Immortal 1411

Chapter 1411: Three Thousand Weak Water

What's related to the character' betray' (贰)? There's no way it's Erlang Shen, right?[1] Zu An thought. He was confused, but he really didn't have enough information. He called out, "Everyone, be careful!"

Even though their divine senses didn't pick up on any living creatures, they really couldn't afford to overlook anything at the moment. Thus, the others nodded. Yan Xuehen and Yun Jianyue tacitly agreed to stay on either side of Yu Yanluo because her cultivation was the lowest. That way, if there were any unexpected developments, they could still protect her. Yu Yanluo felt warm inside when she saw that.

The group entered the temple. The interior was very small, and the windows and roof were heavily tattered. There was no place for any beasts to hide, so they finally felt some relief.

However, the statue in the center soon caught their attention. It had a human face and a snake body. Even though many parts of its body were damaged, it still looked as if it were about to pounce on them. Its eyes and expression were both fierce and ruthless.

Yu Yanluo saw the others' gazes dart toward her. She asked in embarrassment, "What are you looking at me for?"

Yan Xuehen and Yun Jianyue both chuckled awkwardly. They were too embarrassed to ask, so Zu An had to be the one to ask, "Is there any chance that this is a Medusa?"

"Absolutely not!" Yu Yanluo said decisively. "The Medusa has always been female, and there's only ever been a single bloodline. How could there be a male Medusa?"

Yun Jianyue was surprised. Didn't that mean Yu Yanluo would only give birth to a girl? That meant there wasn't much of a threat to Honglei! Alright, I have to take the chance to rope her in, or else that stone cold woman and her disciple will get ahead of us.

Yan Xuehen's cheeks turned red. No one knew what she was thinking.

"Then does the Snake race have anything that resembles this?" Zu An continued. Things that had a human face and a snake body... The first images that came to his mind were Nuwa and Fuxi[2]. However, the statue didn't bear the slightest resemblance to Nuwa or Fuxi.

"There are no such things," Yu Yanluo said, her beautiful brow furrowing tightly. She stared at the sinister statue and said. "It feels as if he isn't from the Snake race, and that he just has a snake body. In the past, whenever I've encountered a race that was close to the Snake race, I've always felt a sense of intimacy, but I can't sense anything from this statue. I only feel a bit of fear."

"It seems as if this should be an unknown evil deity," Yan Xuehen said. "There have been many powerful beings like this in history that have completely disappeared."

"Do you think this is the Yayu Shun spoke of?" Yu Yanluo voiced her suspicion.

"That is indeed a possibility," Yan Xauehen said worriedly, "If that really is him, we have to be careful. Judging from his vicious appearance, he is definitely extremely troublesome."

Meanwhile, Zu An was still wondering what the 'er' (贰) outside meant.

"There are some small statues here," Yun Jianyue said as she looked around and saw some pocket-sized sculptures inside the walls. However, the statues had been heavily corroded over time, and it was already too difficult to tell what they had once been. Many of them didn't even have heads.

"It seems this person should have been on the level of a monarch when he was still alive," Yu Yanluo said. "These two rows of statues are just like the ministers under him. Still, both the temple's scale and the number of statues make it clear that he wasn't an emperor or anything like that. That means the owner of this temple was either the ruler of a small country, or the leader of a particular force."

When she visited different countries in her younger years, she had often met with their most influential figures. In the field of politics, she was much better versed than an aloof and indifferent figure such as Yan Xuehen, or the head of a sinister organization like Yun Jianyue.

"So it's just another ruined country." The group suddenly realized what was happening. There had been many small countries throughout history that were forgotten over time.

"Why is there a statue missing over here?" Yan Xuehen exclaimed in surprise. She wouldn't find it too strange for another spot to be lacking a statue, but it was the one in the 'leader' position of the 'subjects' that was missing.

Anyone who would end up in that position had to be the leader of the officials, the most important figure among the subjects. It made no sense for the other statues to remain even after the one in that location had completely eroded into nothing first.

"Judging from how the base looks, it seems to have been moved away by someone from the start," Yun Jianyue said after examining it carefully.

Zu An said in surprise, "If it was moved away not long after it was built, that means this person probably made a terrible mistake."

Yan Xuehen suddenly cried out in surprise. Her hand gently brushed the area above the statue's position. When the dust scattered, it revealed several black dots and lines that formed a simple diagram.

"This seems to be a constellation diagram," Yan Xuehen said after studying it for a while. "This should be the roof mansion, also known as the moon swallow. See, when these lines are joined together, they look like the tail of a swallow. Among the celestial bodies, when the moon enters the roof mansion constellation, it should normally bring the rather dim roof mansion light, but it often creates the phenomenon of a lunar eclipse instead. The constellation then appears even dimmer. This star sign is often extremely sinister, representing the onset of a terrible disaster."

Zu An was startled. After arriving in this world, he had noticed connections between this place and his previous world again and again. For example, their astrology knowledge was virtually the same as that of his previous world. Didn't that mean this place was none other than Earth?

However, this world was so much bigger than his previous world. After he became a master rank cultivator and gained the ability to fly, he had become even more certain of that fact. That made it even more confusing.

Yu Yanluo suddenly giggled, and the others looked at her in confusion. This was such a dangerous star sign, and furthermore one full of ominous portents, so why was she laughing?

Yu Yanluo's face reddened. She looked at the two other women and explained, "Don't you feel like the name of this constellation, 'Wei Yue Yan', has a great affinity with you two? It has Yue and Yan, matching up with your names."

Yan Xuehen and Yun Jianyue were both stunned. Only now did they realize that! Then, they couldn't help but turn around.

"Hmph, who wants to have any affinity with her?"

"That's why I'm always saying that there's never anything good when we're together. That's what this star sign is telling us!"

Zu An shook his head helplessly when he saw that they were about to fight again. He began to look around the temple to see if he could find any other clues. When he walked behind the human-faced snake-bodied statue, he was suddenly stunned, calling out, "You guys, hurry over here!"

The group quickly rushed over. When they saw what Zu An had found, they were startled. There was a person being hanged there!

No, upon closer inspection, it was a statue of someone being hanged. The statue had a bird head and a human body, and in his hand was a wooden staff. He looked extremely fierce. However, his face was twisted in pain because he was being hanged in a strange position. His hands had been bound behind his back and tied up with his hair. His body was curled up like a cooked shrimp, but it was bent backward.

"Take a look at his right foot," Yun Jianyue said, her expression serious. "His right foot was cut off. That kind of punishment is usually only done to those who have committed extremely serious crimes. Based on the position he was hanged in, this was most likely a criminal who committed a tremendous offense."

"Could he be that statue that was missing out in front?" Yu Yanluo asked quietly.

"That is very likely," Yan Xuehen said with a nod. "I wonder what this has to do with that Yayu, though."

Zu An said with a chuckle, "The fact that this temple is here means it definitely has something to do with the Yayu. It's just that we don't have enough information, so we can't find the link yet. Let's look around at other places first."

The three women couldn't help but feel admiration for his optimistic attitude. Seeing that they couldn't find any more clues inside, they also put their confusion aside for the time being.

Then, the group continued to search the area atop the mountain. It was completely bare without any trees, so they had a full view of their surroundings and managed to finish their search quickly.

"Just where is that Yayu hiding?" Yun Jianyue grumbled. They hadn't expected to already get stuck right after they had just begun.

"Come over here. There seems to be a river at the foot of the other side of the mountain," Yu Yanluo said, having suddenly noticed something.

The others immediately thought of something. They used movement skills to quickly descend the mountain, heading toward the river. However, only when they got close did they realize that it wasn't a river at all. It was far wider than a river, and they couldn't even see the other end.

Normally, such a wide 'river' should have had an extremely calm current. And yet, the river's flow was vicious and rapid.

"There's a stone tablet here!"

They had all quickly released their divine senses, and thus collected clues very quickly.

Zu An looked at the rows of words on the stone tablet. His expression changed a bit and he recited, "Three thousand weak water depths; goose feathers float not, reed flowers are doomed to sink[3]!"

Chapter 1412: Endless

"Hm? Isn't this just like the water we encountered when we first came here?" Yun Jianyue exclaimed in surprise. They had entered from the fiend races' Imperial Tomb, then appeared in the Feather Abyss. The water there didn't have any buoyancy, and even feathers sank in it. Even someone as powerful as the Fiend Emperor had suffered bitterly there.

They had actually been quite fortunate to be inside the Fiend Emperor's sleeves; otherwise, with their cultivation, they might have already died as soon as they entered the secret dungeon.

"Judging from the way the water is flowing, it seems to be headed toward the Feather Abyss," Zu An remarked after observing the area from an elevated position. He said to Yan Xuehen without thinking, "Lend me a feather."

Yan Xuehen immediately stared at him with murderous intent. Only then did Zu An realize what he had said. He quickly added, "Ah, my bad, it was just a slip of the tongue. Lend me a strand of hair."

Yan Xuehen gave him a look, but she still gently removed a strand of her hair and gave it to him.

You have successfully trolled Yan Xuehen for +233 +233 +233...

Yu Yanluo had a strange expression. Why didn't Ah Zu ask me for a strand of my hair, but asked her instead?

And Yan Xuehen had actually given it to him! It even seemed as if that were a natural thing to do for the two of them. Yu Yanluo thought, Am I just overthinking things?

However, Zu An's movements drew her attention. She saw him place Yan Xuehen's hair gently into the river. Shockingly, the hair didn't stop for even a second, falling directly into the water! Due to water tension, human hair would usually float on the surface of water, so the result was unusual. Besides, Yan Xuehen was a grandmaster cultivator, so her hair was even softer and sleeker than other people's. It was even finer than silk.

"It really seems to be from the same source as the Feather Abyss' water earlier," Zu An said, his expression grave. It was the legendary Weak Water after all. Such water didn't have the slightest bit of buoyancy. They really didn't know what to do now that such a massive river was blocking their path.

"Can we fly over?" Yun Jianyue suggested. "We don't have to fly too high. That way, we won't run into those terrifying birds and astral winds. We should be able to get past if we fly right above the water's surface, right?"

Zu An nodded. That was indeed a viable option. He said, "We can give it a try."

Yan Xuehen and Yun Jianyue seemed about to start a huge fuss, but Zu An stopped them, saying, "If you two were at your strongest, I wouldn't fight over deciding who would give it a try first. But right now, I should be the one to go. I'm pretty thick-skinned and can take it even if there's some danger."

The two women hesitated. However, when they recalled his various skills, they didn't continue arguing and instead said, "Then you have to be careful."

Zu An nodded, then walked over to the water. He was extremely careful, even using the jade badge to see if there were any nearby creatures. Sure enough, however, there was nothing inside. There wasn't a single fish or shrimp in the Weak Water.

He also used the Blue Mallard ability, discovering that the skill didn't grant him any affinity with the water. It was almost as if it weren't real water. He couldn't sense the slightest bit of the water element in it.

"This stuff really is freaky," he said. It made even someone like him, who was usually fairly unshakable, a bit nervous. In response, Yu Yanluo went over to his side and gently took his hand to reassure him.

Yun Jianyue suddenly felt that she couldn't take it anymore when she saw that. She turned to Yan Xuehen and cursed, "They should get a freaking room already."

However, Yan Xuehen merely looked stunned, but said nothing. Yun Jianyue was surprised and said, "What's with you?"

"Nothing," Yan Xuehen said, looking away stiffly. She thought, Why is my heart beating so crazily? Is it because I saw another woman acting intimately with Chuyan's man?

Yu Yanluo's face turned a bit red when she heard what Yun Jianyue said. She let go of Zu An's hand awkwardly. She gave him a few warnings, then took out her paintbrush and applied a translucent rune on his back to make his body even more nimble and graceful.

Yan Xuehen and Yun Jianyue both nodded when they saw that. Even though Yu Yanluo's cultivation was beneath their own, her skills complemented them well, making her an excellent support.

Yu Yanluo felt a bit embarrassed when she heard their praise. She said, "These runes aren't anything fancy. I just picked up a bit of knowledge, since I study art anyway. The most formidable one in this field is my great senior. He can use runes to produce all sorts of miraculous effects and is much more amazing than me. My master previously even said that in the field of runes, not even he could compare to great senior."

"The academy's great senior has always been mysterious. In the past, out of the libationer's disciples, Sword Immortal Xiao Yao had the greatest natural talent. But after what happened, it should be this great senior who's the strongest now," Yun Jianyue said with a sigh.

Yan Xuehen shook her head, saying, "Xiao Yao has always been inferior to him. This person has just maintained a low profile, so not many people have really gotten close to him."

"Wow, look at you, Miss White Jade Sect Leader. You must really know the ins and outs since you're so close to those capital folks," Yun Jianyue said with a harrumph. She knew that with Yan Xuehen's status, it was easy for her to associate with important individuals. Meanwhile, she was always detested and cast out by the people. She immediately felt terrible when she thought of that difference.

Yan Xuehen raised her beautiful brows. She naturally hadn't had any intention of showing off. This witch really was irritating, but she didn't want to disturb Zu An by starting a fight on the spot, so she changed the topic. "I heard that he recently took in a female disciple, and her talent in runes is not bad. She should be able to inherit his true inheritance."

"Brightmoon City Lord Xie's daughter. She's meticulous and sharp, educated and well-balanced," Yu Yanluo said with a nod. She had been the Yu clan's leader through thick and thin, so that information had been within her reach.

"Brightmoon City? Isn't that Little An's hometown?" Yun Jianyue asked, stunned. Back then, her disciple Qiu Honglei had gone to Brightmoon City to carry out her mission, which was why she had some impression of it.

The three women suddenly looked toward Zu An, their expressions full of suspicion. Zu An felt wronged, thinking, Who are they taking me for? Do all pretty girls have to have something to do with me?

At first, he wanted to fight back, but when he recalled how his relationship with Xie Daoyun really wasn't bad, he immediately lost confidence. He said right before flying off in alarm, "Haha... I'll give this a go now. Please help me watch the surroundings."

Yun Jianyue wondered, "We just wanted to ask if he knew her, so what is he leaving in such a hurry for?"

Yan Xuehen's expression turned cold, while Yu Yanluo sighed inwardly. This guy is normally pretty smart, so why did he indirectly admit to it like that?

...

Zu An flew carefully. He didn't summon the Wind Fire Wheels, because he didn't know what kind of result flying would have. He was worried that they could fall into the water, which would be the worst result.

After reaching the master rank, he had become able to borrow the laws of the world to fly. However, he rocked back and forth as he flew. He felt that there were some flaws with the laws of the world, which made his flight unstable. However, he could still barely control himself if he flew at a low altitude, just above the water's surface.

He observed his surroundings vigilantly while flying. Unexpectedly, though, things went rather smoothly. Still, he couldn't see any end in sight. When he turned to look at the shore, he saw that the three women already looked extremely small. He was left in awe of the scale of the Weak Water, to the extent that he began to wonder if there really was an end to it.

He definitely didn't want to be like those little birds from his previous world that flew out to sea but ended up too tired to fly back to the continent. When they ran out of strength, they drowned in the ocean.

"Could there be another way to get past this Weak Water?" Zu An wondered. After all, with his current cultivation, his sight was already quite powerful. If he still couldn't see the other side, didn't that mean this river was even more vast than the sea? However, he had clearly seen a river on the mountain, so there was no way it was this wide.

He realized that something was wrong, and thus decided to return and discuss things with the other three. They were experienced, and it was possible that they could see through the mysteries at play.

Just then, however, something strange happened. The water below suddenly surged as if it were boiling. A wave rushed at him without any warning, making it incredibly hard to defend against. Furthermore, the laws of the world contained flaws, so Zu An couldn't even fly that well. If it were anyone else, they would have already been knocked down into the water.

Fortunately, Zu An was quick-witted, using Grandgale to move a couple of dozen meters upward. Only then did he avoid the wave. Still, he didn't have time to feel relief, because the entire river seemed to have begun tossing and turning. Then, it began to climb higher and higher at a visible rate, reaching toward where he was in the sky!

Chapter 1413: Water Surface's Dangers

Zu An jumped in fright. What the hell is up with this water? Why is it suddenly coming at me?

He had no choice but to continue flying up. Suddenly, however, the weird black birds that even that giant octopus monster avoided appeared above him. He knew continuing in that direction wasn't a solution. The water was drawing closer and closer, but the skies above were no less dangerous.

At that point, he didn't have any room to hesitate. He immediately took out the Wind Fire Wheels and began to accelerate toward the shore at full speed. The Wind Fire Wheels were much faster than flying under his own power.

Suddenly, however, a massive wave rose up, blocking Zu An's path! If it were a normal river, Zu An could just rush through no matter how great the wave was. However, the Weak Water was just too strange! He didn't know what would happen if he got hit by it. He could just drop out of the sky and sink into the water like a rock. He didn't dare to take that gamble.

Thus, he quickly used Grandgale to move to one side. However, the Weak Water seemed to have a mind of its own. He avoided the waves several times, but suddenly, a wave appeared that was so massive, he couldn't see the end no matter how he tried to avoid it.

At that instant, Zu An suddenly felt a similar sense of suffocation as when he had seen the giant wave from the movie Interstellar. Still, he wasn't an ordinary person anymore. He didn't hesitate and rushed straight into the sky, intending to use the advantage of speed to avoid the wave. Then, he planned to pass over the wave from above.

For some reason, however, the wave rose just as quickly as he flew. It was almost as if the higher he flew, the higher it reached. Soon, the huge wave was only a few feet from where he was. He could already smell the water and sense its devastating power.

He clenched his teeth, then immediately used the Star Shattering Imprint, increasing his strength tenfold. Then, he took out the Yin Yang Swords he had gotten from Chi Wen to summon the Snow Phoenix. He unleashed the Snowflake Sword, and his entire body rotated as he rushed toward the giant wave in front of him. The Star Shattering Imprint and the Snow Phoenix working together made the Snowflake Sword incredibly powerful, and the surrounding Weak Water immediately froze.

However, he still felt as if he had been struck by lightning. The impact force made all of his veins bulge, fine droplets of blood appearing on his skin. How powerful was the terrifying wave? It had almost instantly left him seriously injured. Furthermore, the Yin Yang Swords, which were heaven-grade weapons, also cried out; they vibrated intensely, as if they could shatter at any moment.

Zu An quickly used the Primordial Origin Sutra to heal his body's injuries. At the same time, he used ki to protect the swords. They would be done for if they broke here.

Surprisingly, the Yin Yang Swords suddenly seemed to have sensed the Fire Phoenix and Blue Mallard's power within him. The Fire Phoenix's power entered the yang sword in his left hand, while the Blue Mallard's power entered the yin sword in his right. The yang sword released blinding, fiery red light, while the yin sword emitted a gentle, light blue glow. The two radiances seemed to harmonize with each other, forming a taiji diagram. Just like that, their power greatly increased.

Zu An felt the pressure suddenly lessen, and afterward, he spun rapidly through the ice sheet like a screw. Not long after he passed through the giant wave, however, he turned around and saw that the chunk of ice had already disappeared. When the water came crashing down on the river's surface again, mist flew everywhere.

Worried that another giant wave would appear, Zu An didn't dare to stop for even a moment. He frantically flew back onto the shore. Fortunately, after his previous flight, he had already gotten close to shore. He had already clearly seen the three women's worried expressions.

Zu An waved at the three women, and was about to greet them when he saw their expressions suddenly change. He became alert, and quickly used Grandgale to move a dozen or so meters to one side.

Just then, a bloody mouth chomped down on the air where Zu An had been. He looked and finally saw what was attacking him, as a strange monster with a dragon head and a cat body suddenly rushed out of the Weak Water. When he saw its teeth flashing with a cold glint, Zu An thought to himself that even though his body had already been tempered by the Primordial Origin Sutra several times, even if he didn't die on the spot, he would still be nearly dead if they had bitten down on him.

However, he didn't have time to sigh in amazement, because when the monster realized it had missed, it instantly swiped its massive claws at him. It was so fast that he didn't have a chance to catch his breath at all.

Zu An was already suffering from internal injuries from breaking through the huge wave, and he had been forced to dodge the mouth hurriedly too. He was in an awkward situation, as he had just spent his energy and needed a moment to muster more.

His only option was to use Grandgale again. Unfortunately, the cooldown refresh of Mo Xi's Celestial Jade Palace hadn't activated, so Grandgale couldn't be used immediately. The cooldown before it could be used again was extremely short, but at that moment, it was an incredibly critical difference.

He clenched his teeth and raised the white and black swords, deciding to take the monster head-on. Suddenly, however, a white band wrapped around his waist. Then, a gentle force pulled him back, causing the claw that had been about to strike him directly to miss.

When Zu An snapped out of his daze, he found that he was already ashore. It turned out that Yan Xuehen had been the one who pulled him back.

The monster roared a few times, then reluctantly returned to the water.

The others sighed, then approached to check Zu An's condition, asking, "You weren't injured by that monster, were you?"

"I wasn't," Zu An said. He patted his chest to indicate that he was still alive and healthy before continuing, "Thank you for your help, big sis Yan. Right, where did you get such a long rope from?"

Yan Xuehen's face reddened and she looked away, not answering his question.

"To actually make that stone cold woman undo her waistband... You're probably the only man in this world who can do that," Yun Jianyue remarked, amused.

"Witch, do you always have to be like this?!" Yan Xuehen exclaimed in embarrassment. This was actually not the first time she had undone her waist band in front of Zu An, so she felt even more guilt and shame for having been exposed by Yun Jianyue's joke.

Zu An was stunned. His gaze shifted to Yan Xuehen's dress, which had suddenly become looser, and he quickly made the connection. He hadn't expected her waistband to be able to extend so far.

As if sensing their confusion, Yan Xuehen added, "For the sake of convenience, this band had the ability to change its length added through runes. Apart from that, it is no different from an ordinary band. It is not a precious artifact."

When the others thought about it, they realized that made sense. Who would be so senseless as to remove their own waistband to fight?

"Big sis Yan, in order to express my gratitude, please let me put it on for you again," Zu An said, moving closer with a smile.

"Get lost!" Yan Xuehen snapped, her expression completely cold. This guy really is daring, actually teasing me in front of everyone! Is he not scared of exposing our relationship?

"I think it's best if I do it," Yu Yanluo said, rolling her eyes at Zu An. She moved closer and helped Yan Xuehen fix her waistband, saying, "Big sister, your waist is so fair."

Yan Xuehen's face turned red. She said, "If we are talking about thin waists, who can compare to you?"

Yu Yanluo was the Medusa Queen. That had something to do with the innate traits of the Snake Race.

The group's attention quickly returned to the monster from earlier. One remarked, "That monster seems to resemble the legendary Qilin a bit, but it has a dragon head and a cat body. Its face is also a bit frightening."

"That should be the Yayu we need to kill. It resembles what Shun described," Zu An said seriously. "Still, I didn't expect it to not be hiding on Shaoxian Mountain, but rather in the Weak Water at the foot of the mountain."

"Not even feathers can float in the Weak Water. Just how is it able to move freely in the water?" Yu Yanluo wondered.

Zu An shared her puzzlement. He had even used the jade badge to check the water, and yet he hadn't sensed even a single fish. That was why he had assumed that there was nothing there, and hadn't expected he would almost lose his life there.

"Judging from our earlier encounter, it does not actually seem to be stronger than the Taowu or that giant octopus. Still, it really will be quite tricky to deal with if it hides in the Weak Water," Yan Xuehen said with a frown.

Of course, saying that it wasn't strong was relative. The aura it had released was also at the grandmaster level, making it a dangerous opponent regardless of which one of them faced it. Still, if they worked together, it wasn't so powerful it would make them feel despair.

"Right, Little An, how did your investigation go earlier? Can this Weak Water be crossed?" Yun Jianyue asked.

Zu An was stunned. He replied, "Huh? Did you not see what happened earlier?"

"What happened?" the women asked, looking at him blankly.

Chapter 1414: Hunter and Prey

"You guys didn't see that giant wave?" Zu An exclaimed in surprise.

"What giant wave?" the three women replied, feeling even more confused.

Yu Yanluo shook her head and said, "We only saw that you were getting farther and farther from shore. Then, a thick fog spread out and covered everything, and you disappeared into it."

Zu An was dumbstruck. He hadn't expected that to be what they saw on their end. Next, he gave them a rough explanation of what had happened; the three women's expressions all changed when they heard how dangerous it was.

"Were you hurt?" Yu Yanluo asked. She quickly inspected Zu An, while the two other women also looked at him nervously. They hadn't known it was that dangerous, which was why they had assumed that he wasn't injured at all when they saw he hadn't been bitten by the monster.

Zu An shrugged and said, "I'm really fine. I was just a bit shaken up, but I'm thick-skinned and recovered quickly."

Yan Xuehen let go of his wrist and said, "Your energies are a bit turbulent, but your life force is still strong. Your regenerative ability really is great." She suddenly recalled his endless stamina and couldn't help but blush.

Yun Jianyue was a bit puzzled. She asked, "Stone cold woman, what is your face getting all red for?" She had noticed that Yan Xuehen's face had been turning red a bit too often recently.

"My face is not red at all," Yan Xuehen said guiltily in denial, and quickly changed the topic. "Right, what do you think about what Ah Zu just said?"

Sure enough, Yun Jianyue's attention shifted and she said, "There are two possibilities. The first is that for some unknown reason, Little An was influenced by something, such as some poison in the mist that made him experience an illusion..."

Zu An shook his head and said, "That was definitely not an illusion. I'm certain of that. Furthermore, with my constitution, being poisoned isn't easy at all."

"In that case, it can only be the other possibility, which is that the Weak Water was brought about by the will of the world. It isn't something truly tangible, similar to our domains. Based on what you just explained, that was just to stop you from crossing the Weak Water," Yun Jianyue said with a grave expression.

"Right," Yan Xuehen said with a nod. "This explains why, even though we could clearly see that there was a river on that mountain, it was wider than a sea when we tried to cross it. If I am not mistaken, even if you had enough strength to break through that giant wave, there would never be an end in sight no matter how long you flew for."

"Can something like that exist?" Zu An asked, stunned. "Is there a solution to this then?"

Yan Xuehen shook her head and said, "Not unless your strength can exceed the will of this world and break free from the natural laws, or you find the sliver of life."

"Sliver of life?" Yu Yanluo asked in confusion.

Yun Jianyue explained, "If we look at the well-known fifty great daos, forty-nine overflow from the heavens, but one path of life remains. There are no dangerous situations without any way out, because that would be meaningless. Right now, we should give up on crossing this Weak Water and should instead find the way out."

As she listened, Yu Yanluo felt overwhelmed with admiration and ashamed of her inferiority. As expected of grandmasters, their knowledge was far above her own.

Zu An thought of something and exclaimed, "The Yayu!"

The grandmasters nodded and replied, "That was what we were thinking of too. Not even a feather can float in this Weak Water, and yet this Yayu can move through it freely. That is clearly something strange and should be a tip for us."

Zu An suddenly made the connection and said, "It looks as if this is the first trial of the path Shun spoke of. There's just one problem right now. That guy is hiding in the Weak Water. Will we be able to deal with it?"

Yu Yanluo suggested, "Ah Zu, aren't you close to water? You can try in the shallows of the coast, and see if you can enter the water."

If Zu An could do that, things would become much easier whether they had to face the Yayu or not.

"Okay!" Zu An replied with a nod.

That was what he'd had in mind too. He hadn't dared to try anything when he was in the midst of the river, as he had been scared that he wouldn't be able to get back up if he fell. However, the shore was so shallow that even if something unexpected happened, he would probably be able to deal with it.

He walked over to the water, intending to give it a try, but the three women immediately urged him to fully recover first. He shook his head and said, "My regenerative ability is strong. My injuries have already mostly healed, so I should give it a try first."

The three women saw that they couldn't convince him, so they could only agree. However, they had one request, which was that there had to be defensive measures in place.

"This water is so shallow, is there a need for that?" Zu An asked, looking at the water that was less than two feet deep. He didn't feel that it was necessary.

Yun Jianyue shook her head and said, "What you see might not necessarily be the case. When we looked at it from the mountaintop, the river looked normal, but things were very different when we came closer."

When he heard that, Zu An was convinced. Thus, it was time to decide what kind of protective measures to use.

The others' gazes shifted to Yan Xuehen, leaving her embarrassed and anxious. She exclaimed, "What are you looking at me for?!"

Yun Jianyue tugged at her waistband with a big smile, saying, "We want to use your waistband, of course."

Yan Xuehen's face heated up. She protested, "It is not as if you guys don't have any. Just give him yours!"

"Sigh, but ours don't have your waistband's amazing ability. You've already saved him once anyway, so it's not a big deal to use it again," Yun Jianyue said while pulling on the waistband.

"Ah! Stop moving!" Yan Xuehen cried.

She knew Yun Jianyue was just joking, but she still felt guilty. After all, it was related to Zu An's safety, so in the end, she still removed her waistband and wrapped it around his waist. She held the other end in her hand, saying, "If there is anything strange, tug on this band. I will immediately pull you out."

Zu An nodded toward her with a smile. His expression was something only the two of them understood.

Meanwhile, Yan Xuehen's heart rate quickened. This guy really was daring! He actually dared to tease her in front of the others!

Zu An quickly arrived on the shore. As he felt cautious, he didn't immediately enter the water, but instead cupped his hands to take some of it. There was no poison in the water; apart from being ice-cold, it didn't feel that different from normal water. After testing that out, he then jumped into the shallow waters close to the shore.

However, his expression immediately changed when he entered, as he felt his body become even heavier than a steelyard weight. Additionally, a mysterious force seemed to be dragging him deeper beneath the water.

The women on the shore were shocked. They saw that Zu An had lost his center of gravity and was about to fall. Yan Xuehen quickly tugged the waistband backward, but it quickly slackened. As it happened, the waistband had become extremely frail in the place where it touched the water, and it snapped the moment she used even a little strength to pull on it.

"Ah Zu!"

"Little An!"

Yu Yanluo and Yun Jianyue cried out in alarm. Yan Xuehen felt as if her soul had left her body. She had clearly said that she wanted to distance herself from him, and yet in this instant, she felt as if she were losing her most important thing.

However, she was only stunned for a moment, and she quickly flew toward the water. Yun Jianyue and Yu Yanluo also moved at the same moment, but they didn't have much hope at all. The Weak Water was just too strange. They really didn't feel that there was much hope of saving him.

Suddenly, a bright red silken cloth flew out of the water, but it was still a fair distance away from the women. However, Yan Xuehen was quick to react. With a flip of her wrist, she sent the remaining half of the waistband around her wrist out to wrap around the red silk. She gave it a strong pull, dragging a sorry-looking figure out of the water. Who else could it be but Zu An?

"Ah Zu!" Yu Yanluo exclaimed in happiness and surprise.

Yan Xuehen also sighed in relief. At that instant, she felt as if she had lost something great, but then regained it.

However, before Zu An could feel relieved, his expression changed. He cried, "Be careful!"

A monster with the head of a dragon and the body of a cat suddenly leaped out of the water, biting down on Zu An.

"You came at the perfect time!" Zu An exclaimed. He had already been prepared. If he had still made the same mistake after suffering bitterly once already, he would really be worthless.

He took out the Universe Ring. The band enlarged magically, then smashed into the Yayu's head loudly.

The Yayu's head rang from the force. Just the fact that its head hadn't exploded into a bloody paste immediately proved that it was quite strong. When it saw the three women who were glaring at it like prey, it immediately realized that they weren't good targets to provoke. It seemed to have changed from hunter to prey. As such, it turned at the waist, intending to enter the water again.

Chapter 1415: Gift

However, the women were all powerful cultivators. They quickly reacted to the situation. Yun Jianyue took out her Empress Lantern and shone it on the monster. Those with lower cultivation ranks wouldn't be able to move beneath the Empress Lantern's effects at all. The Yayu was more powerful than that; however, even though it didn't completely freeze under the light's effects, it clearly slowed down a bit.

Yu Yanluo used runes to support the others while releasing a special radiance from her eyes. It was the Medusa's Eye!

A faint earth-yellow tinge covered the Yayu's entire body, as if it had been covered in a layer of stone skin. Its movements became heavy and clumsy. It definitely hadn't expected such sudden developments, making it lose its center of gravity and fall down.

I'll be safe as long as I can get back into the water! it thought.

However, it soon widened its massive eyes in disbelief, because it saw that the Weak Water it was so familiar with actually had begun to freeze into ice. Only then did it notice a woman in white using a skill, causing snowflakes to surround her. The ice was clearly spreading because of her.

It was already too late to change directions, so the Yayu fell heavily on the sheet of ice. Spiderweb-like cracks quickly appeared on the surface.

Yan Xuehen staggered, her complexion pale. The attack had clearly made her feel awful. However, she still gritted her teeth and resolutely controlled the frozen layer, preventing the Yayu from escaping.

Zu An instantly rushed over. The Yin Yang Swords, with the support of the Fire Phoenix and Blue Mallard, drew out a beautiful arc that harmonized yin and yang perfectly. They quickly severed the Yayu's head, and its entire body stiffened. It could no longer hold on and came crashing down on the ice.

The women sighed in relief. They had finally killed the monster!

Yan Xuehen couldn't maintain the frozen surface any longer. It soon melted, and the Yayu's body fell into the Weak Water. They didn't think too much of that, because Zu An had tossed its head ashore. The head was the most important part. There weren't many creatures that could survive after having their heads removed.

"Little An, that slash of yours had a great affinity with the dao. Even I gained some enlightenment, as if I had picked up on some natural laws. Just how did you do that?" Yun Jianyue asked curiously.

Yan Xuehen also stared at him calmly with her beautiful eyes. That wasn't the Snowflake Sword skill; it was more like something he had created himself.

Zu An raised the Yin Yang swords in his hands and said, "That slash was guided by these Yin Yang Swords. I felt a mysterious force emanate from them that helped me complete it."

Seeing the two different glows and attributes of the swords, Yan Xuehen quickly realized what was happening, as a powerful cultivator. She said, "It must be an incredible skill that can only be displayed when forceful and gentle elements join together. You are probably the only one capable of that."

The cultivators of this world were almost always single-element cultivators. Only a freak like Zu An would have so many different elements, and furthermore, opposing ones that clashed with each other.

Zu An said with a smile, "It's actually because of your help that I was able to kill the monster. I didn't expect our teamwork would be so excellent. We didn't need to plan things out beforehand at all."

The women were all stunned. When they thought about it, if any one of them had been missing, or if they had made the wrong decisions, they might not have been able to kill the Yayu. They hadn't expected to be so familiar with each other after traveling together, to the point that their cooperation had already reached such a level.

Zu An looked at Yu Yanluo. The 'buffs' she had granted him were quite considerable, ranging from power, speed, and dexterity; all of those aspects were increased significantly.

Now that I think about it, why doesn't she give me these buffs when we're in bed? Alright, I'll have to tell her to give it a try next time.

Even though Yu Yanluo wasn't able to read what he was thinking, after they had stayed around each other for so long, she could sense a thing or two from his gaze. Her little face immediately turned red. She thought, This guy... There are still those two big sisters here...

Yan Xuehen seemed to have noticed that the two of them were exchanging looks. She said indifferently, "I am going to leave for a bit."

Zu An was stunned. He asked, "Where are you going?"

Yun Jianyue rolled her eyes and replied, "Where else? Of course, it's to change her waistband. It was ruined trying to save you. I really don't know what kinds of properties this Weak Water has. It even has corrosive effects."

"What are you explaining all of that to him for?!" Yan Xuehen exclaimed in embarrassment. After all, talking about her own waistband with a man really was humiliating.

She looked at the remaining half of her waistband in her hand and felt a bit brokenhearted. The item had already accompanied her for many years, and she had always been fond of it. She hadn't expected to lose it here.

Ah, this is bad. I don't think I have any extra waistbands.

After all, that band had been specially made. It was capable of lengthening and shortening, and it remained clean on its own. That was why there had never been any need to prepare any extras. How could she have anticipated such an awkward scenario?

Should I borrow one from the witch? No, wouldn't I be made fun of for that for the rest of my life?

Then what about Yu Yanluo? I don't really want to owe her more favors, though...

She was a bit at a loss for what to do. However, Zu An saw her expression and said with a smile, "Big sis Yan, your waistband was ruined because of me, so of course I have to take responsibility. How about this? This Primal Skysilk can also lengthen and shorten, and to a certain extent, it's quite similar to your waistband. You can just use it for that."

The three women's eyes immediately widened when they heard that. Yun Jianyue couldn't take it anymore and exclaimed, "You're giving away a heaven-grade weapon so easily just like that? And to be treated as a waistband? Isn't this basically a betrothal gift?!"

Yan Xuehen exclaimed in shame and annoyance, "Witch, what kind of nonsense are you saying?"

This guy, really... If you do that in front of those two, isn't that basically exposing our relationship?

Yun Jianyue gave her an unexpected look, saying, "I'm saying that it's a betrothal gift for your disciple Chuyan. Don't tell me you thought it was for you? Keep dreaming. Like hell a stone cold woman like you could get married."

Yan Xuehen's face turned completely red. She really had thought that Yun Jianyue was talking about her. How could she admit to that, though? She said, "Of course I know that you are talking about Chuyan, but I have not agreed to that marriage yet. Just a band alone, being enough to give away my precious disciple? There is no way it could be that easy."

Yun Jianyue retorted in annoyance, "A heaven-grade weapon still isn't enough? Does your disciple come encrusted with diamonds?"

Yan Xuehen was furious. She exclaimed, "Witch, what are you saying?!"

Yu Yanluo quickly stepped forward to mediate the situation, saying, "Big sis Yan, since this is Ah Zu's sincerity, you should just take it."

There shouldn't be anything between Ah Zu and her, right? Otherwise, why would he give her such an important gift in such an overt manner?

They shouldn't have... Right?

Zu An looked at Yan Xuehen with a gentle smile, saying, "Exactly, just take it. Otherwise, I won't feel too good."

Yan Xuehen felt her heart pound crazily when she saw his expression. She was worried that further rejections would make her look guilty, so she could only say, "Fine then. Out of favor for your... for your filial piety, I will reluctantly accept."

Look at this woman saying and feeling completely different things, Zu An thought. He used the momentum to say, "In that case, let me help you put it on then." Then, without waiting for her to say anything, he walked up to her and moved his arms around behind her to 'air hug' her. Then, he tied the Primal Skysilk around her waist.

When she sensed his movements and realized that she could even clearly sense the warmth of his fingers touching the skin around her waist, Yan Xuehen's entire body stiffened. She didn't dare move, and her heart pounded. At that moment, her strongest emotion wasn't bashfulness; rather, she was worried that Yun Jianyue and Yu Yanluo would notice something off about their relationship.

Fortunately, Zu An didn't take too much time and quickly tied up the Primal Skysilk. He said, praising his own work, "This looks great. The fiery redness adds a bit of liveliness to your look."

"Red looks absolutely awful. It does not match my clothes at all," Yan Xuehen harrumphed and replied instinctively.

"I can't take this anymore! Stone cold woman, you're already getting so many benefits, and yet you're still acting like this?!" Yun Jianyue exclaimed, feeling upset. She asked, "Little An, you gave her something, but what about me?"

Suddenly, Yu Yanluo cried out in alarm, "The Yayu's head disappeared!"

Chapter 1416: Endless Revival

"What?" The others jumped in fright and looked at where the Yayu's head had once been. Sure enough, they saw nothing there.

"Did the head flee back into the Weak Water on its own?" Zu An wondered, stunned. This was the first time he had ever seen such a thing happening with a severed head. It was way too weird.

"No," Yu Yanluo said, shaking her head. Her complexion was a bit pale as she continued, hesitantly looking for a suitable word, "The head didn't return to the Weak Water. Instead, it seemed to have just... melted away."

"Melted?" The others replied, shocked. They really couldn't understand what jad happened.

"Could it be that the Yayu was created from the Weak Water? So when it died, it just melted away?" Yu Yanluo wondered.

Yan Xuehen said with a frown, "Could it be that the Yayu did not die at all?"

"I don't think that's too likely. Even its head was removed, and we saw that with our own eyes. It shouldn't have been a fake," Yun Jianyue said, shaking her head.

They talked for a long time, but in the end, they weren't able to confirm whether the Yayu was dead or alive.

...

The conversation quickly returned to the previous subject. Yun Jianyue said, "Little An, you still didn't say what you were giving me."

Zu An's expression stiffened. He quickly suggested, "Then how about I just give you these Yin Yang Swords? You were praising them not too long ago."

"Hmph, forget it. I'm not like you, someone who can use yin and yang energies at the same time," Yun Jianyue said, her expression darkening. "Even if I could, these swords don't suit me as well as my Crescent Ring. Just keep them on you."

Zu An began to sweat buckets. He offered, "Then why not just pick something from here?" He took out all of his treasures apart from the Tai'e Sword that Mi Li stayed in and the Poisonous Prick that was already bound to him, letting her pick freely.

However, not only was Yun Jianyue not happy at all, she even became upset and said, "You don't have a shred of sincerity. I don't want that stuff."

You have successfully trolled Yun Jianyue for +488 +488 +488...

Yan Xuehen felt great when she saw how upset Yun Jianyue was. Ah Zu does treat me differently. Keep angering that witch!

Zu An hadn't expected Yun Jianyue to become so angry, but he reacted quickly and said, "You're right, I don't have anything suitable for you. How about this? If I find something that's suitable for you in the future, I'll definitely give it to you immediately."

Yun Jianyue's mood changed from annoyance to happiness. She said, "That's more like it. I didn't treat you so well for nothing after all."

After appeasing her, Zu An sighed in relief, but a moment later, he received another huge batch of Rage points from Yan Xuehen. He really wanted to cry, yet no tears came out.

He finally understood why the dating simulators in his previous world had so many different routes, and why it was rare to be able to follow all of them. As expected, choosing one route meant having to give up on another one.

Just then, a roar suddenly emerged from the Weak Water. When the group turned around, they once again saw the Yayu appear in a wave of water, baring its fangs at them. They were all stunned. It really hadn't died?

The Yayu seemed to be angry that it had been plotted against and killed so easily. That was why this time, it didn't hesitate to sweep its tail. An endless stream of water arrows flowed from the Weak Water and flew toward the group.

The group instinctively evaded the Yayu's ferocious attack. When the water arrows landed on the large rocks on the shore, they quickly pierced through the rocks, and the holes left behind seemed to be growing larger over time.

"This water has corrosive properties!" Yan Xuehen cried out in alarm. She finally understood why her waistband had broken.

Zu An was filled with curiosity, saying, "I've touched this water before, though. Why was it fine?"

"It is either because your poison immunity paired with your tough body allows you to resist its corrosive nature, or that the ki of high-level cultivators can resist this Weak Water, preventing it from touching their skin," Yan Xuehen said quickly.

They all suddenly realized that, no matter which of them it was, touching the water arrows directly with their bodies wouldn't be a wise choice.

They were all some of the world's strongest individuals, however. After evading the arrows, they began their counterattack. While Yun Jianyue used the Empress Lantern, she also sent the Crescent Ring flying; it turned into a streak of moonlight that flew toward the Yayu's waist.

The Yayu had just suffered from the Empress Lantern a little while before, so how could it repeat that disastrous event? It struck outward with its sharp claws, sending a surge of Weak Water to block the light. Then, it twisted its body, barely avoiding the fatal moonbeam.

Just then, Yu Yanluo unfolded a scroll. Countless golden-armored soldiers charged forth from it to restrain the Yayu's limbs. However, the Yayu roared in fury. It shook its body powerfully, completely shaking off the soldiers.

Yan Xuehen also made her move at the same time. She unfurled the Primal Skysilk Zu An had just given her, sending it out to bind the monster's leg. Then, with a flick of her wrist, she pulled it ashore.

The Yayu screamed in anger. It tried to pry away the Primal Skysilk wrapped around its leg several times, but even though the Skysilk looked like thin cloth, it was extremely sturdy. It didn't suffer any damage no matter what the Yayu did.

This time, Zu An didn't only use the Yin Yang Swords, however. He also used the Violetflame Snake Pike, Universe Ring, and the other heaven-grade weapons together. He even took out the Poisonous Prick. With so many treasures aimed at it, how could the Yayu withstand the assault? It was nailed to the shore by the weapons.

However, none of the group relaxed yet. Instead, they surrounded the Yayu with serious expressions. Meanwhile, the Yayu's limbs flailed around powerlessly. In the end, it no longer moved, and it closed its copper-like eyes.

"Did it die for sure this time?" Yun Jianyue asked with a happy expression. She thought to herself, Was it because its body entered the Weak Water that it had a chance to revive? Now, its body is nailed to the shore. It shouldn't be able to revive again, right?

However, her smile quickly froze, because the Yayu seemed to have turned into a formless puddle of water. Its massive body disappeared, just like that. Even though Yan Xuehen tried to freeze the water with her Snowflake Sword along the way, it didn't do anything. The Yayu's body completely melted away.

"What's going on?!" Yun Jianyue cried. "Will it just keep reviving like that?"

Her confusion was quickly met with a response. The Yayu controlled the Weak Water once more and roared at the party. It was clearly still brooding over its earlier experiences.

"I refuse to believe that you can't be killed!" Yun Jianyue exclaimed, starting to become furious. She began to use all sorts of skills.

Zu An and the others coordinated with her, killing the Yayu once more. Once again, however, it disappeared right before their eyes, then revived in the Weak Water not long afterward. This time, it had learned its lesson and was much more cautious. It didn't rashly advance toward Zu An's party, but instead remained in the Weak Water. It faced them while barking like a dog.

"Why don't you come up here?" Zu An taunted it with a provocative look.

The Yayu brandished its claws and looked at them with a taunting expression, as if to retort, Why don't you come over here instead if you have the skills?!

Zu An laughed out of sheer irritation. Still, he had the perfect skill to use against such a stubborn thing. As such, he activated the skill 'Fragrant Barf' against it.

The Yayu's eyes immediately turned completely red. It felt great rage burn with it, as if it had to kill this guy in order to feel better. It charged forth, spitting angrily.

However, due to the two grandmasters' various skills, as well as Yu Yanluo's amazing support and Zu An's fiendish strength, the Yayu was quickly killed once again. This time, Yan Xuehen used some special evil exorcism runes.

Unfortunately, the monster still disappeared right before their eyes before being reborn again. Afterward, the Yayu bared its fangs at them a few times before conceding its defeat and entering the Weak Water, not showing itself again for fear that it would be hit by Zu An's taunting skill again.

Now, Zu An's group was in a predicament. What were they supposed to do now that this guy wouldn't come out anymore? This Weak Water was just way too strange. They didn't dare to go down there!

Chapter 1417: Red Eyes Deep Underwater

Zu An's Fragrant Barf would make the target forget everything else and attack Zu An. It was a skill he normally didn't dare to use willfully. However, he hadn't expected that after he used it, the skill would be undone as soon as the monster died and came back to life.

After that, no matter how the group taunted it, the Yayu no longer took the bait, continuing to hide inside the Weak Water. Zu An even flew over the Weak Water several times, making it easier for it to attack him, but the Yayu wasn't tempted at all.

All of them felt powerless. They looked at each other in dismay, wondering, "What do we do now?"

"Should we follow the river and see if we can make our way around the Weak Water?" Yu Yanluo suggested.

Yun Jianyue shook her head and said, "That won't work. This Weak Water is definitely strange. It'll probably just extend as we move, so we won't be able to make our way around it."

Yan Xuehen actually agreed with Yun Jianyue. She added, "Additionally, this is the first trial Shun mentioned. If we do not solve it, it will be meaningless even if we do make a detour around this place."

Zu An asked seriously, "Why do you think it can revive endlessly?"

Yan Xuehen thought for a bit before saying, "It does not seem like a normal creature to me. It might be an incarnation of this Weak Water's essence."

"Are you really going to make such a ridiculous assumption? Based on what you're saying, if we can't get rid of this Weak Water, we can't deal with this monster?" Yun Jianyue replied doubtfully. "I think dealing with the Weak Water would be countless times harder than dealing with this monster. There's no reason to try to solve an easier problem with a more difficult solution."

Zu An said, "This Yayu definitely isn't a living object. I used the Poisonous Prick, but there was no reaction. It's clearly not a living thing. It's more likely to be a departed spirit of some sort."

"You're right. I could sense strong resentment coming from it when we fought earlier," Yun Jianyue said with a frown. "Why do we keep running into these things filled with resentment? That Taowu from earlier was also like this."

Yu Yanluo cried out in alarm, "Then doesn't that mean the Taowu can also revive endlessly?"

"That might not be the case. Even though both are full of resentment, the feeling they give off is a bit different," Yan Xuehen said. "The Taowu is already at the earth immortal rank, so killing it is extremely difficult. However, if it is killed, it will not be easy for it to revive either. Earth immortals are all connected to the natural laws of the world. The amount of natural ki they need is much greater. If they could revive endlessly, this world would be unable to support it."

Zu An thought for a moment before saying, "According to what Shun said before, the Taowu was a monster created after Gun's death. This Yayu doesn't seem like a reincarnation, though, but rather..." He paused, thinking for a while before coming up with a suitable description, "...something like a mutated zombie."

Yan Xuehen was stunned. She quickly said, "You are right. I could sense what you are describing too. There was a corpse-like energy emanating from its body. No wonder we were unable to eliminate it after all this time."

"It looks quite agile, though. It's completely different from the zombies we've encountered before," Yu Yanluo said with a frown.

With their cultivation and identity, they had naturally encountered such sinister creatures before. Even though they were physically powerful, they were often lacking in intelligence, so they weren't too hard to deal with. Just then, however, the Yayu had behaved extremely intelligently, to the extent that it could see through the traps they had set up. It just stayed in the Weak Water without coming out no matter what.

"Regardless, this is a breakthrough," Yun Jianyue said excitedly. "Stone cold woman, do you have any peach wood swords or black dog blood, or anything like that?"

"Why would I have those things on me?" Yan Xuehen asked, stunned.

"Your White Jade Sect is a daoist sect. Aren't those weird talismans and exorcism rituals things you like to do?" Yun Jianyue replied, as if that were just how things were.

Yan Xuehen was speechless. She eventually replied, "You are a glorious grandmaster, so why do you believe such things like some countryside woman?"

"The daoist sects can't even do something like that? Sigh..." Yun Jianyue replied bitterly.

Yan Xuehen furrowed her brows and snapped, "Witch, are you really picking a fight with me right now?"

Yu Yanluo was starting to get a headache. These two really never stopped fighting! She quickly said, "Since it is a corpse, why not usse fire to see if we can restrain it?"

Yan Xuehen shook her head and said, "Normal zombies might fear fire, but at the Yayu's level, it likely does not fear water or fire."

"Normal fire wouldn't work, but what about that White Lotus Flame Little An got not too long ago?" Yun Jianyue replied.

Yan Xuehen didn't reject the proposal, saying, "That is worth a try."

Zu An thought for a bit. I do specialize in getting rid of ghosts, but I don't know if it's effective on zombies...

Then, however, they came back to the question of how to draw out the Yayu. Zu An said, "Since it's too scared to come out, I'll go down to find it!"

The three women immediately blurted out at the same time, "No, it's too dangerous!"

"It's actually not that dangerous," Zu An said while thinking to himself. "The scariest part of the Weak Water is that we don't know much about it. However, I already went into the water earlier, and I've seen how powerful it is. I'm already mentally prepared for it."

"According to what you said earlier, though, you become incredibly heavy as soon as your body enters the Weak Water. How will you come back up?" Yan Xuehen asked worriedly.

Zu An looked at the fiery red waistband tied around her waist and replied, "Don't we have that? We already tested it out and saw that the Weak Water's corrosion was ineffective against the Primal Skysilk. Besides, the Primal Skysilk can lengthen and contract, so if there are any issues, you can just pull me up."

The three women actually felt that the plan was feasible when they heard Zu An's idea. They weren't girls raised in pampered chambers. They knew they couldn't just be trapped like this and that some risk was acceptable.

Yun Jianyue shoved the Empress Lantern into Zu An's hands, saying, "Little An, you probably don't know how to use the Crescent Ring, so just take this with you. It might not be enough to stop the Yayu, but it can at least restrict its movements to some degree."

Almost at the same time, Yan Xuehen gave him her Flying Snow Sword and said, "This sword can be used to unleash the Snowflake Sword with greater efficacy. You will be able to use ice powers more easily underwater."

The two women were stunned when they saw each other's actions. Whether it was the Empress Lantern or the Flying Snow Sword, each was respectively their most precious treasure and never left their bodies. Who would have thought that one day they would both be lent out, and furthermore to the same man? Still, both of them understood the severity of the issue at hand, so they didn't bicker for once.

Zu An was a bit stunned, but he didn't act pretentiously. He took the items and said, "Thank you, big sisters."

Yu Yanluo also walked over, then got on her toes and kissed him. When their lips separated, there was a smooth and cool pearl in Zu An's mouth.

"Carry the Holy Pearl with you. It contains endless power. I hope it can protect you," Yu Yanluo said, blushing as they separated. Even though others called it Lord Sui's Pearl, as a Snake race descendant, she still liked the name Holy Pearl more.

Yun Jianyue and Yan Xuehen's eyes both widened when they saw how forward Yu Yanluo was being. However, both of them had been saved by the pearl back on Feather Mountain, so they quickly realized what she was doing.

Even so, Yun Jianyue still couldn't help but mutter, "Look at these two, showing so much public affection."

Yan Xuehen's beautiful brows furrowed slightly. She thought to herself, Why are you acting all intimate in front of us on purpose? Are you asserting your importance as his main partner or something?

However, she quickly stopped worrying about that, telling herself that it had nothing to do with her. When had she become filled with random thoughts, just like some simple-minded young woman?

After a while, she tied the Primal Skysilk around Zu An's body. Yun Jianyue couldn't help but chuckle, saying, "You actually made our Goddess Yan undress three times. Little An, you really are the first one to do something like that."

Yan Xuehen had already recovered her composure after being provoked by Yun Jianyue repeatedly. She retorted, "If you were asked to undress to save him, could it be that you would refuse?"

Yun Jianyue was suddenly at a loss for words. If she said she wouldn't, then that would affect her relationship with Zu An, and she would be lying to herself. As for admitting it... That was even more impossible for her. When had this stone cold woman become so clever and eloquent?

Zu An obviously wouldn't be so senseless as to get involved in their dispute. He gave the three women a signal, then jumped into the water. Sure enough, he felt his body becoming incredibly heavy as he went down. He quickly sank downward, and the light around him became visibly dimmer.

Just then, two giant red eyes suddenly lit up in the distance.

Chapter 1418: Human Face, Snake Body

Zu An noticed the eyes, and looked vigilantly in their direction. He still had the Blue Mallard ability; even though he couldn't move as naturally in the Weak Water as he could in normal water, it was still much easier for him than it was for other people.

However, to his surprise, the red eyes quickly disappeared. The enemy had gone into hiding on purpose; it was clearly waiting until Zu An went even deeper before ambushing him.

You want to use the darkness to ambush me? Zu An thought, his expression turning extremely strange.

The Weak Water was the Yayu's domain. Even in the darkest depths where there was no light, it could still rely on its sense of smell and the water currents to identify Zu An's position. Meanwhile, if a human couldn't see, they were no better than meat on a chopping board.

When it recalled how it had been beaten so shamelessly and miserably by the human and its companions, and thought about how the human would now be forced into a one-on-one in this Weak Water, there was no way it wouldn't get revenge.

Alright, the light is already growing dim... Let me sense where he is now.

Huh? Why can't I sense him at all?!

The Yayu was shocked, to the point that it thought that Zu An had already returned to shore. However, it quickly rejected the idea, because it had been paying attention to the human the entire time. There

was no way it could have failed to notice if he really had returned to shore. That wasn't even accounting for the fact that it was easy to enter the Weak Water, but leaving definitely wasn't as easy.

The Yayu swam to and fro in search of its target, but even after searching a huge area, it didn't find a single hair of the human. It was as if he had vanished into thin air. It had already gotten excited thinking about its revenge, but after the human disappeared, it became more and more annoyed.

Meanwhile, Zu An hid in the darkness, silently observing the situation. He had already seen through the monster's intentions, but since he had the Hidden in the Dark skill, the darkness was naturally more favorable to him. In absolute darkness, not even an earth immortal could detect his existence, let alone the Yayu. Of course, he didn't blindly attack, but rather patiently waited for an opportunity.

Perhaps because of Lord Sui's Pearl, he felt as if his senses were many times sharper than before. Even in the dark, he could clearly sense everything around him. He sensed that the Yayu was getting more and more frustrated because it couldn't find him.

Over time, however, the current of water around the Yayu's body drew closer and closer. When it reached a mere few meters from Zu An, he suddenly moved.

The Yayu sensed that something was off. It quickly turned around to flee, but a chill surrounded its body. Zu An stabbed the Flying Snow Sword into the riverbed, and as the sword's sharp tip pierced into its depths, large amounts of the water began to freeze into ice at a visible rate, as if forming into an ice storm.

The Yayu was about to turn around and fight Zu An when it saw that its escape route was sealed off. Then, however, it saw a lamp light up. It had suffered considerably because of that lamp before, so it was quite alarmed to see it. Had the white-clothed woman and the long-haired woman also arrived?

While the Yayu's body was affected by the Empress Lantern, Zu An took out the Universe Ring and smashed it against the monster's head, making it confused and dizzy. He wasn't in a rush to take its life, and instead sealed it in place with the Snowflake Sword. Then, he trapped it with the Primal Skysilk.

Meanwhile, back on the shore, Yan Xuehen sensed the Primal Skysilk moving. She quickly pulled it toward the shore.

When they saw that Zu An had dragged the Yayu up so quickly, the three women were stunned. Wasn't this guy a bit too strong?

After returning the Empress Lantern, Flying Snow Sword, and Lord Sui's Pearl to the three women, Zu An stood in front of the Yayu. He took out the White Lotus Flame, saying, "I couldn't kill you with weapons before, so let's give the White Lotus Flame's power a try."

At first, there was disdain in the Yayu's eyes, but then it quickly put on a look of immense fear.

Zu An laughed in annoyance, saying, "I hadn't expected you to be capable of these kinds of tricks."

Yan Xuehen said, "At such a high level of cultivation, creatures naturally develop sentience. Of course, that is when it comes to normal creatures. As for this monster, it is hard to say."

"Can you speak?" Zu An asked the Yayu directly. However, the monster stared at him with its large copper eyes and didn't respond.

Yun Jianyue said, "Since we can't kill it, let's just not do that and keep it prisoner instead. We'll make it go through all manner of suffering, but we won't let it die. Our Holy Sect has many forms of torture that are even worse than death by a thousand cuts. Should I give it a try?" She had an eager look on her face as she spoke. There was a strange glint in her eyes.

The Yayu looked at her, thinking. What a ruthless woman.

Zu An laughed and said, "I just happen to have some good ways to punish those who live forever. For example, I could throw this guy into a concrete sarcophagus and let it sink to the bottom of the ocean, trapping it in eternal darkness forever. Or maybe a volcano would be pretty good. It would be burned to death by the lava, and once it revived, it would be swallowed up again. Also..."

He had watched so many strange movies in the past that he really did have quite a bit of confidence in that regard.

Yun Jianyue got even more excited when she heard that. She felt that her methods could inflict more physical pain, but Zu An's were psychological attacks. They began to exchange all sorts of torture-related knowledge.

Yan Xuehen and Yu Yanluo looked at each other in dismay. Even though Zu An was a bit perverted, he was still a decent person all around. Yan Xuehen absolutely couldn't let the witch bring him down the wrong path. She thought to herself that she had to properly lead him back to the righteous way.

After the two talked for a bit, they saw that even though the Yayu was shaking a bit, it didn't react all that much otherwise.

As such, Zu An's expression turned serious. He said, "In that case, then I'll just send you off."

"How?" Yan Xuehen asked, stunned. This thing clearly couldn't be killed.

Zu An said with a bashful smile, "Even though I'm not from the orthodox sects, I just happen to be proficient in some evil exorcism methods."

As such, he used the purification skill of the Primordial Origin Sutra, chanting, "Dust to dust, earth to earth. Those who ought to depart, do not remain..."

As he spoke these words, a large hand appeared from what appeared to be the world of spirits. It pulled out what looked like a soul from the Yayu's body. Shockingly, however, it didn't have a dragon head and cat body, but rather a human face and a snake body.

The group exchanged a look. They had seen such a creature before, in the Shaoxian Mountain temple. However, the two had different faces. Had the Yayu's face been distorted after it turned into a monster?

Zu An couldn't help but ask, "Were you the one the temple was worshiping? What is your name?"

The soul struggled at first, but when it heard that, it became even more enraged and agitated. It roared angrily, "Er Fu![1]"

"Er Fu?" The group suddenly realized that the second character that was missing on that temple placard had to be 'Fu'! The character that was supposed to follow would likely mean 'temple' or something.

"You... You're all just as hateful as Er Fu. You're even more treacherous than Wei! Ahhhhh!" The humanfaced snake-bodied soul roared in anger, and all of the Weak Water surged. Endless waves crashed down on the shore.

At that instant, the three women finally understood what Zu An meant when he had told them about his experience flying above the river. They didn't have any time to bother with the Yayu's corpse, and quickly ran up Shaoxian Mountain.

The Weak Water's waves crashed down on the Yayu's body. The human-faced snake-bodied soul emitted waves of light, gradually freeing itself from the large, transparent hand. Meanwhile, the hand broke apart, eventually disappearing into nothing.

Zu An's eyes were about to pop out. He hadn't expected the Primordial Origin Sutra to actually fail! He had already gone through many things by now, so he quickly realized that it was probably related to the flaws in the laws of the world. That was why the Primordial Origin Sutra's purification effects were incomplete.

However, he didn't have any time to think about those things, because the Weak Water was still climbing higher. It quickly covered most of the mountain. The group felt alarmed. At this rate, the entire mountain would be completely covered soon afterward. They would also be completely swept up into the Weak Water. Even though with their cultivation, they would likely be fine for some time, there was no one to bail them out. Leaving the Weak Water would be difficult.

When they withdrew to the temple, however, they were surprised to discover that the Weak Water actually couldn't reach it, and came to a stop three feet beneath the temple.

"Er Fu! Wei!" The Yayu roared at the temple. Its face contorted, seemingly full of overwhelming hatred. Regardless of how much force it exerted, however, the tattered temple remained unfazed.

Zu An suddenly thought of something. He looked at the three women and asked, "Do you remember that missing sculpture in the chief position? Isn't the star diagram where the statue should be the Roof constellation?"

Chapter 1419: Celestial Emperor

"Yes, that is the Roof constellation," the women replied. They were intelligent enough to quickly recall that, when the Yayu had shouted two names, one was Er Fu, and the other was Wei.

Zu An said seriously, "It seems those two are its enemies. On the other hand, the Weak Water has never been able to cover this temple. It's clear that due to certain laws, this Yayu is restrained by the temple. Perhaps it's never even entered it before, let alone found out what happened inside. If I remove Wei and Er Fu's statues inside, it might actually do something."

Yan Xuehen said worriedly, "At the moment, however, it seems to be precisely because of this temple's existence that this Weak Water has not completely covered the mountain yet. If we remove the statues and ruin the layout, what if it does not get the result we want, but instead strips us of that protection?"

Zu An looked at the overflowing Weak Water. He said with a serious expression, "Even if we fail, we'll just be swept up by the Weak Water. We might still be able to escape. On the contrary, if we don't do

anything and are trapped here forever, we might never be able to solve this trial. That also means we'll never be able to leave this dungeon."

Yan Xuehen suddenly became a bit absent-minded. Staying in this dungeon forever might be okay too... At least I won't have to deal with all of that secular stuff outside anymore, and all of those strange relationships and expectations...

Yun Jianyue said, "I approve of Little An's suggestion. Fortune favors the bold. Besides, since Wei was hanged that way, he clearly did something deserving of punishment."

Yu Yanluo also expressed her approval. Yan Xuehen naturally couldn't say anything else.

Soon afterward, Zu An ran into the temple and brought out the statue named Wei, showing it to the Yayu. "Is this that Wei you were talking about? I don't know what kind of grudge you two had, but back then, he was punished properly too."

"Wei!" When the Yayu saw the statue, its eyes almost cracked apart. It circled around the statue repeatedly without stopping. "Hahahah! Who would've thought that you would end up like this!" it exclaimed. The Yayu seemed to have not spoken for a long time, so its voice was extremely difficult to make out in the beginning. After a short time, though, its speech became relatively clear.

Suddenly, it pounced on the statue and opened its mouth, swallowing it up. The group looked at each other in dismay. It even ate a statue, just like that? Just how deep of a grudge did it have?!

The Yayu alternated between laughing and crying, as if it had gone mad. After some time, however, it stared at the temple and cried, "Er Fu, did you think you could appease my resentment by punishing him? The one who killed me back then was you!"

When Zu An heard that, he returned to the temple, and loud rumbling emerged from the interior. Soon afterward, he returned with heavy footsteps. He had actually removed the main statue by force!

It was thanks to his cultivation that he had so much strength. Otherwise, there really wouldn't be any way he could bring such a huge statue over to the Yayu.

"Er Fu!" When it saw the human-faced snake-bodied statue, the Yayu's eyes widened and it let out a furious roar.

Zu An said calmly, "I've brought you the main culprit. You can get your revenge if you want."

The Yayu roared and threw itself at the statue. The group watched expectantly. The statue was so huge; they wondered, how was the Yayu going to eat it?

However, they were disappointed. The Yayu hesitated after opening its mouth, and didn't devour the statue. Instead, it tore at the statue with its claws. Soon, the statue was already damaged beyond recognition. Then, the Yayu roared again and again, and its tail swept around like a long whip, smashing the tattered temple to pieces.

When it saw the ruins of Er Fu's statue and the pile of rubble that was once the tattered temple, the Yayu's sinister and twisted expression gradually faded. Waves of black smoke scattered from its body, and rays of sunlight began to seep through the clouds. The roaring Weak Water began to withdraw at a visible rate, quickly regaining its original appearance.

Just then, all of the black energy around the Yayu began to disperse. A human-faced snake-bodied soul slowly rose from its body; it was the same one Zu An had been about to purify. It no longer bore any traces of past hatred; on the contrary, its expression looked extremely peaceful, as if it were just a kind elder. It said, "Thank you for saving me, allowing me to fully break free."

The three women all sighed in relief. Fortunately, the worst-case scenario hadn't happened.

Zu An cupped his hands and asked, "What is your respected self's name? Is it Ya Yu[1]?"

The figure shook its head and said, "No, I am Yayu (窫窳)."

Only when it wrote out its name did the group finally know how to write it. They were speechless. There's actually such a strange name as this?

"Just what is going on? Why did you become that Yayu monster?" Zu An asked curiously. In truth, he was actually curious as to why Yayu had such a deep grudge against Er Fu and Wei, but he was scared that asking about them would provoke it again, so he didn't mention that directly.

The translucent figure sighed again and said, "In the end, it is because fate toyed with us. Back then, Er Fu and I were both human-faced snake-bodied beings. I was somewhat calmer, and I had more affinity with the people. Meanwhile, Er Fu was fiercer and loved slaughter. That was why people often compared the two of us.

"Er Fu was naturally unhappy with that. If that were all, it would not have been that big of a deal, but Er Fu had a subordinate named Wei. That person was extremely good at sowing discord among people. I offended him in the past, and he always had a grudge against me. That was why he always tried to incite disharmony between me and Er Fu.

"Er Fu had been unhappy to begin with. After Wei's provocation, they found a chance to ambush me together, killing me."

"Is that why after you died, your resentment turned you into that Yayu monster?" Yu Yanluo asked.

The translucent figure shook its head and replied, "That was not what happened. Back then, I did die. When the Celestial Emperor learned of that, however, out of pity for my benevolent nature and unjust death, he had someone use an immortal medicine to save me..."

"An immortal medicine?" the group all repeated in surprise. They hadn't expected to find clues regarding an immortal medicine here, and a surviving user of one at that! Yayu really must have been saved after all.

Zu An asked, "Who is the Celestial Emperor you speak of?"

"The Celestial Emperor is the Celestial Emperor. Who else could it be?" The translucent figure gave him a strange look, as if it couldn't understand why he would ask such a question.

Zu An tried to explain himself. However, the figure shook its head and said, "I do not know if it is because my soul is flawed, causing me to lose some of my memories, or if it is for some other reason. However, I do not know the Celestial Emperor's name. I only know that since ancient times, that has always been what people called him."

Zu An and the others sighed. They all wondered just what kind of existence the Celestial Emperor was. Could he really be the emperor of the immortals in the heavens above? Just how terrifying was his strength, then?

The figure continued, "After I was saved, though, I was unable to retain my original appearance. In a muddle-headed daze, I fell into the Weak Water and became the Yayu monster. Because hatred and resentment filled my soul, the Yayu's nature was completely different from mine. It was fierce and cruel, tormenting the people wherever it went. Now, I am fortunate enough to have received your help, which has completely freed me from that nightmarish cycle."

Zu An and the others suddenly felt a chill run down their backs. Zu An asked, "Wait, you're saying that you ate an immortal medicine, but then even though you survived, you ended up becoming that monster that lost its mind?"

Chapter 1420: Three Times Stronger than Yi

The translucent figure was briefly stunned. It said, "That was probably because of the Weak Water. Immortal medicines are well known for their prowess, so how could they produce such a side effect?"

The others had strange expressions. Hadn't this guy just said that he became muddle-headed after he ate the immortal medicine, and that was why he fell into the Weak Water? As for whether he became a monster because of the immortal medicine or the Weak Water, however, it was hard to say.

"Was the immortal medicine you ate from the Queen Mother of the West?" Yun Jianyue quickly asked. That was the very item Shun had used to entice them. If there was something wrong with it, didn't it mean Shun had ulterior motives?

The figure shook its head and replied, "That, I do not know. I was already dead at the time, and it was an immortal medicine bestowed by the Celestial Emperor. I do not know if it came from the Queen Mother of the West."

"If you were already dead back then, how did you know that it was the Celestial Emperor's immortal medicine that saved you?" Yan Xuehen asked, keenly sensing an issue.

"I..." The figure was about to reply, but it suddenly clutched its head and said, "I do not know. I think someone told me, but who was that person? Ahhh... I cannot think of the answer at all."

When he saw its expression of pain, Zu An was worried that it could turn into a demon again. He quickly said, "If you can't think of it, it doesn't matter. Do you know how to cross the Weak Water?"

Inwardly, however, he was also curious about who had told it that. He thought, Why do I sense a sinister plot behind all of this?

With its attention diverted, the figure gradually calmed down. It replied, "The Weak Water cannot be crossed. However, because I was born from the Weak Water, I can carry you all across." Then, it once again transformed into the Yayu. It swam to the shore, exposing its back to them.

"How can we make you do something like that?" Zu An asked, feeling a bit embarrassed. After all, Yayu wasn't a monster, but actually a person. Using it as a mount really felt weird.

"You have completely set me free. I do not even have enough time to thank you, so what is the issue with carrying you all over?" Yayu said. There wasn't a single trace of hatefulness left in its demeanor.

They couldn't turn down such an enthusiastic invitation, so Zu An and the three women climbed onto Yayu's back. They had to admit that it was large enough; its back was wide. Even though there were four people there, it didn't seem cramped at all.

Yun Jianyue said secretly through ki, "Be careful of something strange happening. It'll be bad if it ends up taking us into the middle of the Weak Water and throws us in."

Yan Xuehen frowned and asked, "Could it be that in your eyes, everyone is a bad person?"

Yun Jianyue narrowed her eyes, retorting, "Stone cold woman, with your personality, you'll be scammed by others before you even know it. This kind of thing happens all the time in our Holy Sect. There are always stories of how righteous ladies from the orthodox sects have fallen. I definitely don't wish to hear such a story about you one day."

"You!" Yan Xuehen exclaimed, feeling ashamed and annoyed. Even though she stayed away from worldly things, she still knew what 'fallen' meant.

"Don't worry, he's no longer the Yayu from before," Zu An replied. He had the Rage system, so he could determine whether another party bore kind or malicious intent against him. He continued, "Yun Jianyue did come from a place filled with deception and betrayal, the Devil... Ahem, the Holy Sect. Being this guarded is only natural."

The two women both turned their heads away, clearly still mad at each other.

Zu An felt a huge headache coming on. He could only ask Yayu, "By the way, do you know what the Queen Mother of the West's immortal medicine is?"

Yayu swam smoothly through the water, so it felt as if they were on dry land. The once surging Weak Water actually looked completely calm. The group thus felt that this world really was amazing.

"The Queen Mother of the West's immortal medicine is extremely mysterious. Only a few people in the world know about it," Yayu said, shaking its head. It clearly wasn't one of those few.

"Can you tell us a bit more about the Queen Mother of the West?" Zu An asked. He had only heard that name from folktales. After entering the Unknown Region, he had discovered that that person really did exist. He had no choice but to pay attention to the subject.

"The Queen Mother of the West came from Kunlun, so no one knows about her background. However, she has great status, so great that even the Celestial Emperor must treat her with respect. The Queen Mother of the West resides in a place called the Jade Lake. That is where the natural ki of the world gathers, which is why immortal peaches and other immortal medicines exist there," Yayu slowly said, seemingly searching its memories. It continued, "However, I cannot remember anything more. I was a monster for too long after all; my mind has already suffered irreversible damage. I have forgotten many events of the past."

Just then, Yu Yanluo then asked, "Do you still remember Yi?"

Yayu's entire body trembled when it heard that name, almost throwing the people on its back into the Weak Water. However, it stabilized itself and apologized, saying, "Sorry, I was shaken up a bit and could not control myself."

"It seems you do remember," Zu An said, his interest piqued.

"That is someone who is quite hard to forget." Yayu sighed. "Long, long ago, so long I cannot remember when it was, I seem to have been killed by him once. After all these years have passed, you are just like him, the only man who has subdued me."

Zu An had a strange expression, thinking, Can you not use such weird verbs? Why do I feel so strange?

Yun Jianyue asked curiously, "Huh? You said that Yi killed you? I thought you couldn't be killed, though."

That was what had given them a headache earlier. Whenever they killed the Yayu, it had just revived..

Yayu replied, "Yi had a formidable bow, a divine weapon. After being hit by it, I could not revive anymore."

Zu An and the others were shaken. Shun had mentioned that Yi used a bow to shoot down nine suns. It seemed to be the same bow. Why was it so similar to the Sun Slaying Bow passed down through the Fiend races' royal family, though? It couldn't be the same one, could it?

However, the Sun Slaying Bow was in the Golden Crow Crown Prince's hands, and he was with the Fiend Emperor. If Zu An passed the trial and obtained the divine weapon's acknowledgment, the Sun Slaying Bow wouldn't just fly over into his hands on its own, right?

Zu An couldn't help but laugh at himself when he thought of that, though. Shun had only said that the acknowledgment of a divine weapon could be obtained once the heroic path was completed. It wouldn't necessarily be the Sun Slaying Bow.

"However, my constitution is special, and I was born again through the Weak Water and the lingering resentment. That was why, after countless years passed, when the power of that arrow disappeared, I was still able to resurrect once more. Eventually, I met all of you, and I was really blessed to be completely freed," Yayu explained, its voice full of gratitude.

The group offered some modest remarks in return. Then, Yan Xuehen asked Yayu, "How great was Yi's strength compared to his?"

The Yayu hesitated for a bit before saying, "It was much higher than his, maybe even higher than all of yours added together."

The others were speechless, thinking, Are you really going to be that straightforward....

They quickly became dejected. If their strength was that far from Yi's, they wouldn't necessarily be able to successfully complete his heroic path.

As if sensing how grave their attitudes were, in order to make them feel better, Yayu said, "However, there is one aspect in which he is three times stronger than Yi."

"What is that?" the others asked, stunned. There was an area in which Zu An was stronger? That meant they had to make sure to take advantage of it.

"Back then, Yi had an extremely beautiful woman at his side, one who seemed to be named Chang'e," Yayu recalled. "However, you have women who are just as beautiful as Chang'e, and you have three of them. So actually, it is not exactly three times stronger."

Zu An was speechless. Meanwhile, the three women blushed. Even though being praised as beautiful was worth being happy about, why did the praise sound so strange?

Yun Jianyue quickly said, "Don't misunderstand. The two of us don't have that kind of relationship."

Yan Xuehen immediately said in agreement, "Nor I!" She was scared that she would look guilty if she acted even a bit slower.

Zu An shot her a look of annoyance. This woman spoke blind words with her eyes open.

Yu Yanluo's cheeks were red, and she didn't say anything in protest.

Yayu chuckled and said, "How similar... truly similar."

"Similar how?" the three women asked curiously..

"Back then, that woman at Yi's side also denied it like this. Later, did they not still become husband and wife?" Yayu said proudly, as if it had seen through everything.

The three women were speechless.

Zu An quickly asked, "Ahem, senior, do you know what kind of monster will be up ahead?"

"Up ahead is the Mulberry Forest. That is the Fengxi Boar's territory," said Yayu.