

Emperor 4901

Chapter 4901: Regal Sky Dragon

“Virtuous Nephew, you’re overthinking it. Can the current Alliance do anything right now? The empress dowager is no longer around, Black-dress Lady is dead. It requires protection or outsiders will destroy it. We’re from the same lineage, this alliance is just right.” Ascension Sacred Lord smiled and shook his head.

“How shameless.” Jian Yunyun coldly remarked.

“That’s fine, I won’t force the issue. Hand the key over, out of consideration that we’re from the same branch, I will leave afterward.” He suggested again.

“And if I refuse?” She said.

“You already know the answer.” He waved his hand and said: “I must have this key, no, we must have this key. If you choose to be stubborn, you will share the same fate as Black-dress Lady.”

“All of you are traitors, this will not be forgotten.” She gritted her fists after hearing this.

“You’ve said this already.” Ascension said: “She obstinately stuck to her course and faced the consequences. Most importantly, the Alliance no longer has the power to keep the key. Reason and force are not on your side.”

“So Ascension should hold the key instead? That is not part of the rules stated by the ancestors.” She retorted.

“Not the alliance either. According to the ancestral creed, Heavenpeak should be in charge of it but unfortunately, they have been destroyed.” Ascension sighed in response.

The loss of Heavenpeak Conqueror and his sect was a serious blow to Primal Lineage.

“Since the order was disrupted, the Alliance stepped in.” She said.

“As I’ve said, just invite the empress dowager and exchange the other item for it.” Ascension shook his head.

Of course, if she was still around, this conversation wouldn’t be happening in the first place. The Alliance didn’t have a single dragon lord left, hence her having to shoulder this burden.

“Words are meaningless at this point. Give me the key, now!” He glared at her.

“Over my dead body.” She didn’t relent.

“Then I will have to kill you. What a shame, dying at such a young age.” He chillingly said.

“Clank!” A saber hummed and the intents surrounding her erupted into the air. They formed a heavenly saber for a direct slash.

Just his will alone was majestic and endless - capable of splitting the sky. This was the power of a dragon lord with one sacred fruit.

She was not in this realm so the saber intents alone suppressed and immobilized her. The power disparity seemed impossible to overcome.

“Boom!” In this crucial moment, a greenish-black aura emanating from her expanded for a thousand miles. The roars of dragons could be heard inside this illusory paradise and a greenish-black tree appeared to block the saber intent.

“Not bad, Regal Sky Dragon!” Ascension shouted in response: “So this is a secret technique from a progenitor but Virtuous Niece, this is still not enough to stop my blade!”

The technique was among the best in Primal Dao. However, only the Alliance had access to it.

Its mystical nature allowed her to stop the saber intents despite being grossly weaker.

“Clank!” Ascension finally raised his saber. The glint from it was incomparably sharp and could kill mighty cultivators.

“Ugh.” She vomited a mouthful of blood. Her secret technique was not enough to stop it.

In reality, a youth capable of defending against a dao lord was already impressive enough. There was no way she could handle the actual slash.

In this crucial moment, her robe became illusory and teleported her next to Li Qiye. She then carried him and disappeared from sight.

“Clank!” The slash finally came. Ascension did not hold back and knew that she might try to escape. This slash was enough to catch her no matter what.

Alas, Blacksmoke Regalia was indeed special, capable of saving her and Li Qiye from the strike. Anyone else beneath the dragon lord realm would have been decapitated.

The robe brought the two of them deep into the mountain, traveling ten thousand miles in the blink of an eye.

She was still coughing out blood along the way. The power of that slash earlier still grievously injured her. She was only alive thanks to the robe.

“Your injuries are serious.” Li Qiye shook his head.

She channeled her energy and spat more blood out before sitting down and taking a pill.

“You need to leave now.” She said: “Ascension Sacred Lord is coming soon, you have nothing to do with this.”

She only wanted to ask him questions, not involve him in this internal conflict. Ascension was not merciful and would kill him too.

“What about you?” He sat down and smiled.

“What else can I do?” She smiled bitterly while channeling her merit law: “The Alliance has nothing left, a pagoda lacking stability will slant eventually.”

“You can just hand over what they want?” He made another bonfire and said.

“Grandma died protecting the key, I will not let her death be in vain. Her spirit will not rest if I were to yield.” She bit her lower lip and said with determination.

Black-dress Lady took care of her since youth. Letting her down was unacceptable.

Chapter 4902: Illumination Empress Dowager

Li Qiye continued to fix the pile of sticks while Jian Yunyun tried her best to recover. Fortunately, her sect’s special pill proved to be rather effective.

“You’re still here?” She eventually opened her eyes and saw him.

“You brought me here, shouldn’t you bring me back as well?” Li Qiye smiled.

“...” She had no response because this made perfect sense. Though it seemed like a kidnapping, she just had questions for him. Therefore, she should also bring him back.

Alas, she worried about Eight-stallion Dynasty finding out. Moreover, Ascension Sacred Lord was trailing her as well.

If she were to reveal her location by coming to Eight-stallion, it might end with death.

“I hope you do have a plan. Otherwise, just acting rashly means that you’re not worthy of your position as the successor of the Alliance.” He said.

She let out a soft sigh before answering: “I have thought about letting you see that thing from Primal, perhaps you will see through its mysteries.”

It has been in Primal for eras now but none was able to figure it out. Since Li Qiye could deduce the broken bone, perhaps he could repeat the feat.

“I’m a little interested in your ancestor’s remnant item. There should be a reason for it.” Li Qiye stroked his chin.

“Sounds like you know so much about our ancestor.” She stared at him.

“A little bit. For example, what you called Regal Sky Dragon wasn’t its name.” Li Qiye smiled.

“No?” She didn’t believe it: “This is our sect’s secret, no one else knows how to use it. Ever since the very start, it is known as Regal Sky Dragon.”

“It is up to you whether to believe me or not, but its real name is Heavenraiser Tree. Your alliance must have changed its name.” Li Qiye smiled.

“Heavenraiser Tree.” She had never heard of this title before and this went against the historical scrolls. The technique was heavily guarded and only given to elite disciples.

He shrugged, not really caring about the matter.

“Someone’s coming.” She suddenly stood up and turned around.

Sure enough, she saw figures coming from the forest nearby. It was a group of both men and women in court uniforms - all were powerful sovereigns.

The four strongest ones carried a palanquin engraved with gold and jade. The main symbol was that of a brilliant and noble phoenix.

“Damn.” Her expression soured after seeing the palanquin.

An aura engulfed the area and drowned them. This was akin to being stuck in a quagmire - escaping was impossible.

Though it wasn’t as suppressive as Ascension Sacred Lord’s saber intent, the aura took control of those caught in its domain. This was obviously another top cultivator.

“Illumination.” She knew who it was and wanted to run.

“Your regalia can’t be used right now.” Li Qiye shook his head.

She used it repeatedly earlier in order to run with Li Qiye. She lacked the power for prolonged activation.

Moreover, the aura coiled around her like a spiderweb at this point.

“Little Yun, no need to run.” The palanquin came close. A noble voice came from inside - clearly belonging to an elegant woman. She sounded dignified yet feminine - a perfect combination.

The veil was lifted and a woman came out. She was dressed in a phoenix dress embroidered with expensive jewels and jades. Each piece exuded bright divinity - a clear sign of exceptional quality.

She herself didn’t reveal her power; just her dress alone could freeze those nearby. She also had a phoenix crest made from divine metals. The phoenix was depicted with a pearl in its beak. This pearl poured down light and illuminated her oval face.

Fair skin, sculpted brows, gentle and moist eyes... Unlike Jian Yunyun’s, her eyes had a sexy charm and could seduce others.

The years have left their mark on her face. Nonetheless, this somehow only added to her charm and nobility.

“Empress Dowager.” Jian Yunyun bowed after the woman showed herself.

She was from Illumination and possessed two sacred fruits. Her origin was the divine race.

This kingdom was famous once, even superior to Deity and Primal at one point. In the past, people may not have heard of Primal but Illumination was certainly known.

Its founder was none other than Eternal Conqueror who had united the lower continents at one point.

During his golden age, even the three continents above couldn't command him. This was a rare exception.

In history, the lineages in the lower continents always listened to commands from their superiors. For example, Deity listened to Celestial Court and Divine Alliance.

This wasn't the case when Eternal was in charge. All lineages in his jurisdiction listened to him alone; the upper powers couldn't interfere.

Illumination reached its peak with him alone. Alas, after his departure, Illumination declined and returned to being a subsidiary of Primal.

Nonetheless, it was currently one of the strongest powers in Primal. Their empress dowager was a great genius during her youth.

Chapter 4903: Seeing Bloodsea Blade Again

Despite being the empress dowager, she had all the authority in Illumination currently.

“I was sad to hear about the lady’s passing.” The elegant woman said with grief.

“But you were there during that meeting, Empress Dowager.” Jian Yunyun said.

“Yes, I was present indeed.” She nodded.

“And you didn’t remember past sentiments, not helping my grandma.” Yunyun’s tone remained cold.

“I did not due to the agreement. The Alliance shouldn’t have obtained the key or Primal’s future would be ruinous.” She said.

“The Alliance is no longer the Alliance without the key. Your insistence on going against the creed will end up severing Primal.” Yunyun didn’t relent.

“Everyone has their own stance and explanation.” She said: “Little one, if you wish to end this storm, you must either hand the key over or get your empress dowager to show up. Otherwise, this will tear the Alliance apart and you will be buried with it. Not even I can save you.”

“We will never hand it over.” Yunyun said and hesitated for a moment before adding: “I will let the empress dowager know and she will preside over this.”

Illumination Empress Dowager could read her expression and responded: “Others might somehow fall for this but you are aware of my relationship with your grandma. She wouldn’t have been so desperate if her master was still around.”

The two of them were as close as sisters. Divine Empress Dowager has been missing for more than ten thousand years yet her friend still had no idea of her master's whereabouts. There was no reason to be fearful.

"If she didn't know, neither do you." She concluded.

Yunyun gritted her teeth and said: "I'll have you know that I have clues about her location." She has been traveling in search for the empress dowager.

"Tell me, I will brainstorm with you." The empress dowager said.

Yunyun shook her head: "I cannot but trust me, give me more time. Everything will be fine once I find the empress dowager."

The empress dowager pondered for a moment before declining: "Even if I trust you, others in Primal won't. You are exceptional among the young generation but you won't survive this by being so stubborn."

"As a member of the Alliance, I must do what I should." Yunyun said.

"You remind me of myself when I was younger." The empress dowager said: "Out of respect for your grandma, follow me to Illumination and I will protect you. Wait until this matter is finished and you may go wherever."

"Do you wish to imprison me?" Yunyun remarked.

The empress dowager smiled and said: "Think what you will. If it makes you feel better, your young friend can come with as well." She glanced at Li Qiye who was minding his own business by the bonfire.

She assumed that he was either Yunyun's friend or perhaps her lover.

"This has nothing to do with him." Yunyun refused.

"So be it." The empress dowager said: "Come with me, little one, it's the right choice."

"I do not wish to." Yunyun had no time to waste.

"Then I'll have to force you, I'm afraid." The empress dowager insisted.

"Buzz." Sacred strands of energy emanated from her body and engulfed Yunyun.

The latter found herself to be outmatched once again. She tried to activate her regalia but it didn't react.

"Boom!" She performed the secret technique again - Regal Sky Dragon or rather, Heavenraiser Tree.

A paradise manifested into reality and contained various phenomena.

"This is unwise, little one." The empress dowager's aura intensified and suffocated Yunyun.

She was even stronger than Ascension Sacred Lord. Yunyun could stop one or two moves from him but this was a different story.

Suddenly, she realized something and glanced in that direction - a man was standing there like a lone wolf at night. He wore a steel hat, looking like a statue.

“Who are you?” One of the palanquin’s carriers shouted.

“State your name!” The four strongest guards immediately attacked. Sword rays formed a net around him.

“Clank!” A red glow flashed and disappeared once blood was spilled.

All four were decapitated. Their eyes were wide open in disbelief because they had no chance of stopping the fatal slash.

“Bloodsea.” The empress dowager became serious after seeing one of the Ten Monsters.

Her experts gripped their weapons and glared at him. Alas, they were shaking inside.

He was notorious for leaving a trail of blood once he unsheathed his saber.

“May I ask why you are here?” She said calmly.

“Let them go, leave.” Bloodsea was a man of few words.

As the ruler of a great kingdom, she didn’t react well to threats.

“If I refuse?” She uttered coldly.

“Then you will be talking to my saber.” He gripped the hilt and released his saber intent.

It was strong enough to deter her since she realized the power gap.

“We’re leaving.” She decisively made a choice. There was no point in wasting energy here.

Chapter 4904: Solitary Journey

Li Qiye found a wild animal and roasted it with the bonfire until it was golden and salivatingly fragrant.

Bloodsea Blade didn’t hold back and sat down. He tore some meat off and started eating as if it was his meal.

Li Qiye cut a piece and gave it to Yunyun. He picked half a thigh for himself.

Bloodsea finished his large piece and still wasn’t satisfied. He grabbed another piece from Li Qiye and continued.

Yunyun ate and stared at the flames, occasionally stealing glances at Bloodsea.

He ranked fifth among the Ten Monsters and was feared by all. Thus, she didn't know how to feel being in his presence.

He didn't have a murderous aura right now, unlike when he held his saber. He looked no different from an old man appreciating a well-cooked meal.

This was the time to show appreciation so she bowed and said: "Thank you for saving us, Senior."

He ignored her and continued eating. The three of them feasted and only bones were left in no time at all.

"Why are you here?" He then asked Li Qiye because he saw Li Qiye with the imperial seal back in Eight-stallion.

He didn't know about subsequent events since he couldn't care less about the dynasty.

"Why not?" Li Qiye smiled.

Yunyun became nervous because she didn't know their relationship, wondering if Bloodsea might kill her after finding out about the kidnapping.

Bloodsea couldn't believe a junior was talking to him like this. Youths were usually pale after hearing his title, let alone sitting so close to him.

"Don't you want to be a king?" Bloodsea asked.

"What's the point of ruling a declining dynasty? I've quitted." Li Qiye waved his hand, once again surprising the old man.

Bloodsea noticed that the imperial seal was no longer there, meaning that there was someone else in charge now.

Sure, Eight-stallion no longer had the dao lord but Venerable Dragon God was still around. They couldn't be underestimated.

Not to mention this youth, even big shots and famous cultivators would die over the throne of Eight-stallion. No one could resist this temptation.

Jian Yunyun smiled wryly after hearing this. Eight-stallion was on the rise again yet Li Qiye called it a "declining dynasty". Venerable Dragon God and the others might go crazy after hearing this.

"Why did Eight-stallion Dao Lord pass the throne down to you?" Bloodsea seemed curious and didn't mind speaking more than usual.

Back during the escort mission, he focused on the coffin alone, nothing else. Now, the whole ordeal was indeed strange.

Of course, he didn't think that Li Qiye was an illegitimate son. He could see that there was no blood relation here.

"It's because I'm handsome, I'm sure." Li Qiye smiled.

Bloodsea's eyes full of contempt said it all. How shameless for this man to be boasting about his appearance.

Yunyun, on the other hand, didn't want to laugh and hurt Li Qiye's feelings.

"Senior, I have seen your saber marks back at the academy. I didn't understand much though." She changed the topic.

"You're a student?" Bloodsea's cold expression loosened a bit. Perhaps bringing the academy up reminded him of some memories, pleasant or otherwise.

"I'm still studying. I was fortunate enough to be given permission to study your marks." She said.

Though he was one of the Ten Monsters, Bloodsea had studied at the academy before. He was brutal against others but the academy held a special spot in his heart. Therefore, he also took it easy on Yunyun after finding out.

"You're not a saber user, it's understandable." Bloodsea said, not wanting to teach.

"Senior, why do you prefer to travel alone?" She asked.

He didn't join any great power or mingled with anyone in the past. This wouldn't be surprising for a weak cultivator. However, someone as strong as him was welcomed everywhere. Alas, the only friend he wanted was his saber.

"This is part of the grand dao, a solitary journey." Li Qiye smiled: "The longer the journey, the more ruthless the dao is. There is nothing but loneliness at the end of the path."

Bloodsea was impressed that a junior was able to discern this sad truth.

"A solitary journey." Yunyun repeated and thought about this issue. In her case, no one was able to help her after Grandma's passing; she was also alone.

"What are you seeking with the dao?" Li Qiye asked.

"No returning after seeing my blade." He answered after becoming slightly interested in Li Qiye.

He resembled an ordinary mortal right now yet the comment painted a carnage for Yunyun. She envisioned a slash capable of massacring an army in the blink of an eye.

Chapter 4905: Looking For Someone

Bloodsea traveled the world as a lone wolf - no friends and families as companions. He didn't have a home yet the entire world was his home.

"Looks like you have been complacent recently with training." Li Qiye glanced at him and said.

This startled Jian Yunyun so she winked repeatedly at him. After all, the guy could become angry and chop both of them down in this wilderness.

Most importantly, Bloodsea clearly focused on his cultivation - nothing else. Therefore, Li Qiye's comment was a slap to the face.

The old man stared at Li Qiye in a serious manner. Though he didn't show any anger, Yunyun felt a biting chill. The temperature around them became colder.

She winked at him more, implying that he should apologize right away or praise the old man.

Alas, Li Qiye ignored her and continued playing with the bonfire. This drove her angry and nervous since she didn't want to die in such a silly manner.

"I've been busy looking for someone." Bloodsea eventually looked away and the chill dispersed.

"Who is it?" Yunyun heaved a sigh of relief and curiosity got the best of her.

"Phenomena Conqueror." The old man answered.

"Phenomena? He's even more talented than Conceal Conqueror." Yunyun blurted out.

Phenomena was one generation before Conceal. In terms of actual timeline, he was from the same generation as Heavenpeak Conqueror who was eventually killed by Conceal.

Keep in mind that Conceal was always praised for her superb talent. Alas, everyone agreed that Phenomena was superior in this regard.

He came from Lunar Lineage and had access to one of the Nine Heavenly Scriptures - Hallowed Three Forms. He trained with the mortal version.

As his cultivation improved, Lunar also enjoyed immense prosperity. Everyone believed that it would one day rival Untethered and Deity.

This was not unprecedented in its long history. Its progenitor, Nightmoon Conqueror, was strong enough to roam all six continents.

She oppressed Deity and the upper alliances. In her rage, she attacked Celestial Court and its Sword Emperor didn't dare to fight her.

Heaven Burial Conqueror had to step up instead. The battle affected the landscape of all continents. In the end, Celestial Court activated its formations yet she still managed to leave. From then on, no one dared to provoke her.

Unfortunately, Lunar declined for many eras afterward. This all changed with the appearance of Phenomena Conqueror.

Due to his talent, they thought that they could return to the golden age. Alas, this didn't go as planned.

"I heard that he had left long ago since he had four dao fruits, he should be in the upper continents now." Yunyun said softly.

Her speculation was reasonable since conquerors and dao lords didn't want to stay here after possessing three to four dao fruits. Conceal and Eight-stallion were rare exceptions.

"He didn't." Bloodsea responded.

"You are quite sure of this. Moreover, you think that something had happened to him, and that's why you're trying to find him. If he's dead, you must at least see the corpse, right?" Li Qiye said.

Bloodsea nodded after a moment of silence.

"Impossible, he had four dao fruits before Conceal made her debut. Heavenpeak only had one fruit as well. The only conqueror who can fight him back then was Truth Conqueror, but this being should be in isolated cultivation." Yunyun couldn't believe it.

"So it's a dragon lord." Li Qiye smiled.

"Hmm... not many dragon lords can kill a conqueror with four dao fruits." Yunyun said: "Untethered's Stone Ox is one."

Alas, she didn't want to speak on this matter anymore. Stone Ox was a supreme ancestor of Untethered, the only person in the lower continents with seven sacred fruits.

For some reason, he didn't leave the lower continents, not even Untethered. According to conventional wisdom, even a six-fruit dragon lord would have a hard time killing Phenomena Conqueror. It had to be someone stronger.

For example, Divine Empress Dowager, Wild Dragon, and Stompheaven from Heaven Burial all had six sacred fruits. Nonetheless, they wouldn't be able to kill Phenomena Conqueror.

"It's not Stone Ox." Bloodsea said with absolute certainty and convinced her.

"Why are you so sure that he is still here, Senior?" Yunyun asked.

"We are good friends." Bloodsea said, catching the girl off guard.

This didn't make sense because Phenomena was a prestigious conqueror while Bloodsea was a heinous villain. Moreover, Phenomena should be considerably older.

On the other hand, if they were good friends, Phenomena should have said something before leaving the lower continents. Thus, Bloodsea had a reason for doubt.

"Those from Lunar don't know either?" She asked while looking at the bonfire: "Our empress dowager is missing as well."

"When?" Bloodsea gazed at her.

Her neck hurt a little as if a white blade was inches away.

Chapter 4906: Missing People

“I do not know, and I don’t think anyone else does. The only person who might have a clue is my grandma. Unfortunately, she is no longer around.” Yunyun shook her head.

Bringing this up made her sad. She respected the empress dowager for being the protector of the Alliance. Alas, she loved Black-dress Lady far more. The empress dowager was more of a legend.

“She’s missing too?” Bloodsea murmured. Another six-fruit dragon lord was missing?

Such a prestigious character rarely just disappeared from thin air. They normally either went into isolated cultivation or still presided over their sect.

“I wonder who else is missing.” Yunyun said.

Bloodsea paused for a moment before adding: “There is another.”

“Who is it?” She asked.

“Zhuo Yijian.” Bloodsea said.

“Sword Lord! Isn’t he in isolated cultivation?” Yunyun was surprised.

She had heard of this person before since he was also from the academy, serving as a protector. He had great mastery over the sword art along with five sacred fruits. Phenomena himself had nothing but praises for his expertise.

When she was there, she heard that he lived in isolation and didn’t want to see guests. However, Bloodsea was a very trustworthy source since they were fellow students during the same period.

Most importantly, he spoke with conviction and surely had gathered evidence.

“Interesting if all of them disappeared at the same time.” Li Qiye smiled.

Bloodsea’s expression became serious while Yunyun was stirred emotionally.

“Hmm, it is a possibility.” Bloodsea said.

“No way.” Yunyun didn’t think so.

All three were top masters in the lower continents. Phenomena had four fruits, the empress dowager had six, and Sword Lord had five.

What in the world could be strong enough to potentially make all three “disappear”?

“If this is indeed the case, things bode ill for them.” Li Qiye said.

“Who is strong enough to do so? Conceal-” Yunyun said before abruptly stopping.

There was no proof and if anyone from Deity were to hear this, she would be punished for spreading false rumors regarding their conqueror.

“It’s not Conceal.” Bloodsea said.

She carefully pondered and agreed. Though Conceal Conqueror had seven dao fruits and enough power to do so, the timeline didn’t match.

She had only obtained the last fruit recently while the trio has been missing for a long time. The exact time of the incident was unknown but Conceal certainly couldn’t be strong enough back then to do so in a secretive manner.

Remember, it was quite a commotion when she ambushed and killed Heavenpeak Conqueror. Everyone found out about it in no time at all.

“I can’t think of anyone.” Yunyun said.

As for Bloodsea, he knew that this was an earth-shattering event. How did no one in the lower continents know about it?

“It’s simple, the assailant is far, far stronger than them and wanted to keep this a secret.” Li Qiye said.

This was Bloodsea's conclusion as well.

"There's no one like that in the lower continents." She shuddered: "Wait, the Ten Mountains!"

She thought about the mysterious and most dangerous area belonging to Demon Lineage. They might have the power to capture the trio. Alas, the problem was that this would still result in a conspicuous battle.

"It should be a mighty cultivator that no one knows about, lurking in the shadow." Li Qiye smiled.

Bloodsea's eyes flashed brightly and his saber intent surged, fully immobilizing Yunyun.

"It's someone from above, no?" She speculated.

For example, a conqueror or dao lord with eight dao fruits or a dragon lord with ten sacred fruits. That should be enough to kidnap them.

"The five alliances of the two upper continents won't let anyone come down without communication or fanfare." Bloodsea said.

She also agreed. A mighty character from the upper continents should belong to these five factions. They would then report any guests to their subsidiaries below.

“How amusing. I wonder if we will find out.” Li Qiye said.

Bloodsea was sure that something terrifying was going on in the background. He stood up, ready to leave.

“Are you returning to Eight-stallion?” He asked Li Qiye.

Yunyun became nervous again, not wanting him to find out about the kidnapping.

“No point in returning to that shoddy dynasty.” Li Qiye shrugged: “What is your relationship with Eight-stallion Dao Lord?”

“I owe him a favor.” Bloodsea coldly responded.

“I see, he must have saved you from pursuers.” Li Qiye smiled.

Bloodsea didn't respond.

“A drop of water should be repaid with a gushing spring, let alone a life-saving favor.” Li Qiye understood why Bloodsea tried hard to escort the coffin back to the dynasty.

Chapter 4907: Why Are Beggars Everywhere?

Bloodsea Blade headed for the forest, fading away like a phantom. His dao path was a solitary one. Nothing in this world could hinder him.

“Young Noble, you’re not returning to Eight-stallion?” Jian Yunyun wanted to leave as well but felt bad about Li Qiye.

She had brought him here and shouldn’t just abandon him. Thus, she asked: “I will be going to the academy, will you come with me?”

“The academy.” Li Qiye stroked his chin.

“Right, the oldest lineage in Chaos. I’m currently enrolled.” She nodded.

“Fine, let’s go take a look.” Li Qiye said.

“Maybe you will like it.” She said: “It is a place filled with young talents, whether it be those from The People or The Race.”

The academy was far older than even Deity or Untethered. Its origin couldn’t be traced at this point.

Moreover, it accepted everyone as well, not picking a side in the eternal conflict. Some believed it to be the leader of Hundred Races - the oldest and most influential branch in this faction.

Jian Yunyun came from Primal and was the successor of the Alliance. However, she still studied at the academy since it didn’t discriminate.

Li Qiye smiled and waved his hand, extinguishing the bonfire.

She heaved a sigh of relief because this was perfect. He would have a place to stay and most importantly, she still had more questions.

“Why are you heading back?” He asked.

“I want to ask someone there a question. I’ve heard that the supreme ancestor came to see this person before disappearing. This might be the last person to have seen her.”

“Supreme ancestor”, in this case, referred to the empress dowager.

“Off we go.” Li Qiye stretched and said.

Jian Yunyun checked the direction first before starting.

However, they suddenly heard a clicking noise, not too loud but still clearly heard by both.

An old man approached from the forest, walking at an orderly pace.

This startled Jian Yunyun because first, it was Ascension Sacred Lord then Illumination Empress Dowager before Bloodsea Blade. This remote region was far from being remote.

He was frail, thin, and dressed in a tattered robe with patchwork that was shoddily done. He was blind, with puffed-out eyelids that only had a tiny gap in the middle, giving him a limited vision. His cheeks were caved in and his bones were visible. Children might cry at his sight.

She thought that he must be freezing due to the thin robe, not to mention the lack of flesh. His bamboo walking stick was worn at the bottom. Who knows how long it has accompanied him?

The old man gripped a battered bowl in his hand. It seemed that the bowl was found on the street and had several cracks, yet he cherished it, as it was spotless, wiped clean every day with the sleeves of his tattered robes. The sound of the five coins rattling in the bowl, in conjunction with the tapping of his bamboo walking stick on the ground, announced his presence.

Why was he here? Was he lost? Yunyun didn't have time to think because she started shuddering and had to wrap her hands around her body.

The old man stood before Li Qiye and raised his bowl. The sound of the coins hitting each other was akin to a rich man waving his coin pouch in front of a beggar.

However, he was the one begging: "Please give me something to eat."

Li Qiye only stared at him.

"Please, I can't remember my last meal..." The old beggar didn't give up.

Li Qiye still didn't respond.

Yunyun couldn't bear to watch this and placed a bottle of nectar and chestnut into his bowl: "Here, this will keep you full for a long time."

After eating this, a mortal would be satisfied for years to come. He wouldn't need to beg for food anymore.

"Please, Sir..." The old beggar seemed to not see the food in his bowl, still raising it in front of Li Qiye repeatedly.

Yunyun was surprised at first but she was no fool. She realized that this old man came specifically for Li Qiye alone.

"I got nothing." Li Qiye shook his head and waved his hand.

"I haven't eaten anything in a long time..." The old beggar looked miserable and pitiful.

"Then die." Li Qiye smiled.

Only a bastard would smile like this at a blind beggar - how evil and wretched.

"My little plot of land was so fertile and the crop was almost ready for harvest, now it's flattened." The old beggar lamented.

"Oh." Li Qiye remarked nonchalantly.

“There’s nothing left, I can’t return anymore so please, give me food.” He pitifully said and won Yunyun’s sympathy.

“Nothing left? Not true” Li Qiye chuckled: “I should take one.”

Having said that, he reached into the bowl and took one coin again. This act stunned Yunyun.

Chapter 4908: Sent Flying

It was one thing to refuse a beggar but to go as far as taking money from his bowl? This was outrageously shameless.

However, the old beggar didn’t react to Li Qiye taking the coin as if he didn’t know.

“Lord Li, come on now.” He kept on presenting the bowl, raising it up and down.

Yunyun realized that the old man knew Li Qiye after hearing this. She thought about many things but didn’t understand what was going on.

“No.” Li Qiye refused coldly.

“It’s not easy to survive...” The old beggar insisted.

“There’s food and water in your bowl now.” Yunyun reminded.

“Just a little something.” The old beggar ignored her and came even closer to Li Qiye.

She fully understood at this point that the old man wasn’t here to beg. Or, his only focus was Li Qiye.

“Scram.” Li Qiye demanded.

If anyone else were here to see this, they would want to slap Li Qiye for being so cruel to this blind grandpa.

The old man complained to himself: “Lord Zhao gave me a full bowl, how generous of him. Lord Li, just give me a little bit.”

Now, the bowl was in front of Li Qiye’s face.

“Go find your Lord Zhao then.” Li Qiye laughed and kicked the old beggar.

“Bam!” He was sent flying like a shooting star, eventually disappearing from sight.

“Ah!” Yunyun cried out, not expecting this development in the slightest.

“You... you kicked him...” She stammered while staring in that direction.

Li Qiye shrugged in response, not giving a damn. This left her speechless because everything was so bizarre.

First, why did a blind beggar appear in this remote wilderness? Moreover, he insisted on getting some food from Li Qiye.

“But why?” She asked again, criticizing him for being so brutal. No one knows if the old man was still alive or otherwise.

Li Qiye smiled and continued onward in the direction of the academy. She had no choice but to follow him.

As they were walking together, he tossed the coin at her and said: “Take it, a reward.”

“Huh...” She took a look and saw that it was an ordinary coin, not enough to buy a bun in the mortal world.

“You keep it.” She didn’t want it because it was taken from the bowl of a beggar. There was something sinful about this, taking something from the unfortunate souls.

“It’s good that you feel bad, it means that you are worthy. Keep it to your best ability, it might even change your life for the better, to say the least.” He said.

She became frozen again since the comment sounded serious. Was this coin that rare and valuable? She looked down again but didn’t notice anything special about it.

“Isn’t this just a bronze coin?” She asked.

He didn’t answer so she put it away and said: “Thank you, Young Noble.”

Intuition told her that Li Qiye wasn’t lying to her. There must be something special about the coin.

They only took a few steps before hearing the clatter of a horse’s hooves.

She turned back and saw a carriage pulled by a dark horse. The carriage was ordinary with a straw housing.

It came out of nowhere and stopped before Li Qiye, once again frustrating Yunyun. She became cautious right away.

“Little Bro, we meet again.” The driver spoke with a regional accent.

After seeing this woman, Yunyun didn’t know how to describe her. She appeared to be overweight but the fat was somehow solid and didn’t ripple with movement.

They seemed to be made from iron. Given her dark complexion, most would assume that she was a farmer exposed to the sun year-round.

In reality, she was only eighteen or nineteen years of age. Alas, her below-average appearance made her appear older.

Her hair was long and silky, styled in a simple bun that gave her a strong and assertive appearance. However, the heavy and overpowering makeup she wore in combination with her brightly embroidered dress came across as visually unappealing and likely caused others to disapprove.

Everyone would think that she was a small-town girl wanting to live a city life, hence the fashion choices.

When she stood near Yunyun, it made Yunyun look like a fairy.

“You want a ride?” She asked Li Qiye while putting on a coquettish pose and winking at him. This made Yunyun have goosebumps all over.

Yunyun glanced at Li Qiye, thinking about these two’s relationship. Were they friends or lovers?

Chapter 4909: Zhao Dachiu

She was none other than A’jiao, the mysterious girl that has shown up before.

Li Qiye jumped up and told Jian Yunyun: “Come on up.”

Yunyun paused for one second before deciding to jump up and sit in the back. Today has been an eventful one, albeit puzzling. Too many coincidences that weren’t coincidences.

“Go!” A’jiao shouted and the carriage became one with the night.

People couldn't even feel that it was speeding since it had entered a different space-time dimension, or an entirely new plane of existence.

Of course, Yunyun didn't recognize this special phenomenon.

"Not bad, let me have this carriage?" Li Qiye asked.

"If we become family, then what's mine is yours anyway." A'jiao flirted with him, certainly not a sight for sore eyes.

Yunyun was affected but Li Qiye didn't mind. He smiled and said: "Far from enough to even start the negotiation."

"As I've said before, Father is willing to negotiate. You just have to let us know." She leaned closer, latching onto Li Qiye.

It was one thing when A'jiao didn't speak. Alas, the combination of her flirty voice and coquettish expression was too much for Yunyun to handle.

"It is still the same." Li Qiye said flatly.

"Then your heart is made of stone. You are putting me in a difficult situation." She said.

Yunyun stared at Li Qiye, unable to guess their relationship. It sounded as if they were talking about marriage. So Li Qiye would marry her if her father were to agree to certain conditions?

This wasn't a baseless assumption since A'jiao didn't seem to be a good catch. Each of her actions truly made others uncomfortable.

"Little Bro, if you don't seize this opportunity, it'll be problematic." A'jiao said.

"How so?" Li Qiye asked.

She touched his chest with her finger and said: "Zhao Dachiu from the next village wants to marry me."

"Your father agreed?" Li Qiye smiled.

The glimmer in her eyes suddenly changed, causing Yunyun to feel that she was no longer as offputting as before. This exuded an unfathomable aura that only lasted for a split second.

"This doesn't need my father's agreement. You know about this guy, he's not a good person at all. When the time comes, he might just kidnap and marry me." A'jiao tried to look sad and cute.

Yunyun, despite being a nice person, had the urge to kick her off the carriage after seeing this.

"Isn't this good news? Two happy events happening at once." Li Qiye smiled.

“Don’t you know that I only have room for you in my heart?” A’jiao stared intensely at him.

Yunyun thought that Li Qiye must have done something to A’jiao and then fled. A’jiao seemed deep in love with him.

“This Zhao Dachiu is an evil guy, to say the least. He’ll marry me and use my father as a tool.” A’jiao complained.

“Yeah, no one can compare to your father when it comes to evil.” Li Qiye chuckled.

“You shouldn’t say that...” A’jiao stomped her foot: “The guy got too many friends, my father’s two hands can’t deal with four fists.”

“Your father is experienced. Many full of bravado thought that they could kill him. Now, they don’t even have a marked grave while your father is alive and well. Zhao Dachiu can’t handle a sly fox like him.” Li Qiye said.

“Then you haven’t thought this through. Even if he doesn’t defeat my father, he might use our tools to beat you down. It’ll be over for you then.” She said.

“That actually makes me excited. We’ll see who will be beating who down.” Li Qiye smiled.

“I’m just worried about you. You might be able to beat him but what if he breaks into your house and destroy everything? That sounds terrible, right?” She said.

“So ultimately, still wanting to work with me?” He asked.

“Nothing can be better than your cooperation. My father will be generous.” She winked.

“No, thank you, I don’t trust the sly fox.” Li Qiye waved his hand.

“That’s rather rude of you. Father is coming with sincerity.” She said.

“What is he worrying about? Others should be afraid of him, not the other way around.” Li Qiye shook his head.

Yunyun has been listening to them the entire time. “Father”, “Zhao Dachiu”, “tools”? This sounded like two villagers gossiping about trivial matters that have nothing to do with cultivation.

“Lil Bro, I’ll be honest.” She said: “Father said that the village isn’t that united, he is worried that one day, some might cause trouble and it’ll be difficult for you. They might not be able to harm you but can still cause damage to your home.”

Li Qiye’s eyes narrowed after hearing this. Yunyun became intimidated after staring at him; she felt as if the world has just become tiny like a speck of dust. Thus, she was even tinier in comparison.

She suddenly forgot to breathe and wanted to get down on her knees. Of course, this feeling was also fleeting.

“Is this a threat?” Li Qiye coldly said.

“Your words are so cold.” She said with indignation: “You already know how I feel about you. Father likes you as well and doesn’t want anything bad to happen to you. We are merely trying to prevent it.”

“He just wants someone to sweep up the trash.” Li Qiye smiled.

Chapter 4910: Places That The Hammer Can’t Reach

The carriage sped through the night, completely surpassing time and space. Yunyun had no idea that this was happening.

She focused on the confusing conversation that seemed to be coming from two mortal villagers. However, they looked very serious while discussing these mundane matters.

“Why is your father so anxious all of a sudden given his patient personality? The farm crop isn’t ready for the harvest.” Li Qiye said.

“The weather is terrible now, not to mention the locust swarm. What a bad time we live in.” A’jiao complained.

“Your father can deal with the locusts with one wave.” Li Qiye said.

“That’s true, but the evil neighbor is quite a headache. A few things are out of control right now.” She said.

“Zhao Dachui is that annoying?” Li Qiye smiled.

“Lil Bro, it’s not like you don’t know.” She put on a charming expression and scared Yunyun again.

“I don’t know many things but there is one thing I’m sure of. Today will be Zhao Dachui, tomorrow might be Li Dachui. Your dad is the number one village boss, he doesn’t allow anyone else to usurp his authority. I don’t want to be hammered down.” Li Qiye said. [1]

“Where is your confidence?” She rolled her eyes: “Don’t you also want to smash Father? Then you’ll be the boss of the village. Don’t be afraid now, your ambition needs not to be afraid of a hammer.”

“I have no intention of becoming the village boss, although I do want to hit your dad.” Li Qiye said.

“Then you should be panicking right now. If Zhao Dachui hits Father first, it won’t ever be your turn. Since we’re family, I rather you hit him than Zhao Dachui. It would be far more poetic that way.”

“I’m absolutely confident in your dad.” Li Qiye said: “No other village brutes will be doing anything to him, I’m actually a target in the future.”

“Think again, he hasn’t tried to while this has always been your intention.” She said: “He has especially opened a path for just you because we’re family.” She disagreed.

“I don’t want to accept this sentiment.” Li Qiye said: “Your father has the hammer and looks around for nails. Since he hasn’t struck me yet, it just means that I, as a nail, am not stuck out enough.”

“Don’t you see how fertile your little plot is?” She said cutely.

“Because the timing isn’t right. Your dad will definitely want to hammer me down in due time.” Li Qiye disagreed.

“Sigh, don’t be so extreme with your view. Father adores you, that’s why he sent me to find you repeatedly.” She said.

It was one thing when A’jiao didn’t act coquettishly. When she did, Yunyun felt her stomach churning and the content wanted to rush out.

“That’s where it is interesting to me. He is not trying to find me because of this Zhao Dachui. There must be a place where your dad’s hammer can’t reach.” Li Qiye guessed: “I know exactly how efficient he is, this must be special.”

“You’re overthinking it, Lil Bro.” A’jiao was unhappy: “Father is always the same, always merciful.”

“Merciful? Sure, when he views all living things as ceremonial straw dogs.” Li Qiye said.

“The same could be said about you, no?” A’jiao said.

Li Qiye stared into the night and eventually responded: “True, but I and your villainous father are different.”

“That’s why he has a good impression of you. As the saying goes - the father-in-law's gaze upon his son-in-law was like a bee to honey, the more he looked, the sweeter he found him.” A’jiao blushed bashfully.

“Ugh...” Yunyun couldn’t handle it anymore and puked. Fortunately, she puked outside the carriage.

The two completely ignored her and went on with their conversation.

“I’m flattered but this only work on a child.” Li Qiye said.

“You know full well what you’re doing, there is nothing to be worried about.” A’jiao said.

“I do, but since I’m the actual merciful person, don’t you know the saying, nice guys finish last?” Li Qiye joked.

“I agree, your merciful nature coincides with your perseverance thus far but, you don’t have to be on the losing end of things. Look, there are many that have gone just as far as you or even farther but where are they now? They couldn’t maintain this mindset.” Her tone became serious.

“Is this your opinion or your dad’s?” Li Qiye stared at her.

“Everyone has this view, it is an eternal truth, that those with a kind heart will be rewarded. In your case, you got to meet me.” She reverted back to being flirty.

By this point, Yunyun preferred to be facing Ascension Sacred Lord’s blade than to be looking at A’jiao’s bashful torture.

“Keep words to yourself, I want to see actual sincerity before negotiation.” Li Qiye waved his hand.

“Sure, but let me remind you that the times are changing. If the village fences break, it won’t be easy to fix.” She said.

“Right...” He murmured while stroking his chin.

“There is a solution though. As long as you agree, we can fix this to avoid further complications.” She went on.

“No, thank you.” Li Qiye didn’t bite.