

Tales of Herding Gods Chapter 986-990

Chapter 986: The Twentieth Sword Form

Founding Emperor leaned back in his chair, stretched out a single palm, and spread his five fingers apart as he laughed. "I want to beat you up this many times!"

Qin Mu burst out laughing. Crossing one ankle over his other leg and leaning one arm across the back of Divine King Shu Jun's chair, he replied leisurely, "You are copying me again. Why doesn't Celestial Venerable Qin beat me up ten times?"

Divine King Shu Jun was very uncomfortable, but because he only had one big head left, he was unable to remove Qin Mu's hand.

"Put your leg down!"

Qin Hanzhen finally couldn't suppress himself. Green veins popped on his forehead as he growled in a low voice, "Your leg hairs are showing! Look at yourself! You're not even wearing anything inside!"

Qin Mu hurriedly put down his leg and sat upright and still.

Divine King Lang Wo laughed softly as she helped Qin Mu pull down his red robes to cover his legs.

On both sides, the great armies of Carefree Village and the masters of creation were filled with murderous intent, looking poised to start the fight at any time. Yet, the atmosphere on the platform was no longer as tense as it was before.

Qin Mu laughed. "On my father's account, I'll give you some face and won't beat you up today. I'll go home to visit in a few days. Go and ask my brother to hurry and create the Paramita World's Youdu, I can get the masters of creation to help out as well."

Qin Hanzhen furrowed his brows. "Don't come home! I won't allow you to come back!" Upon saying that, he took a quick glance at Founding Emperor's expression.

Yan Yunxi laughed. "King Zhen, don't be like that. Previously, we were discussing the important affairs of the two races. Now, it's alright if we discuss family matters. Since birth, Celestial Venerable Mu has been wandering about outside, and yet now that he has come to Carefree Village, he's not allowed to take a look? Don't you think that's a little unreasonable no matter how you look at it?"

Qin Mu smiled. "Heavenly Teacher Zi Xi is right. My coming here was exactly to seek out Carefree Village, to go home to visit my parents and my brother, as well as visit Founding Emperor. How can I not enter the door when I have already arrived at the doorstep?"

"Go home to receive a beating?" Qin Hanzhen huffed before he glanced at Founding Emperor again.

Qin Mu didn't take it to heart and replied, "Back then, I didn't lose, and now, all the more, I definitely won't lose. Founding Emperor, am I right?"

Founding Emperor stood up and smiled warmly. "It's good if you return home to take a look. Now that we have set down our oath of peace between the two races, I will also need to return to make some preparations and let Fengqing open up the Paramita World's Youdu and set up the cycle of life and death in the Paramita World. When will Celestial Venerable Mu come to Carefree Village to visit your family?"

Qin Mu replied politely, "In two months. Creating the Paramita World's Youdu will also require quite some time. After all, it's a huge project. I will mobilize the masters of creation alongside the divine king to help Brother create Youdu."

Founding Emperor also replied politely, "Then, I'll await your arrival in two months. Heavenly Teacher, Hanzhen, let's go."

Qin Mu and Divine King Lang Wo sent them off, but Founding Emperor hurriedly stopped them. "There's no need to send us any further. Carefree Village is very near, it's just around the corner."

Qin Mu watched as they walked off the platform, and Qin Hanzhen turned around to whisper, "Don't come back!" With that, he followed after Founding Emperor and Yan Yunxi to return to Carefree Village.

"Big Sister, setting this oath of peace with Carefree Village, will it cause unhappiness amongst the masters of creation?" Qin Mu turned his head to ask the lady beside him.

Divine King Lang Wo shook her head. "You are the holy infant. Your decision represents the decision of all masters of creation as well as the decision of the ancestor spirits. They won't go against your decision. Come to think of it, us masters of creation are actually failures. We are merely hiding here, and we don't have much ambition. We merely seek peace and survival."

She paused for a while before adding, "I will use my consciousness to show them the future that will come with this oath of peace. When they see the future with the Paramita World's Youdu, they will understand what you are doing. Furthermore, the ancestor spirits in the Land of the Great Void that have become monsters will be able to attain peace. This will make them respect you even more."

Qin Mu expressed his thanks.

Divine King Lang Wo noticed that his gaze kept falling onto Carefree Village's 33 heavens, and she could sense that he dearly missed his hometown. She asked, "Are you really going to wait for two months before you enter Carefree Village?"

Qin Mu smiled. "Of course not. I will definitely secretly sneak in to see what Carefree Village has achieved in the past twenty thousand years."

Divine King Lang Wo blinked her bright and beautiful eyes, bearing great curiosity towards Qin Mu's thoughts.

"The reforms of Founding Emperor take a top-down approach. When the gods and devils have undergone the reforms, they will impart the results of the reforms to their people."

Qin Mu's gaze twinkled. "Then, the things taught in the schools and academies of Carefree Village will be the ultimate arts of the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens. They would have done all they could to teach the mortals so that they would also be able to become divine arts practitioners, become gods. Thus, in the next two months, I intend to start my journey from Supreme Emperor Heaven of Carefree Village and observe whether the paths, skills, and divine arts of Carefree Village have improved or regressed compared to the past."

Divine King Lang Wo laughed. "You are still going to have a match with Qin Ye?"

Qin Mu didn't deny this, and he revealed a slight smile. "He is Celestial Venerable Qin, while I am Celestial Venerable Mu. A million years ago, we had already found each other to be an eyesore. But back then, we had yet to determine who was superior. Now that we have met again, although we have familial ties, we still consider each other to be an eyesore. Since that is the case, it would be good if we had a match. In knowing oneself and knowing the enemy, only then can one win all battles."

There was a sly glint in his eyes. "In the upcoming days, he will be focusing all of his energy on opening up the Paramita World's Youdu, and he will also need to reassure and convince the citizens and gods and devils of Carefree Village to let go of their grudges. He won't have the time to watch me or research my paths, skills, and divine arts. Yet, I will be able to uncover the marvels of his 33 heavens of the sword path from all sorts of clues and traces."

Divine King Lang Wo replied hesitantly, "I will need to reassure the masters of creation, and I need to mobilize the masters of creation to go help the big-headed weird baby... your brother, to create the Paramita World's Youdu. I won't have the time to accompany you."

Qin Mu felt that it was a bit of a pity.

He really liked how it felt to have Divine King Lang Wo by his side.

This lady was incredibly clever. If she was a foe, she had astonishing ways to deal with the enemy, and if she was a friend, she would do everything she could to help the friend.

Divine King Lang Wo was also an extremely beautiful woman, yet she didn't give him pressure the way Yun Chuxiu did. With this female divine king by his side, Qin Mu even felt that his brain was more agile than usual.

However, Divine King Lang Wo needed to leave to attend to proper matters, so he couldn't make her stay behind.

The three of them returned to the base camp of the masters of creation, and Qin Mu watched as she took her leave. Shu Jun commented, "This divine king is an extraordinary woman, and her cultivation is also incredibly powerful. She's much more formidable than I was back then."

Qin Mu sighed and said, "It's a pity that she's a product of visualization. There aren't such perfect beings in the world..."

"A product of visualization?"

Shu Jun broke into laughter. "What are you thinking?"

Qin Mu was taken aback.

Shu Jun shook his head. "Gods that are visualized aren't able to make use of consciousness divine arts, and they aren't able to open divine treasures and celestial palaces like you can. Her consciousness divine art is even more formidable than mine, and she even has divine treasures and celestial palaces, so how could she be a god created by visualization?"

Qin Mu felt his head explode as he asked in a hoarse voice, "What you are saying is that there really is such a beautiful and perfect woman in this world?"

He only felt that this was all too unbelievable.

However, Shu Jun's words did give him a reminder. Divine King Lang Wo was too beautiful and too perfect, so he had ignored many other details and instead had the preconceived impression that she must have been a god that was visualized by the masters of creation.

Gods created from visualization were very similar to the ancient gods in that they were limited to the consciousness and thoughts of the masters of creation that had visualized and structured them. Fire was fire, and water was water. They were unable to change their own attributes and could only continuously cultivate and improve themselves following their own attributes.

The ancient gods were unable to open up divine treasures or celestial palaces. Furthermore, there were no ancient gods that were able to make use of consciousness as a battle technique, much less visualize and form other lifeforms.

Yet, Divine King Lang Wo was an exception!

She was able to visualize, and she had opened up her divine treasures and celestial palaces. She had also been able to comprehend the consciousness divine art from the paths, skills, and divine arts of Carefree Village to reform the paths, skills, and divine arts of the masters of creation.

Looking at it like that, she really wasn't a god created by the masters of creation's visualization but an alive and kicking living being!

Qin Mu revealed a smile as he rubbed his hands together and laughed. "I still thought that she was a product of visualization..."

Shu Jun didn't bother guessing his thoughts as he pressed him, asking, "So how are we going to enter Carefree Village?"

Qin Mu was shocked. "You want to come too?"

Shu Jun sneered. "Naturally! When I'm revived, I want to cultivate divine treasures and celestial palaces. The ideal way is, of course, to follow you and take a walk through Carefree Village to see how they cultivate!"

Qin Mu replied awkwardly, "Your current appearance..."

"Wait for just a moment!"

Shu Jun retrieved a piece of Grand Primordium Divine Stone and visualized for a while. His huge head shrank, and beneath it, he grew out a skinny and frail-looking body. In no time, he transformed into a weak-looking youth with a big head and said, "This should be alright, right? This body of mine isn't of much use, it's just so I can walk around looking like a person. In the future, when I have restored more consciousness, I will reforge my corporeal body."

Qin Mu looked at his face full of beard stubbles and nodded his head reluctantly. "You look a bit old, but you're still pretending to be young, so you look a little odd."

Shu Jun's face darkened, and he looked even uglier now.

Qin Mu hurriedly continued, "The masters of creation will move the zone of dead stars that encircles Carefree Village, and the gods and devils of Carefree Village will also help out. It will be quite chaotic then, and we can make use of the period when they are shifting the stars to infiltrate Carefree Village. I will go and get changed first. After all, these red robes and the red belly band are too eye-catching."

Just as he had expected, after Divine King Lang Wo and Founding Emperor announced the oath of peace between the two races, in no time, the masters of creation started to move the zone of dead stars that encircled Carefree Village.

The gods and devils of Carefree Village also flew out to help move those stars far away from Carefree Village. Some activated large ships, while others directly used their immense power to push the stars.

Qin Mu and Shu Jun took the chance to sneak into the lowest level of Carefree Village's 33 heavens, Carefree Village's Supreme Emperor Heaven.

At the same time, Founding Emperor's orders were passed down. Every department of the celestial heavens was to work dutifully and in an orderly manner, and they were to be prepared to support Qin Fengqing in opening up the Paramita Youdu and setting up the cycle of life and death.

The greatest advantage Carefree Village had compared to Paramita's masters of creation was that the various departments of the country from the Founding Emperor Era had all been retained. Founding Emperor only had to steer them in a general direction and pass down his orders, and the various departments would then be activated to complete and obtain the goal that he had set.

This was the country system that Saint Woodcutter of the four great heavenly teachers had created for Founding Emperor. Under such a system, the talent of every individual could be fully made use of. Each had their own specific profession, and every god and devil was able to participate in building the nation. Yet, at the same time, no one was overworked, and they were able to have sufficient time for cultivating and improving themselves.

Woodcutter Wen Tiange, as the leader of the four great heavenly teachers, had indelible merits during the Founding Emperor Era.

“Zi Xi, you have exchanged blows with Celestial Venerable Mu before, how are his sword skills?”
Founding Emperor summoned Yan Yunxi over and asked.

Yan Yunxi’s gaze flickered, and she laughed. “Is Your Majesty really going to have a match with your own descendant? It’s a little beneath how an emperor should act, isn’t it?”

Founding Emperor shook his head. “It’s not a competition with my descendant, it’s a match between me as Celestial Venerable Qin and Celestial Venerable Mu. Although we are relatives, we have differences with regard to our ideals. The clash of ideals can sometimes be even more terrifying than hatred, and it will only snowball the grudges we have against each other.”

He touched the Carefree Sword gently and was a little lost in thought. After a while, he continued, “Instead of waiting for the day our ideals clash with each other, resulting in irreconcilable conflict, it’s better if we can first determine the winner and loser between us. For people with our tempers, we can no longer reason with words, we can only fight it out.”

He drew out the Carefree Sword and sized up the divine sword that had accompanied him as he grew. “Back then, it was this very sword that shone brightly in his hands. It allowed me to witness the marvels of the sword technique and let me resolve to enter the path with the sword.”

He waved the sword about, and it emanated cold sword rays that lingered in the skies. He continued leisurely, “It was also this sword that was passed down from my hands into his hands and allowed him to comprehend the matchless sword techniques. This very sword, it connected him and me, a million years apart and forty thousand years apart. I would like to know just how much he has improved compared to back then. You are the only one from Carefree Village who has seen his sword skills in recent years, and you know him better too. That’s why I’m asking you.”

“Celestial Venerable Mu’s sword skills have been peerless in this world for the last million years!”

Yan Yunxi drew her sword and continued solemnly, “Your Majesty’s Sword Dao is also at the pinnacle of the last million years! Your Majesty, I once met him in the Primordial Realm and asked him for guidance on the Raising Calamity Sword technique—please watch!”

She executed her divine sword, and the sword rays leaped about, imitating Qin Mu’s Raising Calamity Sword and demonstrating the nineteenth sword form of this technique.

Founding Emperor’s gaze flickered. Back then, Qin Mu had also executed the Raising Calamity Sword at the Jade Pool and had used one move to break through Mistress Yuanmu’s projection, shocking the world. It was just that he hadn’t been able to look at it closely then.

Even as an expert of the Numinous Sky Grand Completion Realm, Yan Yunxi still felt it was a bit strenuous to execute this move, and she was unable to completely demonstrate its essence. “When he executed this move, it was even more intricate, with so many changes in it that even I was unable to defend against it.”

“This is a basic sword skill.”

Founding Emperor waved the Carefree Sword and demonstrated the moves one after the other. "Before this move, there are still four more basic sword skills."

The rays of his sword flickered, and he executed the eighteenth sword form, after which it transformed into the seventeenth sword form. He continued to deduce further until he deduced every one of the four great basic sword skills created by the reforms of Eternal Peace.

Founding Emperor closed his eyes, then suddenly opened them with a bright glint in his eyes. "After the nineteenth sword form, there's still a twentieth sword form!"

Chapter 987: The Truth About Carefree Village

"The twentieth sword form, the twentieth sword form..."

Founding Emperor pulled out his sword and was visibly confused. He swung the Carefree Sword aimlessly to try and find the twentieth sword form.

Yan Yunxi's gaze flashed, and she suggested, "Emperor, you reverse engineered all of his sword skill tricks from his sword skills. Thus, what do you think Celestial Venerable Mu is doing right now?"

"Sneaking into Carefree Village."

Without any hesitation, Founding Emperor commanded, "Find me the secret of the sword skill divine art and the way to beat me. Start the search from Supreme Emperor Heaven. The reason that he proposed this two month period was to understand my sword skills, not to wait for Fengqing to establish Youdu."

"You two really are family. Both of you think in similar patterns."

Yan Yunxi laughed and backed down, saying, "I shall no longer disrupt your comprehension of the twentieth sword form. I wish you the best of luck."

Carefree Village's Supreme Emperor Heaven. Shu Jun followed Qin Mu along wherever he went. However, Qin Mu didn't go to the academies there. Instead, he walked in the hills and the woods to check out the earth and the hills.

Qin Mu even used his vital qi to form a sword and used the drill sword form to drill deep into the hill.

"Holy infant, what are you looking for?" Shu Jun was perplexed.

"Why do you call me holy infant too?" Qin Mu didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

Shu Jun said, "I'm a master of creation, so I have to call you that. It's a custom of ours. What are you searching for?"

Qin Mu formed a sword with his vital qi and drilled fragments of rocks from deep beneath the earth. He picked up some of them and squeezed them in his palm, saying, "With one blade of Founding Emperor, 33 heavens were formed, which nearly split the Paramita World in two. This incident is peculiar."

Shu Jun was even more perplexed now.

“We have been here for quite some time. The landmass and everything on it that the Paramita masters of creation live on was visualized by them. This landmass floats in the void and isn’t linked.”

Qin Mu formed a sword with his vital qi again before stabbing it into a mountain of Carefree Village’s Supreme Emperor Heaven. The sword energy drilled deep into the mountain as Qin Mu continued, “It sounds terrifying that, with one blade, 33 heavens were formed. If Founding Emperor really did use one blade to cut off 33 landmasses of the Paramita World to form 33 heavens, his power would outmatch that of all of the masters of creation and Divine King Lang Wo. If so, how did the masters of creation resist Carefree Village for twenty thousand years?”

Shu Jun was stunned and said, “Clearly it was Founding Emperor who carved 33 heavens with one blade, for it was formed under his sword. The 33 heavens occupied half of the landmass of the Paramita World. However, it may not have been Founding Emperor’s blade that carved the Paramita World in half.”

Qin Mu extracted some rock fragments from the mountain and laughed. “Divine King Shu Jun, you are too honest. You don’t seem to know how sly Founding Emperor is despite looking honest.”

He squeezed the fragments and saw some metal powder within them.

Qin Mu blew, and the rock fragments flew away. Yet, the powder remained. He said, “With one blade, he formed 33 heavens with mountains, rivers, and lakes. If Founding Emperor wasn’t the number one in the sword path, the masters of creation would be! Perhaps the Grand Emperor had such power, but his consciousness attainment wasn’t that high, which could only mean that...”

Qin Mu raised a finger and pointed at the mountain ahead. He waved his finger gently, and a sword light sliced it in half. He smiled and said, “The 33 heavens of Carefree Village were forged prior to his arrival!”

This mountain split in two and revealed the rough metal and rocks combination inside that made up the mountain!

Shu Jun’s heart shuddered as he shockingly observed the intricate structure that made up the mountain.

The mountain was made out of divine gold and other divine materials! The divine gold was forged into parts with runes imprinted on it as if it was part of a colossal machine!

At the base of the mountain, the divine gold and divine materials were laid deep into the earth!

Clearly, the entire Carefree Village’s Supreme Emperor Heaven was a large man made object created with divine gold and divine materials!

This Carefree Village’s Supreme Emperor Heaven was a heaven created by countless skilled workers!

“As expected.”

Qin Mu put his hands together, and the cracked mountain shut itself. He continued, “I heard that during the end of the Founding Emperor Era, Founding Emperor ordered Sakra Buddha, Li Youran, to lead all of

the heavenly craftsmen to build Carefree Village. Saint Woodcutter opposed it, but Founding Emperor continued to order Li Youran to build Carefree Village.”

Shu Jun giddily mumbled, “Carefree Village should have been opened by Founding Emperor’s blade. Divine King Lang Wo couldn’t have been wrong. How could it have been created by Li Youran...”

“Li Youran was nicknamed Heavenly King of War in the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens. This came from how he was good at creating divine weapons for all, not because of his leadership.”

Qin Mu explained, “He built Carefree Village, gathering all of the capable smiths to build 33 gargantuan divine weapons that hid the underlying sword reasoning of Founding Emperor’s sword path. In other words, these 33 divine weapons are the 33 heavens of Founding Emperor’s sword path materialized!”

He looked at Carefree Village’s Supreme Emperor Heaven’s geography and said, “The rivers, the mountains, all of the geographic features here are the path of his sword techniques, including the cities, villages, and sculptures.”

Shu Jun was still muddle-headed as he mumbled, “That’s impossible, right? Him opening 33 heavens with one blade was witnessed by countless masters of creation and Divine King Lang Wo personally. There was no way for him to mess with Divine King Lang Wo, the chiefs, and the elders had he moved Carefree Village’s 33 heavens here. It would have been too difficult. The chiefs of today are just as strong as me back then, not to mention Divine King Lang Wo, who would have already been way stronger than me.”

Qin Mu walked towards the nearest god city and laughed. “I once obtained the Carefree Sword. It was Founding Emperor’s sword, but I didn’t know about that at first. I just felt that it was light and easy to use. Later on, I found out that it was Founding Emperor’s sword, making it an imperial sword! Isn’t it weird for an imperial sword to be so light?”

Shu Jun followed him quickly, saying, “Isn’t it easy to make a precious artifact light?”

“Li Youran was the number one craftsman of the heavens, so the Carefree Sword he forged could indeed be light. However, peculiarly enough, I have rarely been able to unleash its power.”

Qin Mu said, “In theory, I should be able to activate the imprinted runes in it. However, I rarely unleashed its power. The Carefree Sword seemed hollow.”

Shu Jun finally understood, saying, “Your meaning is that Founding Emperor hid Carefree Village’s 33 heavens in the Carefree Sword so that when he stabbed the Paramita World upon arrival, Carefree Village flew out of it and formed the 33 heavens?”

Qin Mu nodded and said, “There were a lot of capable people under Founding Emperor. My master, Wen Tiange, was his Saint Woodcutter, Heavenly Teacher Zi Xi was a formation expert, and Sakra Li Youran was heaven’s number one craftsman. With their intelligence and capabilities, hiding Carefree Village in the Carefree Sword should be doable. After all, they have already experimented with it once.”

He remembered the Imperial Gate Divine Knife that Mingdu Heavenly King Tian Shu had. It contained all sorts of collapsible places to hide things in.

“Wretch!” Shu Jun angrily said.

Qin Mu was furious and smacked his head, angrily saying, “That’s my ancestor. Only I can scold him, you can’t!”

Shu Jun was furious too. “I can’t?”

The two of them entered the city, and Qin Mu inquired about the academies from Carefree Village’s inhabitants. Shu Jun couldn’t help but say, “If you realized that Carefree Village’s 33 heavens are Founding Emperor’s 33 heavens of the sword path, then why do you still need to seek knowledge in the academies?”

Qin Mu walked into the Supreme Emperor Heaven academy with his third eye open. Every god and divine arts practitioner inside ignored them and allowed them in.

That was an illusion his consciousness created, which enveloped the whole academy.

Qin Mu’s consciousness today was more powerful than before. He could fool gods and devils who were at the God Execution Stage Realm and Jade Capital Realm, let alone those at the Jade Pavilion Realm.

Of course, that was under the condition that he wasn’t hostile. If he displayed hostility, he would still be detected.

“Checking Founding Emperor’s sword path divine arts is only one of my motives. My other motive is to see how much Carefree Village’s paths, skills, and divine arts have improved.”

Qin Mu plainly said, “Twenty thousand years ago, there was a great breakthrough in paths, skills, and divine arts in the Founding Emperor Era. This caused new paths, skills, and divine arts to be created all the time. I want to see whether such reforms have stagnated after they went to hide in Carefree Village.”

He came to the academy depository and walked inside in front of the sentry gods, saying, “Saint Woodcutter said that the thing he regrets the most in his life is not persuading Founding Emperor against going to Carefree Village. I want to see whether his judgment was correct.”

There were a lot of people in the depository, including many divine arts practitioners. Qin Mu stood in front of a bookshelf and put himself in a deep sleep. Countless little Qin Mus flew out of his dream and ran around, reading all sorts of books in a noisy manner. It was a scene to behold.

Yet, everyone in the depository seemed unable to witness it, as they were busy with their own things.

Shu Jun was reading these books as well, but he used a different method. He scanned them directly with his consciousness at an extremely fast rate.

However, Qin Mu’s entering the path via dreams allowed him to not only skim the books of the depository quickly but also get the little Qin Mus to try the divine arts, which was something Shu Jun couldn’t do.

Qin Mu read the entirety of the records in just half a day.

Before Shu Jun could finish, Qin Mu walked out of the depository to observe the scholars of the academy cultivating their divine arts.

He saw many scholars visualizing and fusing consciousness and vital qi. The paths, skills, and divine arts he saw were products of the merger of consciousnesses and vital qi.

Clearly, after arriving here, the Founding Emperor Era people accepted the divine treasures and celestial palaces cultivation system like the masters of creation.

This constituted a reform.

However, Qin Mu didn't see the reform that he had witnessed in Eternal Peace.

Eternal Peace's reform allowed them to have hundreds more basic rune systems compared to the Founding Emperor Era. These early runes of Eternal Peace's reform included the Heavenly Yin runes and the Magnetic Hurricane runes.

Outside of that, there were also the Great Dao rune systems of the ancient gods that Qin Mu brought from the celestial heavens.

Eternal Peace recalculated with the Computational Canon of Supreme Molecule and found out that there were countless Great Dao rune systems of the ancient gods!

These were things Carefree Village didn't have.

Research on basic runes seemingly stopped after the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens moved to Carefree Village.

'This phenomenon is worthy of research...'

Qin Mu blinked and observed Carefree Village's disciples learning in the academy. These disciples were divine arts practitioners. He observed their spirit and followed them to see their daily routines. He even invaded their minds with his consciousness to see what they were thinking about.

He was very perplexed about why the reform abruptly stopped after they moved to Carefree Village. After all, the reform was rolling full steam ahead during the Founding Emperor Era.

While he was observing the divine arts practitioners, he suddenly realized that a middle-aged Daoist was curiously staring at him and observing him in the Supreme Emperor Heaven academy. Qin Mu was slightly stunned. The entire academy was shrouded by his consciousness, and everyone would ignore him. Yet this middle-aged Daoist looked at him as if he was visible to him!

Qin Mu smiled at that Daoist, an action which the Daoist returned.

"What is your name?" Qin Mu walked up and greeted him.

That Daoist hastily returned the greeting, saying, “A relinquished disciple of the Dao Sect, Su Maiqing, hereby greets Celestial Venerable Mu.”

“Relinquished disciple of the Dao Sect?”

Qin Mu probed him, “Su Maiqing, what is your relationship with the Dao Sect of the Primordial Realm?”

That Daoist waved his horsetail whisk and laughed. “I created it.”

Chapter 988: Rusted Sword and Heart

The Dao Sect of the celestial heavens didn't have many real Daoists. It had become a place for descendants and disciples of powerful and influential families to enhance their social status. On the contrary, the Dao Sect of Eternal Peace had plenty of real Daoists. They dedicated themselves to the study of Dao and algebra, developing the paths, skills and, divine arts of Eternal Peace.

The middle-aged Daoist, Su Maiqing, a relinquished disciple of the celestial heavens' Dao Sect, created a Dao Sect in the Primordial Realm. He was worthy of respect and admiration.

Also, Qin Mu had heard some rumors about this particular relinquished disciple. He was originally from the celestial heavens' Dao Sect and had descended to the lower bound during the later years of the High Emperor Era.

He was partially responsible for the advancement of the paths, skills, and divine arts during the Founding Emperor Era.

Forging techniques had reached high attainments during the Founding Emperor Era. However, the forging of divine weapons, battleships, god cities, and the reform of formation spells, all required algebra.

During that time, the algebra of the Dao Sect was a major driving force of the Founding Emperor Era.

Even going as far as saying that he had a part to play in Sakra Li Youran's creation of Carefree Village.

The appearance of this middle-aged Daoist was unremarkable and not as prominent as the four great heavenly kings and the four great heavenly teachers of the Founding Emperor Era. However, his contribution and impact were significant.

People who were good at battles often produced predictable successful battles rather than sensational ones that were eye-catching. Daoist Su Maiqing was one such person.

“It's my good fortune to meet Dao Master Su here.”

Qin Mu smiled and said, “When I was in Eternal Peace, my relationship with the two generations of the Dao Sect's Dao Masters wasn't bad. I didn't expect to actually meet Dao Master Su here. Dao Master Su, the Dao Sect you left behind in the lower bound, it is now a pillar of Eternal Peace's reform.”

Su Maiqing hurriedly said, "Celestial Venerable, please don't say it like this. I'm not a Dao Master anymore, I have long since given up that position. I'm now a wandering Daoist, teaching here to pass the time. Whatever achievements belong to Eternal Peace's Dao Sect, not me."

Qin Mu had good feelings towards him. Su Maiqing was a founder of Eternal Peace's Dao Sect. However, he didn't claim credit for himself, unlike some people who always tried to attribute all sorts of achievements to themselves.

"Did Celestial Venerable Mu come here to prepare for his battle with His Majesty that is going to take place two months from now?"

The middle-aged Daoist blinked his eyes and smiled. "You can consider it a mistake to have come here to seek Founding Emperor's paths, skills, and divine arts. You should get yourself to high ground and monitor the geographical trends of Supreme Emperor Heaven."

Qin Mu was stunned as he cried out, "Daoist, how could you divulge Founding Emperor's sword path to me? By doing this, you are betraying Founding Emperor!"

"In that case, Celestial Venerable Mu has comprehended Founding Emperor's 33 heavens of the sword path?"

Su Maiqing smiled. "I have revealed too much and have underestimated the wisdom of Celestial Venerable Mu. I have betrayed the celestial heavens before, so it's no big deal betraying Founding Emperor. When Carefree Village was being set up, I stood on the side of Wen Tiange and believed we shouldn't establish Carefree Village. The difference is that I wasn't as resolute as Wen Tiange."

He sighed, frowning until vertical lines appeared on his forehead. He then said, "That year, when the Founding Emperor Calamity erupted, I followed Founding Emperor and left. In the end, I came and stayed here for 20,000 years, feeling depressed since I couldn't fulfill my ambitions. Ultimately, I was unable to pull myself together, so I stayed in the bottommost level of Carefree Village to teach. Wen Tiange was more resolute than me and refused to enter Carefree Village. He remained outside, leading remnant armies to fight on, never setting foot here. I often thought, had I been as resolute as him and fought until the end, maybe His Majesty wouldn't have come to Carefree Village."

He fell into a daze and seemed a little inarticulate.

Qin Mu's eyes flickered, and he said, "You want to enlist my help in forcing Founding Emperor out of Carefree Village?"

Su Maiqing chuckled. "How can a Daoist have such treasonous thoughts? The first form of Founding Emperor's sword path, Supreme Emperor Heaven Quelling Sword, is hidden in the vein lines of Supreme Emperor Heaven's geography. This sword is Founding Emperor's first sword, his first heaven, and it is truly powerful."

He broke off a tree branch and used it as a sword to display the Supreme Emperor Heaven Quelling Sword.

As the tree branch moved in the air, its strokes were made up of basic sword techniques with an impressive air. The strokes then transformed into the sun, moon, mountains, and rivers. As the strokes became more unrestrained, they formed majestic mountains and rivers, giving off an aura that was capable of leveling the chaos in heaven and earth.

After Su Maiqing had displayed the move, he held the branch in his hands and carefully planted it into the soil. He said, "This little shoot will one day become a towering tree."

Qin Mu closed his eyes and recollected the Supreme Emperor Heaven Quelling Sword that Su Maiqing just displayed. After some time, he opened his eyes and bowed to express his thanks. "Thank you, Dao Master, for your guidance. Dao Master, I have something I don't understand. Why did the reform of the Founding Emperor Era stop after Founding Emperor came to Carefree Village?"

After Su Maiqing was done planting the tree, he got up and straightened himself. He grinned and asked, "Celestial Venerable, what do you think of my spirits today?"

Qin Mu frankly said, "Gloomy, pale, and without fighting spirit."

Su Maiqing laughed. "That is the spirit of the entire Carefree Village."

Qin Mu was stunned.

"Founding Emperor's reform followed the will of the heavens and wishes of the people. The theme of the reform was determined by Wen Tiange. It was mainly to guard and protect."

Su Maiqing visualized some water and used it to water the tree branch as he said, "The gods guard and protect the people, serving them and making their lives better. The people groomed divine arts practitioners who would go on to become gods, creating a virtuous cycle. The more divine arts that were created by divine arts practitioners and gods, the stronger and more prosperous the Founding Emperor Era would be. However, when the Founding Emperor Calamity erupted, the gods stopped protecting the people."

He looked at that little tree sprout, seemingly in a daze. After some time, he sighed. "The gods abandoned the people and left. Therefore, the entire spirit of the era instantly evaporated, and the reform was halted. There are people in the imperial court praising Carefree Village for absorbing the masters of creation's visualization concepts, so the reform is still ongoing. They praised until the heavens shook loudly, to the point that they actually believed it. I, on the contrary, refused to believe!"

He gave a snort, turning to leave as he said, "I don't believe it! The base for reform is gone, and its theme is now useless. They spent all their time praising and bragging, but where is the reform? Loads of rubbish, flattery, and fawning. I won't associate myself with them. I hope you can beat up Founding Emperor until he becomes sober!"

Qin Mu was stunned, watching him as he left.

Shu Jun came over and followed his gaze. He saw Su Maiqing's back view and asked puzzledly, "What is holy infant looking at?"

“Nothing much.”

Qin Mu composed himself and laughed. “It’s just that I suddenly experienced some thoughts and emotions. Divine King, are you done?”

Shu Jun nodded and said, “I have familiarized myself with the paths, skills, and divine arts of the past million years. Although I’m not entirely clear about the path I am going to take in the future, this has given me some form of a plan. Shall we rise up into the air to see Supreme Emperor Heaven’s geography?”

“There’s no need.”

Qin Mu smiled and said, “I have already grasped Founding Emperor’s Supreme Emperor Heaven Quelling Sword. Let’s go to Carefree Village’s Supreme Brightness Heaven.”

Shu Jun was puzzled. Nevertheless, he followed him and flew towards Supreme Brightness Heaven.

Supreme Brightness Heaven was connected to Supreme Emperor Heaven by a divine mountain, along with two heavens. The two reached the foot of the divine mountain and flew to its peak, entering Supreme Brightness Heaven.

They then did the same thing again, finding the biggest academy in Supreme Brightness Heaven and indulging themselves in the academy’s entire book collection.

Qin Mu was still faster than Shu Jun by a step. He finished viewing the book collection before him and had memorized them to heart.

He was about to leave the library when a voice suddenly said coldly behind him, “Celestial Venerable Mu, you lapped up information without digesting it. Based on your casual browsing, do you think you can solve His Majesty Founding Emperor’s sword techniques and defeat him? That is wishful thinking!”

Qin Mu looked in the direction where the voice came from and saw a big burly man with thick eyebrows and big eyes. On his back, he carried a sword case, revealing several sword hilts.

He had already met an expert who wasn’t mesmerized by his consciousness illusion, hence when this burly man appeared not to be affected by it, he wasn’t very surprised.

After all, Carefree Village had plenty of experts from the Founding Emperor Era. After they migrated there, some fell into depression and became ambitionless, hiding there and living a secluded life.

Qin Mu asked, “May I ask who you are?”

“Founding Emperor’s Sun Guardian, Yan Rinuan.”

The burly man put down his sword case and grabbed a sword hilt. He tugged at it forcefully but failed to pull out the sword. He scratched his head and said, “Celestial Venerable Mu, please wait a moment. I haven’t drawn my sword for 20,000 years. This treasure that I refined has become rusty.”

He continued to tug at it with all his strength and finally managed to draw a sword out. It was littered with spots of heavy rust.

‘The sword isn’t rusty. What’s rusty is the Sun Guardian’s sword heart.’

Qin Mu examined his treasured sword and laughed. ‘The rust on the Sun Guardian’s sword heart is indeed very serious.’

“Wait for me to polish it!”

The burly man, Yan Rinuan, walked out of the library and came to a small stream beside the academy. He began to polish the rusty sword, the rust turning the stream red.

Yan Rinuan panted as he polished his sword. The more he polished, the rustier the sword became. He got a shock and fell into a daze by the river.

Qin Mu stood behind him, quietly waiting.

He then saw the shoulders of this burly man moving, not knowing when he had started crying. His tears were like fire, flying out from his eyes and transforming into flames that danced in the air.

“What do I want this sword for? What is it useful for? This f*cking sword can’t even be polished.”

He suddenly rose and jabbed the sword at Qin Mu!

Qin Mu stood there motionlessly. Around him was sword light, which was emitting “chi chi” noises.

Yan Rinuan waved his sword, and the rust spotted sword transformed into a rust world around Qin Mu. The world looked like a steel world invaded by time, and it was filled with a decadent and decaying aura.

“If the heart isn’t clear, then the sword won’t be clear. Even the Supreme Brightness Flood Sword has become rusty!”

Yan Rinuan gave off a loud roar while his sword danced at a quicker pace. He continued to roar angrily as he flew up and stabbed forward with his sword. He cried in rage, “What is this rusty sword good for? What use do I have for a rusty heart? In the past, my sword was only slightly inferior to Founding Emperor’s quick sword. It was a scorching sword! Now, it isn’t quick, and my sword and heart aren’t hot anymore!”

He looked like he had descended into madness as he displayed the second form of Founding Emperor’s sword path, Supreme Brightness Flood Sword.

The scene of the rust-filled Supreme Brightness Heaven floating around Qin Mu was one that would shock the hearts of the people.

After displaying his move, Yan Rinuan gave in to the rage in his heart and threw his sword away as far as he could.

However, he regretted it and ran over to pick up his sword. He then continued to polish his sword by the stream as he cried.

Shu Jun walked over and asked puzzledly, "What happened to him?"

"His Dao heart was hurt."

Qin Mu said, "Let's go to Pure Brightness Heaven to have a look."

Shu Jun hesitated before saying, "Initially, when I looked at the paths, skills, and divine arts of Carefree Village, I found them novel. After going through two book collections of two big academies, I discovered that most of them are repeated. Holy infant, there's no need to visit other heavens' academies."

Qin Mu laughed and said, "There's no harm in going to take a look."

Shu Jun had no choice but to follow along. The two arrived at Pure Brightness Heaven. Before they could find the academy, they saw an old man by the road, burning joss paper in front of a grave. He was on the ground, crying. "Qin Ye, you died young. Such a terrible death—"

Shu Jun laughed. "Old man, I had a friend as courageous as you. He dared to insult the Grand Emperor. When I visited him the next year, the grass on his grave was as tall as a man."

Chapter 989: One's Heroic Aura Can Stand Out and Last for a Thousand Autumns

That old man looked at him and coldly laughed. "In the past, righteous people died to advise elders and carried coffins to court when the emperor was muddle-headed. Why can't I burn paper money for him? I want to! I have been burning it for 20,000 years. It's to the point where he can be the richest man in Youdu after he dies!"

Shu Jun laughed and humored him. "If you want to be a righteous volunteer and burn paper money for him, why do you not do it in front of him, why do it in this god-forsaken place with so few people? Who are you burning it for? You aren't a righteous person."

The old man became disappointed and sat on the ground. He mumbled, "You're right, I'm not a righteous volunteer. If I was, I would have carried a coffin to court and died to advise the elders. I even made my coffin. However, I got timid and backed out..."

He waved his sleeves, and a black coffin flew out. It was likely the coffin he built back then, which he had intended to carry and die in to advise the elders.

Shu Jun sized up the coffin and saw that it was glistening. It was likely constantly caressed. He couldn't help but laugh. "You old man, you touched it so much that there's oil on the coffin. You are clearly an overly cautious person with little conviction."

The old man was furious and wanted to attack, but upon further thought, he agreed with Shu Jun.

He didn't dare to carry his coffin to court. Instead, he spent his days looking at it, touching it, remaining undecided, and causing the coffin to glisten with oil.

Shu Jun was going to taunt him again, but he was stopped by Qin Mu.

“How do I address you, elder?” Qin Mu asked.

The old man depressingly said, “One of the four assisting junior protectors of the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens, Fang Youji. Today, I am the guardian of the cemetery of Pure Brightness Heavens.”

Qin Mu asked, “A junior protector makes you a first ranking high official. How did you end up here?”

Fang Youji rose and said, “You are Celestial Venerable Mu, so you are always right. However, I know little about the path of the sword. I only know divine arts, so I used it to mimic sword skills. This sword is called the Pure Bright Sword of Stealing Hearts!”

He used his divine arts to deploy the sword skill, and instantly, it drizzled. The entire area became barren. Qin Mu could see the Sword Dao mood beneath this sword.

Founding Emperor opened this path to train himself in stealing hearts by mourning comrades’ deaths, worshipping his ancestor’s death, and using the past to shape the present. It was also used to test opponents’ Dao hearts.

This sword required a lot out of one’s Dao heart to fight it. If one’s Dao heart wasn’t secure, they would lose to him.

Junior Protector Fang Youji deployed it, saying, “I used divine arts to mimic his third blade. However, it’s a divine art, which means it can’t fully recreate the marvels of his Sword Dao. If Celestial Venerable Mu didn’t see the marvel within, I can deploy it again.”

Qin Mu closed his eyes before opening them and replying, “There’s no need for that.”

Fang Youji squatted again, burning paper money for that nameless tomb. He told Qin Mu, “Celestial Venerable Mu can go to Dark Embryo Heaven. The sentry there is the second assistant out of the four assistants, Junior Assistant Gao Baixun.”

Qin Mu thanked him and left with Shu Jun. They chose not to seek guidance at Pure Brightness Heaven’s academy.

Shu Jun looked back and saw that old man burning paper money still. He no longer cried about how brutally Qin Ye died. Instead, he had a smile on his red face that was grilled by the flames.

“This junior protector of Founding Emperor seems to wish for you to beat Founding Emperor dearly.”

Shu Jun was puzzled. “This old man bit the hand that fed him. Not only that, but he did it in such a happy manner. Holy infant, now I know why you must walk around. There are so many people under Founding Emperor willing to feed you moves!”

Qin Mu smiled. “Some people still have ambitions despite being old. Meanwhile, brave heroes have their ambitions reduced. Parts of the army didn’t willingly choose to hide at Carefree Village. Those with

ambition wish not for me to defeat Founding Emperor, but for me to excite the ambition of this washed-up leader.”

He continued, “They also want to excite their own ambitions. They are like divine dragons who could rebuke the heavens and earth that are stuck in a tiny swamp. They curl their bodies up and look up into the sky, wishing they were twisting and turning in the clouds and not rolling around in the mud.”

“I feel like you are talking about me.”

Shu Jun laughed. “I am the divine dragon in your story!”

Qin Mu laughed in return as they ascended into Dark Embryo Heaven. In front of them, the forest was dense, and someone was teaching within it. His voice was loud as he hollered, “To universally love is to be altruistic. To carry it out is to be righteous. To perform this righteous altruism through one’s own strength is Dao. What is this supposed to mean?”

“Universal love constitutes altruism. Materializing this quality makes one righteous. Going on this path is Dao. This quote means finding out about the underlying principles of things and sticking to them, carrying them out even if it’s hard.”

“If one walks the talk despite it being hard, one achieves Dao. The person who doesn’t do so is Founding Emperor!”

...

Qin Mu and Shu Jun walked forward and saw a teacher, who was dressed like a scholar, holding some books in one hand and a ruler in the other. He was explaining scriptures in an excited manner.

His students were a bunch of monkeys with clothes. Some were scratching themselves while squatting on the ground, while some were grooming other monkeys in trees. They were very lively and very rarely stopped moving.

The monkeys saw Qin Mu and Shu Jun and immediately took off their clothes and ran away, throwing the clothes everywhere.

The teacher was furious as he hollered, “Unflinching righteousness! Where did it all go? You degenerates, running away when you see an enemy! Tai!”

He jumped towards Qin Mu. He was visibly furious as the ruler in his hands flew. He deployed a marvelous sword skill, the Dark Embryo Sword of Calm Heavens, and directly pressed towards Qin Mu!

“Others may be scared of you, but I’m not!”

Shu Jun was going to block him, but Qin Mu stopped him. The teacher, Gao Baixun, danced with his ruler and deployed his Dark Embryo Sword of Calm Heavens before turning around and walking away. He hollered, “The enemy is too powerful! I didn’t actively engage you, I merely learned to run away like Founding Emperor!” After he finished, he escaped into the woods while stepping on wood.

Shu Jun was startled.

Gao Baixun poked his head out again, saying, "I'm not your opponent. I won't tell you that Grand Tutor Zhou Jingmeng is waiting for you in Primordial Bright Heaven to avenge me!"

Qin Mu hurriedly asked, "How does one go there?"

Gao Baixun lifted his finger and righteously said, "Over my dead body. I will never tell you that the road there is that way!"

"Many thanks." Qin Mu bowed and thanked him before walking the way Gao Baixun pointed with Shu Jun.

Shu Jun followed him in an uneven fashion as he looked back. He saw the junior assistant of Founding Emperor, Gao Baixun, call the monkeys out from the woods again. They unwillingly put on their clothes and hats to listen to him teach.

"How weird." Shu Jun shook his head.

"It's to be expected. With their ambitions not realized, and their Dao path blocked, their Dao hearts are dispersed when little generosity is dispersed."

Qin Mu said, "One ought to find out the underlying principles of things and act accordingly, applying their knowledge. Now they can't do any of that, and their Dao hearts are clearly severely affected."

They arrived at Primordial Bright Heaven and encountered Grand Tutor Zhou Jingmeng. He was obviously waiting for them with murderous intent as he vowed to avenge Junior Assistant Gao Baixun. He refused to let Celestial Venerable Mu enter.

"If you want to, you have to step on my corpse!" The old Grand Tutor, Zhou Jingmeng, righteously called out.

After he displayed his Primordial Bright Sword of Literature, he laid down, and Shu Jun stepped on his "corpse". The old man furiously scolded him, "Is he for real?"

Qin Mu bowed and thanked him as he walked around him.

The primordial spirit within Zhou Jingmeng's "corpse" emerged and hollered, "My big brother, Zhou Xunfang, will avenge me at the Seven Shine Heaven. Wait for it!"

Shu Jun didn't know whether to laugh or cry as he turned around and asked, "How do we get there?"

"That way!"

Zhou Jingmeng's primordial spirit lifted a finger and taunted them, "Go there if you dare!"

Qin Mu and Shu Jun reached Seven Shine Heaven and greeted Zhou Xunfang, who wanted to die in honor of Founding Emperor. He used his "death" to prove his loyalty, as he "died" in a more brutal

manner than Zhou Jingmeng. Before he “died”, he told them that the three councilors of the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens would be waiting for them in the latter heavens.

On their journey, two months flew by. Qin Mu and Shu Jun unknowingly passed through heavens like Complete Nothingness Heaven, Taiji Heaven, Crimson Light Heaven, Black Light Heaven, and Shiny Brightness Heaven. They were close to the top of the 33 heavens.

Today, they reached the Supreme Heaven, and upon entry, Qin Mu heard laughter. He saw a donkey rushing towards him. A fishing rod was tied to its head, and on it was a carrot. It abruptly stopped when it was at Qin Mu’s side. “Hehe, isn’t this Celestial Venerable Mu? Can you not recognize me?”

That donkey stood up and put one of its strong forearms on Qin Mu’s shoulder. The other forearm was on Shu Jun’s shoulder, squeezing them together and causing them to have goosebumps everywhere. He smiled. “I am Lü Zheng! We suffered together! Let me tell you a secret, this Supreme Heaven is the realm of my master, Heavenly Teacher Zi Xi! She’s been waiting for both of you for a long time!”

The donkey held them and moved forward as he effusively said, “Master told us that peace has been achieved between Carefree Village and the masters of creation. This is a good thing that should be celebrated. These days, we brought some beautiful girls along to train their song and dance. They sure had a great deal of spirit of peace. It looked good, it sure looked good...”

Shu Jun’s head was held tightly by him to the point where his feet couldn’t touch the ground. He struggled but couldn’t escape, which caused him to feel fearful.

He utilized his consciousness divine art, but his consciousness couldn’t invade the donkey’s mind at all. He naturally felt more fearful. “This donkey is terrifyingly powerful!”

Qin Mu whispered, “Don’t resist. This donkey is a strong practitioner of the Numinous Sky Realm. He’s just as strong as the heavenly lords we saw previously!”

Shu Jun had to give up resisting. He wanted to speak, but the donkey was garrulous. Sometimes, he would even bray loudly, preventing him from interrupting.

Qin Mu was used to Lü Zheng’s temper and knew that he was used to being effusive. If one talked to him, one would suffocate to death. So he stopped talking and let him talk on.

Lü Zheng brought them to the city in Supreme Heaven. It was extravagant, and countless entertainers danced excitedly. Skirts flew everywhere while sleeves fluttered. It appeared extremely luxurious. On the left, hundreds of gods blew flutes, while on the right, another several hundred gods played their string instruments. Above them, hundreds of gods hit drums, while beneath them, hundreds of gods played even more instruments.

The girls flew in the sky, danced on the ground, and crisscrossed. Their demeanor was enchanting and charming, and their voices were even more so. They sang to Founding Emperor’s greatness, wisdom, and strength.

Yan Yunxi was dressed like a man as she observed the occasion from a city tower. She was also dancing, and she constantly applauded the entertainers. The officials with her also sang along, licking Founding Emperor's boots.

Lü Zheng brought them upstairs and put them down.

Yan Yunxi looked around, smiled, and asked, "What do you think about this performance, Celestial Venerable Mu? Is it grand? After we establish the Paramita Youdu, I intend to take them to the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens and practice with the officers there to sing along to Founding Emperor's impressive achievements."

Qin Mu smiled. "The dance moves are beautiful and mesmerizing, and the singing is marvelous and moving."

Yan Yunxi applauded, laughed, and glanced at him, saying, "Unfortunately, you don't seem to understand the immensity of heaven and earth, considering how you challenged Founding Emperor. You seem to not understand how Founding Emperor is number one in the path of the sword and how high his accomplishments in the sword are! If I told you, you would probably be scared to death. He is already beginning to comprehend the twentieth sword form after I displayed your nineteenth sword form in front of him."

She rose and proudly said, "Founding Emperor is such an unrivaled and naturally wise man! Thus, you should cancel this rebellious thought of yours. However, you are unwilling, right? Therefore, allow me to defeat you with Founding Emperor's sword skill!"

She swept her sleeves back and hollered, "Back off, I will now use Founding Emperor's sword skill to let Celestial Venerable Mu experience the immensity of heaven and earth!"

The entertainment stopped, and the entertainers backed off.

Yan Yunxi pulled out her sword and looked at Qin Mu.

Qin Mu was stunned as he said, "Even you..."

Chapter 990: Old Qin Family

Yan Yunxi waved her sword and attacked. She interrupted him and immediately used the first move of Founding Emperor's 33 heavens of the sword path, Supreme Emperor Heaven Quelling Sword. She taunted, "Do you think I'm like Su Maiqing or Yan Rinuan? They are only skilled in algebra or divine arts. Some are only good at leading armies, while some are but civilian officers. Do you think they can show off the marvels of Founding Emperor's sword skills?"

Founding Emperor's sword path was marvelous when commanded by her. It was in a different league compared to what Qin Mu saw previously.

It was different from people like Su Maiqing. Yan Yunxi was the real deal. She was unrelenting and unleashed all of the sword path's power immediately.

However, she underestimated Qin Mu's cultivation and used god realm cultivation. Thus, despite showing off the power of Founding Emperor's sword skill, she couldn't threaten Qin Mu.

Qin Mu's heart fluttered as his sword pellet flew out and broke her Supreme Emperor Heaven Quelling Sword.

Yan Yunxi felt the force from his blade and raised her magic power realm, unleashing the second move—the Supreme Brightness Flood Sword.

Qin Mu continued breaking it with his sword, using his sword move to break the Supreme Brightness Flood Sword, cutting off the flood of brightness.

Yan Yunxi's magic power was raised to the true god level. However, she still felt that Qin Mu's magic power was grand and much stronger than her cultivation. This frightened her.

Her path was unique. She had learned a mix of a lot of different things. However, she was smart and had high attainments in every subject.

Founding Emperor evaluated her before and said she was smart and that she only paled in comparison to Wen Tiange, and even then, her natural aptitude was far superior to Wen Tiange.

In natural aptitude, she was inferior to Di Yiyue, but she was smarter.

Di Yiyue had Heaven Duke's bloodline and could learn anything easily. She didn't have such a level of talent, so she learned the Postcelestial Great Daos, all of them. She learned the paths of instruments, chess, books, paintings, knives, spears, swords, formations, and martial arts.

The path of Yan Yunxi was the path of unison, improving several celestial palaces. In this path, one would hope to rush to the Grand Realm of the Celestial Heavens Realm after reaching the Emperor's Throne Realm, elevating one's techniques and cultivation level to that of the Celestial Venerables.

She followed this path. However, it was difficult to elevate the Postcelestial Great Daos to the Emperor's Throne level, even more so than the Precelestial Great Daos, as one had to open them step by step.

She knew the path would be hard. Di Yiyue and Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher were already strong practitioners of the Emperor's Throne, while she was still stuck in the Numinous Sky Realm.

However, this also made her magic power grand. In the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens, few could defeat Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher Guan Cha like her!

The first to do so was Founding Emperor.

Founding Emperor's magic power was unbelievably grand. The basis of Qin Mu's Overlord Body Three Elixir Technique came from Founding Emperor's basic Daoyin Technique.

The second was Di Yiyue, who had the bloodline of Heaven Duke, which rendered her strong.

However, while Yan Yunxi was a realm below him, she was still able to defeat him, showing off her skill.

Yet, when facing off against Qin Mu, she felt that Qin Mu's magic power in the same realm was two to three times more powerful than hers!

She had to elevate her cultivation realm to the God Execution Stage before she could deal with Qin Mu's sword.

'In the same realm, even Founding Emperor wouldn't be as dense as him. Even, even...'

She was unnerved. Qin Mu's magic power was too dense. In the same realm, Founding Emperor paled in comparison.

Yan Yunxi had already deployed the 33 heavens of the sword path to the Supreme Melt Sword. However, Qin Mu hadn't seen it before, so she deployed it slowly to show its marvels to Qin Mu.

After this move, Yan Yunxi didn't stop. Instead, she brought out the thirtieth heaven, the Grand Jade Rising Victory Sword.

Then it was the thirty-first heaven, the Dragon Brahma Alteration Sword. Next was the thirty-second heaven, the Education of the Graceful Merchants Sword. Finally, the thirty-third heaven, the Grand Brightness Realm Sword.

At this move, Yan Yunxi stopped and abandoned her sword. She admitted, "I can't beat you, but Founding Emperor can. He is way stronger than me when using the 33 heavens of the sword path. You will surely lose to him."

"Many thanks," Qin Mu said earnestly as he put away his sword pellet.

Yan Yunxi glanced at him and coldly said, "Do you really think you can beat Founding Emperor? He's number one in the path of the sword. His attainments in it are unrivaled. His comprehension is so quick and deep that no one can beat him! He created the 33 heavens of the sword path 20,000 years ago. I'm not even sure which step he has reached in his sword path."

Qin Mu felt apprehensive.

Yan Yunxi continued, "When Founding Emperor sees your nineteenth sword form, he can take down your fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth sword form. He won't be stuck on the nineteenth sword form. Maybe, when you enter the Founding Emperor Celestial Heavens, you will find his twentieth sword form. You might even see the thirty-fourth or thirty-fifth heaven of his sword path. Thirty-five heavens! You're dead!"

Qin Mu smiled gently. "You really want Founding Emperor to lose to me?"

Yan Yunxi glared at him and hollered, "Ridiculous! I'm loyal to Founding Emperor. Even the sun and moon can see that! I lost to you due to my lack of power and not because I wanted you to see Founding Emperor's sword skills!"

Lü Zheng and Shu Jun were drinking with the other god officials on the city tower, and as soon as they heard her, the god officials spit out their wine.

“What are you laughing at?”

Lü Zheng was furious and stared at them. “Drink up! Whoever doesn’t drink today sees and hears nothing! No one is allowed to leave!”

Those god officials were frightened and had to drink.

To Yan Yunxi, Lü Zheng was a donkey. To the others in the Supreme Heaven, this donkey was the Donkey Devil King.

Qin Mu glanced to the side and asked, “Heavenly Teacher, is there really a thirty-fourth heaven to the sword path?”

“I have no idea.”

Yan Yunxi shook her head and said, “Maybe, maybe not. Judging by his talent, yes, but from the state of Carefree Village, no.”

Qin Mu stared deep into her soul and asked, “When will you dress like a girl? Saint Woodcutter and Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher are waiting.”

Yan Yunxi was furious. “What business is it of yours? Until I meet a guy that can take my heart away, I’ll dress like this.”

Qin Mu laughed and said, “You can’t find a guy as wise as Saint Woodcutter or as stubborn as Martial Arts Heavenly Teacher. You should change into female clothing now and choose one of them to marry. Neither of them has married yet, as they are waiting for you. Your delay inconveniences them.”

Yan Yunxi was frustrated and embarrassed. She furiously said, “I didn’t lose to you! Leave now! Don’t humiliate me here!”

“Shu Jun, let’s go!”

Qin Mu called out, and Shu Jun rose quickly. Lü Zheng smiled and said, “Big guy, come here to drink another day! I will treat you to carrots!”

The carrot hung on the fishing rod on his head struggled, but it failed and had to accept its fate.

Shu Jun agreed and moved to Qin Mu’s side.

“Don’t go to the heavens after.”

Yan Yunxi walked him out of the city and said, “This display of flattery is fake. In the later heavens, their display is real. If you go there, you will be humiliated.”

Qin Mu was slightly stunned and showed his doubt.

Yan Yunxi sighed and said, "The only bitter people in Carefree Village are those of the older generations like us. The new gods and devils born here have little attachment to the outside world and greatly fear the strong celestial heavens they have heard rumors about. They don't want to leave, and among them are some smart people who know you are fighting to advise Founding Emperor and force him to go out. They will surely try and stop you."

Qin Mu revealed a smile, nodded, and said, "To them, this place really is Carefree Village."

Yan Yunxi gave a cold humph and plainly said, "What Carefree Village? There's no Carefree Village in this world! Go now, the earlier you see Founding Emperor, the better your odds of winning become. His comprehension of sword path divine arts is too high. The later you go, the higher the likelihood of him comprehending the twentieth sword form, which puts you at a disadvantage."

Qin Mu bade her farewell and left.

The two of them reached the Grand Jade Heaven. This heaven was a great deal different than the previous 29 heavens. Dance and song filled the atmosphere of the extravagant and luxurious looking heaven, and young gods and devils used visualization divine arts to create all sorts of wondrous scenery that was beautiful.

People were dancing and singing in this strangely beautiful land. There were wine pools and meat forests. It was extremely extravagant.

Shu Jun suddenly cried when they reached that place.

Qin Mu was weirded out and asked, "What's wrong?"

"Before our extinction, we were like this. Seeing such a scene again, I can't help but recall our extinction."

Shu Jun recalled, "Nobody thought about how close we were to extinction when we were in our most prosperous state."

Qin Mu thought about it deeply.

Gods were on guard here. They should be younger gods who heard the news of Qin Mu's arrival at Carefree Village and thus were searching for him.

Qin Mu's consciousness wavered and formed a consciousness illusion. They walked past the gods who were searching for them safely.

They reached the Dragon Alteration Heaven, which was even more extravagant. The heavens below trained to prevent an offensive by the masters of creation, creating a nervous atmosphere. There was none of that here. There was only enjoyment and luxury.

Qin Mu and Shu Jun didn't stop and instead rushed to the next heaven, Peaceful Education Heaven.

“Mu’er.”

Qin Hanzhen and his wife were waiting for him at the entrance, likely for a long time. Princess Consort Zhen smiled and said, “You really are here. Your father still knows you well. He said you would come here to find out about Founding Emperor’s sword skills.”

Qin Mu lifted his robe and kowtowed to them, saying, “I became the holy infant, which caused me to neglect both of you. I hereby pay for my sins.”

Qin Hanzhen lifted him up quickly, saying, “How can we be called your parents if we didn’t nurture you, educate you, or even give you a soul?”

Princess Consort Zhen wiped her tears, smiling. “I wish I gave birth to two sons.”

Qin Hanzhen said, “You must have suffered hardships coming here. The old guards of the emperor are loyal to him. They must have made your journey difficult. I know it has been hard on you.”

Qin Mu didn’t know what to say.

Princess Consort Zhen said, “Your father is King Zhen, and it’s hard for him to go down and see those old guys. They have weird tempers, and they speak in an enigmatic manner. I wanted him to go look for you, but he said those old guys know better. They might strike out against you, but they wouldn’t take your life. At worst, they would only injure you, so there was no need to go. It would be even better if you were forced to withdraw.”

Qin Mu was even more stunned than before.

Shu Jun laughed. “Those old guards of Founding Emperor really are loyal and really made him suffer.”

Qin Hanzhen led them to the King Zhen Residence as he said, “It’s rare that you are back. I’ll take you to see our ancestors. We won’t question your duel with Founding Emperor. Let’s enter first. Half of the land in this Peaceful Education Heaven is ours.

Qin Mu acknowledged.

He followed Qin Hanzhen and Princess Consort Zhen, and all he could see were graves with no end in sight.

“These are all our ancestors.”

Qin Hanzhen said, “The old Qin family members knew that Founding Emperor was determined to move to Carefree Village, which was an unpopular decision. So, from the fourth generation on, they actively fought against the masters of creation. All of them are here, generation after generation.”

“Founding Emperor had 34 children, and on the way to establishing his celestial heavens, 33 of them died in battle. Our ancestors died in battle when we migrated to Carefree Village. He had six sons who

fought against the celestial heavens. They died, and their bodies haven't been found yet, as there was no way to find them."

Qin Hanzhen said, "He didn't enter the ancestral graves. Three generations of Founding Emperor's descendants died while entering the Great Void. They scouted the way, and only one came back alive, which meant safety for Founding Emperor."

"In our generation, the hundredth and sixth generation, and yours, the hundredth and seventh generation, there are few people in the old Qin family. Every generation of ours has to shoulder the burden of defending Carefree Village. When the masters of creation struck, we were the first to respond at the front lines. We were worried about that, which was why your mother didn't want you to return here."

He pointed at a grave in front and said, "That's your uncle, my brother. He treated me nicely. He sent me off when I left Carefree Village. When I returned, he was buried here..."

"To us, Carefree Village never existed."

He stood in front of it, and his head drooped as he said, "Because, for people with the surname Qin, there are too many burdens... too many burdens."