

## Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 286-290

### Chapter 286: Guarding the Corpse

Long Jiaonan sneered. Ling Yuxiu and Si Yunxiang had merely just entered Six Directions Realm, while she and the red snake were experts of Seven Stars Realm.

Whoever entered Seven Stars Realm could become a general in Eternal Peace Empire.

Before Dragon Rider Sect had rebelled, Long Jiaonan had assumed a position in the army by dressing as a male!

With Ling Yuxiu and Si Yunxiang's abilities, they were no match for her and the red snake.

"Courting death!"

Long Jiaonan's palm flipped over and her vital qi transformed into a huge python which coiled behind her body with jaws wide open. The air in the surroundings instantly rushed towards its mouth as it tried to swallow the two girls in the air.

Even though Dragon Rider Sect wasn't proficient in spells, the power of their spells still couldn't be underestimated. Imperial Preceptor's reform had allowed Dragon Rider Sect to absorb the strong points of other sects, raising the power of their spells by a level.

This Dragon Python Swallowing Heaven had already obtained the samadhi state.

However, Ling Yuxiu held Nine Dragons Weapons in her hands and raised it over her head to smash down. In mid-air, bolts of lightning instantly gathered and crackled as they struck onto her Nine Dragon Weapons.

It transformed into Nine Dragons Hammer which collided with the huge mouth of the vital qi python. The explosion of the power of lightning instantly shattered the spell of Long Jiaonan, causing her vital qi to disintegrate.

While Long Jiaonan was astonished, Si Yunxiang waved her hand and a fine string came stabbing towards her left eye. Long Jiaonan flicked her fingers continuously yet that string wasn't affected and continued to fly over.

The middle and index fingers of Si Yunxiang's pointed toward Long Jiaonan, and the tip of her fingers dotted again and again. The tip of Thousand Silks also transformed again and again, actually executing sword moves that were extremely intricate.

"Saintess Xiang's sword skills ain't bad!"

The sleeve of Long Jiaonan's left arm swept over and over again and her vital qi transformed into a jade annulus to mess up the sword treads that were rushing toward her. Yet at this moment, Long Jiaonan

noticed that Si Yunxiang had her right hand in front of her body and her left hand behind her body. Her left hand was also gesticulating sword secrets which alarmed her and made her immediately rise into the sky.

Just as she did that, she saw her purple dress fluttering as thousands of holes opened up, wind passing everywhere.

Meanwhile, in the sky, Ling Yuxiu raised her huge hammer to smash down, and Long Jiaonan raised her hand to block. A loud rumble rang out when flames burst forth from the huge hammer. The strength was incomparably terrifying, blowing Long Jiaonan away with one strike!

Nine Dragons Monarch Technique was naturally a first-rate technique and had extremely high attainments in spells. Due to that, the accumulated magic power was like a vast sea. Both on the same realm and below, the magic power from Nine Dragons Monarch Technique was the densest. Of course, this was excluding Qin Mu's Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique.

In addition to that, Emperor Yanfeng was the most intelligent emperor since Eternal Peace Empire was founded and had long become a great expert of his generation. He had improved Nine Dragons Monarch Technique and added in transformations of battle techniques and sword skills, allowing the power of this technique to far surpass what it was in the past.

The technique that Ling Yuxiu cultivated was this, and the path she took was the fusion of battle spells. By unleashing battle techniques and spells together at the same time, the power of her attacks was increased. So even though Long Jiaonan was on Seven Stars Realm, she was still caught off guard by the attacks of the two girls and got blown away.

The moment Ling Yuxiu landed on the ground, she let go of her hammer, and Nine Dragons Hammer separated into nine dragon-shaped weapons which swiftly combined together once more. The countless number of scales moved and transformed into a mirror.

Ling Yuxiu stood behind the mirror, and with a hum, a beam of light shot out. Within it seemed to be golden dragons flying and dancing around, shining on the body of Long Jiaonan who was flying backward.

Si Yunxiang immediately rushed over and flew past the mirror. Her sword threads coiled around and sliced toward Long Jiaonan who was hit by the mirror light.

"Xiao'hong!" Long Jiaonan shouted sternly. With a raise of her palm, the ground trembled, and several hundred stone spikes shot up from below, blocking Si Yunxiang's path and the mirror's light.

The huge red snake behind the two girls suddenly stretched its body, which was as thick as a pillar that only several people could hug. It came sweeping over with boundless strength, and if they got hit by this behemoth, they would be severely injured if not shattered in pieces!

Dragon Rider Sect's true trump card wasn't cultivation or magic power, and neither was it divine arts – it was the 'dragon' in their mouth!

The snakes they raised were all a special breed that had the bloodline of flood dragons. Even if the people's cultivation wasn't high, the snakes they raised would definitely have a high enough ability to kill their opponents.

This red snake of Long Jiaonan was one of the special breeds among the special breeds. It was the same as the dragon king's flood dragon of the Divine Bridge Realm. This snake had an extremely close kinship with it, and the bloodline of this flood dragon was very pure, thus a snake was enough to sweep everyone on Seven Stars Realm.

Long Jiaonan had relied on this pet of hers to become a reputable expert.

The fierce power of the red snake came barreling over, but just as it was about to crush the two girls, a scorching beam of light shot from behind its body.

The red snake was stunned when it saw its body being sliced in half by that beam. The loose half then wiggled about, sweeping down the forest in pieces!

At the side of the pond behind the huge snake, Qin Mu stood with a huge eyeball which was shooting out a bright beam. This was, of course, the attack that had cut the snake in half.

The red snake hissed in pain and spewed out a lump of dense poisonous fog while springing up to bite Qin Mu with the remainder of its body!

This poisonous fog was highly toxic, and Qin Mu wasn't willing to get tainted by it. Moving away, he executed Heavenly Pilfering Divine Legs and avoided the attack of the red snake.

His speed was extremely fast, and before the red snake could even react, he was already in the sky. Qin Mu looked down from above and saw that the city of the Solomon's seals had been completely destroyed. The Solomon's seals that had been living in the trees were also swept away.

It was evident that after Long Jiaonan had discovered this place, she had ruthlessly killed and captured all the Solomon's seals and razed the place where they lived!

Long Jiaonan must have learned about Qin Mu and the rest from the mouths of those Solomon's seals, since they really didn't have any spirit of loyalty and were swift to sell out others.

Qin Mu's expression sunk. Even though these Solomon's seals didn't have the spirit of loyalty, they had still helped his group. And since they had helped, they were benefactors.

Suddenly, the huge head of the red snake sprung into the air with its jaws wide open to an extreme degree. The mouth of the snake nearly formed an 'I' shape as it came biting toward him.

"Die."

Qin Mu adjusted the jade eye, and a beam shot straight down the mouth of the snake with a hum. All the flesh that the light passed by was melted.

Hmmm!

The intense light shone onto the ground, and the ground instantly melted, creating a pit. Boiling lava started to vaporize into steam that flowed out, condensing into small beads of rocks that fell from the sky when they cooled down. It was as if there was a small-scaled rain of rocks.

The jumping strength of the red snake was astonishing, so its huge body swallowed both Qin Mu and the jade eye. However, since its flesh was pierced all the way through, a passageway was opened up. The brain of the snake was also pierced as well.

Qin Mu's body landed on the ground, and behind him, a red snake fell down like a tattered sack that was giving off a fragrance of cooked meat.

"Xiao'hong!"

Long Jiaonan's miserable shriek came from a distance. The three women had already fought all the way to the surface of the sea and were clashing furiously on the water's surface. In the sea, it was extremely easy to control water, so Long Jiaonan's vital qi had fused with the seawater, transforming into pythons to attack in all directions with astonishing power.

However, it was a pity that Ling Yuxiu and Si Yunxiang's spirit weapons were too good and their powers were too strong. When facing Long Jiaonan's attacks head-on, Ling Yuxiu could separate her Nine Dragons Weapons into nine pieces, transforming into nine dragon-shaped blades moving up and down, left and right, colliding with the spells and destroying them. They could also transform into a defensive state, Nine Dragons Shield, to block Long Jiaonan's attack any time.

Meanwhile, Si Yunxiang's techniques were even stranger. They were as unpredictable as her Thousand Silks, vanishing in the water sometimes and appearing on top of Long Jiaonan's head from time to time, making her unable to guard against it.

Even though Thousand Silks was fine, it was very lethal, and it posed the most danger to Long Jiaonan.

When the red snake died, Long Jiaonan's frame of mind was messed up, and Si Yunxiang saw a flaw. The spirit weapon hummed and transformed into a thin sword blade, which pierced Long Jiaonan's heart. The tip of the sword came out the other side.

Just as Si Yunxiang succeeded in landing a blow, Ling Yuxiu stretched her hand out, and the nine dragons combined into a hammer, smashing onto Long Jiaonan's body!

Cracking sounds rang out, and countless of bones were shattered, piercing the woman's skin. With bones sticking out of Long Jiaonan's body, she was a bloody sight that was extremely terrifying.

Si Yunxiang pulled out Thousand Silks, and Long Jiaonan's body trembled as it fell into the seawater.

Ling Yuxiu shouted out, "She still has our spirit weapons!"

Si Yunxiang immediately lifted up Long Jiaonan's corpse. Having almost let it fall into the sea, she couldn't help grumbling, "I had already succeeded in landing the killing blow yet she still had to hammer on the body. Look at how shattered her bones are now, I can't even carry her properly."

The two girls dragged Long Jiaonan's corpse back onto the island and started rummaging through her body for treasures. They could only find the taotie sack, which they opened. Inside, they saw all their spirit weapons and all kinds of other treasures.

Si Yunxiang poured the items out, revealing countless corpses of the Solomon's seals that piled up like a small mountain.

Close to ten thousand corpses of the Solomon's seals piled up together were merely three yards high. However, these Solomon's seals all had the shape of humans, and ten thousand corpses piled up together was still an extremely astonishing sight. It had an indescribable sorrowful feeling to it.

"Cult Master, I finally understand, this is not the strong preying on the weak..." From the corner of her eye, Si Yunxiang saw Qin Mu slowly walking over. There was a hard to detect hint of sorrow in the eyes of the devil cult saintess when she said in a low voice, "This is definitely not the strong preying on the weak, but instead... toying with the lives of others to realize selfish desires. When she was killing these Solomon's seals, she must have felt like she was a god..."

Qin Mu walked to her side and said, "Being apart from nature, she couldn't understand that. These Solomon's seals were originally spirit herbs, so even though they are dead, their roots are still here. They might just come back to life again if we plant them beside that spirit spring. Let us do this."

The two girls nodded. Planting down ten thousand Solomon's seals was quite tiring, but luckily they were divine arts practitioners. Until nightfall, they finished planting all of them.

Si Yunxiang went to gather some firewood while Ling Yuxiu went to fetch some spring water to water the Solomon's seals.

Qin Mu tidied up the taotie sack and placed the two jade eyes inside before placing over three thousand jade quality luminous pearls on the beach. Each of these luminous pearls gave off a charming glow.

Si Yunxiang picked up some firewood and came to the beach to lit the bonfire. She then took out her outer clothing and jumped into the sea in her undergarments.

Her undergarments were like a skirt with straps on the shoulder and were made of pure white silk with no embroidery.

On her lower body were white underpants that were only three inches long. They also had fine straps there were tied to her snow-white thighs.

After a moment, Si Yunxiang carried a huge fish out from the sea and threw it beside Qin Mu. She then circulated her vital qi to dry up her undergarments before putting back on her clothes.

Only then did she notice that Qin Mu had dragged Long Jiaonan's corpse over some time ago and placed it beside the bonfire. He had also dragged over the two parts of the red snake's corpse, which made her bewildered. "Cult Master, what are you doing?"

"Guarding the corpse, waiting for her to wake up."

Si Yunxiang burst into laughter. "If you wait for two more days, the corpse will start to stink. I've pierced her heart and Princess Xiu shattered her bones, so how could she still be alive?"

When Ling Yuxiu walked over and saw Long Jiaonan's corpse, she couldn't help frowning. She probed, "The one that herds cows, are there any weird rules in Great Ruins?"

Qin Mu kicked the corpse of Long Jiaonan and sneered, "Sister Long, stop acting, I've seen you shed your skin before!"

The two girls smiled. "It's better to bury her soon."

Qin Mu sneered, "Before I bury her, I have to chop off her head first! This knife of mine is thirsting for blood!" Once he said that, he pulled out his Pig Slaughter Knife with an unpleasant expression.

Ling Yuxiu and Si Yunxiang were both shocked. Ling Yuxiu asked softly, "Saintess Xiang, is there some rule about beheading corpses in Great Ruins?"

"I also don't know. Maybe there's really such a weird habit in Great Ruins..."

Just as Si Yunxiang said this, they heard the sound of human skin splitting. It came from the top of Long Jiaonan's head.

### **Chapter 287: Dao Master**

Long Jiaonan's scalp split open, and the sound was hair-raising. With difficulty, a woman began crawling out from the split human skin.

Ling Yuxiu and Si Yunxiang screamed, then noticed that they were both hugging each other. The next second, they let go.

Qin Mu took out his 'Qin' jade pendant and put it on him. The jade pendant and Emperor's Disk were tied together and had been thrown in together into taotie sack by Long Jiaonan. One of these items was related to Qin Mu's parentage while the other was a treasure Cripple had given him to ward off evil.

The sight of Long Jiaonan crawling out from her skin was simply too terrifying, and it just so happened that Emperor's Disk could be used to ward off evil.

After a moment, a naked woman managed to pull her upper body out of Long Jiaonan's skin and some shattered bones jutting out from the skin were also squeezed out.

This woman was naked and had disheveled hair. She had difficulty crawling and coughed up blood as she did so.

Ling Yuxiu then came to her senses from the shock and immediately urged Qin Mu, "Turn around, don't look!"

"It's not like I've never seen this before..." Qin Mu muttered but he still turned around.

Not long later, Long Jiaonan finally managed to crawl out from her skin. She was at her last gasp and had no strength, and her appearance had become slightly older; she was no longer a woman in her prime age. She now looked a dozen years older.

Si Yunxiang fetched a shirt to cover her body, and while she did that, she secretly pinched the body of this woman, and her gaze flickered. She told Ling Yuxiu in a low voice, "There are still some shattered bones in her body, she didn't spit all of them out."

Long Jiaonan sat up with difficulty and wiped away the blood at the corner of her mouth. She said weakly, "My injuries were too severe, so this shedding could only heal the injuries of my heart and some of the bones. If I wanted to recover completely, I would have to shed a few more times. Every time I shed my skin, I become a dozen years older, losing much of my lifespan. You guys can be at ease, I am of no threat to you anymore."

Ling Yuxiu looked at the two halves of the red snake's body and suddenly gave a shudder, "Could this huge snake also..."

Long Jiaonan's expression turned sorrowful, and she shook her head. "Xiao'hong has already been severed into two halves and its head was destroyed, there's no way it can recover..."

"That's good!" Si Yunxiang and Ling Yuxiu sighed in relief.

Qin Mu turned around and revealed a smile. "Sister Long, may I ask where your esteemed father is? Where is he hiding? Who is with him? Why does he want to meet me?"

Long Jiaonan didn't speak a word.

Qin Mu kept smiling as he stretched out his index finger. A strand of vital qi flew out and sliced a piece of the snake, then moved it to roast it over the bonfire. Fats started dripping off the snake meat, and it gave off smoke as it sizzled.

Long Jiaonan's gaze landed on that piece of snake meat and her pupils contracted.

"There are three hundred and sixty-one halls in my Heavenly Saint Cult, and one of them is called Justice Hall. They rigorously carry out cruel laws and have thousands of ways to make one confess."

Qin Mu's face was sometimes bright and sometimes dark under the illumination of the bonfire. "Eternal Peace Empire also has a Ministry of Justice and you should have heard of their ways. The government minister of Ministry of Justice is the emperor's man, but the assistant minister is the Justice Hall Master of my Heavenly Saint Cult. If I wanted your answers, I would just have to trouble him. Will you take the initiative to speak or shall I force it out of you?"

Long Jiaonan sneered, "Eternal Peace Empire and Heavenly Devil Cult have such deep ties with one another, it's truly founding an empire by the means of the devil. Cult Master Qin, even though there was a threat in inviting you this time, I was still courteous, wasn't I? I didn't cause trouble for you guys; otherwise, chopping off Cult Master's legs, the princess's hands, and blinding the saintess wouldn't have

been too difficult for me. I would like for you to treat me the way you've been treated. Now that I'm in your hands, I hope to receive deferential treatment as well."

Qin Mu shook his head and said, "I can give you deferential treatment and not give you trouble on the way as well. However, since you have rebelled and caused chaos, it's only natural for me to hand you over to Ministry of Justice for questioning. You had an official position in the past, so it also a possibility for me to hand you to Supreme Court; however, there are people of my Heavenly Saint Cult in Supreme Court, too."

Long Jiaonan's expression wavered, but she still didn't speak a word.

Qin Mu couldn't ask anything out from her, so he flicked his fingers to seal her souls and spirits with Heavenly Devil Creation Technique. He then said to the two girls, "Fan Yunxiao's ship is fast and he shouldn't find it difficult to find his way here. He should come tomorrow. If not, five days is the longest he may take. Let us stay on the island for a few days and see if the Solomon's seals can be brought back to life."

Si Yunxiang hesitated. "Cult Master feels tenderness for the lives of these Solomon's seals, but if Long Jiaonan was to escape, she might find her way here again and trample on these Solomon's seals once more. Cult Master cannot lust for her charm just because she's pretty..."

"Lust for her charm?" Qin Mu sized up Long Jiaonan and asked in puzzlement, "She isn't pretty so where's the charm?"

Si Yunxiang was astonished. Even though Long Jiaonan had a weird temper, she was still considered a beauty. Even though she had become slightly older after shedding her skin, she was still a beautiful woman. For the sacred cult master of Heavenly Saint Cult to not find her beautiful, wasn't he a little too slow?

She probed, "What's Cult Master's definition of beautiful?"

"Someone who looks like granny." After a moment, he added without thinking, "Or someone plump like Sister Yuxiu. Granny Si said that plump girls look nice, but I must be careful of doxies."

Ling Yuxiu was very pleased and gave Si Yunxiang a glance. Her heart already secretly considered the cowherd boy to be her intimate friend.

Si Yunxiang felt indignant and said, "I'm from the same family as the previous cult mistress, and in terms of seniority, I should be calling her aunt. Does Cult Master thinks I'm pretty?"

"You're too skinny and you're still young, you must be even younger than me, right?" Qin Mu sized up Si Yunxiang and shook his head. "Granny said that skinny girls are not that pretty. Being a little plump is okay, since they can bear children. Granny Apothecary also said that it's good for girls to be a little plump, but all the people in the village said he's an old rogue. Don't be sad though, you will be pretty if you eat more, but don't get too plump. Grandpa Apothecary said that being too plump isn't beautiful, either."



Si Yunxiang was stunned. According to Qin Mu's beauty standards, Long Jiaonan was indeed not considered beautiful, and even she herself was not considered beautiful. No wonder then that when she had taken off her clothes just moments ago and was left with only her undergarments, this fellow had not even taken an extra glance at her. It turned out that he had been brought astray by the rogues in his village!

The young sacred cult master was good at everything. His wisdom, capability, aptitude, comprehension, and even resolution were all outstanding. It was just that there was something wrong with his beauty standards.

Qin Mu purposely didn't lower his voice and said, "Leaving this Sister Long alive is mainly to lure the dragon king out. The dragon king's abilities are high and he has even raised a flood dragon. He's a sect master after all, so if I don't get rid of him, it will be hard for me to be at ease. I have to be very scared and on the edge every time I walk in the streets, fearing I will be killed. By handing Sister Long to the crown prince and requesting the help of the left and right guardians and cult protector elders, as long as the dragon king dares to come, he will die with an intact corpse."

He had a grave expression as he continued, "He must die without an intact corpse, his brain must be smashed into smithereens; otherwise, no one will know if he will come back to life! Speaking of it, I wonder why this dragon king is looking for me... but this isn't important. The important point is that he must die!"

Long Jiaonan shuddered. Qin Mu's plan was too vicious. As long as the dragon king came to save her, he would certainly die. There was no chance that he could defeat the guardians and cult protector elders of Heavenly Devil Cult!

"Cult Master Qin, there's a reason why my father invited you over!" she suddenly said.

Qin Mu looked at her and smiled. "Sister Long is finally willing to speak?"

Long Jiaonan sighed and said, "Someone found my father and said that it wasn't good for him to show himself, but that he still wanted to meet with Cult Master Qin and negotiate peace."

Qin Mu was astonished. "May I ask who this person is?"

"Dao Master."

Long Jiaonan continued, "Of so-called three religions and nine schools, Dao Sect, Great Thunderclap Monastery, and Heavenly Devil Cult are considered the three religions, while our Dragon Rider Sect is only considered a sect of the nine schools. Cult Master is simply too powerful and not only did he rescue the emperor, he even killed so many experts of Dao Sect and Great Thunderclap Monastery at the Temple of Heaven in Imperial City.

"Dao Master is flustered now and fears that Emperor Yanfeng and Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor will ally with Heavenly Devil Cult to deal with Dao Sect. It isn't convenient for him to meet you personally, so as to prevent any misunderstandings between you and the emperor he found my father and requested him to invite you to Heavenly Dragon Island for a meeting."

Her expression turned cold. "I was courteous to you on the way here, but do you really think I didn't want to kill you? You killed countless disciples of my Dragon Rider Sect in Heaven Wave City and the emperor even seized our properties and executed our entire family, so my grudge with you guys is deeper than the sea! However, Dao Master is my father's benefactor and had saved his life before. I don't dare to go against his words."

Qin Mu had a pensive look as he rubbed his chin. Another few stubbles had popped out on his chin which was really irritating.

'Dao Master wants to meet me to negotiate peace, yet Dao Sect is negotiating peace with my Heavenly Saint Cult but not with Eternal Peace Empire.'

He pondered over it. 'Dao Master is worried about my Heavenly Saint Cult allying with Eternal Peace Empire to attack Dao Sect, since he's already old and doesn't have many years left to live. He can still protect Dao Sect if he negotiates peace now; otherwise, once he dies, Dao Sect is going to be eradicated.'

The snake meat was very fragrant, and the fish was also not bad. However, Long Jiaonan only ate a few pieces of fish and didn't even try the snake meat. Qin Mu politely offered it to her twice, but seeing how she simply didn't want to eat her snake, he could only drop this thought.

The next day, Si Yunxiang and Ling Yuxiu had woken up early, yet they saw Qin Mu already moving around on the island, his footsteps never-ending. Sometimes he was walking through the beach, and at other times he was walking over the sea. He would even leap up into the clouds at times.

'His aptitude and comprehension are higher than that of others yet he's still so hardworking!' Si Yunxiang gritted her teeth and thought to herself, 'If it wasn't so that I wouldn't have a chance to kill you, would there be a need to be so hardworking?'

Qin Mu had no other thoughts in his mind as he executed Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique while walking. He operated the technique, trying to merge all kinds of techniques into one to comprehend Unity Technique of Six Directions Realm.

Si Yunxiang was wrong. Qin Mu's aptitude was definitely the lowest tier. Back then, the people of Disabled Elderly Village had tested it, and he wasn't even a Spirit Body, but merely an ordinary person.

Qin Mu should have lived his whole life ordinarily, yet who would have expected that an Overlord Body from Village Chief would ignite Qin Mu's fighting spirit, as well as the fighting spirit of everyone in Disabled Elderly Village, pushing all kinds of spirit pills and miraculous medicines onto him.

Furthermore, Qin Mu was indeed hardworking and could even be the most hardworking person in the world. There was also an invincible belief in him that he was the Overlord Body that surpassed others. If he was inferior to others, that could only mean that he wasn't working hard enough.

His current cultivation and abilities were not entirely due to the grooming of Village Chief, Granny Si, and the rest or gained by chance encounters, but mostly his hard work.

If an ordinary person was willing to use their brain and work hard, it was hard to imagine how big their potential would be.

No one could find someone extraordinary based on hard work before they succeeded. Only after success would others find the person extraordinary, when they looked at a legend, yet they would all be overlooking the person's hard work.

Si Yunxiang and Ling Yuxiu saw this situation and began to cultivate diligently as well. The two girls cultivated by themselves and didn't disturb each other. Long Jiaonan laid under the tree and breathed in and out, trying to shed her skin again. However, since her injuries were too severe and the energy consumed would be too great, she couldn't do it.

If she shed her skin once more, she would become a middle-aged woman. After shedding a few more times, she would become an old woman.

When it was late in the morning, Qin Mu returned to the spring, planning to fetch some spring water for the Solomon's seals at the side of the spring. Yet he stopped in his footsteps when he saw an old Daoist in a washed Daoist robe that was slightly gray beside the spring. The man was currently using a leaf to fetch water while walking carefully among the Solomon's seals, watering them. Beside him was also a youth that was helping to water as well.

The old Daoist saw a leaf sprouting from a Solomon's seal's head, and his wrinkled face beamed. He squatted down and gently touched the leaf. "These Solomon's seals can still be brought back to life after dying, what a wonderful life. Isn't that so, Cult Master Qin?"

Each and every action from the old Daoist seemed to go according to the course of nature. It was as if this sea, this island, this spring, this sky, and these Solomon's seals were one and had no distinction between what is one's own and what is that of another.

"What Senior Brother says is extremely right." Qin Mu walked forward and said, "It's just that I don't know if these Solomon's seals will still be the Solomon's seal from before when they are brought back to life. Heavenly Saint Cult Master, pays his respects to Dao Master."

The old Daoist immediately returned the greeting. "It's still the first time we have met, this Old Dao pays his respects. Lin Xuan, quickly pay your respects to the human emperor of the current generation!"

Beside him, Daozi Lin Xuan was bewildered, but he didn't ask any question and did a disciple rite to Qin Mu while saying, "Daozi pays his respect to Human Emperor."

## **Chapter 288: Fourteen Writings of Dao Sect**

Qin Mu's heart trembled slightly when he guessed how Dao Master was so sure that he was the human emperor of the current generation.

He had only learned two moves from Village Chief's Sword Picture, and he didn't use them much. Other than executing it in front of Emperor Yanfeng and Imperial Preceptor, he had only used them in front of Pangong Tso and Daozi Lin Xuan.

When Daozi Lin Xuan had followed Dan Yangzi to block the gate of Imperial College, he was defeated under the first move of Sword Picture, Sword Treading Mountains and Rivers.

When he returned back to Dao Sect, he must have shown Qin Mu's Sword Treading Mountains and Rivers. Dao Master must have more or less known that Qin Mu's sword skills came from Village Chief, but he couldn't confirm Qin Mu was the human emperor of the current generation.

As for why he had such a confident tone, he was actually testing the waters.

Qin Mu's thoughts were also meticulous, but even though he guessed Dao Master's thoughts, he didn't deny and also went to fetch some water for the Solomon's seal while saying with a smile, "Dao Master possesses remarkable abilities and your wisdom surpasses others."

Dao Master and Daozi Lin Xuan were using leaves to carry water while he used his vital qi to sweep up the spring water, which was more convenient and much faster.

Old Dao Master saw him using vital qi and said, "Dao follows the nature. Human Emperor, what's the rush?"

Qin Mu said, "Being free from nature, we should apply what we learn. Since Dao Master is not applying, why did he have to learn?"

Dao Master frowned, but his eyebrows soon smoothed out again and he smiled. "The disagreement of our sects comes from our ideals and how we conduct ourselves in society, I won't debate with you over the teachings of Dao Sect and Heavenly Devil Cult. Human Emperor has withdrawn from worldly affairs for several hundred years, yet his student has come back. You must be planning something, am I right?"

Qin Mu used his vital qi to control the flow of the water, then said seriously, "What can I be planning? Village Chief said that the human emperor is a responsibility, but until now, I still don't understand what good can come from being the human emperor. First, there's no authority, and second, there's no power, yet I still have to carry responsibility. If Dao Master is willing, I could give it up to you."

Dao Master was watering the Solomon's seals with the leaf when his expression changed slightly. He hurriedly shook his head. "I can't shoulder this responsibility."

One of them used a leaf while the other a spell to water the Solomon's seals.

Daozi Ling Xuan took it all in and shook his head secretly. This old and young both had their own stubborn viewpoints and were very obstinate.

After a time it takes for an incense stick to burn, Qin Mu finished watering all the Solomon's seals. Old Dao Master also planted the leaf he used to carry water back into the soil and stretched his back with a sigh. "I'm old and my bones aren't like they used to be. Since Human Emperor is the cult master of Heavenly Devil Cult, Dao Sect won't be able to go against Human Emperor anymore. This Old Dao came to find Human Emperor to identify his successor to Human Emperor. Lin Xuan had also paid his respects to you just now, and after I die, he will become Dao Master."

Qin Mu greeted Lin Xuan, and Lin Xuan immediately returned his greeting. "I'm not Dao Master, I dare not accept."

Old Dao Master smiled. "After you become Dao Master, you will still be half a seniority lower, so you will have salute half a hand lower."

Lin Xuan was shocked.

Old Dao Master said in a neither too fast nor too slow voice, "Us who cultivate qi have received grace from the human emperor of the first generation, so everyone respects him. Each and every clan and sect had taken out their best treasure at that time to create Human Emperor's Seal, so you must follow the etiquette and can't be negligent. Could Old Dao take a look at the seal?"

Qin Mu took out the black lump which was Human Emperor's Seal and tossed it to him. Old Dao Master caught it in a panic, his face was twitching slightly. "How could you toss it? How could you toss it? Before this Old Dao came to meet Human Emperor, I had washed myself and changed my clothes, and even my hands were washed several times. I was reverent and respectful, not daring to be negligent, so how could you just toss Human Emperor's Seal like this?"

Qin Mu was bewildered and said, "Village Chief had tossed it to me like this. I didn't want it, so I tossed it back at him, yet he stuffed it back to me. I couldn't defeat him so I could only accept it."

Old Dao Master had a bitter face as he held Human Emperor's Seal in both of his hands. He examined it over and over again and verified that it was indeed the seal. "Human Emperor, please take it back." Once he said that, he took a step forward and offered Human Emperor's Seal respectfully in both of his hands.

Only when Qin Mu took back Human Emperor's Seal did the old Daoist take a step back and placed his hands down. He said to Daozi Lin Xuan, "Remember, Human Emperor's Seal can only be received like this, you can't mess up the etiquette."

Daozi Lin Xuan acknowledged this while watching Qin Mu toss Human Emperor's Seal into his taotie sack; however, Lin Xuan didn't dare to say anything.

"He is the human emperor, he can be disrespectful, but we can't be disrespectful." Old Dao Master put a lot of effort into saying, "That seal was created from the best treasures of our ancestors from various sects and various clans. It was offered to the human emperor, and the person who controls this seal will become the emperor of all the human races. Therefore, our Dao Sect has to be respectful. This seal is what we offered to the human emperor so the human emperor can be disrespectful to this seal. Do you understand?"

Daozi Lin Xuan nodded. "Disciple understood."

Qin Mu couldn't help feeling slightly moved. Old Dao Master was left with little of his lifespan, his life coming to an end in the next few years, yet he still dedicated his full attention to teaching his disciple.

This kind of traditional master and disciple relationship had it much easier to produce outstanding talents.

Old Dao Master was already old so he had to be hoping to groom Daozi in these final years, allowing him to succeed him.

“What else did Dao Master come here to say, besides enquiring about Human Emperor’s Seal?” Qin Mu asked with a smile.

Old Dao Master looked him deeply in the eyes and said, “Human Emperor should know that the reform of Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor and Emperor Yanfeng isn’t the orthodox path and will bring the wrath of Heaven. This snow disaster was a warning, so for all the people in the world, Human Emperor should stop this reform.”

Qin Mu shook his head. “The general situation of the world is rolling forth like a flood, may the deceased rest in peace while the living move on with their lives. Whoever dares to stand in front to block the path will be crushed. I can only go with the flow, along with the flood. Old Senior Brother, you have already suffered quite a lot, why are you still so stubborn?”

Old Dao Master sighed. “I won’t argue with you. No matter how we’d argue, it’s still about the teachings of both sides so it’s hard to convince the other, that’s why it’s better to not argue at all. Since you are insistent on supporting Imperial Preceptor’s reform, I will only say one thing to you: Dao follows the nature, and the reform seeks to change Dao, to change nature. God is born in nature and formed by the Great Dao. If you want to change Dao, you know its advantages and disadvantages. Great Ruins was the mistake of our predecessors, but Human Emperor should have noticed that by now.”

Qin Mu was slightly stunned. Dao Master obviously knew more inside stories about this.

However, Dao Master wasn’t willing to speak more about it and said, “I came to see Human Emperor and express my intentions. Dao Sect is enemy with Eternal Peace, but we won’t be enemies with Human Emperor. Disciple, bring Fourteen Writings of Dao Sword over.”

Lin Xuan took out a stone tablet from a leather sack around his waist. That stone tablet was six yards tall when taken out, and on it were some sword markings drawn vertically and horizontally.

Lin Xuan hesitated. “Dao Master...”

“Show him,” said Old Dao Master. “Old Human Emperor’s sword skills are better than mine and even more superior. I’ve shown Imperial Preceptor the Fourteen Writings of Dao Sword so why can’t I show them to the current human emperor?”

Daozi Lin Xuan erected the stone tablet nearby, and Old Dao Master said, “Fourteen Writings of Dao Sword, one writing for one sword. When Eternal Peace Imperial Preceptor came to Dao Sect to seek knowledge, I let him look for fourteen days, so I will let Human Emperor look for fourteen days as well. As for the Precelestial Supreme Mystery Technique of our Dao Sect, I won’t be showing it to Human Emperor.”

Qin Mu revealed an expression of astonishment. Old Rulai had also allowed him to see Rulai’s Mahayana Sutra; however, he only showed him the skills and not the technique.

Now Dao Master was allowing him to see the technique of Precelestial Supreme Mystery Technique, but not showing him the skill. No matter what, both masters of the two sacred grounds were broad-minded.

Qin Mu muttered to himself irresolutely and took out Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures. "I'm not used to receiving favors from others, so this is Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures. I will allow Daozi to read for fourteen days."

Daozi Lin Xuan's heart was quite moved, and he looked toward his master. Old Dao Master's face changed slightly, and he muttered to himself before saying, "Since he let you read, you will read. If Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures contain good, you are a god. If it contains evil, you are devil. If you fall and become the devil, it just means your cultivation was not enough, your nature was not enough."

Daozi Ling Xuan understood.

Qin Mu sat in front of the stone wall and looked at the sword traces on the stone wall.

These sword traces were vertical and horizontal and didn't look like they had any pattern to them. When he looked at the first one, he didn't see anything wonderful about it, but once he put his mind to it, he gradually felt some wonderful sword will.

In his eyes, the sword trace was no longer a sword trace, but seemed to have some mathematical reasonings. There seemed to be a Daoist scribbling with a brush and writing down the reasonings of algebra. It was then gradually transformed into a black and white taiji diagram that was stirring up.

A Dot Threading the Vast Movements, Yin and Yang Come and Go Within Two Modes!

Qin Mu's heart slightly trembled. The cultivation method of Dao Sword was indeed different from other, and an extremely deep sword will was carved into the sword trace on the wall. This sword will contained mathematical reasonings and formed the first form of Dao Sword.

The mathematical reasonings contained in Dao Sword's first form was the yin and yang calculation of the binary system!

'This can be compared with Computational Canon of Supreme Mystery.'

Qin Mu's mind was slightly stirred. He had comprehended most of Computational Canon of Supreme Mystery, so the first form wasn't hard for him.

Not long after, Qin Mu finished comprehending the first form of Dao Sword and turned to look at the second sword trace.

The second form of Dao Sword, Binding of Five Qi and Three Aeons, Rising on the Spot, Cloud Chariots Crossing!

This sword trace contained a ternary system and a quinary system which correspond to three aeons and five qi. The mathematical reasoning behind this move would construct the sun, moon, and earth, while the five qi would face the aeons!

This move wasn't considered difficult for Qin Mu as well. He used the time it takes for an incense stick to burn to finish comprehending this move before going to look at the third sword trace.

The third form of Dao Sword, Five Colored Auspicious Clouds Cover, Celestial Sounds Tinkling on the Three Heavens.

This move also used three aeons and five qi; however, it was superior and included the transformation of three aeons and five qi.

Qin Mu spent a whole hour to finish comprehending this move.

The fourth form of Dao Sword, Turning Heavenly Cycle Silently, Meeting Every Manifestation of Nature Shifting. The mathematical reasoning in this move was extremely complicated and interrelated with the mathematical reasoning of three producing all things. Using Computational Canon of Supreme Mystery to understand the marvel of this move was extremely difficult.

When Qin Mu solved the marvel of this sword trace, he realized that the sun was about to set into the sea. The sky was already turning dark, and the island was all red from the shine of the red sun on the surface of the sea.

"I won't be able to solve the fifth writing!"

Qin Mu's expression turned grave. Dao Sword was harder and harder to learn as he progressed, and the mathematical reasonings became more and more profound. It was impossible to completely learn everything in fourteen days. He might not even be able to learn the fifth writing!

He could only choose to comprehend the sword wills and learn the sword skills. As for the other writings, he had no time to learn them and could only see how much he could comprehend!

Qin Mu thought this, then immediately looked toward the fifth sword trace. The fifth form of Dao Sword, Jade Cave Taking Back Myriad of Transformations, Romance on Kunlun Mountains.

He put his heart to comprehend, but the mathematical reasonings in the sword will were already too hard for him to understand. Even though Computational Canon of Supreme Mystery was mostly comprehended by him, there were still some mathematical reasoning not included in there. He reckoned they should be in Computational Canon of Mysterious Lady.

Dao Master was sitting to the side, calm and composed. He seemed to not know what was hunger.

Qin Mu was hungry and went down the stone wall to find Ling Yuxiu and Si Yunxiang. The two girls were already done preparing dinner. They asked him about the stranger, and when they heard that it was Dao Master, the two girls were both astonished and didn't dare to be impudent.

When the third day came, Fan Yunxiao flew his ship over and suddenly cried out loud. He kowtowed several times to Dao Master. Old Dao Master opened his eyes and took a look at him with a calm expression. "You joined Heavenly Devil Cult? I was indeed right about you, your heart is indeed not righteous. Go, I won't kill you."



Fan Yunxiao bawled, then wiped his tears while driving the ship away.

### **Chapter 289: Lies in One's Heart**

Five days after Fan Yunxiao left, numerous people in strange outfits started to appear on the small island. They were male, female, young, and old. One person had come over first and planted a flag on the island. Then, numerous lights flashed and more flags appeared.

Once the flags were put away, several hundred people appeared and sat down around this island. The positions of everyone sitting were different, and they were all scattered about like stars in the sky, not moving at all.

However, every four hours, these people would stand up and change their positions. This regular pattern never changed.

Under the shade of the tree, Long Jiaonan shuddered and walked to the center of the island.

Si Yunxiang was very happy on the other hand, making meals for everyone in case they were hungry.

Ling Yuxiu had a grave expression as she examined her surroundings. She could see that this was a huge formation which trapped all of them on the island, not giving them the chance to leave. If one was to barge out of this formation, the formation would activate and transform into a killing formation, turning this island into a scene of carnage!

When this huge formation was activated, it would definitely be incomparably terrifying!

Furthermore, Ling Yuxiu even saw some of the weird people wearing clothes of the imperial court. Some were high officials of the current imperial court, some were peddlers in the market, some executioners in charge of beheadings, and even directorates of Imperial College. They were all fantastic oddities of every description!

The most intriguing thing was that these people were changing their positions every four hours to change the formation. This should be to prevent Dao Master from solving the changes of the formation.

“Heavenly Devil Cult is no doubt the number one sect of the devil path, your timings are very precise.”

Old Dao Master was examining this killing formation, and he couldn't help exclaiming to himself endlessly, 'I can calculate the changes in the formation in precisely four hours, and they change the formation at precisely this moment. Formation Hall Master is really crafty.'

Formation Hall Master was the directorate of Imperial College's Hall of Array Element and was bestowed the role of an imperial secretary by Emperor Yanfeng. He was a favorite of the emperor and was frequently summoned to the palace to be consulted with matters of the empire. Even though the emperor didn't give him any actual power due to the fact he was from Heavenly Devil Cult, most of the formations in the army were designed by him.

It seemed like Formation Hall Master had knowledge about Old Dao Master, so as long as Qin Mu was in trouble, he would definitely not allow him to leave alive. If he was to leave, he had to be dead.

The fourteenth day came in no time, and Qin Mu shut his eyes. After a moment, he opened them and came from the stone tablet. He saluted Dao Master. "Senior Brother, much thanks for letting me comprehend Dao Sword."

Dao Master got up to return the salute. "I dare not. Human Emperor of course has the right to comprehend Dao Sword. I have shown Dao Sword to you and Rulai will also show Rulai's Mahayana Sutra to you. Human Emperor is worthy of us doing so."

Qin Mu said, "I've already seen Rulai's Mahayana Sutra."

Dao Master was stunned. After some time, he shook his head and smiled. "This old fellow is still clever and sly, always one step ahead of me. Disciple, hand Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures back to Human Emperor."

Daozi Lin Xuan came back to his senses from his comprehension and immediately pulled Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures back into a ball of thread, passing it back to Qin Mu with both hands.

Qin Mu smiled. "Your age and mine are similar, so there's no need for so many formalities."

Daozi Lin Xuan shook his head and said, "There's nothing wrong with formalities. I am not yet Dao Master and will always be your junior."

Helpless, Qin Mu said, "Even though Dao Master had never seen Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures before, his phrase that it contains evil and good achieved the samadhi of Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures. How much good and how much evil did you see when you were comprehending Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures?"

Daozi Lin Xuan hesitated for a moment, and Dao Master smiled. He said, "Cult Master Qin is an expert in this field, so just speak your mind."

Daozi Lin Xuan said, "It might be because first impressions are strongest that when I first read Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures, I found almost every sentence to be harmful. Only when I read until the writings in the middle did I feel a different flavor to them. At that time, there was no longer righteous or evil in my heart. When I reached the writings at the end, I felt that I might have misinterpreted the writings in front so I read over them again, and this time I had different thoughts and feelings."

Qin Mu smiled and asked, "How many percent of them are evil?"

"There's still twenty percent," Daozi Lin Xuan replied honestly.

Qin Mu said, "Your Dao heart is still twenty percent devilish. However, you are already much better than Fozi. When Fozi Fo Xin read Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures, every part of it was evil to him. He may have had the appearance of a buddha, but he was an unsalvageable devil in his heart."

Daozi Lin Xuan was stunned and came to an enlightenment. "So that's why!" He found it somewhat hard to accept this result in his heart, so he asked Qin Mu with his gaze flickering, "When Human Emperor read Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures, how many percent of it was devil?"

"All of the writings in Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures are righteous writings, but they are also devilish writings. It all depends on how I use them."

Daozi Lin Xuan was stunned. "This..."

Qin Mu said with a deep meaning, "The path of the saint is none other than the everyday use of common people, which is the first sentence of Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures, already makes things clear. You and I are also part of the common people, so when the hearts of you and I are righteous, Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures are righteous. When the hearts of you and I are evil, Great Educational Heavenly Devil Scriptures will be evil. I can use them as a righteous technique, but I can also use them as an evil technique. The wonders of usage lie in one's heart."

"The wonders of usage lie in one's heart?" Daozi Lin Xuan was stunned again and felt that what Qin Mu said was very logical.

Old Dao Master immediately shouted, "Tut! Don't listen to his teachings, it's their askew reasoning of being free from nature! You are the next Dao Master, be careful of being bewitched by his clever words and entering his devil cult!"

Daozi Lin Xuan came back to his senses, sweating profusely. His entire body was drenched as he thought to himself, 'He used the chance to guide me to talk about the teachings of the devil cult, attempting to bewitch me! His teachings of being free from nature are different from my Dao Sect's teachings of Dao following the nature!'

Old Dao Master said righteously, "Cult Master Qin's nature is indeed higher than yours, so you will have to be careful if he comes against you with the identity of the devil cult master in the future. You can't only think of him as the human emperor and forget that he is also the Heavenly Devil Cult Master!"

Qin Mu didn't know whether to laugh or cry. Old Dao Master was actually treating him like severe floods and fierce beasts, paying extra attention to guiding his disciple to prevent him from being pulled into Heavenly Devil Cult.

Old Dao Master said, "How does Human Emperor see Dao Sword?"

Qin Mu said solemnly, "I struggled with the mathematical reasonings; they were extraordinary intricate. The last few moves also seemed to transcend from mathematical reasonings and close in on Dao."

Old Dao Master smiled as he said words with a deep meaning to them. "The Dao Sword of my Dao Sect can also be seen as how to accurately measure a circle. The digits of pi are close to endless, and the circular ratio of pi can't conclude with just Xu Kong and Qing Jing, since at the back there are still digits that couldn't be counted. Dao has no end, and pi also has no end, so why is there a need to change Dao? Why is there a need to transform Dao?"

Qin Mu was stunned. This Old Dao Master was propagating righteousness and justice of Dao Sect to him!

“Dao Master, take care not to overdo it,” Qin Mu said with a smile.

Old Dao Master laughed and had Daozi Lin Xuan take back the stone wall, “Human Emperor, your identity is special and there will be quite a number of terrifying enemies, so it’s still best for you to return to Great Ruins as soon as possible. The daughter of the dragon king was sent by me, could you let Old Dao bring her back?”

Qin Mu looked at the Solomon’s seals under their feet, noticing that a few leaves had already grown out from most the herbs; however, there were also some that had already died.

“You don’t have to worry, she will listen to my words and never come back here again.” Old Dao master smiled. “You didn’t lose anything, while she was the one who lost much.”

Qin Mu nodded and called Long Jiaonan forward. The woman endured her pain and stumbled over.

Qin Mu asked, “Are you still going to be my enemy?”

“My Dragon Rider Sect was eradicated because of you, I have no choice but to be enemies with you.”

“Without me, your Dragon Rider Sect would still have been eradicated. This was simply the reality of your situation. Even if I hadn’t been in Heaven Wave City, you guys would still have met the same end,” Qin Mu told her. “I was there only by coincidence. It’s natural for you to hate me, but the next time you come, I will kill you, I won’t hold back.”

Long Jiaonan gritted her teeth. “I won’t hold back as well!”

Qin Mu shook his head. “You already have no chance. Don’t shed your skin anymore. The more you shed, the older you’ll get. Follow Dao Master and leave.”

Long Jiaonan stood beside Dao Master in a daze. Every time she met Qin Mu, she would discover that he was stronger than he was previously. The next time she saw him, would she still be his match?

Did she still have a chance?

However, her wisdom was soon drowned out by her hatred, throwing this momentary daze to the back of her mind.

Old Dao Master cupped his fists and said, “Farewell.”

Qin Mu returned his salute and rose. “Send Dao Master off.”

Whoosh. All of the hall masters, guardians, and heavenly kings of Heavenly Devil Cult stood up and opened up a path.

Old Dao Master brought Long Jiaonan and Daozi Lin Xuan out of the island. A cloud then appeared under their feet to bring the three of them away.

Qin Mu looked at the Heavenly Devil Cult Followers around and waved his hand with a smile. "Disperse, disperse."

Everyone saluted him and their huge flags swept around them, making them vanish without a trace. However, Heavenly King Yu and Heavenly King Wang remained. It was evident that they were worried about Qin Mu's safety.

Qin Mu smiled. "No need to be so worried about me, you guys can leave as well."

The two heavenly kings looked each other in the eyes. Using their clothes to cover themselves, they vanished on the spot.

"I don't think they will go far," Si Yunxiang said.

Qin Mu nodded, but Ling Yuxiu was anxious. "Great Cult Master, you only care about putting on airs in front of your subordinates and let them leave, so how are we leaving?"

Qin Mu hesitated for a moment. He was indeed putting on airs. The elders of the village had taught him to never lose airs even if he lost to others, so he didn't let the followers of Heavenly Devil Cult bring him off this island on the east sea so that he didn't lose face in front of them.

"Do you think Fan Yunxiao will come back for us?" he probed.

The two girls laughed grimly and said in unison, "He cried so miserably when he left, of course he won't be coming back!"

Qin Mu muttered, "Why don't we returned back by the sea..."

"We have no choice then."

Si Yunxiang looked back at the spirit spring, a little unwilling to leave. "Say, do you think the Solomon's seals will still remember us when they wake up?"

"I don't know."

Qin Mu turned back and saw the overflowing greenery beside the spirit spring and shook his head. "They died once, so if they had souls, they should have already landed into the dark Youdu. Yet their bodies will come back to life. As for whether their souls will still be the original ones and their memories their original memories or whether a new soul will be born in their bodies with their memories like a sheet of blank paper, I do not know."

Si Yunxiang was slightly depressed. But she saw Qin Mu and Ling Yuxiu already on the sea surface, so she immediately chased after them. A wave grew under Qin Mu's feet and continued to surge forth like a dragon head, carrying them toward the west.

Meanwhile, at another place, Grand Shaman received news from Pangong Tso and immediately left Rolan's Golden Palace to head to the west.

He walked for a long time around the vast Great Ruins, traveling through the snow mountains and into the flaming desert. He came to West Earth and climbed the highest peak there.

The golden peak of this divine mountain was empty, with only a sacrificial altar remaining. Grand Shaman took out three incenses and lighted them. The smoke rose in spirals and reached High Heavens.

Where the smoke vanished, a green-colored face appeared in the sky, almost blending with the blue sky.

"The new human emperor has appeared," Grand Shaman said while burning incense to pay his respect.

### **Chapter 290: High Heavens**

The green face in the sky was very huge and seemed to be formed by smoke which was light and faint. However, as it started coming lower, it gradually became clearer.

Fine beads of sweat emanated from Grand Shaman's forehead, and his head fell down, the man too afraid to lift it up.

"High Heavens..."

A faintly discernible voice came from the sky. "Got it."

Grand Shaman stood motionless. The golden peak of the divine mountain was very cold yet his sweat kept dripping down, drop after drop.

After a long time, he secretly raised an eye to look up at the sky and saw that it was clear blue. The face had vanished some time ago.

Grand Shaman let out a sigh of relief and quickly left to get away from here as far as possible.

A long time later, tiny flames appeared on the golden peak and shook like ripples. When they stopped shaking, two golden-eyed suannis galloped out from the flames while pulling a treasured carriage.

An imperial canopy was erected in its center, and under it were items like jade and pearls that formed a hanging screen. On top of the imperial canopy were three golden peaks that were circular lumps, each smaller than the one above it.

There were four golden pillars supporting the imperial canopy which were as thick as an arm and were seven feet tall. Besides each pillar stood a beautiful maiden, their vital qi forming a ring at the back of their heads. Their robes fluttered in the wind, and they were all wearing different colored attire. The maiden in green was carrying a jade vase in her hand, the maiden in red was hugging a seven-stringed guqin, the maiden in yellow was carrying a sword in both of her hands, while the maiden in white was hugging a pipa.

Under the imperial canopy and past the jade and pearls, a man in purple could be seen sitting upright. He was still and had an extraordinary atmosphere.

The two suannis' bodies overflowed with brilliant lights and vibrant colors as they stepped on auspicious clouds while pulling the treasure carriage at a lightning fast speed toward Middle Earth.

The treasure carriage wasn't careful like Grand Shaman, who had avoided the vast Great Ruins. This carriage just drove straight in, leaving a trail of light as it rushed toward Eternal Peace Empire. The people in the carriage seemed to not mind the dangers of Great Ruins at all.

When night fell, darkness enveloped the land, and the two suannis emanated flames that rose into the sky. They were extremely eye-catching in the darkness as they pulled the treasured carriage in the dark.

Devil qi poured and suddenly transformed into a pitch black palm that darted toward the treasured carriage and the glow given off by the suannis. Every place it passed by, light was swallowed and only darkness was left.

When the pitch black palm came in front of the treasured carriage, no light could be seen, and the pearl curtain swayed as the maiden in red played her guqin, giving off two sounds of ding and dong.

Once guqin sound echoed in the air, the pitch black palm paused slightly and moved back.

"High Heavens?" a raspy voice asked from the darkness.

That maiden in red nodded and said, "High Heavens Star Sovereign Qiao."

The monster in the darkness retreated and vanished without a trace. From then on, no more monsters went to disturb the treasured carriage.

Even though Great Ruins in the darkness seemed incomparably dangerous, it was still pretty bustling at night. All kinds of terrifying things were active, and all kinds of bizarre incidents were happening one after another.

The treasured carriage drove toward the east in a neither too fast nor too slow pace. The Star Sovereign Qiao under the imperial canopy looked at the current Great Ruins and shook his head. "The remaining evils have not yet been purged, and poison still remains."

The treasured carriage flew in the sky, leaving a streak across the darkness. Looking up from below, it seemed like there was a star that moving neither too fast nor too slow across the horizon.

The night of Great Ruins was shrouded by the darkness, and there were no stars nor moon in the sky, so most of the villagers and strange beasts hiding in the ruins couldn't help raising their heads to look up at the sight that they had never seen before.

Suddenly, the star started to descend urgently, crashing into Great Ruins from the sky. This made all the people and strange beasts that were watching sigh in pity.

Boom!

The treasured carriage descended diagonally toward the source of Surging River. The two mountains in the darkness were like a gate, and the treasured carriage came down in the middle between them.

The two suannis struggled to control the descent, but no matter what, they couldn't do it. In the end, they couldn't help yelping.

The four maidens on the carriage were also flustered. They realized that they had become skeletons some time ago!

The four maidens looked ahead of them and saw the two suannis that were pulling the carriage had also become two galloping skeletons!

Under the imperial canopy, there was another skeleton.

He was calm and composed as he snorted coldly. "To pull my carriage down, could it be that Fengdu's evil intentions are still not dead yet?"

In the darkness and fog in front of them, there seemed to be huge shadows standing around. There were even red lights lighting up in the fog, and what looked like lanterns followed the treasured carriage as it moved.

Those weren't lanterns though, but eyes.

The shadows gradually faded, and the red lights vanished one after another as well.

The flesh on the two suannis came back, and they didn't feel that the carriage was heavy once more. They immediately exerted force and pulled the treasured carriage back into the sky. The four maidens on the carriage saw their flesh recovering and couldn't help letting out sighs of relief.

Star Sovereign Qiao's body also returned back to normal, and he said indifferently, "Fengdu, not heeding the discipline of Youdu, to even dare go against High Heavens. This place will be gotten rid of sooner or later."

The treasured carriage continued to move forward along Surging River, but only when the sky was turning bright did they see the end of Great Ruins that was over one thousand miles away from them.

Suddenly, a sword light rose from below and exploded in mid-air. Instantly, snow bright lights burst forth, and they actually eclipsed the light from the sun.

The suannis and the four maidens on the carriage immediately closed their eyes. When they opened them later, the four maidens cried out in astonishment. The world-shaking sword light had vanished, and in front of the carriage were majestic mountains and rivers. The towering peaks and precipitous ridges were unending.

What was weird was that these mountains and rivers weren't there just a moment ago, but now were seemed to be floating on the clouds. It was as if they had grown out from the clouds.



The rivers flowing out from the towering mountains and precipitous ridges were even giving off sounds of crashing water. There was even a waterfall running down from the cliffs, flowing down like jade.

These green mountains and azure water floated among the clouds, and there was nothing abnormal about them. They didn't look like mirages.

"Halt," Star Sovereign Qiao said slowly.

The two suannis halted, and Star Sovereign Qiao stood up to look at the end of the mountains and rivers. Yet they stretched into the distance as if growing by themselves. The mountains in the clouds were majestic and vast, appearing continuously from below the clouds.

Meanwhile, at the borders of the mountains and rivers were flashing sword lights that were hard to catch, but which couldn't deceive his eyes.

This was as if someone was using a sword as a brush to draw out vast mountains and rivers!

"Old Handicapped is actually still alive." Star Sovereign Qiao revealed and smile and said softly, "Go down. I have an old friend living here."

The two suannis immediately pulled the treasured carriage to descend. When they reached the bottom of the clouds, the mountains and rivers also descended with them. The mountain and rivers lowered along with their pace, blocking the path in front of them all the time

Finally, the treasured carriage landed on the ground, and the mountains and rivers in the sky also became smaller and smaller, continuing to retract. When the mountains and rivers disappeared, a small village beside the river appeared in front of them.

Star Sovereign Qiao looked through the pearl curtain and saw a recliner at the entrance of this village. On the recliner lay an old man without four limbs. The recliner creaked as it swayed back and forth while the messy old man without limbs enjoyed the spring sun leisurely.

"You are handicapped." Star Sovereign Qiao didn't get off the carriage. He simply spoke from behind the pearl curtains. "You don't have arms and you don't have legs yet you still want to block my way? Aren't you overestimating yourself a little?"

Village Chief beamed at him as he continued swaying on the recliner. It seemed to be very comfortable for him to lie there as he said leisurely, "In that case, why don't you try? I have no arms and legs and only a few years of lifespan left, so you should definitely have the confidence to kill me, right?"

Star Sovereign Qiao snorted coldly. "You don't have many years left to live, so you can't protect the new human emperor. However, I won't use my life to fight head-on with that disabled life of yours."

"If you don't dare to fight with your life, then return."

Suddenly, Village Chief's vital qi transformed into arms and legs so he could stand up from the recliner. As he walked towards the treasured carriage, the two suannis instantly felt their blood run cold, and the four maidens on the carriage also revealed appalled expressions. In their eyes, the dry and thin old

man's body became bigger and bigger, more and more majestic as he came closer. With a few steps, his body seemed to cover the heaven and earth, blocking their line of sight!

"You can't protect the new human emperor!"

Star Sovereign Qiao stood up, and the imperial canopy on the carriage started to spin. The pillars under the canopy became thicker and thicker, as well as taller and taller. As the imperial canopy expanded in the wind, the jade and pearls became bigger as well, as if they were stars that surrounded the star sovereign.

The four maidens in front of him seemed incomparably small, and the two pure-blooded suannis which had huge bodies also seemed pitifully small at this instant.

Zhnng.

The sword from the maiden in yellow came out from its sheath and landed in Star Sovereign Qiao's hand.

He swung his sword and met with the sword swung by the old man in front of him. The instant the two sword lights met, Surging River was cut off and the water started flowing backward. The bright sword lights vanished with a flash.

Where the sword lights had vanished, Village Chief was still sitting in the recliner and creaking as he swayed. Star Sovereign Qiao had also sat back down and the size of the treasured carriage had returned back to normal. It was as if the giant and the sky full of stars had been just an illusion.

"I won't kill the human emperor but other people will come." Star Sovereign Qiao looked at the elder lying in the chair across the pearl curtains and said indifferently, "Some young people from High Heavens will find him."

Village Chief said lazily, "As long as it isn't you old farts, feel free to send them."

Star Sovereign Qiao looked at him deeply and suddenly said, "Return to High Heavens."

The two suannis immediately turned the carriage around and rose into the sky, galloping back into the west.

On the carriage, the maiden in green asked, "Star Sovereign, why are we returning just like this..."

Star Sovereign Qiao didn't say a word, but suddenly grunted. Droplets of blood dripped down from the carriage and landed in the forest of Great Ruins that was below them. Wherever the fresh blood landed, flowers would bloom in the entire mountain and plants would grow in a frenzy. They spread until they covered the whole mountain.

Whoosh!

The imperial canopy fell backward and dropped into Great Ruins, scattering all the jades and pearls in the wilderness.

Star Sovereign Qiao's face was slightly pale as he said solemnly, "No need to pick them up, return to High Heavens as soon as possible!"

The four maidens were shocked and the two suannis increased their speed as they galloped toward the west.

At the gate of Disabled Elderly Village, the recliner swayed when the chair split into pieces. Village Chief fell to the ground and called out in a hoarse voice, "Apothecary, Apothecary!"

Apothecary ran out in a panic and grumbled, "Still want to put up a strong front when you don't even have any limbs, serves you right... Stop moving, let me check on your injuries first!"