#### Emperor 5491

## Chapter 5491: Bind Me

"But this is the best-case scenario, are you privy to the history of this matter?" He asked.

"I only know a little bit, Sir." She took a deep breath.

"Perhaps you know about the possibilities but never saw it happening." Li Qiye smiled.

"Are you referring to the ancient ming?" She put on a serious expression.

"Although you may be considered an utter failure like a pile of mud, you should know that the ancient ming's final form is modeled after you." Li Qiye nodded.

"I have perused many ancient texts and delved into their history." Her serious demeanor was just as captivating as her smile.

"The scrolls contain little information." Li Qiye said.

"Sir, you believe I possess characteristics of the ancient ming?" She asked.

"I know that you do but I can see that you have been diligently purifying what needs to be purified. Now, your form is far more brilliant." He said.

"So is there anything else you're still worrying about?" Her eyes shimmered with radiance as she stared at him.

"I suppose I do not when it comes to you. If your pursuit is self-improvement, I don't have a problem with you continuing this dao path." Li Qiye said.

"I appreciate your sparing my life, Sir." She bowed.

"It is due to your own effort and what you deserve. If you had kept any of the cleansed characteristics, I wouldn't have shown mercy." Li Qiye shook his head.

"I understand, I will definitely try my best to reach the ultimate state and not let you down, Sir." She said.

"The current issue is not about whether you can reach this state. From what I can see, it is only a matter of time due to your mindset." Li Qiye said.

"The procreation issue." She sighed and said: "That is the source of your concern."

"I can deal with it by stripping that bone from you, won't be difficult at all." He smiled while continuing to walk forward.

She shuddered but eventually calmed down and gritted her teeth: "Sir, I am willing to let you take it."

Her eyes were filled with resolution and sincerity, ready to accept the consequences.

"If I had wanted to, I wouldn't wait until now. I hope you don't think you can survive a single move of mine." Li Qiye said.

"Please excuse my ignorance." She thought carefully and realized that Li Qiye was right. She would have been reduced to ashes without having a chance to even see the attack.

"Then you must have a method to bind me and the bone, being the true immortal that you are." She said.

"Yes, there are methods but doing so will prevent you from reaching the ultimate state." He nodded.

"And that is perfectly fine with me, I am willing to be bound even if it is for eternity." She said solemnly. Perhaps this was her destiny; there was no escaping it.

Alas, Li Qiye kept on walking, prompting her to catch up eventually.

"Sir?" She didn't understand.

"Humans are different from animals, we possess intelligence and wisdom like no others and most importantly, self-awareness." He said.

"Self-awareness and a desire to return to the true self?" She asked.

"Yes, so if that happens for you, there won't be any problem. All dao lead to the same path so you just have to find the proper way to do so. Sealing you doesn't solve the root issues, letting you attempt to reach your true self does. At that point, it will solve the seduction affinity on top of the procreation issue." He said.

"I will not let you down, Sir." She bowed and said.

"Don't worry about what I want, just focus on how you will perfect yourself. Nothing else matters, it is a personal journey." He said.

"I am clear on what I need to do now, Sir." She said. There was a flashing light in her mind, guiding her to the next path.

"Although I can just raise my hand and end this, I will not bind you. Reach your ultimate state and cleanse this procreation gift. I do have to let you know that if I ever see you wavering, I will..."

"Sir, you can reduce me to ashes and leave no traces of me in this world then." She interrupted.

"I'm glad we are clear on this." He nodded.

"I will not forget my goal." She said with determination, reminding herself and promising Li Qiye.

"I hope so." He smiled and dropped the issue, wanting to give this woman a chance to solve the problems.

Of course, this was far from simple and required an unyielding dao heart. Any wavering could cause her to become a true calamity to the world.

He could kill her right now and rid himself of a potential problem. Nonetheless, he chose to give her a chance and she knew this.

"There is another matter outside of my problems, Sir." She said.

Li Qiye stopped and she handed him an item: "I heard that when you last were around, you had many followers. Back when Celestial Court was infiltrated, I saw an injured lady being sent flying into a river."

"Bai Jianzhen." He knew who it was right away.

"I am far from being the strongest in Celestial Court. Because the other emperors were nearby, all I could do was force her into a deep hibernation." She elaborated: "I cannot bring her out without being detected, so if you take this to Celestial Court, you'll be able to save her."

"Your action is appreciated." He accepted the item and smiled.

She saved Bai Jianzhen's life by putting her into a slumber, feigning her death in the process. Otherwise, she wouldn't have survived the onslaught of the emperors and monarchs in Celestial Court.

"I am willing to offer my service, Sir, although I'm worried that I'm too weak to be of use to you." She added.

#### **Chapter 5492: Undying Loyalty**

"You have your own path." He said.

"Yes, it is unfortunate. One day when I reach the ultimate, I will offer you my undying loyalty." She bowed.

"Go now." He waved his hand.

"I wonder when we will meet again since it's time for me to leave Celestial Court." She added, realizing that Celestial Court's judgment day drew near.

"It depends on how far you can go. If you do reach that state, the path will be before you. As long as you keep on walking, you'll meet me again." He said.

"Thank you, Sir." She got on her knees and kowtowed. Although Li Qiye didn't give her anything, he guided her to the right path but most importantly, he spared her life despite the potential consequences.

He also didn't seal her, giving her a lifetime of freedom. This was no different from being another parent granting her life to this world.

After finishing the rite, she disappeared from the horizon. He moved on deeper into the region; the repulsive aura intensified as a result.

At this point, mighty dao lords and emperors could no longer restrain their hatred and rage. This was usually when people would give up before puking and being drowned by negative emotions.

They were unstoppable like a tsunami. In fact, lingering excessively would rob them of happiness, causing them to hate their own life as well. This could eventually cause them to produce their own auras of repulsion.

This was why the area became a no-man-land after the emperor's death. No one wanted to take the risk.

Eventually, Li Qiye made it to the corpse of the emperor. Normally, even a barren land devoid of life still had death energy or other nefarious creatures of this affinity.

In this case, if death had legs, it would start running away as well. Nothing but hatred and repulsion were left behind. The most repulsive abomination in the world would still not want to stay here for a second.

Only a pool could be seen but to be more exact, it was more like a puddle of water. It didn't look dirty and there was nothing disgusting about it.

Nonetheless, none could stand it. A dirty puddle of water was still essentially water. This thing was absolute disgust. It infiltrated the deepest recesses of the soul and unleashed disgust.

To what extent was this repulsion? One would prefer to fall to the eighteen levels of hell and be subjected to torment and suffering than stay here.

"Even I would like to spit and leave, this is unbearable indeed." Li Qiye couldn't help but let out a sigh while staring at the puddle.

However, he sat down near the puddle instead and stared at the corpse beneath. No one else could stare at it for long outside of Li Qiye.

The corpse suddenly sat up but this wouldn't frighten anyone. Hatred was stronger than fear in this particular case.

He wore a gray robe with white patches - a sign of being washed numerous times. Nonetheless, it was torn and stained with dirt.

He didn't have too many wrinkles but his complexion was yellow; his hands were tanned from potentially poor living conditions - working hard year-round and suffering from malnutrition. His hair was sparse and white, a disheveled mess now.

He had only a few teeth here and teeth, stained black and yellow with cavities. Such an old man should evoke sympathy instead of disgust.

The imprint of a palm could be seen on his chest - shattering everything and leaving him to die here. It should be noted that even his killer tried their best not to physically touch him, resorting to a spatial palm strike instead. The wound caused hatred to ooze out and engulfed the battlefield.

This hatred of life and all else was a primal force, as pure as could be.

"I'm still so repulsive after death?" The old man looked down at the wound and said.

"I myself don't want to be infected by your aura either." Li Qiye said.

"Yet here you are." The old man said, seemingly a bit happy to see Li Qiye. This rare expression of joy wasn't as repulsive.

"Who else could take care of your corpse but me? I can't just let it rot here forever." Li Qiye smiled.

Chapter 5493: Even Ghosts Hate You

"True." Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo stared at the puddle with Li Qiye.

The latter could feel his sense of disgust intensifying. While being under this condition, those affected would start to hate the world and feel tired of life. They would prefer to live reclusively instead, retreating to the farthest reaches away from humanity.

"How does it feel to be dead?" Li Qiye asked.

The emperor stroked his chin and for a split second, he returned to his original state and had escaped the boundary of repulsion.

"Better than being alive." He said.

"Isn't this what you wanted?" Li Qiye said sentimentally.

"My wish is fulfilled." He stared at the puddle as if it was the manifestation of his self-hatred.

"So go in peace, there's nothing left in the world for you to cling to." Li Qiye said.

"Right, but where do I go now?" He asked a rather difficult and profound question.

"Anywhere you want." Li Qiye said.

"Nowhere to stay, just like when I was alive." He shook his head. Was there a different world for the dead?

"Life and death, both are the same." Li Qiye sighed and said: "Death is sweet release for me while it is a test for you, an experiment to another world. It doesn't seem to be successful."

"Perhaps it will be the same for you after death, no sweet release." The man said.

"We are different in that you are weary of life while I am willing to move forward where my heart leads. In the beginning, there might be some distinction between life and death for you but eventually, they possess the same end." Li Qiye said.

"Hated by heaven and all living beings." He said softly.

"Yes, and even ghosts hate you too." Li Qiye shrugged.

He couldn't help but smile, but his smile was uglier than if he were sobbing. After a while, he murmured: "Right, even ghosts abhor me, let alone living people."

After a brief silence, he added: "You best go on living."

"You want to die yet you tell me to stay alive?" Li Qiye joked.

"Because I have a feeling that if you die, ghosts will hate you too." He said.

"I wouldn't be surprised, I have some ghosts who hate me even right now." Li Qiye said.

He only sighed and didn't respond.

"Say, what if I give you another chance to live?" Li Qiye suddenly asked.

This prompted him to stare at Li Qiye for a second before lowering his head: "Life and death, both are the same."

"That is indeed the essence of this path." Li Qiye sighed and said: "Do you regret your decision?"

"Do you?" He answered with the same question.

"I do not." Li Qiye shrugged while speaking with a firm tone.

He stared at the puddle in a daze, contemplating certain things. This caused the aura of repulsion to intensify and spread even more.

"Okay, okay, I went through the effort of coming here to pick up your corpse so let's cooperate now." Li Qiye patted his shoulder.

He calmed down and once again tried his best to control the aura before responding: "Death isn't what I imagined."

"Because your world-weary dao and its aura of repulsion live on." Li Qiye said.

"Can you reduce me to ashes, leaving nothing behind?" He asked.

"Doing that will splatter it onto me, am I the only one who can do this?" Li Qiye smiled wryly.

"Yes, only you." He agreed.

His killer didn't touch him physically yet was still stained by his aura. Purifying this mess required eras of hard work.

Today, Li Qiye came to help him with his corpse - something no one else wanted to do.

"If both your body and dao are destroyed, would you want to start over?" Li Qiye suddenly asked.

He looked up at Li Qiye for a second before becoming dejected again. He wrapped his arms around his knees and shook his head: "Just being reduced to ashes is already an impossible wish. That's all I can ask for and I will truly appreciate it if you can do this for me."

He yearned for death and after being killed, he came to find that death was not enough. His dao still remained.

Destroying his dao required purifying his hatred. Otherwise, he would continue to be stuck in this world. The issue was that no one would take up this task lest they be infected by his aura as well.

"Starting over might be possible after total destruction." Li Qiye said.

"Impossible." He blurted out.

"Why not?" Li Qiye asked casually.

He stared at Li Qiye and shook his head again: "Even if it is possible, what's the point, just another cycle of the same thing."

"What if it is severed?" Li Qiye asked.

"Now that is even more impossible." He responded, aware of the implication of death.

No heaven-defying method could revert this for a new cycle. Plus, given his circumstances, living again wouldn't change anything.

Others coveted this possibility, especially the epoch overlords. They wanted to live again after death, starting the cycle anew while conveniently keeping certain advantages of their previous life. The same couldn't be said about the emperor.

"Well, let's pretend that it is possible." Li Qiye said.

This caused him to ruminate while staring at the puddle.

#### Chapter 5494: Compassionate And Full Of Love

"The cycle can actually be severed?" Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo didn't believe that this was possible.

Others preferred a continuation of their cycle since they would keep their memories and karma. As for him, this would be useless since the world-weary dao would follow him.

Since heaven and earth hated him, his fate was being kicked out of the reincarnation cycle. Natural death would not come, and the same for reincarnation into a different being. True death would only be possible with the thorough destruction of his dao.

Now, Li Qiye was talking about something even greater.

"I have an idea." Li Qiye said.

"It can't work, not even if you're an epoch lord. You might be able to sever the cycle but not bring someone back to life." He shook his head in disbelief.

Moreover, who would want to do it for someone else? This was akin to creating life - something only available to the villainous heaven.

"No, it is simply impossible." He concluded.

"Your dao is at the apex. Even if I add you to the cycle for reincarnation, it will still follow you." Li Qiye said.

He sighed and knew that this was the truth. His damnation seemed to be permanent.

"No matter what the method is, since heaven loathes me, the price will be incalculable..." He said.

"Not necessarily." Li Qiye shrugged.

"Not even you can break this rule." He shook his head.

Rebirth was impossible, not to mention rebirth and severing the karmic cycle. Li Qiye's ability wasn't the issue here. Why would Li Qiye pay the heavy price for him to live again?

"I can't do it, but someone else can." Li Qiye said.

"Who?" He blurted out but knew that there was only one possible answer.

Li Qiye pointed at the sky, causing the emperor to be frozen in astonishment.

The villainous heaven could certainly do this, but why for the sake of an ant?

"I have my methods." Li Qiye said.

This left him in silence again. Why would Li Qiye do so much for him when they were nothing more than acquaintances if that?

"Why me?" He asked.

If Li Qiye could revive him on top of serving the karmic cycle, he could also do it for someone else. Thus, he should be saving this for whoever he cared the most about.

"No one should have endured such suffering in this world so you deserve another chance. The villainous heaven probably won't let it end like this either." Li Qiye said.

He stared at Li Qiye with skepticism, naturally not buying this nonsense.

"That's just who I am, compassionate and full of love for everyone, don't you think?" Li Qiye added.

"No." He answered flatly.

"Sigh, that hurts. Well, if I'm not who I claim to be, would I be here for your corpse?" Li Qiye lamented.

"Sure, collecting my corpse is compassionate and kind-hearted. But as for reviving me, there is certainly an ulterior motive behind this." He nodded first before disagreeing.

"I'm sad that you think of me this way." Li Qiye smiled wryly.

"What do you actually want?" He simply didn't understand Li Qiye's motive. He was far from being the strongest Immortal Emperor, not to mention his repulsive dao. He was nothing in the eyes of someone like Li Qiye. In fact, he was more of a burden than anything.

"As I stand here enduring your nauseating aura and being infected by it, I have to listen to you doubting me? Tell me, what could I possibly want from you?" Li Qiye appeared sad.

"That's the part I don't understand. There's nothing in it for you." He shook his head in response.

This wasn't a matter of self-hate but he truly didn't have anything worth coveting. The cons far outweighed the pros in this situation. Li Qiye wasn't someone who was known for taking risks either.

"In all seriousness." Li Qiye stared at him earnestly and said: "Indeed, you have nothing that I need, neither in your current state nor in the past."

"What about the future?" Although he was indifferent to everything, this statement actually stirred him because of the implication.

## Chapter 5495: Impossible

He had never thought of the future before since it would be the same as always due to his dao - hated by all.

"So you don't need the current me." He understood the situation.

His current self seemed to be independent from the regular coil of all living things. Nothing wanted to be near him; his existence was merely tolerated by higher powers. In fact, even the most terrifying calamity would actively avoid him.

However, Li Qiye seemed to have a plan for him - something that would surprise even the high heaven.

"The current you is still useful." Li Qiye shrugged: "Even diarrhea has its moments, don't you think?"

He glared at Li Qiye because he was indeed treated as "diarrhea" during Immemorial Epoch War. His presence on the fierce battlefields immediately chased away the combatants.

In the end, Celestial Court couldn't handle the delay and their unknown guest was the one to deliver the killing blow.

"So you want diarrhea?" He asked.

"Not me, I want something else with a greater impact." Li Qiye smiled and shrugged.

"What do you want me to do?" He asked again while staring straight at Li Qiye.

"If possible, I want you to remember one thing, no, two things." Li Qiye said before changing his mind again and shaking his head: "One will do."

"What is it?" The indifferent emperor couldn't help but become interested.

"Go." Li Qiye said.

"Go?" He didn't understand.

"There is a place that you have not been to." Li Qiye elaborated.

This was enough for him to speculate Li Qiye's intent. He replied: "You want me as a cannon fodder."

"That's a harsh way to put it. Maybe I just want to broaden your horizon." Li Qiye said.

"You're not the first to try something like this, Immortal Emperor Min Ren and Immortal Emperor Qi Zhen have done something similar." He didn't show any sympathy.

"Correct on some counts, but not all. I don't need anyone to be cannon fodder." Li Qiye said.

His eyes narrowed as he contemplated about the future. All of a sudden, he realized that there was a sliver of meaning in life, or at least - a tiny longing for the future.

"Hey, it's not that bad being alive, right?" Li Qiye noticed this and patted his shoulder again.

"Yes." He said after noticing the minute change in his mentality.

"Trust me, I don't need cannon fodders." Li Qiye added.

"Then what do you actually want?" He asked.

Li Qiye stared into the distance and took his time before answering: "Spring is coming so we need to plant the seeds, giving hope to those on the front line."

"Hope?" He responded: "Have to survive the winter first before spring comes."

"Yes, and this will be a harsh winter." Li Qiye said.

"So I'm going?" He asked.

"You won't see the winter but at the very least, you might be able to plant the seeds of hope in time for spring." Li Qiye shook his head.

"The seeds of hope." His frozen and dead heart was stirred by Li Qiye.

His dao had reached the limit and took him here - a strange phenomenon of being alive even after death. Now, Li Qiye sparked something akin to hope within him.

"An unprecedented miracle." He murmured.

"Yes, one that is done by you." Li Qiye shrugged.

"When we met in the past, did you predict what would happen?" He asked.

"How could I know way back then?" Li Qiye shook his head.

"You definitely knew, always calculating about how to take down the heaven." He said.

"Don't misunderstand, my pursuit has never changed, it is to find the answer." Li Qiye said.

"Why must I go?" He asked.

"You assumed that I need cannon fodders but that's not the case. I could have my pick of cultivators who are stronger than you." Li Qiye said.

"That's right." He agreed. Plenty of emperors were stronger than him - Purewood, Bu Zhan, Fei Yang, and many others...

Above them were the legendary overlords. Li Qiye had no reason to pick him.

"As I said, it's a matter of spreading hope during spring." Li Qiye said.

"I can bring hope?" He asked since this was the opposite of his world-weary dao.

"Yes, because once things reach their extreme state, they will rebound in the opposite direction." Li Qiye said.

"I still don't buy it." He said.

"Fine, because the villainous heaven will pay attention to you, can't say that about everyone." Li Qiye stared at him and said.

"Impossible." He disagreed since the high heaven certainly looked down at him with disgust.

"That's why it's interesting. The gifted geniuses and heaven's favorites aren't the only ones being watched. In fact, your repulsive self might be the most special one." Li Qiye said.

"Are you listening to yourself?" This was one of the most unbelievable things he had heard.

## Chapter 5496: Stealing Is The Wrong Way Of Putting It

"You know, attention doesn't imply love." Li Qiye smiled.

"What is it then?" The emperor's brows furrowed.

"Hate begets attention, rage as well." Li Qiye smiled mysteriously.

"What are you trying to do?" He felt something ominous looming on the horizon.

"What do you have to fear when you're already dead? No, what's worse than your current state?" Li Qiye shrugged.

He agreed about his predicament - dead yet still bound to this forsaken world.

"And?" He stared at Li Qiye. His intuition was right - the guy wasn't kind enough to come pick up his corpse.

"If the world despises you and the same for the high heaven, we can do something to make it really mad." Li Qiye couldn't help but smirk while imagining: "You'll get all the attention then."

"You do know that I can't do anything in my current state." He said.

"I don't expect a dead man to do anything but worry not, I'll do the dirty work by bringing you to the high heaven's home. If I smash hard enough, maybe you'll splatter all over the place. Don't you think that will really get it angry?" Li Qiye said.

"Of course." He agreed.

"This is the important part of the plan, when it's angry, it'll be too easy for you to turn into ashes. Others can't kill you and your smelly aura, but the villainous heaven should be able to obliterate you." Li Qiye said.

"I see, you want to use the high heaven to sever the cycle." He said.

"Use? More like I'm doing it a favor in lending it a hand to help another living being under its watch." Li Qiye said.

"I would be dead afterward though." He said.

A heavenly tribulation was certainly capable of reducing his dao to nothingness and severing his cycle. However, the key to Li Qiye's plan was to have him alive after the fact.

"I'll be there too, right?" Li Qiye said: "Anger is a tempestuous emotion, a sign of life, right?"

"You're trying to steal from the high heaven, I see." He understood.

"Once again, you're painting me as a bad guy. All I'll be doing is helping out because having too much anger is a bad thing, one has to vent somehow." Li Qiye shook his head.

"Stealing the high heaven's anger..." He had never thought about this before.

Everyone in the world was afraid of the high heaven, not daring to incite its wrath. Now, Li Qiye wanted to provoke it on top of stealing its anger for his own gains.

"A being born from the high heaven's anger, that seems to follow the rule, no?" Li Qiye patted the emperor's shoulder again and continued: "What kind of existence will you become? Definitely better than this world-weary dao thing, right?"

Rebirth and reincarnation were coveted by all cultivators. Supreme overlords might have been able to do so, albeit with clear deficiencies.

What they were about to do was one step above that - severing from the initial cycle and seizing rebirth through the anger affinity of the high heaven.

The driving force in this case was not Li Qiye but the high heaven. He was only there to facilitate. Ultimately, the result would be a new being with a part of the high heaven embedded.

"Fuck, you've gone mad." The emperor couldn't help but curse after hearing the plan.

"It's the madness that makes it fun. Not everyone can reach this level of insanity, you know?" Li Qiye laughed.

"You targeted me from the very start because I'm the diarrhea that can provoke the wrath of the high heaven. That's why you urged me to participate in the wars." He said.

In their previous meeting, Li Qiye persuaded him to leave his reclusive lifestyle. This was a successful plan, driving the combatants away from the battlefields. However, this ended with his death.

In reality, he already knew that this would be the outcome. After all, death was what he wanted. What he didn't expect was to be stuck in this state - his dao remained indestructible.

Now, it became clear that Li Qiye was planning something beyond that - not just using him to stop the wars.

"No, there has to be something else beyond reviving me." He said.

"Sigh, who has time to plan and scheme so much? I'm merely doing what's best for you so that you can be freed from this fate." Li Qiye said.

"Right, you are doing what's best but for you, not me." He said.

"Sigh." Li Qiye patted his shoulder again and complained: "What if I hadn't interfered, have you imagined what type of life you would live?"

# Chapter 5497: Gift

The emperor naturally understood that if he had continued to live reclusively, his world-weary dao could have continued to progress. He hated life but even death didn't want him.

Now, Li Qiye's plan gave him a chance to sever the previous karmic cycle, granting him hope for the next journey.

"My crow, no one in this world can compare to you." He sighed with admiration: "And who else loves this world as much as you?"

"Told you I was compassionate and kind to all." Li Qiye responded.

"You love the world for your own sake." He took down Li Qiye's attempt at self-aggrandizement.

"That's fine, am I not part of this world too?" Li Qiye said softly.

"..." He sighed and agreed: "True. How do you want me to repay you then?"

"Don't talk to me like I'm a greedy merchant." Li Qiye shook his head.

"I understand. Fine, I'll go." He nodded.

"And that is all that I need." Li Qiye happily patted the guy's shoulder for who knows how many times already and said: "Let us go big and have fun with this villainous heaven."

"I do not know how to proceed." He said.

"Don't worry, this is your idea, it saves me a lot of time." Li Qiye said.

"My idea?" He didn't understand.

"Spying on the heaven. I just need to activate this dao for a bit, that's all."

"Heavenseer!" He blurted out.

"Buzz." Li Qiye's hand became resplendent. All of the surrounding space was turning into a gigantic drop of water containing the reflections of three thousand worlds.

"Pop!" He reached into the drop of water and infiltrated a particular treasury.

"Who?!" A supreme existence with an unimaginable aura stood up after sensing the intruder.

However, Li Qiye grabbed a yellow piece of paper and immediately pulled back. It was too late for the existence to do anything about the thief.

Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo was all too familiar with this piece of paper. He had given it to Li Qiye before, hoping that the guy would pass it down to someone else. Now, it has returned to him.

"Here we are, cause and effect." Li Qiye said: "You once took pride in your ability to seer the heaven, now it shall deliver you up there."

"How?" He asked.

"Since you're dead, please act like a corpse and lay back down in this foul liquid." Li Qiye smirked.

He smiled wryly and lay back down in the puddle.

"Activate!" Li Qiye grasped the myriad laws and refined the grand dao while pushing the yellow paper together with his palms.

A grand dao in the paper erupted, seemingly being granted life by Li Qiye. He rolled it up into a roll and thrust it into the hole in the emperor's chest.

Li Qiye roared and activated his grand dao, channeling primordial energy and causing the fabrics of reality to bend.

"Boom!" A devastating pulse emanated from the paper and shot to the sky, capable of seeing the deepest crevices of heaven. After a few seconds, It transformed into an all-seeing maelstrom.

In this split second, the world shook violently and alarmed all living beings. Thunder could be heard and an expanse of light started forming in the sky. However, no tribulation descended just yet.

"Heaven, here's a token of my love for you!" Li Qiye laughed and shouted at the sky.

His supreme grand dao started pulling all of the emperor's aura of hatred before sending it through the maelstrom.

"Rumble!" Lighting and flames from the tribulation descended in retaliation. Even sharp golden bolts aimed at Li Qiye.

The high heaven was furious and finally sent down an unprecedented tribulation. Li Qiye was fully surrounded by massive arcs of lighting. Bolts detonated around him but he didn't have an issue at all.

He took a deep breath, looking rather comfortable: "Nice, now I can wash off this stench with a lightning bath."

He reached into the endless lightning expanse, seemingly looking for something. That only caused the high heaven to deliver its apocalyptic wrath.

"What is going on?!" Top cultivators were in shambles since they had never seen such terrifying tribulations before. The entire six continents were being illuminated by the lightning expanses.

## Chapter 5498: Focus Up

"Young Master, what the hell? You're just picking up a corpse, is all of this necessary?" Niu Fen who was waiting outside couldn't believe his own eyes.

His defensive ability was perhaps the best in the upper continents. Alas, his legs trembled due to the spectacle before him.

"Boom!" Meanwhile, Li Qiye imbued a branch and a leaf into Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo's body.

"Return to the heaven!" He shouted while channeling primordial energy and dao essence into the body.

Meanwhile, the furious high heaven continued sending down tribulations. This naturally scared the hell out of all inhabitants on the immortal continent.

They had no idea what was done to justify this level of response from the high heaven. The ancient emperors and monarchs have witnessed tribulations in the past.

Alas, these tribulations were light drizzles compared to this torrential downpour. This might be the strongest tribulation in the history of their world.

"Who is undergoing this tribulation? An immortal?" A monarch murmured. Of course, this was more of a joke since immortals couldn't exist.

"Boom!" The battlefield around Li Qiye was obliterated, leaving behind a floating expanse of the void.

A tree branch could be seen beneath Li Qiye with a single leaf. Nonetheless, it seemed to have lived for eras now. At first glance, the leaf lacked a verdant shade. Appearance aside, it exuded a majestic life force just like the boundlessness of the high heaven. Countless green dots came together to form this single leaf, no different from the stars making up the galaxy.

"The rest depends on you." Li Qiye smiled at the leaf.

Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo was no more, the same for his world-weary dao. Everything has been obliterated by the tribulation and replaced by a new lifeform. The branch and the leaf looked rather inconspicuous but they were born from a heavenly tribulation.

Li Qiye left satisfied since his plan worked perfectly, leaving the branch to float in space.

Once he returned, Niu Fen came over and no longer noticed any dreadful aura.

"Young Master, that was quite a commotion." Niu Fen saw bloodstains on Li Qiye and thought that he was the only one who could survive those tribulations.

"That's the only way to reduce him to ashes." Li Qiye smiled.

"The high heaven seemed furious at you." Niu Fen said.

"The villainous heaven has a terrible temper but don't worry, something good came out of this." Li Qiye smiled.

Niu Fen had been contemplating the event and shuddered after hearing this.

"Young Master, did you create a new life?" He took a deep breath because gathering the corpse alone didn't warrant this level of response.

"Not me, I was only the facilitator since only the high heaven can create life." Li Qiye shook his head.

"I see..." Niu Fen took a deep breath since this was still a monumental event - facilitating a new creation using the high heaven.

"Why did you pick Immortal Emperor Mu Zhuo, Young Master?" He calmed down and became curious due to the dangerous nature of the feat.

Li Qiye shrugged and didn't answer.

"Hehehe, if your trusty servant dies one day, will you facilitate the same thing for me?" He shamelessly asked.

"Facilitate what? I'll just bury you." Li Qiye gave him the side eye.

"Young Master, we've known each other for so long, why is that emperor special and not me?" Niu Fen complained.

"Because he can reach that level, you can't." Li Qiye couldn't be bothered to look at Niu Fen.

"Why is that? My cultivation isn't bad at all." Niu Fen had a smug look while flexing his impressive muscles.

"If you can control your dao heart, you won't need a facilitator or whatever." Li Qiye said with a smile.

"What do you mean, Young Master?" Niu Fen asked.

Li Qiye tapped his shell and said: "Focus up and you will be able to go one day too."

Niu Fen stood there in silence for a bit before asking with a soft tone: "Young Master, am I suitable to go?"

"That's up to you but your present state is not suitable, not even worthy of being an appetizer. Even if you somehow live cowardly like a dog in hiding, the winter will kill you eventually." Li Qiye said.

"When's the right time for me?" Niu Fen was interested in this matter.

"Spring." Li Qiye stared at the horizon.

"Spring, I'll go then." Niu Fen said.

"Did you not listen to me? I told you to cultivate more." Li Qiye said.

"Young Master, I am at a bottleneck, I'm not seeing any progress after my refinement being trapped behind that gate." Niu Fen didn't want to talk about his cultivation.

"The problem is with your dao heart. Your dao fortune and cultivation have accumulated enough but your dao heart is lagging behind, hence your stagnation." Li Qiye said.

"But that's the hardest thing to train." Niu Fen said.

"That depends on your determination and perseverance." LI Qiye said.

"I understand." Niu Fen knew of the proper path for him and bowed.

Suddenly, a white cloud appeared next to Li Qiye and a small, chubby hand reached out to pat his shoulder.

#### **Chapter 5499: White Cloud**

Anyone would lay on this white cloud for a long nap upon seeing it. When it flickered, it had two darker patches nearby resembling the eyes of a - incredibly adorable. It could form hands as well - fat and fluffy, slightly short.

Hearts would melt just by looking at it - the perfect pillow for cuddling. It extended its hand and cautiously poked him several times with a brief pause amidst each - afraid of angering him while wanting his attention...

"This is..." Li Qiye was surprised to see the cloud.

The cloud covered its eyes, looking a bit shy. Nonetheless, it still stole glances at him through the gap of its fingers, clearly curious about Li Qiye.

"What is it?" Niu Fen took a careful look. He didn't know how it got next to them without being noticed.

Cultivators were sensitive to being ambushed, especially those at Niu Fen's level. How did the cloud appear next to him undetected?

He activated his heavenly gaze and didn't notice any powerful aura coming from the cloud.

"That's not right." He murmured since it seemed like just any other cloud.

"Brat, who are you? Where did you come from?" He asked.

The cloud glanced at Niu Fen once before focusing on showing off to Li Qiye. It spread its arms and made it look like wings, allowing it to float away with the winds.

It seemed particularly friendly to Li Qiye and did the wing stretch several times, making sure that he had a good look. It then spun around so that Li Qiye could see all of it.

Niu Fen finally saw something with the rotation - he felt a mystical aura and power, virtually undetectable and different from anything else.

Such power had never appeared in this world before, at least not to his knowledge. It didn't stem from the dao, not possessing chaos true energy or any worldly energy. There was no trace of anima either...

As an apex cultivator, he had seen powerful beings before including Li Qiye. This cloud was something unique.

It could have been floating in the air all this time and no one would notice anything peculiar about it.

"You came from Celestial Court? Or Immortal Dao City? Imperial Field?" Niu Fen asked again, thinking that the mysterious cloud must have come from these locations.

The cloud ignored him and blinked cutely at Li Qiye. It circled around him, seemingly wanting to play hide and seek.

Its friendly effort amused Li Qiye while Niu Fen didn't appreciate being ignored.

"I see, don't want to talk, right? I got it." Niu Fen said before making his move.

He had noticed a spirit root deep in the cloud - this might be its true form. The cloud was only an external manifestation.

Of course, he couldn't see the true appearance of the root, only sensing its energy fluctuations.

"Boom!" He called on the power of the dao and suppressed everything nearby, reaching for the spirit root.

The cloud raised its hands to block him but he had no intention of stopping. His might robbed the world of its colors.

This seemed to anger the cloud. It changed its color to that of a sunset glow, akin to someone becoming livid and flustered.

'Boom!" It pushed Niu Fen and swept him off his feet; his head slammed against the ground.

This would shock any outsider from the upper continents. Some were stronger than him but to be able to take him down in this fashion? Only a selected few.

"What the hell are you?" Niu Fen got up and stared at it in disbelief.

The cloud changed back to its white color again and seemed to be making a funny face at Niu Fen.

## **Chapter 5500: Cotton Candy**

The adorable cloud possessed enough power to send an apex dao lord flying - something truly unbelievable.

"Brat, don't make me eat you!" Niu Fen gritted his teeth and threatened.

The cloud made a face at him again and didn't care at all.

"It won't answer so don't bother." Li Qiye said with a smile.

"Am I not handsome and charismatic?" Niu Fen said with indignation.

"Because your heart has murderous intent." Li Qiye shook his head.

"What? You certainly have more than me in this regard, Young Master." Niu Fen protested.

Li Qiye's murderous intent was second to none; his seemed like a speck of dust in comparison.

"It's not like that." Li Qiye smiled and gently tapped the white cloud: "Want me to come with you, right?"

It nodded and spun around repeatedly, clearly willing to communicate with Li Qiye but not Niu Fen.

"Very well, let's go." Li Qiye said.

The cloud expanded and became larger with ripples emanating outward. Eventually, it turned into a tunnel of sorts - a gateway to a different location.

"Wait here." Li Qiye told Niu Fen before entering the tunnel.

"Young Master, I have to come with you!" Niu Fen shamelessly tried to follow him.

"Bam!" Alas, the cloud blocked him and disappeared from sight.

Nothing was left of the two, leaving Niu Fen all alone with the chilling breezes.

"Fuck." Niu Fen cursed: "Damn you little cloud, how dare you look down on someone as great as me? I'll eat you like cotton candy next time."

Unfortunately, there was nothing he could do because their destination was unknown.

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After crossing through the cloud tunnel, Li Qiye found himself in an ancient tower. Each brick, tile, and wooden piece had aged considerably. The beams of the building were blackened from time.

This seemed to be a temple due to the presence of incense thuribles. Candles flickered and cast the hall in a dim light.

The smell of incense sticks and candles wafted in the air - a legacy of countless generations coming here to pay respect. They have engrained themselves into the building by this point.

Statues in front of the hall commanded attention. They were incredibly lifelike and exuded a peerless presence.

As they stood there, they could safeguard this world despite being inanimate objects. Most depicted beautiful and graceful women; only a few were male.

Whoever they were, they must have been the most gorgeous of their generation on top of being emperors and monarchs.

His eyes fell upon the three central statues. Two of them had the aura of the Grand Emperor realm.

"Sunset Glow Valley." Li Qiye recognized them and murmured.

This was a powerful lineage in the previous epoch with mainly female cultivators. They were devils with pure bloodline, granting them an amazing advantage for cultivation. Their progenitor - Sunset Glow Devil Emperor - preferred an isolated approach for the sect.

Nonetheless, outsiders took pride in marrying any member of Sunset Glow. Their bloodline was wonderful, resulting in mighty offspring.

This sect wasn't significant to Li Qiye in the grand scheme of things. After all, there was no lack of two-emperor lineages during the thirteen continents' prime. It had nothing that could interest him.

Thus, he stared at the third statue in the very center. In theory, the status of their progenitor should have been in the center but this was not the case. Her statue was situated to the side along with the other Grand Emperor of Sunset Glow.

The pivotal position belonged to another female statue. It looked vivid and animated as if it was alive.

The outfit was simple and could be seen worn by a village girl. Her hair was tied up with a wooden hairpin. No makeup was depicted either.

Nonetheless, her plain style didn't conceal her beauty and immaculate figure. She exuded an indescribable charm that was as refreshing as a clear autumn stream. Her spirited and unyielding nature could be seen from the subtle curl of her lips.

"Oh?" Li Qiye was surprised to see this statue.

In terms of appearance alone, it was definitely inferior compared to the two Grand Emperors nearby. The latter two could be described as kingdom-toppling while possessing immaculate auras.

Her status looked relatively ordinary. However, it was clearly more important since it took the central position.

As he stared at the statue, forgotten memories resurfaced in his mind.