

## F Disciples 361

### Chapter 361.: Evil Demons

The leader of the granite goblin party died as well. It ruptured its own heartstrings to end the unbearable pain. For Wu Qianyu, this was both good and bad. It was good in that her Dao of pain was improving steadily and had great effectiveness. This was also bad because she didn't have adequate control over its intensity and side effects.

Right now, she was like a wild beast charging through a busy city market. She had no regard for anything except the maximum amount of pain. This would be counterproductive in certain conditions where she needed finesse. The purpose of her Dao was to cause her enemies pain as retribution, not let them kill themselves for an easy death.

She wanted to do better. She needed to do better.

Wu Qianyu meditated on these lessons and experiences until the next day. She cleaned up her tracks and set out for the mercenary fortress. Along the way, she saw signs of battle all around as well as broken weapons and armor littered across the forest path. These scenes increased in frequency until she broke through the trees and emerged onto a grassy river basin.

It was a scene out of a painting. Tall, wind-swept grass led down a steady slope towards a winding river that flowed from snowcapped peaks in the distance. A particularly wide part of the river contained a rocky island in the middle that was completely taken over by a fortress made of white stone. Its tall walls went all the way to the water's edge and the only way in or out was pair of bridges that cross the river and through the fortress.

This was the famous white star within the wild forest, the mercenary outpost named White Diamond Citadel.

She approached White Diamond Citadel carefully. She stretched her spiritual senses to the limit but there was no one nearby. There were no mercenaries, no demons, and no beasts. There were no corpses either.

She finally sensed something when she got to the stone bridge. It was an eerie aura, unlike anything she had felt before. It felt demonic and yet human at the same time, something that shouldn't have been possible.

She drew the Purple Jade Sword and wrapped herself in sword energy. She wasn't afraid, she wasn't going to back down from a challenge. All the evils of the world that caused people pain, she would exterminate them. This was her creed.

Wooosh!

She swept the deathly aura aside with her sword energy and entered the gates. The heavy metal doors were wide open and there was no one inside. She expected some kind of strange creature to pop out and ambush her but there was nothing. There wasn't a soul alive anywhere.

The fortress wasn't too large but it could house over a thousand cultivators. Dormitory-style lodgings were built directly into the walls that were at least four stories tall. These had windows facing inward that overlooked various taverns, stables, and weapon shops on the ground floor.

She checked the taverns first and found them empty. Tables and chairs were smashed. Broken plates and cups littered the floor. There were rotting piles of food but no flies or maggots. She couldn't tell how long ago this place had been abandoned.

The stables held no horses and no corpses either. The weapon shops were similarly abandoned but the curious thing was that all the good weapons and armor were gone too. Only broken pieces were left, as not even ghosts would want those.

She moved onto the dorms and checked each room one by one. They were all the same, an empty scene of death. Blood covered the hallways. There were craters and damaged stone walls where mercenaries made their last stand. There were empty beds with bloodstains, where the occupants had been killed in their sleep. And still, there were no bodies anywhere.

Wu Qianyu took to the walls and studied the surrounding land. She was the only living creature for many kilometers. There weren't even any insects or rodents around. She wondered what could have caused such a catastrophe.

Beasts were definitely ruled out. Even intelligent beasts were messy by nature. They would leave behind bones, bits of flesh from their prey as well as themselves, as well as claw and fang marks. There was no evidence of any of that so it had to be some kind of demon, something evil.

Demons were less understood by human cultivators than beasts. Beasts were simple-minded, at least before they reached wisdom. Demons naturally had wisdom and were smart enough to hide and cause trouble when least expected. There were all kinds of demons that didn't follow common sense or human reason. Even the best demon experts were still unsure where demons came from and why they existed in this world.

What was known was that demons generally fell into three types.

The first type of demon was humanoid monsters. These included goblins, ogres, giants, centaurs, jueyuan, mermaids, and other fantastical intelligent races. They had physical forms similar to humans but they were all enemies of the human race. They had their own habits and behavior which usually involved hunting humans.

The second type manifested from pure spiritual energy. These included such beings as ice fiends, fire fiends, and nature spirits. These were born from spiritual energy and the very world itself. They were naturally aggressive against all other life forms but their intentions were usually straightforward and revolved around the desire to become stronger.

The third and last type was the most fearsome, creatures whose sole purpose was pure evil and destruction. These included jiangshi, hungry ghosts, and other malevolent spirits. They were rarer than the other two types but when they popped up within human populations, it usually resulted in a bloodbath and mass chaos.

Chen Mo had been mistaken for a trickster ghost that preyed on the innocence of children. His carelessness had evoked a massive response from human cultivators in the surrounding area. He was only able to escape with his innate abilities as a shadow fox.

Wu Qianyu felt a chill through her body as she considered the most likely possibility, that the carnage with White Diamond Citadel had been caused by an evil demon. She had never fought something like that before but the rumor was that they were very powerful as well as scheming.

She wondered how her Dao of Pain would do against a ghost, something she couldn't even comprehend. If she couldn't even fathom the creature, how could she hurt it and cause it pain?

And it wasn't just the Dao of pain either. Other spiritual arts had similar weaknesses against all kinds of evil demons. Sword arts were notoriously bad against ghosts which had no physical form. It was the same with elemental arts as there was nothing for the cultivators to attack if they couldn't see or grasp the enemy. Evil ghosts often used mental and spiritual attacks which were a weakness for many humans.

The only natural enemies of evil demons were divine beasts with their divine arts that touched upon the laws of the world and human sects that specialized in hunting these terrifying foes. These sects developed specific methods of hunting and killing certain kinds of demons through countless generations of trial and error. The best ones were even able to gain fame and wealth across the land.

Wu Qianyu moved to the eastern wall and looked over at the river flowing into the fog. She had no intentions of letting her Dao of pain be useless against evil, not when her purpose for treading down this path was to fight against evil and wrongdoers that caused innocent people pain.

Thus, she decided that she would get to the bottom of this massacre and uncover just exactly who or what was responsible for it.

## Chapter 362.: Blue Cloud Town

While Wu Qianyu started on her new task of tracking down the mysterious evil demon, Chen Wentian's other disciples were busy with their own tasks.

On this bright a sunny day, Su Xue and Su Yue were visiting Blue Cloud Town, which was the closest mortal town to Glacier Palace. It was situated at the foothills of the Glacial Mountain Range and a short distance from the teleportation array. Its fortunes changed with the province and the immortal sect. It was now busy and prospering, unlike before.

Glacier Province, as a whole, changed greatly after Glacier Palace lost their previous sect master, Murong Aiyin. It was livelier. Trade was flourishing. It was more integrated with the subcontinent. Outsiders were no longer treated with suspicion, especially men. In particular, Glacier Province and Divine Blazing Province, home of Divine Blazing Mountain, had the closest relations and were fast becoming sister provinces.

Su Xue and Su Yue walked hand in hand, one wearing ocean blue and the other wearing a brilliant violet. Their beauty and vivacious aura attracted many pairs of eyes as they strolled through the busy street. They took in scenes that wouldn't have been impossible under the icy rule of their previous master.

“Get your snow geese! Freshly caught!”

“Roasted lava eels!”

“New batch of ice berry wine!”

“We sell the best pepper beer here! But three, get one free!”

The shops that lined the street sold all kinds of food and drink, specifically catered to cultivators of ice and fire. The diet of Glacier Palace disciples used to be very bland, totally vegetarian without a hint of alcohol. The true Winter's Snow Dance had no such restrictions. As it was a dual cultivation art, it emphasized the duality of yin and yang, hot and cold, ice and flames. Disciples were now allowed both meat and alcohol and both were hot commodities.

There were many Glacier Palace disciples shopping in the streets. They were accompanied by their Dao partners, mostly men from Divine Blazing Mountain. It was a great way to relax and have a little fun before they returned to training.

Chen Wentian was still the administrator of both immortal sects. He had to be, otherwise, they would lose their immortal status and suffer hardship. His policy of inter-marriage between the two former enemies continued steadily. More and more matches were being made every day for the sake of dual cultivation.

Those already matched up were seeing great improvements. Those stuck at the peak of the Body Refinement Realm quickly broke through to the Mind Focusing Realm after they found a Dao partner. Those stuck at the peak of the Mind Focusing Realm found it much easier to reach the Spirit Initiate Realm if they got married.

These countless couples traveled to and from both provinces regularly as they had to cultivate ice energy from the glaciers of Glacier Palace and utilize flame energy from the volcano of Divine Blazing Mountain. They also had to travel to see their family. Even the teleportation array between the two was improved for better efficiency.

Su Xue suddenly paused and pulled her sister in.

“Look, over there!” She whispered into her ear as she pointed discretely at a short woman and a tall man perusing some crafted jewelry.

Su Yue glanced over and recognized them. It was a disciple of Glacier Palace named Du Weixiang and her husband, Tang Sun of Divine Blazing Mountain. They were the first pair willingly matched together from sects. By all measures, it was a great match and they were as happy as they could be. Tang Sun had already broken through to the 1st Level of the Spirit Initiate Realm. Du Weixiang was not far behind and she seemed more beautiful somehow to the point she was almost glowing.

“So what?” Su Yue asked her sister, not sure what was interesting about a couple doing their shopping.

“You dummy! Look at her stomach!”

“Huh... Oh!”

Su Yue finally noticed the sizeable bump on Du Weixiang's lower stomach. For someone so petite, it indicated only one thing.

The pair giggled quietly. It was quite natural for a woman to get pregnant when she practiced a dual cultivation art that required her to have sex all day every day. Still, it was a joyous gift for the couple as well as for both sects as it would further deepen the bond between them.

“Should we go talk to them?” Su Yue asked.

Su Xue snorted, “No, that would be so awkward!”

“I’ll tell master to give them a little reward for their hard work.” Su Yue said and giggled again.

“Shh, let’s go.”

They left discretely and continued along the street. They bought anything that caught their eye, filling their spatial bags with goodies for the other three still at home. They eventually made their way to the town square where there was a lively scene in front of the theater.

“Get your tickets! Get your tickets!” A vendor shouted ahead of them, “Don’t miss an epic performance tonight by the one and only, the beauty of Glacier Province, Lady Half Moon! Get your tickets!”

The twins paused and glanced at the poster nearby. The so-called performance was an ice dance utilizing Winter’s Snow Dance’s manipulation of ice and snow. Lady Half Moon was Ru Hanyue, one of the ten top disciples of Glacier Palace that were formerly under Long Yifei. It seemed to be rather popular, given the long line of people, overwhelmingly men, waiting to buy a ticket.

Ru Hanyue still had not found a Dao partner after many months. It was a problem of her own doing. She was too proud. Her standards were too high. She wanted to be like Long Yifei. She had similar ambitions of reaching the immortal realm and achieving great things. There was no one left in Divine Blazing Mountain that fit her needs so she could only try to find an outsider, perhaps a talented visitor.

The ice dance was her way of attracting and meeting more potential partners. However, this was difficult as men who could visit Glacier Province and Blue Cloud Town were usually already affiliated with other powerful sects or highly independent mercenaries and loose cultivators. These types of people were unwilling to follow Chen Wentian’s rules and be subservient to their wives.

It was a tough situation for Ru Hanyue. Not everyone could be as talented or fortunate as Long Yifei.

The twins didn't know whether to laugh or cry. They were about to leave when a horrible scream came from the theater.

“Ahhhhhhh! Somebody help!”

They were among the first to charge in, following the source of the commotion.

“Make way, make way!”

They flew up a set of stairs, racing past stunned theater workers inside. They burst into a large dressing room filled with costumes and outfits. An elderly matron was collapsed against the wall, screaming her head off while pointing at the bloody scene in the middle of the room.

It was Ru Hanyue, at least what was left of her. Her face had been completely ripped off, revealing a bloody mess of muscle and bone. There was also a hole in her chest where her heart should have been.

She was dead and the culprit was nowhere in sight.

Chapter 363.: Lock Down

“Shit!”

“What happened?”

“Not another one!”

Spiritual energy surged randomly as all of the cultivators tried to protect themselves. Weapons were drawn and fists were raised. Ru Hanyue had been at the peak of the Spirit Initiate Realm. Anything that could kill her could easily kill them as well.

“Calm down!” Su Xue shouted.



Her Winter's Snow Dance swept over the crowd at the doorway, pushing them back as well as their spiritual energies. Despite the complaints, the men recognized the immortal ice arts of Glacier Palace and obediently stepped back.

At the same time, Su Yue encased Ru Hanyue's body in ice and started searching the room in detail. She searched through piles of costumes, in drawers and closets, and even the ceiling and floorboards. She found no clues on how an attacker could have come in and sneaked away. The room was only connected to the hallway. There was no other way out, not even a window.

Su Yue knelt beside the elderly woman and shook her, "Madam, madam! Did you see anything?"

The woman had stopped screaming but she was now frozen in shock and unresponsive. While Su Yue continued to try and rouse the only possible witness, Su Xue had cleared the hallway. She sent several message talismans off, to her master and Glacier Palace. She wanted to search the theater but felt that it wasn't safe to leave her sister alone.

The twins stayed with the body until reinforcements arrived, including the town mayor and a plethora of guards. They searched the theater from top to bottom. All of the theater workers, as well as the visitors inside at the time of the attack, were questioned but they provided nothing useful. Even the matron saw only the dead body and nothing else.

"Lady Su, nobody will have seen anything. I can assure you, what did this would not have allowed anyone to see its attack." The mayor said solemnly.

"You know what did it?" Su Xue asked.

The mayor beckoned the twins into the dressing room and closed the door. He blocked off any sound from leaking out of the room with spiritual energy. He then walked to the frozen body encased in clear ice. He pointed to the torn-off face and sighed wearily.

"I can't know for sure but I am fairly certain that this is the work of a faceless demon, a bringer of chaos. It specializes in stealing human faces and often likes female targets. It had to be quite mature to defeat Lady Ru without a trace..." He trailed off.

"Why did it take her heart?" She asked.

"The heart is nourishment. Performing a sneak attack like this would take a great deal of power and demons love human hearts." He said.

"Wait." Su Yue said, "Some guy said that this has happened before. Do you know anything about that?"

"That... was the reason I closed the door. I was hoping this could somehow remain quiet..."

The mayor explained that there had been a total of six victims so far. Outside of Ru Hanyue, the others had all been at the lower levels of the Spirit Initiate Realm. They were all visitors from other provinces so it been relatively easy to suppress the news and avoid mass panic. Some of the outsiders knew about the attacks through word of mouth but it was a small number.

When probed about the reason for keeping such a matter secret, the mayor admitted that he didn't want it to affect the influx of business and visitors. The town was growing rapidly due to Chen Wentian's policies and the mayor directly benefitted as a result. He didn't want it to stop and was fearful that news of a demon would drive people away.

"Unbelievable!" Su Yue blurted, "I can't believe you endangered your people for this!"

"Lady Su... they were only outsiders until today. I didn't..."

Su Yue was about to shout at the useless mayor some more but Su Xue held her back.

"Who else knows about the faceless demon beside you?" She asked.

The mayor gulped and answered truthfully. With several deaths in recent weeks, he couldn't keep the secret alone. The town council and the guards also knew but everyone decided to keep it quiet.

"This is ridiculous, we should call master." Su Yue said. "We can't find a faceless demon. It could be anywhere."

Su Xue nodded, "It could also be anyone..."

She whirled around and in an instant, encased the mayor to up his neck in abyssal ice. He complained loudly but she ignored him. She inspected his face and head to make sure that he wasn't a demon disguise. Although his head was a bit large, his skull was hard and his fat face was real.

She quickly pulled back her ice, "I apologize for that."

The mayor shivered a little, "No problem. No problem. Ladies, is there anything else I can do?"

"I want you to lock down the town, nobody is allowed to leave." She said.

"But..."

"Do it!" Su Yue poked him with an icy finger.

"Yes! At once!"

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Chen Wentian promptly headed for Glacier Province. Having received the message, he directly hopped through several provinces from the eastern border to the central region of the subcontinent. He didn't come alone as he brought Chen Mo and a whole host of void bee drones.

The faceless demon sounded like bad news and had to be caught. It was a malevolent being that stole faces from human victims and disguised itself as a human to blend into the population. The closer it was to the immortal realms, the better its disguise would be. If it reached the Spirit Lord Realm, there would be little he could do to find it. His soul art wasn't able to clearly distinguish between human and demon souls, not when a demon looked like a human.

The demon was also fearsome for another reason. It was related to the hundun, an archdemon that was similar in strength to a divine beast. A hundun was the faceless primordial being that could blend into human society at will and cause chaos and destruction.

Like the hundun, the faceless demon had two legs, four arms, and a pair of wings and yet no head or face. It had a powerful physique and yet it could already fly. This made it a formidable enemy to mortal realm cultivators.

Chen Wentian locked down the teleportation array after arriving. He took out several key runes to disable the intricate inscription arrays that allowed the laws of space to operate. He didn't care about the complaints of the people, especially travelers wishing to return to their homes. Nobody was going to leave this province until he found the demon.

Chen Mo set out immediately to lay down a network of shadow anchors. The bees were sent to Glacier Palace to form a protective perimeter. All disciples of the sect were ordered to return for their safety while ordinary citizens were ordered to stay indoors if possible and avoid going out at night.

With these preparations underway, Chen Wentian set off for Blue Cloud Town to meet up with the twins.

Chapter 364.: Faceless Demon

“Master!”

“Master!”

Chen Wentian met Su Xue and Su Yue at the entrance of the theater. The town guards kept the spectators at bay while they quickly retreated inside the building.

“Master, I'm sorry for calling you over like this...” Su Xue tried to explain.

He hugged both of them at the same time, one in each arm. “Don't worry. If you felt it was necessary, then it is necessary. Now, explain the situation to me?”

“Yes!”

The twins quickly explained everything they had found out so far which wasn't much. The dead body of Ru Hanyue remained encased in ice. Those that could have possibly witnessed anything were still kept under watch in the main theater.

“We locked down the vicinity but whatever did this might have still slipped away.”

“Maybe, but maybe not.” Chen Wentian said, “You two acted quite fast. I will examine the scene, lead the way.”

With Su Xue and Su Yue clinging to his arms, they toured through the scene of the incident and the surrounding hallways before emerging on a balcony overlooking the theater. Around a hundred people occupied the seats below, a spare number the total seating capacity of almost five hundred. They included everyone that had been waiting in line as well as all the workers of the theater present at the time of death.

Chen Wentian let his immortal aura out to announce his arrival.

“I am Immortal Blue Dragon Chen Wentian, sect master of Ten Thousand Flower Valley, administrator of Glacier Province and Glacier Palace.” He announced, “Because Ru Hanyue, a disciple of Glacier Palace, was murdered in this building, I have a responsibility to investigate. I will examine each of you with my spiritual sense. Do not be alarmed. Do not resist. Understand?”

“Yes, Lord Immortal!”

“Good!”

He scanned each person from top to bottom. He checked their spiritual signature for any abnormalities like demonic energy. He also checked each person for any signs of blood or a struggle. He wasn't that confident in his detective abilities as he did not specialize in such Dao. But at such a close distance, he felt confident enough that no demon in disguise could hide from him.

The theater workers were all women of various ages. They passed his examination quickly. None of them were strong cultivators, merely ordinary peasants employed by the theater, so it was easy to rule them out.

The guests were more troublesome. They were a wild bunch with uncertain backgrounds. Some were residents of either Glacier Province or Divine Blazing Province but he had no idea about most of the others. They probably came from all over the subcontinent, eager to get a glimpse of the fabled Glacier Palace disciples.

Ru Hanyue putting on such a show only exacerbated the problem. The men that wanted to see her and hope for a chance with her were all quite strong. Many were at the upper or even the peak of the Spirit Initiate Realm. There were old grandfathers as well as strong-looking men in their prime.

Chen Wentian furrowed his brow as he finished examining everyone. There were a few he wasn't completely sure about but nobody that stood out. He even spent extra time on the strongest guys but they were all normal humans.

It was possible that the faceless demon or whatever it was had already escaped. But nobody saw anything running through the hallways or escape out of a window.

His instincts told him something was amiss so he began examining everyone again, this time utilizing the power of his soul art.

“There you are.” He muttered.

It was as clear as day. A ferocious, evil entity was hiding right under his nose. It wasn't any of the guests but one of the meek servant girls hired to cook and clean.

He waved his hands and a ring of blue flame erupted around the figure, trapping it and pushing others nearby far away.

There was a horrible shriek and then a rancid cackle of laughter.

“Kekekekeke... you found me...”

The face of the servant girl turned to Chen Wentian and grinned. Its face then melted away. Pale skin dried out into a grey husk before crumbling to dust. Flesh and bone melded together into a bloody ball that shrank down until only a stump of a neck was left.

It then let out another scream followed by a surge of spiritual energy, showcasing its true strength which was at the lesser realm of Spiritual Growth.

It was a faceless demon, one that had already stepped onto the path of immortality.

“Eee!” Su Yue squealed and hid behind her master.

Su Xue wanted to do the same but managed to hold herself back somehow.

“What the hell is that?”

“Demon!”

“Shit, run!”

The others in the theater also realized the truth. Some started to flee while others sat frozen in their seats, their mouths open in horrified fascination.

“Everyone, leave the theater right now!” Chen Wentian commanded.

Without the need to be told twice, everyone scampered to safety.

Soon, only the demon was left, looking quite sad and burnt within its prison of flame. Its clothes and human skin were now gone, revealing four lanky arms and a pair of wings like that of a bat. Its entire body was gray like slate and smooth like a pig.

“Kill me, human! Kill me and ten more of my kind will take my place. You can't defeat demons! We will rule the world and all of you shall be my nourishment!”

Chen Wentian ignored the mouthy demon and waved to Su Xue and Su Yue.

“Yes, master?”

He pointed to the ring of flames, widening it and burning away stray obstacles until it was big enough to act as an enclosed fighting arena.

“Go fight the demon.” He said simply.

Such a powerful demon was an excellent opportunity for his disciples to gain more fighting experience.

“Master!” Su Yue cried, tugging at his sleeve in obvious distress.

Su Xue also looked reluctant.

He signed and patted their shoulders, trying to give them the confidence they didn't have. They were still at the 8th Level of the Spirit Initiate Realm. It was a bit of a stretch to ask them to fight a demon at



the lesser realm of Spiritual Growth. But he wanted to see how they would react in the face of true danger.

“I don't expect you to defeat it but do your best. Sometimes in life, you will be faced with impossible odds but you still have to fight. Perhaps you may find some kind of enlightenment in those moments. Plus, didn't you both say that you wanted to show off your ice swords to the world at the Convocation of Swords? How will you do that if you spend your time eating snacks and wandering the streets instead of training?”

The twins pouted for a moment before bowing obediently.

“Yes, master.”

Together, they walked forward, through an opening in the wall of blue flame and faced the now delighted demon.

“Fresh faces! Come here my pretties!”

Chapter 365.: Difficult Show to Watch

“Ice Sword!”

Slender swords made of pure ice appeared in Su Xue and Su Yue's hands. Winter's Snow Dance activated, surrounding their bodies in a flurry of snow and yin energy. They then put distance between each other, intending to attack the demon from two directions at the same time.

Chen Wentian shook his head and rubbed his brow when he saw their move. This strategy was well-intentioned but ultimately an incorrect one. The demon seemed to think so as well.

“Kekeke. I don't know what that human immortal behind you intends but since he sent you two to die, I will oblige!”

“Shut up!” Su Yue shouted and attacked.

She launched forward with a flurry of stabs. Rays of ice materialized all around her and shot out towards the demon.

Su Xue did the same, launching attacks from long-range utilizing the 2nd stage of Winter's Snow Dance, Arrows of Frost.

The faceless demon took these icicles without moving. Its four limbs waved around rapidly, smashing large swaths through the incoming hail storm. The ones that made it through smashed against its tough hide. Ice energy from the attacks was then dissolved into nothingness by the demon's thick spiritual aura.

“That tickles!” The demon said gleefully. “Now, my turn!”

It flexed its muscular legs and then started dashing around the flaming arena.

The twins tried to track its movements, raining ice shards towards the demon's afterimage. Instead of retreating or grouping up, they stood rooted where they were, leaving themselves open to a counterattack that soon came.

With a grey blur, the faceless demon appeared behind Su Xue. Before she could react, the claws extended, ready to strike and slash her apart.

“Noo!” Su Xue screamed in terror and recoiled.

She tried to turn her body and bring her ice sword to bear but she was too slow. Demon claws shot down, two towards her face and two towards her heart.

In that instant, she trod upon the boundary between life and death. Sheer terror wracked her and she froze.

She was like a lamb waiting to be slaughtered.

Woosh!

A wall of flame erupted between Su Xue and the faceless demon. Gentle energy pulled to her safety while the demon roared in pain as its limbs were scorched by divine dragon flames.

“Focus!” Chen Wentian said, “Your foe is much stronger than you so you have to stay together. Combine your strength!”

“Yes, master!”

The twins awoke from their stupor and reacted accordingly. They came together, each one watching the other's weak side and supporting each other.

The faceless demon disengaged and let out a furious cry, “Despicable humans! Using me for practice... practice! If the ancestor heard of this, he will extinguish your existence and destroy your soul!”

“Ignore it, attack together!” Chen Wentian said.

“Yes!”

The twins combined their ice powers, attacking in unison to double the power. The fight became a little more even and their ice was able to slow the demon a little.

The battle dragged on. The faceless demon tried again and again to kill the twins but Chen Wentian stepped in right before it could hurt them.

It was a difficult show to watch. They couldn't damage the demon with either ice or flames of Summer and Winter's Eternal Sutra. Their elemental spiritual energies were not profound enough. Physical

attacks were even more out of the question. The demon was too quick for them and their underdeveloped sword skills.

Still, Chen Wentian persisted and forced them to fight. He knew they were having a hard time and experiencing moments of sheer terror over and over again. He felt bad but he wanted them to struggle through it and perhaps find a breakthrough.

He was reminded of Wu Qianyu, who would have thrived in this challenge. She never backed down from a fight and got stronger the longer it went and the more injured she was. The better the opponent, the more determined she would be. Especially against demons, it was almost like she couldn't lose. She was simply amazing.

The twins were good disciples but compared to Wu Qianyu, they were lacking by a large margin. They were also used to operating in a group of five with the other ice sisters. Their actions and reactions in a group of two were too sluggish and unnatural.

He didn't quite know how to teach them properly. He was still learning how to be a good master. He wanted every disciple to be amazing and he was greatly worried that he would not be able to achieve this dream.

Chen Wentian sighed. The battle was getting nowhere. The twins were running out of energy and they weren't able to find an inner flame to keep them going.

He waved his hand and trapped the demon in a tight cage of blue flame, preventing it from moving or even speaking.

"Alright, that's enough. Xue'er, Yue'er you did well."

"Thank you... master." They replied.

They collapsed to the floor, leaning against each other out of exhaustion, wiping sweat from their brow. He sent some spiritual energy their way to help them recover. After they found their legs again, they quickly returned to his side.

“Master, what are you going to do with that faceless demon?” Su Xue asked.

“Hmm...” Chen Wentian scratched his head, “I thought about keeping it imprisoned somewhere for future use but there's no point. There are plenty of demons, beasts, and strong opponents in the world. Keeping one around might cause accidents at some unexpected point...”

As he trailed off, the prison of blue flame surged. The faceless demon let out a horrified shriek before it was incinerated. Only a bit of ash was left and a wisp of demonic energy that soon dissipated.

“That's that. I will keep the teleportation array locked down for another three days while Chen Mo does some final investigations. Since we caught the demon rather easily, the situation can soon return to normal. Demons like this one usually operate alone. Alright, let's return to Glacier Palace. You two need some extra training!”

He wrapped his arms around the twins and floated into the air.

“But master...” Su Xue complained, “Our sisters are still at Divine Blazing Mountain.”

“Yeah!” Su Yue chimed in.

“I train them in three days. Don't worry about it.” He said, “You two need to work hard after the difficult show you made me watch. Now that I think about it... we haven't trained together just the three of us. Hah! This will be fun!”

“Bully!”

“So mean!”

The twins squealed and squirmed but couldn't escape his arms, not that they wanted to.

Chapter 366.: Training Hard Together (I)

Chen Wentian arrived at Glacier Palace with Su Xue and Su Yue after a short flight. As the administrator, he passed through the protective arrays and entered the sect without much fanfare. He was the only one allowed to do so. Not even Immortal Gentle Lotus Gong Liyun could do as she pleased. He was the administrator in name but he was effectively the sect master, just with fewer responsibilities.

Glacier Palace looked the same as before, a massive palace made of ice. However, its icy walls, frozen floors, and cold walls were now filled with a certain liveliness. The eastern section was now reserved for disciples who had dual cultivation partners or who already had children from past experiences. Some rooms even housed happy families or joyful couples with a baby on the way.

The western side of the sect was colder and much less merry. Here, men and children weren't allowed because it was exclusively for disciples that wanted to maintain their virginity. It was rather surprising how many of them there were, a little less than half of the original number. Some of them were old-timers too ingrained in their ways. Others feared men too much or carried other trauma that scared them away from relationships.

Chen Wentian brought the twins directly to the sect master's quarters to the north. He did not intrude on the private lives of either side even though he had the power to do so. He was no longer that desperate. He did peek, he didn't try to take advantage of anyone. To Glacier Palace, he was a noble and fair administrator.

The former bedroom of Murong Aiyin had been completely transformed. There was still a large cultivation circle in the middle but he ignored it and went to the bed. Instead of a drab slab of ice, it was now a comfortable affair with silk sheets and pillows filled with the fluffiest snow geese feathers.

"Master!" The twins squealed as landed together on the bed in a heap.

He immediately started pawing at their bodies, letting his naughty dragon claws slip through openings in their robes to sear their bare skin with his needy touch. His lips, meanwhile, found Su Xue's in a hot kiss.

They knew what he wanted and he knew what he wanted. They were going to train with the Frozen Netherworld Jade but not before a little foreplay first

"Master..." Su Yue complained cutely, feeling left out.

Chen Wentian chuckled and obliged, switching to her and pressing her down into the bed, peppering hot kisses along her neck, her ear, and finally upon her lips. Su Xue then took the time to undress and help the other two undress as well.

Layers of clothes quickly disappeared. While teasing Su Yue with his hands, Chen Wentian watched Su Xue appreciatively as she appeared in only undergarments. Only a thin piece of white silk hid her petite breasts from view, with her nipples poking out cutely like twin beacons. She wore nothing else and he could see a neat triangular patch which pointed downward, hinting at the treasure that would appear if she spread her legs.

Soon, Su Yue was in a similar state while he had been stripped completely naked. His little dragon leaped to attention, freshly groomed and hairless. It was a new style that Lin Qingcheng convinced him to try.

“Master! Your hair!” Su Yue squealed in delight, rubbing her hands around his crotch, now smooth and bare.

“Heh, just trying something new!”

“Should we have shaved down there as well?” Su Xue asked uncertainly.

She glanced at herself and then at her sister. Both were rather traditional in this area.

“Don't worry about it,” He said with a laugh, “Come here.”

He caught their hands and pulled them atop of him. He laid back into the pillows, letting his proud member wave in front of their blushing faces.

Without needing more prompting, they knew what he wanted and obliged. Su Xue was the big sister and took the lead. She leaned forward and took the head of his cock in her mouth. She wrapped her soft, cherry lips around his sensitive purple head and started to suck.

Heat coursed down his dick and spread through his body. Instantly, he was filled with warmth and joy as Su Xue tended to him lovingly.

“Xue'er, that's amazing...” He muttered.

This only egged her on as she took more of him into her mouth and applied more pressure and suction with her lips.

Su Yue, feeling left out once again, let her hands wander around his crotch. Once she was done marveling at how smooth everything was, her jade hands settled on his balls, cradling them like two precious treasures and fondling them gently.

Seeing her sister's continued successes at giving Chen Wentian pleasure, Su Yue decided to do something as well and leaned her head down, catching one of his balls with her lips and taking it completely into her mouth.

“Wow...” Chen Wentian exclaimed as this combination of sensations hit him, “Yeah... Yue'er, keep doing that!”

Su Yue giggled with his ball in her mouth, licking and suckling until it was completely wet with her saliva. She then moved onto the other one and tenderly cared to it as well.

Chen Wentian felt like he was in heaven. In the past, he could have never hoped for a situation like this. Two beautiful girls sucking his cock willingly, lovingly, putting all of their efforts into it. He felt like the luckiest man in the world.

At some point or another, Su Yue joined her sister and two were now sharing his cock between them. Sometimes, they alternated sucking. Other times, they licked his shaft at the same time from both sides, enveloping him in a pair of delicate lips.



He loved it when the heat from their lips traveled up and down with wild abandon. The moments when they looked up at him with coquettish eyes drove him crazy. They wanted it, and he knew they wanted it.

This thrilling experience was too much to bear. His cock started to twitch as his peak approached.

"I'm close." He muttered.

Su Yue giggled, her eyes glistening with anticipation.

"Mhmm..." Su Xue mumbled, her mouth still diligently performing.

Finally, the burst of heat came.

"Ahhh... here it comes!"

His balls, having been coaxed for a long time, squeezed together in a release of pure pleasure. It surged through his groin and spread across his body like a firestorm. His cock gave a mighty jerk, sending the first jet of molten love into the back of Su Xue's mouth.

She pulled back in surprise, which allowed Su Yue to quickly take over. The second shot sprayed across her face while the third one gushed into her open mouth. The subsequent spurts were shared between the twins, covering their faces all over.

#### Chapter 367.: Training Hard Together (II)

Chen Wentian felt a momentary sensation of ascension. It was a few seconds of bliss before he fell back down to reality. It was way too short and he wished it could have gone on forever.

He propped himself up and grinned at the twins. Su Xue coughed a little and glared at him with a cute pout. Her eyes told him the truth as they were glittering with adoration. She was merely trying to swallow the mouthful she had received.

Su Yue on the other hand had already cleaned herself up, though he didn't manage to see how. His doubts were silenced when she went to her twin and licked a strand of his essence that was about to drip off her chin.

“Sis!” Su Xue exclaimed in surprise.

“Hehe, we can't waste master's gift.” Su Yue said.

She ignored her sister's protest and kissed her cheek, brow, nose...

Chen Wentian's desire reignited like a spark to kindling. This was possibly the hottest thing he had ever seen. He thanked the fates that he had these twins as his disciples.

Soon, his little dragon was once again ready for battle. The twins didn't notice as they were still cleaning themselves. He slapped their thighs for good measure to get their attention.

“Alright, fun time's over, time to train!” He said.

This wasn't quite true as they would have to train while he would still get to have plenty of fun.

Ignoring their groans, he got up from the bed and went to the cultivation circle. The floor was made of ancestral ice several thousands of years old so it was already an ideal location. He refreshed the inscription arrays and placed the Frozen Netherworld Jade in the center. He had gotten into the habit of carrying it around since the ice sisters often traveled between provinces.

Su Xue and Su Yue dragged their naked bodies off the bed and sat down within the circle in a lotus position. They didn't say anything but their demeanor changed. They were cultivators and desired progress and advancement. They wanted to catch up to their elder sisters. They wanted to step onto the path of immortality just like Wu Qianyu had done recently.

“Ready?” Chen Wentian asked.

The twins nodded, their faces impassive, their hearts beating strongly in anticipation.

“Let's begin.” He said and opened a hole in the protective shield of spiritual energy around the Frozen Netherworld Jade.

Netherworld yin energy surged out like an avalanche, filling the small space of the bedroom. It would have continued onward, escaping out of the confines but Chen Wentian held it all back with his flame energy. With nowhere else to go, this destructively cold energy surged into the only places it could, Su Xue and Su Yue's bodies.

Instead of crying out in pain like in the past, they held strong and resisted the invading force with Summer and Winter's Eternal Sutra. This immortal dual cultivation art was an excellent and well-designed Dao. It allowed the twins to utilize both ice and fire energy to suppress the netherworld yin energy somewhat.

Their bodies glowed with icy blue light as they activated the 4th Stage of Winter's Snow Dance, Icy Marrow. This stage vastly improved the quality of their ice powers for a short period of time. It rapidly drained their spiritual energy stores within their spiritual sea but since they would be replenished soon, it was a worthwhile strategy.

A moment later, there was another surge of icy energy as they activated the 5th Stage, Cold Snap. A surge of blue ice emerged and covered their body. Ice energy clashed with ice energy in a battle of supremacy. The more they could resist, the more netherworld yin energy collected in their bodies. This meant that each session would give them many times more benefit for the effort.

After a great deal of struggle, Su Xue and Su Yue started losing out in their battle against the invading immortal yin energy. Their Winter's Snow Dance was good but they had yet to master the sixth stage or above. They were almost at their limit.

A final burst of flame energy put up one last wisp of resistance. This power came from Summer's Blazing Sun but it was too weak. They didn't like cultivating flames unlike Xu Lanyi and didn't work as hard on this other half.

Su Xue and Su Yue were finally defeated by the netherworld yin energy. As pain wracked their naked bodies, they slumped over onto the floor. With no more strength to fight back, it was finally time for Chen Wentian to intervene.

He sealed off the Frozen Netherworld Jade and deposited them onto the bed. They could have done better if they had not neglected Summer's Blazing Sun but it was still a great improvement from before. They were able to absorb ten times as much abyssal yin energy as before.

The twins were barely coherent by now, lost in a world of pain. He didn't let them suffer for long as he spread Su Xue's leg's apart and thrust into her roughly. She was already wet from their previous activities so this didn't cause her any more discomfort.

His dick sank into her tight pussy, bottoming out at about two-thirds of his length. He gave her a burst of blazing yang flame from the tip which elicited a satisfied moan. He dragged his dick out, pulling and scraping against her squishy folds until he was almost out. He then plunged back into her, thrusting roughly, stretching her to the limit, and grinding against her womb.

He gave Su Xue a few more good thrusts and injections of flame energy before moving onto Su Yue. He pulled over her small body, limp like a ragdoll, and placed her atop Su Xue.

He lined up his cock and pierced her pussy. It was tight, shallow, and felt just as good as her sister's. He fucked her good and hard for a little while before switching back to the awaiting pussy on the bottom.

Chen Wentian worked hard. He was a diligent master. He plowed Su Xue and Su Yue over and over, alternating between the two at regular intervals. They had more netherworld yin energy within their bodies now so it required more patience and stamina from him.

Thrust, thrust, thrust.

Switch.

Repeat.

Back and forth, in and out.

Eventually, they both awoke at the same time with brilliant smiles. The netherworld yin energy with their bodies was fully resolved and absorbed into their spiritual sea.

“Master!” Su Yue giggled and hugged him tightly.

She wrapped her legs around his waist and tried to take him deeper. It was impossible but she was too stubborn to take no for an answer.

Chen Wentian obliged and started thrusting rough and fast. He pounded her as hard as she wanted.

“Ahhh! Ahhh! Harder! AhhhhhHHH!”

She screamed at the top of her voice, making her pleasure echo around the room. It was almost like she wanted the whole sect to know.

She came unraveled a short while later. All that pent-up pleasure finally had somewhere to go and exploded. She went limp as her body shook beneath him. It was an earth-shattering orgasm; it was sheer bliss.

Chen Wentian pulled out but he didn't pause to savor his conquest. He had one more pussy to satisfy, after all.

“Eee!” Su Xue squealed as he tackled her.

He lifted her legs above her head and plowed into her without warning.

“Masterrrr! Ahhh! Ahhh!”

Her voice was a little more reserved but it still reverberated around the icy chamber.

Like her twin, Su Xue only lasted a few minutes under his hard pounding. This suited him just fine as he was at the limit as well. When her pussy quaked around his cock, he finally let go, his task completed.

A second, more powerful orgasm wracked his body and squeezed out whatever was left in his balls. Several jets of molten love seared her insides, bringing renewed pleasure and prolonging her orgasm. It was so intense that she actually fainted.

Chen Wentian pulled out and surveyed his handiwork. Su Yue was already asleep while Su Xue was similarly unconscious, a small trickle of white staining her swollen and abused pussy.

Both their cultivations had received a large boost and were quite close to the ninth level. He was sure they would reach it with a few more sessions. He had two more days and he was going to make sure they trained hard.

He grinned.

This kind of training was the absolute best. He felt like the luckiest man in the world. No wonder there were so many dual cultivation arts in the world!

#### Chapter 368.: Worrying Thoughts

Su Xue and Su Yue went off into the land of dreams. Chen Wentian didn't get up and stayed with them, hugged their warm bodies against his. He could have been cultivating his souls but he was feeling rather lazy after an enjoyable training session with the twins. The Anatta Soul Nirvana art could steadily improve his souls through meditation but this method was rather slow and tedious. He preferred the much quicker method of refining enemy souls. Especially after the experience of refining Abbotess Liang's soul, ordinary meditation almost seemed like a waste of time.

He spent a few moments catching up on the status of his other disciples through his souls and the state of the various provinces through Chen Mo's soul anchors. His disciples were doing fine. They were

practicing diligently, even in his absence. The only outlier was Jasmine but she was able to cultivate simply by sleeping most of the day.

The provinces were also doing fine, except for a few murders and deaths here or there. But that was to be expected. The world was not peaceful and cultivation was not a peaceful endeavor. However, one of his souls provided him with worrying thoughts on some news that wasn't publicly available...

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"Enter."

A voice drifted through the closed door to where Chen Wentian stood, in the body and soul of Ming He. The top disciple of the Eastern Light Clan was currently near the top of the tower, in front of the private residence of his father, Immortal Light Warder Ming Hai.

Chen Wentian opened the door and stepped inside. He walked quickly through the familiar hallways, making sure not to let his eyes stray, and arrived in a small sitting area.

His father was alone though he sensed several female presences nearby. At least he was clothed, which was a rarity.

"Xiao He." Ming Hai said after putting down a goblet of what had to be wine.

"Father." Chen Wentian bowed deeply.

"Mmmm..." Ming Hai muttered while scanning Ming Hai with spiritual light, "Good, you didn't disappoint me. You managed to retain your top spot in the ranking test. I was worried the loss of Long Yifei would affect you but it seems you managed to overcome that."

Chen Wentian snorted in his heart but kept a straight face, "Indeed, father. Your strict training sessions after that incident kept my mind focused. She no longer affects my thoughts at all, even if she were to appear in front of me again!"

Ming Hai waved his hand, "Now, now. No need to boast. She can make even this daddy lose control with her beauty... but it doesn't matter. Since Virtuous Order dragged themselves into the issue, Long Yifei is no longer your concern. Don't worry about that Chen Wentian either. Those two are no longer your targets, they are my targets now."

"This... does father wish to destroy that person?" Ming He asked.

Chen Wentian was keenly interested in the answer. He already viewed this immortal Ming Hai as an enemy but only a low-priority one at the moment. He had bigger souls to fry including the two despicable kings of Beast God Sanctum and the three Beast Kings still running rampant in the Eastern Wilderness.

He had less than a year to match Jasmine's explosive growth in cultivation and help her fulfil her revenge. She already at fifth stage of spiritual strengthening and rapidly approaching the sixth. Soon she would reach the seventh and final stage of strengthening after which she would enter several months of hibernation.

She would emerge from that sleep a Spirit King. It was almost guaranteed from what her mother described. The cultivation habits of divine beasts were simply too divine. If he couldn't reach the Spirit King Realm at the same or soon afterwards, she would not listen to him and their relationship as master and disciple would be turned on its head.

Such a thing was the last thing Chen Wentian wanted and so a useless idiot like Ming Hai was a mere annoyance.

Ming Hai laughed nonchalantly and took a swig of wine, "Plenty of people wish to see him disappear but doing so is easier said than done. That lucky bastard managed to find himself so many thick thighs to hug. Truly shameful... As I said, don't worry about it from now on. Focus on your cultivation."

"Yes." Chen Wentian answered as he was frowning inwardly.

Such an answer was to be expected but it was problematic and could mean anything. This Ming Hai could already be planning something or simply boasting in front his son. Yet the danger of the first possibility was too strong to ignore so Chen Wentian was already thinking of countermeasures.



"Enough of this, I want to talk to about you, not a useless person." Ming Hai said, "Son, Long Yifei might be gone but you still need to find a wife. You cannot delay your first light ceremony much longer. Do you have anyone in mind?"

"No... I don't." Chen Wentian admitted.

This was the truth as Ming He had put all his faith and hope in obtaining Long Yifei. The poor sap was rather unfortunate in the love department.

"Does father have any recommendations?"

"Very perceptive. I actually do."

Ming Hai waved his hand and a scroll appeared in the air. It unfurled, revealing the portrait of a pretty but otherwise unremarkable woman. Ming He, and Chen Wentian as well, recognized the person. She was Tang Xiang, executor for the House of Axes, a subsidiary of the House of Armament and their enemy.

"This..."

The immortal laughed, "Don't be so surprised. Anything is possible in this world. Although she is a little lacking in the looks department, her talent is undeniable. Age thirty-eight, already at the lesser realm of Spiritual Formation. She is stronger than you by a whole lesser realm. Do you think you can handle her?"

"I can... but I must ask, what is going on?" Chen Wentian asked.

"The Virtuous Order of Chunzhen has made their intentions clear. They never cared about this small subcontinent before but Long Yifei changed everything. Now, the balance of power is shifting. The Eastern Light Clan can no longer afford to be involved in petty squabbles with the House of Armament. Sect Master Ming Mu is already in talks with them for a tentative peace that might eventually lead to an alliance. You and Tang Xiang were brought up almost immediately as a suitable match to seal the deal."

Chen Wentian, acting as the ever-obedient son, did not raise any objections.

This was the unavoidable reality. Spirit Kings were not dumb. Old immortal sects had deep and formidable legacies. They didn't get to their position without foresight and sense of self-preservation. They were prepared to put aside old hatreds to weather the furious storm that was the Virtuous Order looming across the horizon.

"I will follow father's instructions."

"Good, good. First order of business, you are to visit Tang Xiang and help her with a case that has been troubling the House of Axes for many months. Treat it as an opportunity to get to know her, to see if you two are compatible."

"An unsolvable case?"

"A nasty case." Ming Hai answered, "They recently lost an executor to a gruesome death. Only their shriveled husk remained. And it's not the only attack. There's been an increase of such reports all over the metropolis. The House of Axes suspect its some kind of demon infestation. They are trying to keep things calm but it's starting to get difficult. You must find it quickly and deal with it quietly."

"Yes, father."

"You can head out immediately when you are ready."

"Yes!" Chen Wentian didn't ask anymore useless questions and promptly left the room, his mind filled with worrying thoughts.

Chapter 369.: Too Much Coincidence

Chen Wentian let out a long breath and stared up at the icy ceiling. He didn't expect it to be demons again. He had just killed a rare faceless demon and he wondered what species could be causing so much trouble in the immortal city.

He understood why Ming He and Tang Xiang, two mortal cultivators, were given the task of hunting down an unknown, potentially dangerous, demon. The Eastern Sanmu Metropolis was too crowded. There were too many people around for the demon to blend in. It was almost impossible for a Spirit Lord, let alone a Spirit King, to move around unnoticed.

If an immortal arrived, any demon hanging around a place would sense a shift in the environment, in the demeanor of the humans around it. The demon would then go into hiding somewhere until the threat had passed.

In fact, Chen Wentian would not have been able to find that faceless demon if Su Xue and Su Yue had not been at the scene of the crime so quickly. Perhaps only someone like Chen Mo who specialized in stealth would be able to sneak up on a disguised demon.

The obvious question was whether or not these incidents were connected.

It was always possible but the chances were low. Evil demons were usually individual existences, especially those that could disguise themselves and hide amongst the human population. They were the rarest type of demon but the most fearsome simply because of their ability to cause tremendous destruction without being caught.

Still... just two instances of evil demons weren't that great of a coincidence, was it?

Chen Wentian checked every one of his souls once more, looking for any sign. He didn't want to find anything but his hopes were dashed. His worries were confirmed when he reread, in detail, the recent memories of Purple Jade Hercules Beetle which resided in the Purple Jade Sword.

The beast wasn't very intelligent and he usually didn't pay much attention. He just made sure Wu Qianyu was still fine and in good spirits. A close inspection of the beetle soul's memories revealed the incident at White Diamond Citadel at borders of the Eastern Wilderness and Cloudy Mountain Province.

He had to agree with Wu Qianyu's conclusion. It was most likely the work of some kind of demon, perhaps an evil type. With the end of the monster invasion, there was little chance the mercenaries of White Diamond Citadel fell to a casual attack from wild beasts or weak demon races like goblins. All the signs pointed to evil.

It was quite lucky that Wu Qianyu managed to catch wind of this. He had faith in her that she would be able to find out more. It would be a good training opportunity, what with the Convocation of Swords looming on the horizon...

“Mmm... Master...”

“What time is it?”

While he was still contemplating the demon question, Su Xue and Su Yue had awoken.

They emerged from under the covers. Their round faces blushed cutely upon realizing that they were still naked and where they were. With a flurry of activity, they dressed quickly, much to his disappointment.

“Master?”

He looked up to see that Su Xue and Su Yue were fully dressed.

“Hmm? What's up?” He asked.

“Should we be more worried about demons?” Su Xue asked.

Su Yue nodded eagerly in agreement.

He was surprised by their question. They didn't know what he knew so it was high preceptive of them.

“Tell me, why do you think so?”

"I dreamed about what the demon said, that ten more of its kind will appear after it died. What if that is true?" Su Xue said.

"Demons don't propagate out of nothing, not even evil demons. If they have collected enough spiritual energy from human victims, then it is possible." He said.

"Then, what if they do gather enough energy, from too many victims?" Su Xue asked in a hushed voice.

"I suppose, there could be a demon outbreak."

"A demon outbreak, what's that?" Su Yue asked.

Chen Wentian went into a teaching mode and explained that a demon outbreak was similar to a monster invasion. Instead of coming from the wilderness where beasts and demon races usually resided, a demon outbreak usually occurred in the middle of human territory and usually only involved demon spirits and evil demons. These two types were the best at hiding within human territory until they were strong enough to cause trouble.

The cause of a demon outbreak was similar to a monster invasion. The demons in the area had grown strong enough and brave enough to cast aside their disguises and attack in the open. They no longer cared about stealth, they cared about killing as many humans as possible to fuel their cultivation. Perhaps they were close to a breakthrough or they were simply bored of hiding. But unlike monster invasions, demon outbreaks were usually not coordinated affairs. Each type of demon rarely listened to another unless there was force controlling everything from the shadows...

"I see..." Su Xue looked at Su Yue. A silent message passed between them before Su Xue spoke again, "Master, our Glacier Palace has an odd folk tale, one that has supposedly persisted ever since the founding of the sect. I don't know if master has heard of it?"

"Oh? I have not."

"It is said that Glacier Palace disciples must always fight demon spirits and evil demons to the death when we see them." She said, "We must not let them exist and grow stronger even if it costs us our

lives. This is not a hard and fast rule of the sect but something drilled into our heads from a young age. Our managing elder told us variations of this story constantly... that we would be made to hunt demons if we misbehaved, that our lack of progress would result in our deaths by demon hands, and that a horde of demons would overrun the sect and destroy it one day.”

“Demon spirits and evil demons specifically? Not humanoid demons?” Chen Wentian asked.

“Sometimes just those two, sometimes all of them. People have different opinions about the true story and there are several variations. Some include an army of demons that act like lustful men, others have a fiery cataclysm.”

“Hmm...”

He was reminded of a certain item, an old painting that had been hidden away in a dusty corner of the sect master's library. He retrieved it and let the twins study it, much to their astonishment.

The painting, which was as big as the bed, depicted the terrifying scene of what was unmistakably a demon outbreak. It was a large battle between human cultivators and flame demons. These fiery demon spirits were cleaving through the human ranks, burning people alive and setting the surrounding towns and forests aflame.

Although the human forces from the ground were obviously losing, the painting still contained hope. From the sky, behind the human forces, four female cultivators were descending from the heavens to their aid. The attacks they launched were a mix of white, blue, green, and black.

“Wow!” Su Yue exclaimed, “So the story was true!”

“Where did you find this?” Su Xue added.

Chen Wentian explained where he had found it but reminded them not to get too excited. It was still just an old painting. He had not been able to find any other clues or references to the paintings in the library anywhere. Even the text of Summer and Winter's Eternal Sutra made no references to any threat of demons. For all he knew, it was the product of some ancestor's idle imagination.

But this issue with demons was all too coincidental for him to sit still. He was naturally a cautious person that survived many situations through a bit of luck but a lot of preparation.

He decided that he would investigate thoroughly, at least in the provinces that he controlled.

## Chapter 370.: New Instructions

“Take your seats!”

“Hurry up, the immortal is already waiting!”

"Don't shove!"

The open-aired stadium within Glacier Palace was the most crowded it had been in many decades and still more people were flowing in from the doorways. This meeting was for all disciples as well as their spouses and children currently residing in the sect. This added a few thousand to headcount that approached ten thousand souls.

Chen Wentian sat in the center of the stage that overlooked the circular stadium, with icy towers of the sect and white mountain peaks all around. Su Xue and Su Yue sat beside him, looking a little nervous but also excited. He could tell that they enjoyed being the center of attention, especially when they were constantly in the shadows of their older sisters.

A select group of women sat in the first row directly in front of them. They included all managing elders that survived the death of Murong Aiyin as well as the talented disciples that were originally under Long Yifei. With the death of Ru Hanyue, there were now nine left out of the original ten. They sat silent and stoic, though their expressions could not hide their ravishing beauty.

Chen Wentian shot them a few sideways glances here and there until the last stragglers entered and took their seats. He then rose into the air and cast his spiritual energy outward to cover the entire stadium in warmth.

“Glacier Palace! I am Immortal Blue Dragon Chen Wentian, your administrator. I have called this emergency sect meeting to inform you all of some recent developments and how they will affect each and every one of you. Some of you may have heard already but the news from the province is indeed correct. Disciple Ru Hanyue passed away two days ago.”

He paused as gasps of shock and sorrow erupted from the crowd like a shockwave. It was understandable so he let them grieve for a moment. Ru Hanyue was a famous person within the sect, one that many juniors looked up to. With the current state of the sect, she was of the ten most influential members. Her loss was a huge deal.

“Her death...” He continued, “Was an unfortunate tragedy but one that will not be repeated. No other member of Glacier Palace will suffer the same fate as her, this I promise you all with confidence. I cannot get into the specific details of her death but I have already taken care of the culprit. However, to make sure things properly return a peaceful state, I am instating a new series of rules that will last for a month at least.”

“The first rule is that Glacier Palace members below the Spirit Initiate Realm are not allowed go anywhere except the sect, the teleportation array, and Thousand Flower City in Dragon Flower Province. Other areas are restricted temporarily for your safety.”

“The second rule is that those at the Spirit Initiate Realm going outside of the three places I mentioned before all must travel in groups. The bigger the group, the better. Groups of two are allowed but discouraged. Additionally, before a group sets out from the sect, they must take a special message talisman with them. If anything happens, if you meet any danger, activate the message talisman immediately and you'll summon one of my elders to your side.”

Chen Wentian waggled his finger and the shadow beneath his feet spread to the side. A dark figure stood up out of nothingness, their facial features obscured except for a pair of glowing black eyes.

“Greetings, sect master!” The shadow spoke, his normal voice distorted so he wouldn't sound exactly the same as Chen Wentian.

Chen Wentian patted Chen Mo's shoulder, “Everyone, do not be alarmed. This is Elder Mo of Ten Thousand Flower Valley, my right hand and also a Spirit Lord. He will be the one to respond if any message talisman is activated in this province. I wanted you all to meet him and get used to his



appearance. While I am away, he will be responsible for you all. But do not worry, he will behave the same as me and will not interfere with day-to-day matters of the sect.”

“Yes, sect master!” Chen Mo said and disappeared.

“Now...” Chen Wentian said, ignoring the sea of stunned and frightened expressions, “That is all I have for you all. Just two simple instructions. Follow them and a month will pass in the blink of an eye. Dismissed!”

Without another word, he took Su Xue and Su Yue and flew into the sky. In the past, perhaps he would have been enamored by a whole sect filled with women. Now, all of them together didn't interest him nearly as much as the twins in his arms.

He paused in midair, high above the province, letting his spiritual aura protect them from the sharp winds all around them.

“My task for you two will be much more challenging. Are you ready?” He asked them.

Su Xue and Su Yue nodded eagerly.

“Good. Glacier Province will be your responsibility. Your sisters will be in charge of Divine Blazing Province. Here, you two will be responsible for traveling around and investigating any strange occurrences that could be caused by demons. I will check up on you for training at regular intervals. While I am away, you are to practice your ice and flame arts as well as your sword.”

“Understood!” They replied brightly.

“Also, since you both like food and wine, you are to sample as much local fare as possible and bring back any good recommendations for me and the others...”

“Master!” Su Yue tugged at his sleeve, interrupting him, “If we do that, we'll get fat!”

Chen Wentian laughed, "Silly girl, just eat less? Anyways, the point is to act natural and blend in. If you two go around blatantly asking about demons, if there are any, they would all go into hiding. Just act like you are enjoying yourselves."

"So... we're the bait?" Su Xue concluded.

"Uh..." He scratched his head.

He laughed awkwardly but Su Xue didn't look impressed. Indeed, he had a bad habit of making his disciples serve as bait.

"I'm not doing it on purpose..." He tried to explain, "It's a simple but reliable trick and I'm not very imaginative. If it works, it works! What else can I do?"

Su Xue finally smiled, satisfied with his squirming answer, "I understand. We shall do as you instruct, master."

"That's right!" Su Yue chimed in, "We'll catch plenty of demons!"

Chen Wentian snorted, "I hope not!"