems - something truly unbelievable.

Chapter 4895: Coronation

All eyes were on Li Qiye. The members of the dynasty didn't know how to feel either.

At first, disappointment and anxiety overwhelmed them after the dao lord was replaced by an unknown junior. None of them was convinced of Li Qiye's ability to reign. They believed that declination and even a total collapse were inevitable. Who knows if they could even survive?

As for the guests, they felt frightened and astounded. Some came to be polite but most were here to watch the show. They thought that Eight-stallion was a slanting pagoda on the verge of collapse, perhaps the coronation would trigger the fall.

Alas, this new king somehow managed to kill four monsters in one go and injured Wild Dragon. Most importantly, he didn't reveal an unstoppable cultivation or special technique.

He was neither a dao lord nor a dragon lord, just an ordinary person. He utilized a pair of tongs to pick up a piece of barely-heated charcoal.

However, it was strong enough to burn dragon lords. Calling it an immortal stone or the greatest of the fire affinity wouldn't be an exaggeration.

The crowd and dynasty members stole glances at the brazier, wanting to see the charcoal inside.

Many recalled Eight-stallion Dao Lord's unique and unbreakable immortal shield. Now, the dynasty also had this brazier. Was its treasury this frightening? Just one brazier was enough to take on the whole world.

Of course, the members of the dynasty knew that it didn't belong to them. In fact, they were livid at Li Qiye for wanting to destroy the imperial palace. Who would have thought that this would end up saving them?

"Chaos will have stability henceforth." A knowledgeable big shot sighed and said. Most of the active villains in Chaos have been slain in action.

This was something Eight-stallion Dao Lord couldn't do. The villains were scattered and the dynasty didn't have enough forces to deal with them all at the same time. Moreover, Wild Dynasty was always lurking as well.

However, the coronation attracted many of them. They came hoping to share a piece of the pie and to see the fall of Eight-stallion. This ended up being the end of them since they couldn't get away from Soaring Stallions and their commanders.

In the past, Venerable Dragon God had led Soaring Stallions on punitive expeditions before. Alas, it was impossible to cover all of Chaos.

Li Qiye relied on the coronation to kill the big shots in one go. This feat made everyone think differently of him.

They waited patiently until he opened his eyes and pulled back his feet from Demoness' soft pillows.

She then put his shoes back on his feet. No one said anything during this process.

"This servant wishes to contribute to your cause, your Majesty. Warship is ready for any order." She kneeled before him, speaking in a soft yet enchanting manner - always inciting the lust in men.

She referred to herself as a "servant" and offered the service of her ship as well. Keep in mind that she didn't do this back during the previous administration. Her pact with Eight-stallion Dao Lord was personal and didn't involve Warship.

"Not all can read the situation and be flexible." He praised with a smile.

"I am but an insect before you, please show mercy." She said.

"Very well, I have taken certain things into consideration and will pardon you." He glanced at the ship in the sky and waved his hand.

"Your Majesty's benevolence has no bounds. I will forever remember this and toil for you." She said.

Many looked down on her for this. After all, she was one of the Ten Monsters but now, look at how subservient she was. This didn't befit the qualities of a cultivator.

The other monsters who were burning didn't beg for mercy as much as she did. As for her, it looked as if she considered being stepped on by him the greatest honor.

"Rise." He smiled.

She kowtowed again before slowly getting up and standing next to him. No one could connect this new woman to her previous self.

Members of the dynasty were vexed as well. She didn't do this for their dao lord nor lowered her status purposely in the past. They found this rather shameful.

"Alright, let bygones be bygones. Everything ends here." Li Qiye chuckled and suddenly took off his imperial seal, placing it on A'zhui's neck instead.

He then carried her to the throne and let her down. He patted her small face and said: "What a joyous occasion, the coronation of the next king."

The young girl woke up from being moved around, completely confused by the situation. She was now sitting on the throne and her father's seal was hanging around her neck.

"Your Majesty!" Northern Monarch and Venerable Dragon God shouted.

Everyone else felt the same astonishment. The coronation was supposed to be Li Qiye's but now, A'zhui became the main character.

"She's your new king now." Li Qiye smiled and walked away.

Firerage instinctively followed him but he smiled: "Guard Commander, your mission is finished. You should be protecting the new king, not following me."

Firerage stopped in his tracks, not knowing what to do.

Chapter 4896: Kidnapping At Night

Though the crowd was caught off guard, they had no problem with A'zhui becoming the next ruler. After all, she was Eight-stallion's daughter and the dynasty was more than glad to have her.

The problem was the suddenness of the situation and how Li Qiye willingly passed the throne down to A'zhui.

He had changed everyone's mind by superbly taking care of the enemies. This solidified Eight-stallion's reign once more so they accepted him.

Now, the dynasty's top officials were at a loss. If they were to convince him to stay, then it would be offensive to A'zhui, implying that she was not a good fit for the throne.

However, letting her take over felt strange as well. Li Qiye didn't even have time to warm the throne before abdicating.

A'zhui herself was confused since she was unconscious earlier. Fortunately, Li Qiye didn't leave right away so Venerable Dragon God and Northern Monarch could breathe easily.

Serenity visited the capital tonight. Its inhabitants finally relaxed for a second since they have forgotten what it was like to have a good night's sleep recently.

Now, there was nothing threatening Eight-stallion Dynasty so it was time to rest.

Li Qiye also slept well on a tasseled bed tonight, so deep that even a falling sky wouldn't be able to wake him up.

A figure appeared by his bed and observed him, completely shrouded in a brown uniform from top to bottom.

The only things visible were the eyes. Judging by its appearance and brightness, this was a woman.

She seemed to be peering deep into him but looked rather confused at what she found. Li Qiye himself had no idea that there was an intruder. Good dreams must be keeping him occupied.

Her uniform was thin but it didn't depict her figure. For some strange reason, when it fluttered to the wind, so would her body. She could meld into the night, completely imperceptible to guards and patrols.

She blew out a bubble that surround Li Qiye. He still didn't wake up as it lifted him into the air. She waved her hand and her outfit also coiled around the bubble.

Both disappeared into the night and no one in the dynasty had any idea.

\*\*\*

A chilling night at a remote valley demanded a bonfire. This place was shielded from the loud winds, only the sounds of insects and the occasional beast roars could be heard.

The mysterious woman stared at the fiery sparks and embers in silence. As for Li Qiye, he was still sleeping inside the bubble.

It took a while before he woke up and yawned. She stared at him and became tense.

After all, she didn't know whether she could actually stop him since the observation yielded nothing.

He seemed to be a regular cultivator but given what he had accomplished at the coronation, he was at Eight-stallion Dao Lord's level, at the very least. He relied on the charcoal but clearly, he was unfathomable as well.

"Where is this place?" He looked around and calmly asked.

"A valley far away from Eight-stallion." She took a deep breath and clenched her fists.

He rubbed his eyes and yawned again before staring at her: "Taking me here late at night, I believe an explanation is owed."

After a moment of hesitation, she gritted her teeth and popped the bubble, releasing him.

"Taking me hostage?" He sat down by the bonfire and asked.

"I had some questions during your coronation yesterday, Your Majesty, so I've invited you here." She gazed at his face illuminated by the bonfire and answered.

"I'm not the king of Eight-stallion anymore." He waved his hand and said: "What questions?"

She heaved a sigh of relief because he didn't become angry at all. There was no power fluctuation.

"My name is Jian Yunyun. I hail from the Alliance." She introduced herself and took off her veil. [1]

The night suddenly became brighter due to her extraordinary beauty and fair skin. Her eyes were gentle like limpid autumn waters. Deep inside was also determination.

When she spoke, it could make hearts beat faster. She had a combination of both femininity and unyieldingness. Others wanted to pamper her but didn't dare to get close.

"The Alliance." Li Qiye sighed and said: "You were a guest from Primal Dao yesterday." He became slightly emotional but didn't show it.

"Yes, the Alliance and Primal Dao." She admitted that she represented Primal Dao yesterday.

Though she was shocked by the reversal, this was not the reason why she kidnapped Li Qiye.

"This is a declaration of war against Eight-stallion." Li Qiye smiled and played with the bonfire.

She shuddered because this was indeed risky. If Eight-stallion were to pinpoint this to their Primal Dao, they would immediately go to war.

Chapter 4897: Blacksmoke Regalia

"Well, because you are wearing Blacksmoke Regalia, I shall let you have an opportunity." Li Qiye smiled.

"You are aware of it?!" She became startled.

"Of course, it was passed down by a certain someone." Li Qiye said.

Jian Yunyun became emotional because not even those from Primal Dao knew about it. Only one or two from the Alliance had an idea. She thought that she had found the right person after seeing his knowledge.

"It is one of the few secret treasures that our alliance still has. Fewer than few know about it." She stared intensely at him.

In Primal, a few ancient ancestors were aware of its existence. However, they didn't even know its name. Therefore, she became perplexed.

"It is from a distant past, too far away to remember by those from the present." Li Qiye said while staring at the bonfire.

"It is a supreme treasure left behind by our progenitor, the creator of Primal Dao." She said.

"Then do you know who this person is?" Li Qiye asked.

"Well..." She couldn't answer right away.

Primal was one of the twelve supreme lineages in the lower continents. Primal had numerous branches under its jurisdiction. Most of them had a good idea of their history.

Alas, the same couldn't be said about the first progenitor for both Primal and the Alliance. They lacked a single scroll containing information about this mysterious being.

For example, Hundred Races Dao didn't have one progenitor but they knew their past. They started from a gathering of great powers after the immemorial epoch war. They were a direct branch of Imperial Alliance from the upper continents.

Since it was made up of various great powers with no initial ties, their sources were also different. This was different for Primal. Illumination, Heavenseal, Ascension, the Alliance, and many others were all connected to a single progenitor.

Their merit laws and old treasures were still related - branches from a single stream. The lack of records regarding such an influential progenitor simply didn't make sense. No one could answer Li Qiye's question.

"Who is our progenitor?" She blurted out.

"Is this the only reason why you brought me here?" Li Qiye smiled and asked a question instead.

"I represented Primal to participate in the coronation. I heard that you named the monument Primal Trinity Against the Heaven. Since the characters are similar and are often used by our lineage, I was wondering if it has anything to do with us". She took a deep breath and inquired.

"That's it? Is this worth kidnapping me and risking being pursued by Eight-stallion?" Li Qiye chuckled.

She opened her mouth but hesitated. She naturally knew the risks but this matter was important to her.

"It has no relation to your lineage nor its origin. Just think of it as a coincidence." Li Qiye smiled: "That's why we should get to the point. Take out whatever you have."

"... How do you know I have something to show you?" She couldn't believe it.

"I sense something that I haven't in a long time." Li Qiye said: "Yes or no?"

She saw his eyes becoming profound and frightening just like two black holes. She felt herself losing control of her body.

She tried her best to remain calm before solemnly taking out an item. This was her goal in the first place but Eight-stallion Dynasty wasn't the right place to do so, hence the kidnapping.

This was a small box with numerous blessings and seals. Just the wrapping alone was made from priceless cloth.

She respectfully presented it to him with both hands after moving the cloth. It appeared to be a bone around the size of a fingernail. It no longer had any color or divinity.

Upon first inspection, it seemed to be useless due to old age. Alas, a meticulous pair of eyes would be able to sense something special even though it lacked luster and power - a charm belonging to the olden days.

"This is the ultimate secret of our Alliance known as the ancestral bone. It has been passed down for eras and never revealed to any outsider. I have it with me this time due to an unexpected circumstances and it somehow reacted when you took the charcoal out of the brazier. It exuded heat, only for a split second." She said. "So there's a connection." Li Qiye stared at the bone for a bit before holding it.

It seemed heavier than any divine metal in spite of its size. The density must be out of this world. He rubbed it and found the surface to be smooth as if it was polished numerous times before. He could tell that something unimaginably sharp had severed it. The required speed must have been brilliant as well.

Most wouldn't be able to imagine this, only characters of Li Qiye's level were able to envision the force of that strike.

Chapter 4898: Broken Bone

As Li Qiye took his time researching the bone, Jian Yunyun asked: "Is it related to the monument?"

She was awfully curious about a potential connection due to the bone's reaction that day, not to mention the character "Primal" being used as well.

Their branch has been worshipping this bone for eras now. It had never shown any reaction in the past. Descendants wondered why the respect was being shown since it seemed rather useless.

Now, the heat from it during the coronation was unprecedented. This justified the risk she took when kidnapping Li Qiye.

"Your origin and the monument aren't deeply related. Both have primal as part of their title but that's it." Li Qiye said.

"Then why did the bone react to the charcoal? Please enlighten me, Young Noble." She bowed.

"It's more complicated." Li Qiye elaborated: "What you perceived as heat was actually hatred. However, since the bone's divinity is gone, your assessment became inaccurate."

"Hatred?" She didn't expect this answer.

"Do you know which bone this is?" Li Qiye rotated the bone while asking.

She couldn't answer the question.

"The center of the forehead." Li Qiye said.

"The glabella?" She said: "The toughest of the bones."

Cultivators focused on training this area for protection, causing it to be quite hard. However, she didn't get the impression from the bone.

"The person had it torn off while still alive." Li Qiye said.

"How? This thing looks completely intact." She had observed the bone numerous times in the past.

Due to the toughness of the bone, it was virtually impossible to pull it off while maintaining even surfaces. There should have been edges and marks.

This required a mighty existence cutting the bone out in one go with something immensely sharp.

"That's where it gets interesting. The owner of this bone was strong beyond your imagination. Not even dao lord treasures can touch this bone. Alas, it was taken forcefully and robbed of its divinity. Now, it is just another bone." Li Qiye said.

She had a bad feeling while listening to this story. The assailant seemed to be an evil cultivator, wanting to absorb another's dao essences and vitality.

This was a taboo type of cultivation - absorbing others' power. Those participating in this art were usually hunted immediately by the rest of the world.

The cultivation world was a ruthless and lawless place. Alas, this type of cultivation could result in absolute chaos.

"So who did it?" She took her time calming down and then asked.

There were many mysteries to this tale. If Li Qiye said that the owner of the bone was mighty, the assailant must have been even more formidable. Moreover, what was the relationship between this bone and her sect?

She had speculations but didn't want to be presumptuous. Whatever happened back then must have been dreadful and nauseating.

"This was far in the distant past but does pertain to your sect." Li Qiye said.

"In what way?" She hastily asked.

Li Qiye placed the other palm on the bone to start a cycle of the dao. As time twisted back and forth, she suddenly felt herself being transported to a void with Li Qiye.

"Buzz." A strand of divinity finally showed itself and made her feel like a speck of dust.

Alas, it appeared quickly and went away just as fast. Everything returned to normal.

"What was that?!" She thought she saw a dark hand devouring that strand of divinity earlier.

Nonetheless, its holy power exceeded her comprehension.

"The final strand of divinity." Li Qiye sighed and returned the bone to her: "This is only a regular bone now, a piece of memento to remember an ancestor."

"So this ancestor was completely devoured?" She shuddered.

"Yes." Li Qiye nodded: "This was a brutal hunt with no good ending for the prey, only a terrible end."

"Do you know who it is?" She felt bad for the victim.

"An ancestor of an ancestor of an ancestor, you get the point." Li Qiye responded.

She thought that the victim might actually be the progenitor of Primal, prompting her to ask: "Was it our progenitor?"

"No, this was way before your sect." Li Qiye shook his head: "Nonetheless, someone lamented this death and kept this bone for future descendants to worship later on."

She stared at the bone and wondered about the identity of both the assailant and the victim.

Chapter 4899: Primal Dao

"Is this all you wanted to know?" Li Qiye stared at the dazed woman.

Jian Yunyun regained her wits but clearly hesitated from speaking more.

"I guess not." Li Qiye chuckled.

"I don't know." She stared at the bonfire while replying: "I've only heard about it."

He used a stick to move the wood around for the bonfire, patiently waiting.

"How do you know all of this, Young Noble?" She eventually asked because the top masters from her branch had no idea what the bone was.

However, Li Qiye deduced many things after holding it for just a short period. Due to his average appearance, some might think that he was spouting nonsense.

Alas, she personally witnessed the coronation and saw what he could do. Plus, as the conversation progressed, she figured that his comments were virtually truths. How could someone who knows all of this not be world-famous?

"A little reading, a little traveling, that's all." Li Qiye smiled.

"..." She remained skeptical but still took his word for it.

"You still have something else to ask me." Li Qiye repeated.

In the end, she had to spill it: "We do have something else in Primal but I don't have it with me. I've only read about it in the scroll, hence my limited knowledge."

"What is it?" Li Qiye smiled.

She hesitated again, prompting him to say: "It's alright, I won't force you. I only wanted to help out of consideration for your ancestor."

"You know our ancestors?" She was surprised because he didn't appear old enough.

"Do you?" Li Qiye chuckled.

She didn't actually know very much about the progenitor and the early forefathers of Primal.

"How do you know them, Young Noble?" She asked.

His eyes tilted down at her regalia, causing her to feel uncomfortable as if every inch of her flesh was exposed. This made her shudder and blushed.

He stopped and said: "Blacksmoke Regalia is a peerless treasure. Though its owner didn't rely on it, it was still worn and favored for a long period."

"I see..." She became emotional because Li Qiye knew too much about the outfit.

"Do you know about Primal's origin, Young Noble?" She took advantage of this opportunity.

"Primal was most likely created in the lower three continents as a sentimental remembrance." Li Qiye shook his head: "Your Alliance is absolutely older."

Once again, he completely astounded her with his knowledge because currently, the Alliance was only a branch of Primal. Nonetheless, she also had this suspicion.

According to the historical text, Primal was in charge of numerous kingdoms and sects. The Alliance was a bit different, serving as a link between various powers and was in charge once.

"A remembrance for what?" She asked.

Li Qiye stared at the bonfire for a bit before responding: "Someone or something, or a vengeful feud."

"I see..." She thought about the broken bone again after hearing this.

"Young Noble, I do have something to ask but the item in question is not with me right now. I believe this matter pertains to the mythical bone."

Li Qiye narrowed his eyes after hearing this.

"Are you aware of it, Young Noble? I am referring to the Dao Ancestor Bone." She knew that she got the right person.

"Man search for it to no avail." He smiled.

"No. It actually appeared before and caused quite a stir. Celestial Court, Immortal City, and Imperial Field all mustered their full strength. This resulted in a terrible war between conquerors, dao lords, and emperors."

"Go on, I'm interested in this old tale." Li Qiye stroked his chin.

"I don't know much." She said: "This is only a legend. In short, its appearance changed everything and an empress showed up to fight something monstrous. It's all rather vague."

"I see. The brat was on to something. And empress..." Li Qiye murmured before sighing.

Previously, Eight-stallion Dao Lord was searching for someone and ended up obtaining a drop of true blood. This was related to the mythical bone.

"What is your goal in telling me all of this?" He then asked.

"I don't know. This is about our Primal's patrimony treasure." She revealed.

"And you don't have it." Li Qiye said.

"Right, no one has it right now but, one person knows of its whereabouts." She hesitated for a bit before speaking.

"Who?" Li Qiye asked.

"Divine Empress Dowager, a supreme ancestor of our Alliance." She said.

This was a being capable of sweeping through the lower continents since she had six sacred fruits. Alas, she was not seen for more than a thousand years now.

"You don't know where she is." Li Qiye smiled.

"Yes, she has been missing." She nodded and sighed. If the empress dowager was still around, the Alliance wouldn't have declined to this level. A junior like her wouldn't need to bear so much responsibilities.

"You should be asking your sect's seniors, not me." Li Qiye said.

She opened her mouth, wanting to say something. However, she noticed something and got up.

"Who?!" She roared; her eyes gazed deep into the wilderness.

"Whoosh!" A radiance illuminated the area with the force of a tsunami.

The trees nearby were uprooted instantly. The gales made it hard for cultivators to stand still.

A middle-aged man came closer; his aura had preceded him.

Chapter 4900: Ascension Sacred Lord

The man exuded colorful rays filled with divinity. Halos made of dao runes also emanated behind him.

Each rune had the weight of a mountain. They have been polished meticulously before and became one with the man's oppressive aura. Everyone near him felt themselves being assaulted by tornados.

There were strands of saber energy as well with enough ferocity to cut down the sky and all living beings.

"Ascension Sacred Lord." Jian Yunyun's expression changed after seeing the man slowly approaching.

He was the lord of Ascension and a member of Primal. Ascension was a great power under this lineage.

Thus, they were allies but somehow, her expression said otherwise.

"Virtuous Niece, I've finally found you. It wasn't easy." As he came closer, his aura intensified and engulfed the area.

"Long time no see, Sacred Lord." She calmly said and then whispered to Li Qiye: "This is our matter, leave first."

She was sure of Li Qiye's unfathomable nature. Nonetheless, she didn't want him to be involved in their internal conflict. After all, this could turn him into Primal's enemy.

"Who may this young fella be?" Ascension glanced at Li Qiye for a bit before dismissing him: "Virtuous Niece, if you want a lover, you should still maintain a higher standard in order to not humiliate yourself and the Alliance."

Li Qiye only chuckled after hearing this and continued to play with the bonfire.

She became anxious since he didn't want to leave. Nonetheless, she didn't show it on her face as she uttered coldly: "You need not worry about this matter, Sacred Lord. You have no jurisdiction over the Alliance."

"You're not wrong, Virtuous Niece, I cannot interfere with your decisions." Ascension's eyes suddenly became piercing: "I'm sure you have all the power in the Alliance now with Black-dress Lady gone."

Her expression became slightly sad only for a split second before she composed herself. Black-dress Lady was their strongest ancestor ever since the disappearance of the empress dowager.

The ancestor served as the pillar of the Alliance before succumbing to her injuries. Now, they no longer had an expert at the dragon lord level.

Therefore, the Alliance found itself in a precarious situation, on the verge of being pushed out of Primal.

Despite her attempt to hide her emotion, Ascension still caught it just in time and confirmed the ancestor's death.

"Clank!" His saber intent then soared forward and captured her in a net.

"She had taken something she shouldn't have. I'm sure you know what it is, Virtuous Niece." Ascension said.

Though he has yet to show malice and aggression, he was clearly not messing around given his strong tone.

"I don't know what you're talking about." She said: "Grandma came back from the negotiation wounded, we have not forgotten this injustice."

"Don't you know the reason why? She went against Primal and deserved what happened." Ascension said.

"According to the agreement of our ancestors, the Primal Key belongs to the Alliance! This has been the case for generations now!" She lost her cool and shouted: "You have broken the agreement with your treachery!"

As the successor of the Alliance, she lived with Black-dress Lady her whole life. This old woman, despite only being the empress dowager's maid, had done so much for her and the sect.

She escaped from the previous negotiation with heavy injuries, eventually dying in front of Jian Yunyun. The hatred and indignation inside her have been boiling.

"I see, so you have it right now." Ascension smiled, capable of garnering information by provoking her.

Jian Yunyun realized her mistakes and stopped speaking.

"Virtuous Niece, hand the key over." Ascension glared at her.

"Sacred Lord, the key belongs to the Alliance, you are not qualified to make demands. What you have done is unforgivable and treacherous, going as far as scheming against your own sect members. The ancestors are ashamed." She chastised.

"This was true in the past, not now." Ascension shook his head: "If your alliance had handed that thing over to us, then you could have kept the key. Since this wasn't the case and Black-dress Lady took the key on her own volition, she deserved it."

"Strong words from a treacherous man." She responded.

"Is that so, then let us ask the empress dowager to arbitrate this matter." Ascension said.

When the empress dowager was around, the Alliance could even order Primal. Now, she had disappeared and even her maid didn't know her current location.

The Alliance has been keeping this a secret but walls always had holes. Within the last one thousand years, she didn't show up despite the death of Heavenpeak Conqueror. [1]

Therefore, the great powers of Primal speculated about her disappearance and thought that the Alliance was no longer fit to lead.

"Putting Her Highness' matter aside, either hand that thing over or give us the key." Ascension demanded.

"I do not have it." She denied.

"Virtuous Niece, this is rather unwise. You have two choices. First, hand the key over and I'll let you leave." His eyes turned cold as he spoke.

However, he paused for a bit before continuing: "Actually, there is a win-win scenario without you needing to give us the key."

"What is it?" She was wary of his sudden change of heart.

"Ascension Sacred Ground is missing a queen. If you are willing, the Alliance and Ascension shall become in-laws. You may keep the key then." He stared at her lustfully.

"How ambitious." She sneered: "You want the Alliance as well."