

Immortal 191

Chapter 191: Choice

"How do I do it? Can't you just finish your words at once?" Zu An was frustrated at how Mi Li seemed to reveal bits and pieces of information, as if trying to reel him in.

Chu Chuyan also looked at Mi Li in anticipation. Needless to say, she would rather recover her full cultivation than to just recover her mobility.

With a gleam in her eyes, Mi Li asked, "Have you heard of 'transcendent aptitude' before?"

"Transcendent aptitude?" Chu Chuyan and Qiao Xueying traded gazes, but they could see the doubt in each other's eyes.

Qiao Xueying pondered for a moment before speaking up, "Based on what I know, transcendent aptitude is just a legend. In fact, many doubt the veracity of its existence as even the most talented cultivators in the world are only at Upper Jia (A+), and there are less than ten of them around. Given so, how could transcendent aptitude really exist?"

Both Chu Chuyan and Qiao Xueying were already extremely talented individuals, but they were only at Lower Jia. Every step above signified a huge difference, such that even cultivators of Upper Jia aptitude were far beyond their reach, let alone transcendent aptitude.

"You need not doubt the validity of its existence," said Mi Li. She pointed to Zu An and continued, "That's because he's one."

"???" Chu Chuyan.

"???" Qiao Xueying.

The two of them turned to look at Zu An in unison.

He possesses the legendary transcendent aptitude? How is that possible?!

The two women were extremely familiar with him, so they knew how much of a renowned wastrel he was in Brightmoon City. Back then, before taking Zu An in as her husband, Chu Chuyan even secretly had his aptitude checked, and he should have been at Lower Ding (D-).

Even if he had been hiding his true skills and cultivation all this while, surely he couldn't conceal his aptitude too?

"He's a transcendent aptitude cultivator? Elder, could you be mistaken?" asked Chu Chuyan.

It was true that Zu An had impressed her with his skills this time around, but she was still unable to even fathom him being of the legendary transcendent aptitude. Even her Lower Jia (A-) aptitude was already enough for her to reach the sixth rank, so how could he possibly still only be at the third rank at the moment?

"I'm also perplexed by how weak he is, but there's no way I would be mistaken about this. I came into contact with his blood earlier, and he definitely possesses transcendent aptitude," replied Mi Li.

Feeling the gazes of the three women being centered on him, Zu An scratched his head in embarrassment and said, "I was intending to conceal my aptitude and blend into the midst of normal folks like you, but it looks like I've been found out. Yes, I'm indeed someone who possesses the legendary aptitude. I hope that you won't treat me any differently because of that in the future."

"..." Chu Chuyan.

"..." Qiao Xueying.

The two of them were utterly bewildered by his admittance. What's wrong with the world? A fellow like him actually possesses transcendent aptitude?

Even with both Mi Li and Zu An confirming the matter, his lackadaisical air around him still made them think that he was just joking with them.

"It's common knowledge that transcendent aptitude cultivators grow swiftly, but that in itself is not enough to be considered transcendent. The key reason why they are considered transcendent is because their blood essence is top-notch nourishment to all cultivators. Those who consume the blood essence of a transcendent aptitude cultivator can greatly increase the speed of their cultivation and heal all of their injuries. In fact, there are even rumors that if one were to assimilate all of the blood essence a transcendent aptitude cultivator possesses, one can achieve true longevity," said Mi Li.

"Big sis empress, can you stop licking your lips? You're making me a bit afraid." Zu An gulped fearfully as he finally understood why Jiang Luofu had directed a weird look toward him upon realizing that he was a transcendent aptitude cultivator.

Aiyo, you should have just said it earlier. If gorgeous principal needs my 'essence', I'd be more than willing to give it to you... Ah, wait a moment, it's not the same essence.

"Longevity?!" Chu Chuyan and Qiao Xueying exclaimed in astonishment.

There were many cultivators in this world who lived a far longer lifespan than ordinary humans, but thus far, none of them had been able to truly escape death. Even for Mi Li, they thought that she had only been able to live so long because she had been converted into an undead even if there were some anomalies here.

Undead creatures trade their bodies and physical functions in order to attain a greater lifespan, so it was unheard of for any undead to be able to retain their beauty like Mi Li.

"The part regarding longevity should be false," said Mi Li with a shake of her head. "In the history of humankind, I've never heard of any transcendent aptitude cultivator achieving true longevity before. Ying Zheng has also tried pursuing longevity back then, resorting to all sorts of means including capturing and assimilating a transcendent aptitude cultivator, but he wasn't able to achieve his goal in the end."

Chu Chuyan and Qiao Xueying looked confused. They clearly had never heard of Ying Zheng before.

Zu An, on the other hand, was appalled. As expected of Qin Shihuang! He actually has the ability to find a transcendent aptitude cultivator and assimilate him.

On one hand, he felt sympathetic to his 'fellow comrade who possessed transcendent aptitude', but at the same time, he found himself wondering what kind of state Mi Li was in at the moment. If even Qin Shihuang was unable to achieve longevity, it was hard for him to imagine how Mi Li was able to survive through so many years, albeit in a sealed state.

"Elder, you still haven't told me what I have to do in order to restore Miss Chu's ki meridians." Qiao Xueying had always been short-tempered, and she noticed how Mi Li still hadn't gotten to the crux of the matter despite blabbering on for so long.

"Haven't I made it plenty obvious by now?" Mi Li harrumphed. "He just has to infuse his blood essence and channel the Primordial Origin Sutra along with his primordial ki into her body, and that would be sufficient to restore her ki meridians."

"Blood essence?" Chu Chuyan was confused. "Do I have to drink his blood?"

Mi Li frowned. "Aren't the two of you a couple? Why don't you get anything at all?"

All of a sudden, Chu Chuyan suddenly realized something, and the same thought surfaced in Qiao Xueying's mind as well. The two of them quickly whispered to one another as their faces reddened in embarrassment[1].

"B-but... How can that be drunk..." Chu Chuyan had never felt so embarrassed before. She had to squeeze out the very last bit of courage she had in her body in order to utter those words.

"Drunk?" Mi Li was stunned for a moment before realizing what Chu Chuyan was thinking of. A bizarre smile crept on her lips as she said, "It's not wrong to put it that way, but you're 'drinking' it not through that mouth."

"..." Zu An.

Big sis empress, you would surely have been a meme master had you lived in the modern era.

Qiao Xueying and Chu Chuyan were maidens, but they weren't so ignorant as to be unable to comprehend what Mi Li was talking about, especially since the latter had made it rather explicit. Their faces turned so red that they looked almost like ripe apples ready to be bitten into.

Mi Li also didn't bother beating around the bush. "The bloodline of a transcendent aptitude cultivator possesses great life force and mystical energy whereas the primordial ki is the purest substance in the whole world. You'd need the two of them in order to restore your ki meridians I'll impart to you a formula in order to draw in the 'essence' he's pumping into you during the amalgamation of yin and yang later on, lest you end up wasting such precious energy and fail to make a full recovery."

"H-how can I do that?!" Chu Chuyan's face was completely flushed, and she was so nervous that she could hear her own heart beating in a flutter. She had never thought that the cure would be something like this.

While she was a couple with Zu An, that had only been in name. It was just to silence the mouths of the other powers.

She was touched that Zu An had put his life on the line to save her, and there was no doubt that she carried great goodwill for him at the moment. But still, this was her first time encountering such a situation, so it was inevitable that she would feel intimidated and frightened.

Meanwhile, Qiao Xueying pressed her lips together with a brooding look in her eyes. She had never expected things to turn out like that, and it left her feeling a little dazed.

“What’s wrong with this?” asked Mi Li in bewilderment. “The two of you are a couple... Hm? You’re still a maiden?”

She finally understood what the crux of the problem was. She turned to Zu An and exclaimed, “You’re unable to do it?”

How could a man be told to his face that he was ‘unable to do it’? Zu An immediately roared back, “Who says that!”

His voice was a little shaky though since he was indeed impotent till a while ago...

Nevertheless, his words reminded Mi Li of that tent in his pants she saw in the crystal coffin a moment ago, and it brought a hint of awkwardness to her face. I guess I had misunderstood him. “Since you’re able to do it, why in the world are you leaving your beautiful wife to wilt on her own?”

“...” Zu An.

Sis, trust me. I want to do it too! I just... can’t!

“Forget it, you don’t have to say anything. I reckon that it’s some sort of ridiculous melodrama at play here.” Mi Li suddenly sounded a little irritated. She turned to Chu Chuyan and said, “Based on what I’ve seen thus far, the two of you carry mutual feelings for one another. I don’t understand what your reason for rejecting is, but are you certain that you would rather remain an ordinary human who can’t even raise your hands above your shoulders for the rest of your life?”

Qiao Xueying hesitated for a moment before advising her too, “Miss Chu, you should know of the terrible plight the Chu clan is in at the moment. You won’t be able to protect the Chu clan anymore if you were to become a cripple. Zu An has nearly lost his life multiple times in order to save your life. Are you going to let his sacrifice and hard work go to vain?”

“I know that someone of your caliber is bound to have high expectations for your future partner, but what’s done is done. Zu An is your husband after all, and a day like this is bound to come. Do you detest him so much as to reject him even when your future is at stake here?”

“No, that’s not it... It’s just that...” Chu Chuyan’s eyelids fluttered as an internal conflict broke out in her heart.

Mi Li shot a glance at Zu An and urged him with her voice transmission. “Are you a man or not? What are you standing there in a daze for?! Are you still expecting her to make the first move?”

Zu An finally snapped out of her daze. He gathered his determination before walking over to Chu Chuyan’s side and carried her soft body up before whispering tenderly in her ears, “Am I not alright?”

Chu Chuyan was taken aback by the sudden snow of tenderness, and it left her even more flustered. “N-no, that’s not it. It’s just that...”

“Just listen to me this once. For both of our sakes...” said Zu An while gazing deep into her eyes.

Chu Chuyan had never seen such an earnest look on Zu An’s face before, and it made her face turn red. She hesitated for a long moment before finally nodding inconspicuously.

Qiao Xueying sighed deeply before walking out.

Mi Li quickly imparted a formula to Chu Chuyan before remarking, “You should have the formula remembered by now. Make sure to use it later on.”

Before taking her leave, she noticed that quite a few terracotta soldiers were still sneaking peeks over, so she sneered and said, “The lot of you want to watch the show?”

The terracotta soldiers immediately turned their heads away and stood still, as if having turned back into statues.

Mi Li harrumphed before. She flung her sleeves and formed a veil of ki around the altar.

Inside the veil, Zu An placed Chu Chuyan on top of the stone tablet as he gently undid her belt, revealing her fair skin.

The chilling sensation tingled Chu Chuyan’s skin. She couldn’t help but hesitate here. “W-wait a moment, Zu An! I... I don’t know...”

Zu An sighed softly and said, “Do you hate me?”

“N-no, that’s not it...” Chu Chuyan couldn’t even meet Zu An’s gaze. She turned her head sideward as a tinge of red consumed her body. “It’s just that... just that...”

Chu Chuyan was so flustered that she couldn’t say anything meaningful in a long while.

Zu An leaned in closer and gently sealed off her cherry lips, causing Chu Chuyan’s eyes to widen largely. In that instant, her mind turned blank.

Chapter 192: We’ll Meet Once Again Soon

Chu Chuyan whimpered a little upon the abrupt kiss. She instinctively raised her hands to push Zu An off, but she eventually held her hands back after a moment of hesitation. Seeing that she wasn’t resisting him, Zu An moved on to undo her clothes, causing them to flow down her body and onto the floor. This made her heart thump even faster.

Am I really going to lose my body to him?

She had always been the pride of the Chu clan from a young age. Her beautiful appearance and top-notch cultivation talent made her the center of attention no matter where she went to. Many men viewed her as their dream lovers, but they dared not to approach her, thinking that they were unworthy of her. So, they buried their desires in the depths of her heart.

Of course, there was also no lack of outstanding men expressing their affection for her, just that none of them was able to move her.

The man of her dreams was a true hero, someone who could inspire admiration from her but at the same time dote and love her...

However, she was simply too outstanding that few could match her, even for those from a generation older. So, she thought that the man of her dreams didn't exist in real life, so she relied on novels in order to fulfill her imagination.

But the more outstanding the protagonists of those novels were, the more closed her heart became in real life. She became more and more disillusioned with the men she met.

That was also why she had no qualms about looking for a renowned wastrel in Brightmoon City as her husband. All men were the same in her eyes anyway.

While she viewed Zu An as a shield necessary for the Chu clan's extenuating circumstances, she was willing to accept him as kin or a friend, considering that they were going to live decades together. However, she never thought that a day would come where she could see Zu An as a man, let alone as a romantic interest.

Far too many things had happened in this trip. It was still fresh in her head how Zu An insisted on staying with her despite their dangerous plight, holding onto her tighter than ever while fending off the enemies...

While she was still deep in thought, she was unaware of just how fatal the charm of her bare skin was toward the man standing right before her. When she finally became cognizant of the heavy presence of a man in front of her, her heart suddenly began beating quickly.

And when Zu An finally overcame her final hurdle, she felt something that had been encasing her heart all this while shattering.

She stared at the man in front of her as two streams of tears flowed down the corner of her eyes. She had no idea why she was tearing up, but her body seemed to have completely gone out of her control.

...

Meanwhile, Qiao Xueying was sitting right outside the barrier Mi Li had constructed with a blank look on her face.

There was a fact that she had hidden from Zu An. Half Life's Fate was a secret art that only a few of her race were able to use, and most of them wouldn't use it in their entire lifetime. If they ever used it, they would only use it on their other partner. Such had been the way since ancient times.

"I really made a huge loss!" Qiao Xueying bit on her lips as she kicked on a little rock grumpily. She never thought that she would end up using this skill on another woman's husband, and that made her incredibly exasperated.

The knowledge that those two were consummating their marriage just a few meters away from her made her feel even more irritated, causing her to kick those rocks with greater force than before. As a result, the opposite wall ended up being filled with holes.

...

Some time later, Chu Chuyan's cold expression gradually mellowed down. Her tears had already dried up, but her eyes were still glistening as beautifully as ever. She felt a hint of strength returning back to her limbs.

The final shreds of her modesty made her instinctively push the man on her aside, but her strength was still too lacking at the moment.

She had never felt so helpless before in her entire life. Under normal circumstances, all she needed was a single finger to press Zu An down, yet the tables were turned on her today. Hmph! Once I recover my strength, I'll show him what true strength is!

But barely after those thoughts surfaced in her mind, it was dissipated with a powerful ram from Zu An.

Her cheeks flushed like blazing flames as her initial resistance gradually turned into subconscious compliance...

Some time later, she suddenly heard Mi Li's voice sounding in her ears, "Guard your spirit. From this point onward, circulate the ki in your body using the formula I've imparted to you earlier. Make sure that you assimilate his precious blood essence entirely."

Chu Chuyan's body shuddered as her skin further reddened. She was looking at us all along?

A feeling of shame and awkwardness swiftly engulfed her mind, leaving her on the verge of losing her mind.

"Don't lose concentration right now!" shouted Mi Li.

Chu Chuyan was, after all, an incredibly talented cultivator. She was blessed with decisiveness and sharp judgment. She knew that it wouldn't be worth it if she were to lose this precious opportunity due to her embarrassment.

So, she began circulating her ki along with the formula imparted to her, directing Zu An's blood essence toward her injured ki meridians to repair them. It was just that every time she reached a critical period, a sudden ram from Zu An would shatter her composure, undoing her efforts.

Annoyed, she wanted to tell Zu An to cut it out, but her embarrassment made it hard for her to approach the topic, so she could only bear with it silently.

In truth, she was also misunderstanding Zu An too. It was not that he was intentionally being forceful here; on the contrary, he was trying to repair her collapsed ki meridians as carefully as possible. Unfortunately, he couldn't control his strength properly as he hadn't gotten used to his newly enhanced body yet. On top of that, Chu Chuyan had never been through such an experience before, making her incredibly sensitive.

Chu Chuyan kept trying to circulate her ki along with the formula again and again, but for some reason, she started to feel her consciousness blurring out...

At the same time, Zu An suddenly noticed something and quickly turned to the side, only to see Mi Li standing by one side. Alarmed, he quickly grabbed the clothes on the ground to cover the two of them

before asking, "Big sis empress, what are you doing? While I don't particularly mind it, Chuyan might get embarrassed here..."

"Don't worry, she can't see me," replied Mi Li.

Zu An was stunned. He quickly lowered his gaze, only to see Chu Chuyan's eyes glazed with confusion. Astounded, he asked, "What's wrong with her?"

"Nothing. I just have some things I need to talk to you about," replied Mi Li.

Zu An scratched his head awkwardly and said, "Can't we find another timing? It feels rather offensive to you to have a conversation at a time like this."

Mi Li ignored his words and said, "I'm here to bid my farewell to you."

"Bid your farewell to me?" You're going to leave?" asked Zu An anxiously.

"You've saved me from the seal, and in return, I helped you save your little wife. Since we've fulfilled the ends of our promise, there's no reason for me to remain here anymore," replied Mi Li.

"But I'll miss you if you suddenly leave like that," remarked Zu An. He was still feeling delighted at how things were finally working out after all of the hardships he had been through, but the news of Mi Li's impending departure made him feel a little empty inside.

Is this what they call 'camaraderie forged in times of hardship'? Gah! Who am I lying too? It's just because she's pretty, that's all.

Zu An shot a glance at Chu Chuyan, and he suddenly felt a bit disdainful toward himself for letting his thoughts wander at a time like this.

You philanderer!

"You'll miss me?" An enigmatic smile surfaced on Mi Li's lips. "Perhaps, we might just meet one another not too long later."

Zu An sighed softly and said, "You're a person who stands at the top, possessing strong cultivation and a lofty standing. While the Qin Dynasty might have fallen, the two of us clearly live in different worlds. A starving camel is still bound to be bigger than a horse. I doubt that we'll have a chance to meet one another after this parting."

"A starving camel is still bound to be bigger than a horse? Those words sound oddly jarring to me," Mi Li harrumphed. "It's too early for you to start missing me now. Perhaps, in our next meeting, you'd rather that we never had met one another ever again."

"How could that be? There's no man who wouldn't be delighted to meet with the gorgeous big sis empress, unless he isn't a man at all!" said Zu An resolutely.

A rare chuckle sounded from Mi Li, and she remarked, "I hope that you'll remember your words!"

Leaving those words behind, her silhouette vanished from view.

Zu An felt a little empty by her sudden departure, but he quickly snapped out of it and continued healing Chu Chuyan's injuries with his Primordial Origin Sutra.

Meanwhile, Mi Li had returned back to outside the ki barrier she had constructed. She raised her hands and saw that a red teardrop had appeared on her left palm too. There was a red thread that extended all the way to her elbow and beyond.

She knew deep well that the red threads had already weaved their way through her limbs and bones, filling up her entire body. It was just moments away from reaching her heart.

"It looks like Zhang Han really wasn't lying. The 'Red Tears of Lady Xiang' does have the prowess to poison even an Earth Immortal to death!" Mi Li's eyebrows arched in hatred. "Ying Zheng, you wouldn't even let me off even after death, huh?"

Conflict flickered across Mi Li's eyes. She exhaled deeply before murmuring, "I guess I have no choice here."

Black spirals began forming in her eyes before a transparent silhouette drifted out from her body. Had someone been watching the scene, they would have noticed that this transparent silhouette looked identical to Mi Li.

This transparent silhouette drifted upward for a bit before turning around to gaze at the body on the ground. She could see the red threads fully covering her body, and the next moment, her body suddenly disintegrated into dust, scattering along with a gust of wind.

Watching this scene, the transparent silhouette sighed softly, "Ying Zheng, I've gritted my teeth for thousands of years for this day, yet as soon as I was freed from my restraints, I still ended up getting done in by you. However, do you think that you can end my life with just this much?"

With a wave of her hand, she tossed a helmet she had casually picked up aside before swiftly darting through the ki barrier into Chu Chuyan's body.

Chu Chuyan's dazed eyes gradually twisted into black spirals, similar to the ones that had appeared in Mi Li's eyes earlier. However, Zu An happened to be distracted by the helmet earlier that he failed to notice it. By the time he turned his gaze back, all had already reverted back to normal.

Seeing his lover staring at him, Zu An gently wiped off the beads of sweat on her forehead and said gently, "That scared me. I thought that Mi Li returned."

'Chu Chuyan' sneered coldly and said, "Do you detest her that much? That's not what you said earlier."

Zu An shook his head and said, "It's not that I detest her. She's simply far too powerful. On top of that, she has already been sealed for several thousand years now. God knows whether she's a human or ghost."

'Chu Chuyan' slowly raised her hands and wrapped it around his neck. Her fingernails began extending eerily before finally stopping right behind his heart. "So, do you think that she's a human or a ghost?"

Chapter 193: Confrontation

"A ghost, I guess. A human shouldn't be able to live for that long," replied Zu An after a moment of contemplation.

"Is that so?" remarked 'Chu Chuyan' as she prepared to sink her sharp fingernails into his heart.

"But I think that she's quite a pitiful person too. She was sealed all alone in this forlorn underground palace for several millennia, without even a person to talk to," Zu An suddenly added.

"Pitiful?" 'Chu Chuyan's' movements came to a halt.

"Indeed, honey. I'll promise you that I'll never treat her the way that Ying Zheng treated you," vowed Zu An.

"What's the use of promises? As soon as our interests diverge, you'll surely turn your back on me," sneered 'Chu Chuyan'.

Zu An sensed that there was something weird with how Chu Chuyan was speaking, such that he had a feeling that he was talking to another woman cloaked in Chu Chuyan's skin. However, this thought was swiftly driven out of his mind. He thought that it was only normal for Chu Chuyan to act differently after what she had just been through.

He couldn't help but scorn himself.

How could I think of other women while I'm with her? That's too greedy!

"Don't worry, I'm not that kind of person." Zu An thought that Chu Chuyan was just feeling insecure after having lost her first time, so he chose to console her. "Besides, how could our interests diverge. We're a couple; everything of mine is yours. There's nothing to nitpick between us."

"I guess so." 'Chu Chuyan' chuckled softly. "You sure have a glib tongue."

"Can we not talk about other matters now and focus on what we're doing instead," said Zu An as he leaned in closer to kiss her.

'Chu Chuyan' tilted her head sideward, dodging his kiss. Sensing the current condition of her body, she couldn't help but frown in displeasure. I thought that this body has already fully recovered, but isn't she far too slow?! How could she not heal her ki meridians up even after so long? Just what in the world has she been doing all this while?

Left with no choice, she could only tolerate the man ramming at her as she continued her recovery.

She was the empress of the Qin Dynasty after all, so she wasn't foreign to such happenings. Back then, her ancestor, Empress Xuan Mi Bazi, in order to resolve a threat plaguing the northwest borders of the Qin Country, went to the extent of offering her body up to the King of Yiqu and bore two sons for him.

After the Qin Country finally bulked up, she found an opportune moment to kill the King of Yiqu, thus resolving the threat of the Yiqu once and for all.

This set a precedent for the women of the Qin Dynasty's imperial family. They viewed their bodies to be no more than tools for a greater goal. It was not to say that Mi Li had ever used it with that intent before, but she wasn't as resistant to it.

Besides, she had no qualms about betraying Ying Zheng at all. In fact, she would love more than anything for him to witness this sight with his own eyes and hopefully flip over in his grave.

Meanwhile, Zu An was a little surprised by Chu Chuyan's reaction. He didn't know that she would reject his kiss, and for a moment there, she had an extremely unfamiliar expression on her face.

Fearing that he would see through her disguise, 'Chu Chuyan' chose to divert the topic elsewhere and ask, "Hey, who do you think is more beautiful, me or Mi Li?"

"Of course it's you!" replied Zu An unhesitatingly.

"..." 'Chu Chuyan.

"Is that so?" 'Chu Chuyan' sneered coldly as her fingernails began stretching outward once more.

Zu An paused for a moment before adding, "To be honest, I was just saying those words to flatter you. Mi Li's beauty doesn't lose to yours; the two of you have different styles. You have a cool, refreshing disposition whereas she's noble and majestic. It's hard to compare the two of you against one another..."

'Chu Chuyan's' lips finally curled upward, satisfied with his response. However, she soon noticed something and asked with a frown, "Why did your body suddenly become so agitated when I start talking about her?"

"..." Zu An.

He had never thought that 'Chu Chuyan' would be so sensitive as to detect minor changes in his body, which made him incredibly awkward. He didn't know how to explain this since it would be disastrous of him to explain to his own wife how he ended up thinking about another woman while getting hot and steamy with her.

Fortunately, 'Chu Chuyan' didn't continue probing on. She stretched her hand forward and wrapped them around his waist.

Zu An was more than delighted by her invitation. All this while, she had been silently accepting whatever he was doing to her, putting him at a loss as to what her true thoughts were. However, her show of proactiveness put down the boulder of unease weighing on his heart, and he finally let go of his restraint and went all out.

'Chu Chuyan' found herself getting overwhelmed by Zu An's furious assault. She rolled her eyes in fury. Isn't this woman far too weak? She can't even deal with this much!

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +233 Rage!

Zu An was stunned.

Mi Li? Hasn't she already left the area? Is she secretly eavesdropping in the area?

Alarmed, he quickly searched the area, but Mi Li was nowhere to be seen.

"What are you doing?" asked 'Chu Chuyan'.

“Say, is it possible that Mi Li is hiding in the area, secretly watching the two of us?” asked Zu An with a frown.

‘Chu Chuyan’s’ heart skipped a beat. “I don’t think so. Didn’t she leave earlier? What made you think that she’s still in the area?”

Zu An shook his head and said, “Well, I hope that I’m thinking too much into it too.”

‘Chu Chuyan’ replied with an ‘Mm’ before actively wrapping her limbs around the man on top of her, spurring the heat dominating Zu An’s mind. With such a beautiful woman seducing him, it didn’t take long for all other miscellaneous thoughts to be swiftly expelled from his head.

She secretly placed her hand on Zu An’s waist and pressed her slender fingers down softly, causing Zu An’s body to shudder from delight. He soon succumbed, causing his yang energy to be swiftly pumped into her body, amalgamating with her yin energy.

‘Chu Chuyan’ had no qualms with using her body as a tool—not to mention that this wasn’t her body either—but this body was simply too weak to endure the tempering of the primordial ki.

She disliked the feeling of her life being grasped in the hands of another person, not to mention that Zu An was no more than an ant in her eyes. Her pride didn’t allow her to be dominated by a man of his caliber. She felt that a mere tool ought to remain as no more than a tool.

Thus, she used her secret art to prematurely unleash his yang energy before pushing him away to quietly assimilate his blood essence and primordial ki.

Zu An was still intending to continue getting steamy with her, but the abrupt rejection left his heart feeling a little empty. However, looking at the situation from another perspective, it could be due to Chu Chuyan not knowing how to face him.

This thought made the situation far more acceptable to him.

It was then that he noticed that Chu Chuyan had turned her attention back to cultivation. He felt a burst of respect for her. As expected of a true prodigy. She really doesn’t let go of any opportunity to cultivate.

Perhaps it was due to the accumulated fatigue from going through battle after battle, Zu An suddenly felt a little drowsy. Before he knew it, he had already dozed off.

‘Chu Chuyan’ opened her eyes to glance at him. She hesitated for a moment before sitting back down to focus on repairing her ki meridians. I’ll decide what to do next after fully harmonizing my soul with this body.

Some time later, Zu An suddenly felt a chilling sensation on his throat. He immediately opened his eyes, only to see that Chu Chuyan had put her clothes back on, reverting back to her usual cold self. She was standing before the altar with a sword pressed against his neck. Her expression looked a little unusual, as if she was conflicted over something.

Zu An was immediately jolted awake from his daze. He dared not to move carelessly, fearing that any sudden movements would agitate the other party into ending his life. So, he asked carefully, “Honey, what are you doing?”

'Chu Chuyan' sneered coldly and said, "I can't allow a man who has taken my body to continue existing in this world."

"..." Zu An.

The hell! Are you serious?

"I went through so much difficulties in order to save you, but you're going to kill me for that? Don't you think that you're being too ungrateful here?" exclaimed Zu An.

'Chu Chuyan's' face reddened as she snapped furiously, "Was that even 'difficult' for you?"

Zu An also felt that he had, to some extent, taken advantage of the situation earlier, so he scratched his head sheepishly and said, "Putting that aside, everything else that I've done before should mean something, right? I mean, I almost died several times trying to save you here!"

'Chu Chuyan' harrumphed coldly and said, "You need not feel too wronged about this. You've just enjoyed something which many men never would in their entire lifetime. You should be able to die in peace with that knowledge."

Zu An shook his head and said. "That wouldn't do. I'm not the kind of man to give up an entire forest for a tree. You mentioned yourself that you don't mind me looking for another woman. If you no longer want to be with me, we can just split up and live our own lives. Is there a need for you to be so callous with me?"

'Chu Chuyan' was stunned. She never thought that the two of them would have such a bizarre promise between them, though what infuriated her more was Zu An's attitude toward this matter.

Why are you acting all so self-righteous when talking about cheating on your own wife?

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +404 Rage!

The sudden influx of Rage points from Mi Li shocked Zu An once more. He stared at Chu Chuyan intently with a contemplative look on his face.

"A man like you is only going to scourge the world. For the sake of all womankind, I shall eliminate you here!" 'Chu Chuyan's' sword darted straight toward Zu An's neck. She knew that there was no way that Zu An would be able to dodge this sword with his strength.

But to her astonishment, her attack actually landed empty.

She glared at Zu An coldly and said, "You anticipated my attack and dodged it in advance?"

How could he know that I would really make a move on him? Even before I moved my sword, he had already moved sideward to dodge!

Zu An felt cold sweat dripping down his back as he murmured fearfully, "Big sis empress, it's actually you!"

'Chu Chuyan' was stunned. "How did you know it's me?"

With her standing and cultivation rank, she couldn't even be bothered to cook up lies before Zu An to deceive him. She was confident that she was in control of the situation here, and that Zu An couldn't possibly hope to turn things around on her anymore.

Hearing her admittance, Zu An felt his heart sinking. "What did you do to Chuyan?"

"Chuyan? Needless to say, she's dead." 'Chu Chuyan' raised her hands to look at her own slender hands. "I have to admit that her body is really not bad. She might be weak at the moment, but her aptitude is decent. She barely meets the mark for my new body."

Upon hearing that Chu Chuyan was dead, Zu An felt his body turning stone-cold. "You were already harboring such intentions right from the start when you imparted that formula to her!"

Chapter 194: Mercy

"Indeed, that's a formula that I happened to stumble upon. By circulating her ki according to the formula, she fully opened up her heart and body, resulting in the weakening of her will. That made it much easier for me to enter her body."

Even though it was Chu Chuyan's body, the other party was speaking with the same tone and attitude as Mi Li.

"Why did you possess her body? You already have your own, and in terms of beauty and cultivation, you don't lose out to her either..." A thought suddenly arose in Zu An's mind then, and he exclaimed, "Wait a moment, could it be that poison Zhang Han used earlier?"

'Chu Chuyan' nodded in response. "The Red Tears of Lady Xiang was far more potent than I thought. Even with my cultivation, I was unable to resist the terrifying lethality of the poison. It took just a few moments for the poison to fully scourge my body. I only managed to escape with my soul through using a secret art I've learned by chance, but even so, my soul is also afflicted with a tinge of the poison. I'm in a far weaker state than before."

She paused for a brief moment before supplementing, "Of course, it's more than enough to deal with you."

"That's why you chose to take Chu Chuyan's body for your own?" Zu An couldn't believe how that dastardly Zhang Han still continued to haunt him even after his death! His mind swiftly whirled into action as he tried to figure out a solution.

"Indeed," replied Chu Chuyan with a sneer. "I told you that we would meet again very soon, but you didn't believe me."

Zu An finally understood why Mi Li would say those words earlier on, even emphasizing that their reunion might be less than pleasant.

"Big sis empress, we did have a good partnership with one another earlier, no? There's no need for us to turn against each other. Why don't I find another host for you to possess instead?" said Zu An.

'Chu Chuyan' shook her head and said, "I'm satisfied with the body I have now; I don't want to switch into anyone else's. Besides, did you think that it's easy to assimilate a soul into a body? My soul has already sustained some damage earlier on; if I were to switch into another person's body, my soul will sustain irreparable damage, perhaps dissipating even. Why should I take such a risk?"

The realization that there was no win-win solution out of this made Zu An's heart sink. His voice also turned cold as well, "You signed a contract with me earlier. You can't hurt us. Aren't you afraid of divine retribution?"

'Chu Chuyan' burst into laughter, causing her originally cold face to suddenly appear a little seductive. "But I've already saved her in accordance with our promise. Besides, Mi Li is already dead now. Even if there's divine retribution, it should all be over by now."

"Did you think that your deeds can be concealed from the eyes of heaven?" Zu An figured that since even the Keyboard was able to sense that she was Mi Li, surely heaven, whatever it was, would be able to tell the same too.

Heaven was a very abstract concept to him, but this world seemed to believe in its existence. He was just worried that the divine retribution would accidentally hurt Chu Chuyan too.

"Are you trying to stall for time to see if the contract would be evoked?" 'Chu Chuyan' could see through his thoughts right away. "You need not bother. The contract we signed was null."

"Null?" Zu An was stunned.

'Chu Chuyan' sneered coldly, "Did you think that I would shackle myself so easily? I wasn't the one who personally placed my thumbprint on the contract; you took my finger and pressed it down on it. Since the contract wasn't sealed on my own accord, it goes without saying that it isn't binding."

"???" Zu An.

Wait a moment, is there such a rule to it too? The hell!

Zu An felt deeply remorseful. Now that he thought about it, it did make much sense.

'Chu Chuyan' raised the sword up high and said, "I've only explained everything to you out of gratitude that you've freed me from my seal. It should all come to an end now."

"Wait a moment!" Zu An suddenly shouted out. "I have a suggestion!"

"What is it?" Perhaps it was due to her long isolation that resulted in her desire for human contact, 'Chu Chuyan' actually decided to listen to him. In the past, she would have never bothered exchanging so many words with a mere ant.

Zu An put away his enraged expression and said, "Well, big sis empress, why don't you continue living on as Chu Chuyan then? Chu Chuyan and I are just a couple in name anyway. As long as you're willing, I'll get a real wife whereas you'll get someone to conceal your identity. You've been alone several thousand years now; the lonely nights must be hard for you to bear. We happen to get along just fine anyway, so why don't we just make do with one another?"

"..." Mi Li.

“...” Chu Chuyan.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +666 Rage!

You have successfully trolled Chu Chuyan for +666 Rage!

Upon seeing Chu Chuyan’s name in the system, Zu An heaved a sigh of relief. He had intentionally said those words in order to see if the real Chu Chuyan was still conscious inside her body. It seems like her soul is still around. That means that there’s still hope here.

However, Mi Li was unaware of Zu An’s real intention. She never thought that there would be such a shameless man in the world. She was still feeling touched by the deep feelings they harbored for one another a moment ago, but as soon as danger struck, he immediately abandoned her without second thoughts!

Pui! Men are all the same!

Zu An acted as if he was oblivious to Mi Li’s anger as he continued on, “Big sis empress, you might be strong, but you’ve been sealed for over a thousand years now. The world has changed greatly since the Qin Dynasty, so it’s only normal for you to be unfamiliar with how things are now. It’ll be hard for you to move around in your current state. If you were to accidentally let it slip that you’re actually a soul forcefully possessing Chu Chuyan’s body, the cultivators of the world would surely raise their arms to subdue you. I know that you have the strength to deal with it, but surely having such flies buzzing around you must be annoying, no?”

A mocking smile crept onto Mi Li’s face. “Your words are indeed persuasive. However, you’re simply too despicable of a person to trust. Even Zhao Gao doesn’t hold a candle to you.”

Zu An’s face immediately collapsed. “Can you not compare me to a eunuch? It really raises my goosebumps.”

Mi Li’s heart suddenly skipped a beat. Ah, there’s one aspect which he’s unlike Zhao Gao. At least he’s not impotent.

That thought barely flashed across his mind for a moment before she quickly snapped out of it and said, “Are you done yet? If so, it’s time for you to get on your way.”

“W-wait! I still have more to say!” exclaimed Zu An. “Big sis empress, won’t you at least consider it? I mean, it’s not your body anyway, so you have nothing to lose. In fact, I’ll make you savor every moment of it... Cough cough, I mean, you can count on me to take good care of you and familiarize you with the new world!”

“...” Mi Li.

“...” Chu Chuyan.

You have successfully trolled Chu Chuyan for +1024 Rage!

Zu An was overjoyed to see that. He felt that he might just be able to provoke Chu Chuyan enough for her to gain sufficient strength to wrestle back control over her body.

Mi Li took in a deep breath before saying, "You've really reached a new peak of shamelessness here. Since I've taken over her body, I'll do her favor and help her get rid of the bane of her life."

Zu An was displeased to hear that. "You were the one who took her place and ruined our love for one another. Yet, you still want to stand on the moral high ground and criticize me for my actions. If anyone is shameless here, it's indubitably you!"

Mi Li was enraged by those words. "You're courting death!"

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +730 Rage!

Her sword rushed forth toward Zu An.

Zu An immediately used the Sunflower Phantasm to dodge her attack, but as soon as he summoned his ki, he suddenly felt an unbearable heat assaulting his abdomen, causing his ki to suddenly go into disarray. This resulted in a significant slowdown in the flow of his ki.

He suddenly remembered how Old Mi suddenly trailed off while talking about the requirements for cultivating this technique and put it together with all of those movies he had seen in his previous life. In just an instant, he had already figured out what was going on.

Most likely, Sunflower Phantasm was a technique that could only be practiced by eunuchs. He was only able to fulfill the condition previously due to 'little Zu An' being sealed, but the release of the seal had made him a real man. As a result, he couldn't use Sunflower Phantasm anymore.

That moment of daze bought enough time for Mi Li's sword to rush forth and pierce right into his chest. "Gah!"

The powerful force thrust Zu An across the air, pinning him to the other end of the underground hall just like Zhang Han.

Mi Li shot him one last glance and murmured, "You should learn to quieten down once you get to the underworld."

After saying her piece, she was about to turn around and leave when she suddenly heard a strained voice coming from behind, "I count on my face and my words to make a living, so how could I possibly quieten down?"

Mi Li turned around and gasped in shock, "Y-you... You aren't dead yet?!"

She was able to kill even Zhang Han with a single blow, though a huge part of the reason was due to Zhang Han losing his will to live. Nevertheless, the fact still stood that Zhang Han was a ninth rank cultivator whereas Zu An was only at the third rank!

"As the saying goes, a couple for a day, a hundred days of gratitude. You must have subconsciously gone easy on me out of consideration of the deep bond we shared earlier." Zu An pulled out the sword lodged into his chest with a smile.

At the same time, he patted his chest in relief that he had activated the Heiress' Ball of Delights in advance earlier, thus allowing him to avert the fatal blow.

He was worried for a moment there that his wealth might exceed Mi Li's. After all, he was a hundred thousandaire now. If Mi Li was really poorer than him, not only would he be wasting a precious use of the artifact, he would also die here!

He had never hated himself for being rich so much in his entire life, but fortunately, everything went well.

Mi Li was the empress of the Qin Dynasty after all, a person of great wealth and prestige. The Qin Dynasty might have fallen, but this mausoleum was supposed to belong to her, which meant that everything that was buried here was her possession.

Besides, Mi Li was possessing Chu Chuyan's body, who probably had a fortune of at least a million silver taels, considering how she was actively involved in all of the businesses of the Chu clan. So, regardless of whether the Heiress' Ball of Delight was taking Mi Li or Chu Chuyan's wealth into consideration, they ought to be richer than him.

Mi Li was completely stunned by this development.

Did I really fall for him, such that I subconsciously went easy on him? How could that be possible?!

Chapter 195: Wood Elf

The notion that she would actually fall in love with a mere ant left Mi Li feeling utterly frenzied.

Zu An made use of the opportunity where she was doubting her own tastes to drive the Primordial Origin Sutra in order to heal his wounds. He had to say that his body was indeed much more resilient now that it had been tempered by the primordial ki.

In the past, had he suffered such a powerful blow, his chest would have been burst open by the sword ki a long time ago. Whatever organs that were in his chest should have been reduced to meat paste by now.

Yet, there was only a deep, gaping wound in his chest at the moment. Make no mistake, it was definitely a fatal wound, but it was recovering at a visible rate.

It wasn't easy for him to pull the sword out of his chest. Hearing the scraping sound between the sword and his ribcage, Zu An couldn't help but fall into a wistful daze as he thought about how frightened he would be if such a thing had happened to him in his previous life.

At the same time, he wondered if Chu Chuyan's sword might be infected with tetanus—that would have been horrible. However, considering his current constitution, he reckoned that it would be hard for that kind of disease to get him down.

"W-what are you doing?!" Qiao Xueying's shocked voice sounded from not too far away. She had rushed over to take a look upon hearing the commotion by the doorway.

What she saw really frightened her. Zu An was sliding down the cavern wall with a trail of blood behind him. Vaguely, she saw him holding onto a familiar-looking bloodied sword.

Isn't that Chu Chuyan's Snowflower Sword?

Qiao Xueying quickly rushed over to support the limp Zu An. From close-up, he could see just how terrifying his wounds were. She instinctively reached into her robe to grab a bottle of medicine to treat him, but she belatedly realized that she had already used up everything in the earlier battle.

"Miss Chu, are you out of your mind?!" Qiao Xueying glared at 'Chu Chuyan' in anger. "I know that it might be hard for you to accept what had happened earlier on, but it was done all in order to save you. You need not go to this extent, right?!"

Zu An was surprised to see Qiao Xueying standing up for him. He remarked with a helpless smile, "The one who tried to save me earlier is killing me now, and the one who tried to kill me earlier is saving me now. This world sure is a funny place."

Qiao Xueying glared at Zu An sharply. "You are in the mood for jokes even after suffering such a severe injury?"

"I'm still alive, aren't I?" Zu An could feel her softness of her body, and it made it hard for him to associate her with the woman who had been trying to kill him all this while.

Qiao Xueying was stunned. All this while, she thought of Zu An as a despicable man who was afraid of death, but he was surprisingly calm in the face of his demise. In comparison, another person who always kept a refined appearance before him turned out showing his ugly side in the face of death.

Mi Li looked at the duo before her as a mocking smile crept on her lips. "I didn't think that someone as lowly as you would be fancied by so many women."

Pricked by those words, Qiao Xueying immediately pushed Zu An to the side and exclaimed, "Who fancies this fellow?!"

Zu An, on the other hand, looked gleeful with how things turned out. He shrugged casually and said, "What can I do about this? I'm handsome and well-cultured. No woman who has come to know me is able to resist my charm. Big sis empress, you might have also fallen in love with me too, or else why would you say those words of jealousy?"

"..." Qiao Xueying.

"..." Mi Li.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +513 Rage!

"You're courting death!"

Mi Li waved her sleeves, and a sword tens of meters long burst forth.

"Be careful!" Zu An immediately prepared to dodge right after saying those words. He held Qiao Xueying in his arms and rolled a few rounds on the ground before managing to dodge that attack.

A deep sword gorge appeared from where Mi Li was standing all the way to the wall where the two of them were leaning on just a moment ago. It looked almost as if the world had been severed into two.

Qiao Xueying was flabbergasted. "T-this..."

She could hardly believe what she was seeing. Having been with Chu Chuyan for a long time now, she was more aware than anyone else just how talented the latter was. There was no way the other party could be this powerful!

Zu An quickly explained to her, "Be careful! She isn't Chuyan anymore. She has been possessed by Mi Li!"

"What?!" Qiao Xueying quickly turned to Chu Chuyan in shock. That would explain why the other party was behaving so unusually. "Did Miss Chu..."

Zu An quickly shook his head and replied, "Chuyan is still fine. It's just that her soul has been suppressed for the time being, leading to her losing control over her body."

Mi Li placed her hands behind her back and assessed Zu An in interest, "Despite your low cultivation, your eyes are quite sharp."

"Of course! You haven't seen my true capabilities yet. With time, you'll come to see the wide extent of knowledge I boast. I can even let you have a taste of the 'secret arts' of those Japanese masters!"

"Japanese? What is that?" Mi Li was perplexed as to what Zu An was saying, but she wasn't that interested either. "With that bit of skills you have, there's no secret art you can possibly bring out that would impress me."

It was then that she paused for a moment before asking, "Though I do have a lingering doubt in my mind. How do you know my name right from the start?"

There was no way Zu An would reveal the existence of the Keyboard to her, so he replied, "Didn't I tell you that I'm Ying Zheng's reincarnation? From the moment I heard your voice, your name surfaced right at the top of my head."

"Like hell I'll believe that!" Mi Li harrumphed as she flung her sleeves furiously, sending another burst of sword ki toward Zu An.

"Be careful!" Qiao Xueying immediately pulled Zu An to the side in order to dodge the attack.

Yet, who could have known that Zu An would try to pull her in the other direction to evade the attack, resulting in them offsetting each other's strength. Their bodies were jolted backward before crashing back into one another, resulting in them stopping on the spot.

"..." Zu An.

"..." Qiao Xueying.

However, what was even more surprising was that the burst of sword ki suddenly divided into two and diverged from the two of them. It seemed like Mi Li had learned from her previous lesson and aimed her attack in prediction of where they could have evaded. It was this stroke of coincidence that led to them being stuck on the spot, thus dodging Mi Li's sure-kill attack.

"..." Mi Li.

Zu An burst into laughter. He looked at the woman in his embrace and remarked, "Wow, we were actually able to dodge even this attack. It looks like you really are my star of fortune."

Qiao Xueying quickly shoved him off before glaring at him with a reddened face.

"Please, look at the occasion, won't you! Why the hell are you acting like a coy young lady at a time like this?" Zu An was rendered speechless. "Besides, I can't feel anything from that airplane runway of yours! If anything, I only feel your ribcage jabbing at me. You're nothing compared to big sis empress!"

Those words went against his conscience a little. It was true that Qiao Xueying had a slender frame, but she wasn't that small as to really be considered flat. At the very least, she was bigger than Chu Huanzhao.

"..." Qiao Xueying.

You have successfully trolled Qiao Xueying for +325 Rage!

She had no idea what an airplane runway was, but it didn't take a genius to figure out what Zu An was driving at. Naturally, there was no woman who liked having her body criticized, regardless of whether it was big or small.

Mi Li thought about everything that had happened while she was recuperating from her wounds. It was true that this wasn't her body, but still, she was experiencing it all from a first person perspective...

And as if that wasn't enough, Zu An was bragging about it before another person.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +404 Rage!

"I've never seen anyone as hateful as you before. Since you want to die that much, I'll fulfill your wish!"

Right after saying those words, a black circle suddenly formed in front of her, swiftly manifesting innumerable swords out of ki. Then, like a machine gun, the swords shot toward the two of them with frightening momentum.

"Holy shit!" Zu An's eyes nearly popped out. The entire area was filled with sword ki that there was no way for him to hide at all!

It was not that he had never seen flying swords before. Back in the Clans Tournament, Yuan Wendong had used his metal elemental powers to control multiple swords at once, and Shi Kun also had his wind blades too. However, those were nothing in comparison to what he was facing at this very moment. The sheer pressure exerted by those swords was enough to leave him in despair.

This woman is really intending to end my life!

"Be careful!"

Qiao Xueying quickly rushed in front, and her hair began growing like crazy, forming a thorny shrub in a split instant. At the same time, countless green leaves gathered to form a barrier before them.

The blades stabbed right into the shrub, gradually whittling it down. It grew thinner and thinner before dissipating away. Following that, the sword ki advanced on to the green leaves barrier, which lasted for only three breaths before collapsing too.

Determination flashed across Qiao Xueying's eyes as she pushed Zu An away while resolving herself to be pierced through by the sword.

"Snow!" shouted Zu An.

Qiao Xueying was torn into countless pieces by the ravaging sword right before his eyes.

"You actually killed her!" Zu An's eyes reddened in fury as he glared at Mi Li hatefully.

"What are you screaming for? She isn't dead yet!" Mi Li harrumphed as she glanced sideward.

Tens of meters away, Qiao Xueying's body gradually appeared, but her face had turned pale.

It was then that Zu An remembered that she had a life preservation skill named 'Moon's Reflection' or something. She had used it to deal with the Poisonous Prick back then.

"Are you alright?"

Zu An rushed forward to inspect her body.

"Don't touch me!" Qiao Xueying swatted his hands away coldly.

"It's good that you're fine, it's good that you're fine." Zu An breathed a sigh of relief.

"We might be fine now, but it doesn't look like it'll stay that way for long."

Qiao Xueying's complexion looked horrible. She felt that a lifetime's worth of bad luck had suddenly assaulted her. She was first betrayed by Shi Kun, then she used her most precious Half Life's Fate, and now she had squandered two uses of Moon's Reflection here, a skill which she could only use three times in her whole life!

Just what in the world did I owe this fellow my previous life?!

Mi Li looked at her in interest. "So it's the secret art of the Elf Tribe, Moon's Reflection. Judging from the skills you have used thus far, you must be a wood elf."

Zu An was stunned. He assessed Qiao Xueying closely and asked, "You're an elf?"

Chapter 196: You Stupid Sword

Zu An had seen all kinds of dramas and movies regarding elves. They were supposed to be the most beautiful, graceful, and compassionate race out there in the world. Countless otakus had probably drooled over them in their homes.

"Is there anything wrong with that?" Qiao Xueying rolled her eyes.

"There's no problem with it, just that... aren't elves supposed to have pointed ears?" Zu An asked as he propped up the air covering her ears.

Qiao Xueying pushed his hands away with an awful look on her face.

It was Mi Li who answered his question, "She seems to be a half-elf. In other words, she's a cross-breed between a human and an elf."

Qiao Xueying's face paled further. This matter had been a thorn in her heart for the longest time, and her head was often lowered in shame due to this.

Unexpectedly, Zu An suddenly burst into laughter and said, "Ah, so she's multiracial! That's good. Multiracial people tend to be the most beautiful, and they tend to inherit the strength and talents of both their parents."

Qiao Xueying was taken aback by those words. All of those who learned of her identity would usually criticize her for her impure lineage. This was the first time she was hearing of the term 'multiracial', but somehow, it brought her great comfort.

"Thank you," whispered Qiao Xueying softly. In so many years, he was the first one who hadn't discriminated against her, even finding a reason to comfort her.

Zu An replied with a smile, "You need not thank me. Speaking of which, what do you think of me? Why don't we make do with one another and bear a multiracial baby too? I bet our son will be the most handsome being in the world, and our daughter will have beauty rivaling even the goddesses!"

"..." Qiao Xueying.

Okay, I take back what I said earlier. It looks like his shamelessness is an incurable disease.

"If I remember correctly, the Elf Tribe's Moon Reflection should allow them to teleport their bodies several kilometers away, serving both as a survival and escape mean. Yet, you're still here... Is it for this shameless man?" asked Mi Li teasingly.

Zu An stared at Qiao Xueying in shock, and the latter immediately protested, "How could I be doing it for him? Of course it's for Miss Chu, whom I'm indebted to! Hurry up and get out of her body right now, or else I'll make sure to make things tough for you even at the expense of my own life!"

Mi Li burst into laughter in the face of Qiao Xueying's threat, causing the underground cavern to tremor a little. A moment later, she finally reined in her smile and sneered, "You're going to do that?"

Qiao Xueying's face paled. Even from the earlier laughter, it was apparent that Mi Li was far stronger than her. She stood no chance at victory here.

"Don't forget, I'm here too!" Zu An stepped forward and grabbed Qiao Xueying's hand.

Perhaps she wasn't paying any heed to it since they were already in the face of death, or that she had simply gotten used to it since they had been holding hands through the three trials, Qiao Xueying didn't try to shake off Zu An's hand this time around. Instead, the warmth imparted to her made her feel much more confident and assured.

"..." Mi Li.

You're just a third rank cultivator. What can you possibly do here?

Zu An made use of this opportunity to console Qiao Xueying, saying, "You don't need to be afraid. She has been greatly weakened due to her soul leaving her previous body. On top of that, the earlier poison seems to have afflicted her soul too. Given how potent it is, as long as we were to hold on, she might just end up succumbing first."

One must know that Qiao Xueying's shrub had been utterly obliterated by Zhang Han in an instant earlier on, but it was actually able to fend against Mi Li's sword ki for quite a while. This hinted that Mi Li had become severely weakened.

Qiao Xueying's spirits immediately perked up upon hearing that.

"There's no need to whisper amongst yourselves; I can hear you loud and clear. You're right, I'm indeed severely weakened at the moment. However, I still have more than enough strength to curb the two of you!" Mi Li harrumphed coldly.

With a wave of her sleeves, she sent another outburst of sword ki toward Zu An and Qiao Xueying.

Her sword ki was much less concentrated this time around, so Zu An and Qiao Xueying immediately took evasive measures. But halfway through, the sword ki suddenly converged into a crescent arc to strike down on Qiao Xueying.

With a cry of agony, Qiao Xueying spurted out a mouthful of blood and collapsed on the floor.

Mi Li had made sure to control her strength properly, inflicting severe wounds on Qiao Xueying while making sure not to go too far as to make the latter feel that her life was at risk, thus leaving her unwilling to resort to her final use of Moon's Reflection lest she escaped from this cavern and divulged her secrets.

And just as she had predicted, Qiao Xueying indeed didn't use her trump card.

I might not be able to kill her in a single move, but as long as I accumulate enough damage on her, it's only a matter of time before she's sent to hell!

By the time Qiao Xueying realized what Mi Li was up to, it was already too late. She couldn't move at all, let alone channel her ki to activate Moon's Reflection. She could only watch helplessly as a massive sword slashed in her direction.

But all of a sudden, a figure dashed forward and blocked the sword for her.

The sword slashed down on Zu An's back, causing him to spurt a mouthful of blood. Qiao Xueying watched the man in front of her with a flabbergasted look on her face. For a long time, she wasn't able to say anything at all.

"What deep feelings the two of you have for one another," sneered Mi Li. "Since that's the case, I'll send the two of you off together!"

She slashed her sword once more, unleashing multiple streams of sword ki on Zu An all at once. She was intending to cut them down together and end this farce once and for all.

"Run!" exclaimed Qiao Xueying. She knew that Zu An wouldn't be able to save her, and he would only end up getting sliced to pieces at this rate.

"How can I abandon you at a time like this?" Zu An wiped off the trail of blood on his lips and directed a cool smile toward her. However, he was definitely not as relaxed as he was appearing at the moment. He was desperately driving his primordial ki to protect his body, praying that the Heiress' Ball of Delights would continue working its wonder.

He was worried that the Heiress' Ball of Delight wouldn't be able to reassemble him if he were to be reduced into minced meat.

Pu pu pu!

All of the sword ki landed on Zu An's body, causing his blood to splatter all over. Qiao Xueying's eyes brimmed with tears as she watched the man before her was reduced to a bloodied mess. To her surprise, however, his body still remained mostly intact. It wasn't sliced to pieces as she expected.

Mi Li also widened her eyes in astonishment as she began to doubt herself. Have I been weakened to the point where I can't even defeat a third rank cultivator anymore?

Zu An could feel his body desperately trying to take in the surrounding primordial ki. He felt that this mausoleum was definitely built on a blessed land as the primordial ki lingering in the area was extremely concentrated, possibly accumulated over the span of over a thousand years. Otherwise, there was no way it would have been sufficient to fuel the recovery of his injuries.

Seeing that Zu An had spurted out yet another mouthful of blood, Qiao Xueying quickly rushed forward to wipe off the blood from his lips and asked worriedly, "Are you alright?"

"Don't worry, I'm fine." Zu An put on the coolest smile he could think of as he replied. Given his nature, there was no way he wouldn't exploit this opportunity to act cool.

Qiao Xueying's lips also curled up into a helpless smile too. She used to hate his lackadaisical attitude, but it was somehow bringing her comfort now. No matter what kind of circumstance he's in, he still remains so optimistic.

As his injuries recovered to a fair degree, Zu An shakily climbed back to his feet. He knew that it wouldn't do for him to continue taking a beating from Mi Li.

No matter how powerful the Heiress' Ball of Delights was, he wasn't willing to gamble on its ability to keep him alive when he was torn into pieces. He would have to retaliate to stand any chance of getting out of this alive.

Sensing Zu An's fighting will, Mi Li remarked, "Despite your low cultivation, your willpower is far stronger than I thought. I'm truly impressed here. It's no wonder why you were able to break the Human, Earth, and Heaven Seal."

"Hah, to think that you still remember those three seals! Is this how you repay someone who saved you from the prison you were in?" spat Zu An.

Mi Li sighed softly and said, "I wasn't planning on taking your life either, but I didn't expect to fall for the Red Tears of Lady Xiang. I had no choice but to use your wife's body, and you did something unforgivable to me afterward. I can't possibly keep you alive after everything that has happened."

Her face began reddening, though it was hard to tell whether it was out of rage or embarrassment.

Zu An cried in indignance, "I was supposed to be getting steamy with my wife, but you snuck in on your own accord. How could you blame me for that?!"

"I let you take advantage of you; that's more than enough to repay the debt of gratitude I owe to you for saving my life. Now, you should be able to die in peace!"

Mi Li was incredibly frustrated at the moment. She was the empress of the Great Qin Dynasty, the number one beauty of the Central Plains, a noble personage standing beneath only the Sovereign Emperor. Countless men would be willing to give their lives up just to have a whiff of her fragrance, but this fellow actually wasn't content with taking advantage of her?

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +999 Rage!

Zu An finally understood why Mi Li was so angry at him. It turned out that she couldn't stand the notion of being taken advantage of!

He felt incredibly indignant about this. If he had really gotten on Mi Li's body earlier, he could at least accept her attempts to kill him, but the one he was getting steamy with earlier was his wife!

This was a huge loss!

Zu An took in a deep breath and sneered coldly, "I'm someone who managed to clear the Human, Earth, and Heaven Seal. Did you think that I wouldn't have any trump cards?"

"Oh? I would like to have a look for myself then," replied Mi Li.

She was indeed curious as to see what secrets Zu An had in store. Till now, she found it hard to believe how someone as weak as him was able to pull off such a miracle.

Zu An's body was trembling weakly, on the verge of collapsing over at any moment. Yet, he insisted on standing upright with his chest pumped out as he said, "Tai'e, since you have already acknowledged me as your master, stand by me as we subdue this demoness together! Show your glory to the world once more!"

He raised his hand up and bellowed, "Come, my sword!"

The Tai'e Sword was still pinned to the wall from Mi Li's killing blow on Zhang Han earlier on.

Mi Li was shocked to hear those words. She knew just how powerful the Tai'e Sword was. If Zu An was really able to summon its prowess, she would be hard-pressed to deal with him in her current state.

She quickly gathered her ki in preparation to defend herself against the powerful Tai'e Sword, but soon, she found herself dumbfounded. The Tai'e Sword was still lodged into the wall, not moving at all.

This placed Zu An in an incredibly awkward position. Why does other people's swords fly over as soon as they give the command whereas mine doesn't do shit at all! Do I really not have a protagonist's halo?

Unwilling to give up, he bellowed once more, "Come over, you stupid sword!"

He even tried to send a sliver of his ki over to draw the Tai'e Sword over, but unfortunately, he was only at the third rank. He wasn't able to manifest his ki over long distances yet, so it dissipated barely after leaving his body.

Thus, the Tai'e Sword remained fixed on the wall.

Even with someone as brazen as Zu An, he still found himself utterly humiliated. "Goddamnit, come right now!"

Unfortunately, the Tai'e Sword still remained fixed on the wall, not budging at all. Even Qiao Xueying couldn't bear the cringy sight anymore and covered her own face. This was simply too painful to watch!

"Hahaha! Are you intend to kill me with laughter since you aren't able to do it with force?" Mi Li laughed fearlessly.

Chapter 197: Face to Face

After chuckling for a moment, Mi Li's face suddenly turned severe. "I won't waste my time fooling around with you anymore."

This time around, she rushed straight toward Zu An herself. After her sword ki failed to take his life time and time again, she decided to make the move personally.

Zu An was appalled by the sight. He quickly dodged to the side while berating, "Tai'e, you bastard! I swear that you'll be dead meat if you don't get down right now!"

The Tai'e Sword shuddered a little as a metallic reverberation echoed in the air. It fell from the cliff and flew straight into Zu An's hands.

Overjoyed, Zu An immediately swung the sword toward the incoming Mi Li.

Mi Li was horrified by the turn of events. She wouldn't fear Zu An and the Tai'e Sword if she had been in her peak, but in her current state, she had no choice but to avoid facing them directly.

Zu An finally got a chance to examine the sword in his hand closely. He flicked its blade as he remarked, "What a wretched sword you are. You refused to move when I asked you nicely. You needed me to raise my voice at you and threaten you before you're finally willing to move."

Weng weng weng~

The sword whirred a little in protest, unhappy with the way how Zu An was phrasing it.

Mi Li glanced at the Tai'e Sword for a moment, but she decided against confronting it head-on. "Isn't that just like you? It's no wonder why it resonates well with you."

"Hey! Just because you can stuff whatever you want into your mouth doesn't mean that you can let whatever you want spill out from it!" Zu An harrumphed. "What do you mean by that it's like me? Do I look wretched to you?"

"Is that not the case?" sneered Mi Li.

Even Qiao Xueying, who was collapsed weakly in a puddle of blood, nodded in agreement.

Zu An coughed softly to conceal his awkwardness before swiftly changing the topic. "What's the use of saying so much? Now that I have the almighty sword in my hand, I shall show you why flowers are red!"

“You want to teach me a lesson?” It was as if Mi Li had heard the most hilarious joke in the world. “If Tai’e Sword is at its peak, I might still hesitate a little in its face. But now? Heh!”

Right after saying those words, she suddenly appeared right in front of Zu An.

Zu An was horrified. He quickly swung his sword at Mi Li frantically, launching a barrage of extremely aggressive attacks. He had chosen to abandon all defense and go all out to bring Mi Li down at all costs, which was a wise move since he had the Heiress’ Ball of Delight sustaining the final bit of his health bar and the Primordial Origin Ki constantly healing him up.

Mi Li frowned in response. She couldn’t bear the thought of even suffering the slightest injuries in the hands of a mere ant. She began to retreat, but it only raised Zu An’s spirits higher and he upped his aggression a notch higher.

Unfortunately, the gap between the two of them was too great. It didn’t take long for Mi Li to find an opening in his attacks and retaliate, knocking him into the sky, where he flew in an arc before crashing heavily into the ground.

“Ah Zu!” exclaimed Qiao Xueying.

She tried to rush forward to catch him, but the severity of her injuries hindered her movements.

“Since you care for him that much, the two of you can become a pair of lovebirds in the afterlife!” sneered Mi Li.

She raised her hand to end Qiao Xueying’s life too, but a feeble voice suddenly sounded behind her, “I’m not dead yet!”

The two women immediately turned around. Qiao Xueying was overjoyed to see that Zu An was still breathing whereas Mi Li was utterly shocked. The force she had used earlier would have been enough to kill even a fifth rank cultivator, let alone a third rank like him!

Zu An shakily got back to his feet. It was extremely strenuous at first, but his posture got more and more firm. The Primordial Origin Sutra was desperately taking in primordial ki from the surroundings to repair his body. Of course, the rate of recovery couldn’t possibly match the rate he was sustaining injuries at, but fortunately, he had the Heiress’ Ball of Delight to keep the final sliver of his health bar hanging, so he was somehow still able to maintain his condition, no matter how awful it was.

Mi Li’s face turned cold. She was starting to lose her temper. That fellow is like a cockroach who simply wouldn’t be squashed! Annoying!

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +444 Rage!

It was a substantial amount of Rage points, but Zu An wasn’t happy in the least. He had raised a flag previously that he wouldn’t get anything good for the next three draws. So, no matter how many Rage points he earned now, it was just going to go down the drain.

He was just impressed with himself, really. How could he still be so calculative even when he was already on the verge of death?

Mi Li darted toward him once more as swiftly as a bolt of lightning. Zu An swiftly gathered his strength and retaliated with his Tai'e Sword.

Bam!

Once again, Zu An was sent flying. The massive force struck his vitals squarely, such that he would have surely died under normal circumstances.

However, Mi Li dared not to let her guard down. She kept her eyes on him intently.

Her wariness wasn't without reason, for Zu An shakily rose to his feet once more right after.

"Big sis empress, harder!"

Mi Li's face turned cold. She zapped forward once more and launched a series of sharp stabs toward Zu An's body.

Yet, a moment later, the bloodied Zu An struggled to his feet once more and shouted, "Harder!"

Bam!

He was responded with yet another fatal blow.

"Big sis empress, have you not been eating at all? Ah, I forgot that you've been trapped in that coffin for thousands of years."

Bam!

"Harder!"

Bam!

...

Meanwhile, Qiao Xueying's eyes had already been blurred with tears. She cried for Zu An to stop provoking that demoness, but the latter simply wouldn't listen to her.

This torture happened for countless times before Mi Li finally stopped. There was a complicated glint in her eyes as she said, "I must say, you might be weak, but I've never seen anyone with as much willpower as you. It's no wonder why you were able to conquer the Tai'e Sword."

"But it's a pity that I'm still no match for you." Zu An sighed deeply. While he was still in no danger due to the effects of the Heiress' Ball of Delight, the absurd difference in their strength made him completely helpless before her. He didn't stand a chance at all.

"Forget it. Your courage and willpower has won my admiration. If it's a man like you... Cough cough." Redness tinged Mi Li's face. "Now that I think about it, it's not something completely unacceptable either. I'll let you off for now."

After leaving behind those words, she turned around to leave. However, Zu An immediately spoke up to stop her, "Wait a moment! You might have let me off, but that doesn't mean I'm letting you off. Return my wife to me!"

He knew that it was just a matter of time before Mi Li destroyed Chu Chuyan's persona entirely. By then, she would be really dead.

Mi Li turned around with a malicious look on her face. "Don't test my patience!"

The Great Qin Dynasty was known for its strict laws, and she was an empress who stood only beneath a single man. While she wasn't a tyrant like Ying Zheng, she wasn't the type of person to value the sanctity of life either. Even if it was a close aide who had served her for many years, she wouldn't hesitate to kill him if the other party were to get on her bad side.

Under normal circumstances, she would have unhesitatingly sentenced Zu An to 'death by a thousand cuts' for daring to offend her here. She was only sparing him out of admiration for his strong willpower, but the latter actually tried to climb over her head instead!

Qiao Xueying immediately tried to persuade Zu An to step down, "Ah Zu, you've already tried your best. I believe Miss Chu has seen your efforts and is thankful to you for it. There's no need for you to persist any longer. You can't win here."

In her view, it was already a miracle that Zu An was still to survive till now, but there was only so much that a human body could take, not to mention that he hadn't been able to inflict the slightest damage on Mi Li thus far. This was a completely hopeless battle, and there was no point prolonging it.

However, Zu An shook his head and said, "That's my wife over there. We've already consummated our marriage. There's no way I can watch as she loses her life indignantly here!"

"Very well, I'll grant your wish then!" Mi Li was getting deeply annoyed by now. She was born in the royal family, and the only relationship she had in her life was with Ying Zheng. These circumstances led to her not believing in love and whatnot. However, Zu An's determination was shaking the pragmatic values she had embraced thus far.

How is this woman able to acquire something that I was never able to so easily? No, it matters not. I'll just have to sever this bond that they share then!

She flitted right in front of Zu An instantaneously, which spurred Zu An to immediately raise his sword to protect himself. However, he had sustained injuries far too grievous that even with the recovery from the Primordial Origin Sutra, it took all he had just to barely remain standing. He was in no condition to use his sword at all.

Mi Li flicked her finger, and the Tai'e Sword immediately flew several meters away and stabbed right into the ground.

Following that, she wrapped her hand around his neck and sunk her long fingernails into his skin, causing a spurt of blood that dyed her fair fingers with a touch of seductive red.

"I can't understand how you are able to survive thus far. It might be due to some secret skills you possess, or a special lineage perhaps. However, regardless of what you are, there's no way you can survive once you lose your head.

"I've been going easy on you thus far, which is why I've never specifically aimed for your head. However, since you don't know what's good for you, there's no need for me to spare my grace on you any longer. I don't believe that you'll be able to survive one I tear your head off!"

To be honest, Zu An was also curious as to whether the Heiress' Ball of Delight would be able to continue protecting him even after his head was twisted off. If he was still alive at the end of which, how would it work? Would his fallen head simply reattach to his body?

But what if she crushes my head like a watermelon, reducing my brain to mush? Will I be able to come back to life with that?

Zu An's complexion turned awful at that thought.

Noticing the subtle changes in his expressions, Mi Li sneered coldly as she prepared herself to twist off his head. But all of a sudden, her body froze up.

"Ah Zu, kill me!"

The malicious look in Mi Li's eyes vanished without a trace, replaced with Chu Chuyan's anxious expression. Her eyes were glistening with tears.

Zu An was delighted to see her. "Honey, you've managed to overcome her?"

"I am only able to temporarily wrestle control back over my body from her, but I won't be able to last too long at this rate. Hurry up and kill me!" exclaimed Chu Chuyan.

There was no way someone as proud as her would allow another woman to take over her body. Just the thought of how that woman would use her body to do that kind of stuff with other men in the future made her shudder in disgust. She would rather die than to allow something like that to happen!

Her words made Zu An hesitate. Chu Chuyan had completely put down her defenses, such that even Zu An, despite his severe injuries, could kill her with ease at this very moment. However, how could he really do that?

If he was really able to accept her death, there was no way he would have persisted for so long.

"Hurry up!" Chu Chuyan cried pleadingly.

Zu An's complexion turned dark. He knew what was the logical decision he ought to make here, but was this even a question that should be answered with logic at all?

This brief moment of hesitation allowed Chu Chuyan's body to be taken over by the domineering Mi Li once more. "You lowly woman. How dare you try to fight against me?"

"You're the lowly woman here!" Chu Chuyan's eyes regained their clarity.

Chu Chuyan's face kept alternating to and fro between Chu Chuyan and Mi Li, speaking to one another in completely different tones. It was really an extremely eerie sight.

Zu An knew that he couldn't hesitate anymore. So, he picked up the Tai'e Sword and aimed its tip toward Chu Chuyan's heart. As long as he pushed it forth a little, her life would come to an end.

Seemingly knowing that Zu An wouldn't be able to do it, Chu Chuyan gritted her teeth, grabbed the sword with her left hand, and pulled the sword toward her chest.

Chapter 198: Double the Happiness

"Chuyan!" exclaimed Zu An in horror.

The severity of his injuries was enough to offset any enhancements he received from the effects of the Phoenix Nirvana Sutra, such that he couldn't even draw his sword back properly.

The sword pierced into her chest, and a trail of blood began seeping out.

Zu An despaired, but all of a sudden, he noticed that the sword had come to a halt.

It turned out that her right hand also reached out to grab the sword, desperately trying to hold it in place. Or to be more exact, it was Mi Li who was trying to stop her from committing suicide!

It was yet another incredibly eerie side. One hand was trying to hold the sword back whereas the other was trying to push it in, resulting in a standstill.

Zu An found his head descending into a mess. He knew that this standstill wouldn't last for long. He would have to kill her now, or else she would be overwhelmed by Mi Li soon enough.

But he really couldn't do it!

"Is there anything I can do to save her?" Zu An racked his brain to see if there was anything he could do, but he had only transmigrated into this world not too long ago, so his knowledge was severely lacking. He had already used all of the tools he could in order to deal with Mi Li.

Wait a moment, there's something which I haven't used yet—'Knock-You-Up Eyes'! I still have one use of it. I nearly forgot that there's still this skill.

However, his joy swiftly dissipated into despair. This skill still couldn't save Chu Chuyan. All it could do was to inflict severe pain on Mi Li, perhaps opening a window of opportunity for him to kill her. If he really wanted to kill Chu Chuyan, he could have done it right here, right now.

He suddenly thought about the words the man in dragon robe told him in the seal. It seemed like he could use some sort of 'purifying ability' from the Primordial Origin Sutra, but the problem was that he didn't know how it worked!

So far, he had only learned how to channel the primordial ki to temper his body and recover his injuries. He hadn't been taught anything about purifying at all.

Then, he thought about how he was able to reconnect Chu Chuyan's ki meridians earlier.

Do I need to connect our bodies together in order to do the purification?

However, he soon shook off that thought. One must know that the man in dragon robe was likely to be Ying Zheng, and regardless of how their relationship was, it didn't change the fact that Mi Li was his empress. Just how messed up did he have to be to tell another man to screw his wife?

At the very least, it didn't seem likely for Ying Zheng to have any fetish about infidelity.

But how do I purify her then?

It was then that Zu An suddenly felt the pushing force on the sword growing stronger and stronger. Mi Li was clearly gaining ground here. He had to do something right away, or else it would be too late.

Forget it, I should just give it a try!

"Big sis empress, I've been going easy on you thus far, but it looks like I've no choice now," said Zu An.

"You've been going easy on me thus far?" Mi Li burst into laughter.

Even Chu Chuyan and Qiao Xueying also widened their eyes, unable to comprehend what Zu An was intending by saying those words at a moment like this.

Zu An sighed deeply and said, "Since you know that I've learned the Primordial Origin Sutra, you should know from whom I've learned it too."

"Ying Zheng!" exclaimed Mi Li in astonishment.

"Indeed. Not only has he imparted to me the Primordial Origin Sutra, but he has also told me the way to purify you!" said Zu An.

As expected, Mi Li's face immediately darkened. She was so shaken that Chu Chuyan managed to garner greater control over the body, resulting in the sword being pulled even deeper into her chest.

Alarmed, Zu An quickly pulled the sword outward with all his might.

"..." Chu Chuyan.

You have successfully trolled Chu Chuyan for +250 Rage!

This bastard! It wasn't easy for me to find an opportunity to make a move, but you're foiling it right now!

"No, that's not right. You would have done it earlier if you were able to purify me. There's no need for you to sustain such severe injuries at all in the first place." Mi Li soon found a gap in Zu An's words.

To that, Zu An quickly replied, "What can I say? I'm a pervert. Big sis empress, how could a pervert like me possibly be willing to kill someone as beautiful as you?"

"..." Chu Chuyan.

"..." Mi Li.

You have successfully trolled Chu Chuyan for +333 Rage!

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +333 Rage!

You have successfully trolled Qiao Xueying for +256 Rage!

Zu An was quite curious as to why the Rage points he was receiving from Chu Chuyan and Mi Li were the same.

Could it be because they're sharing the same body? What a pity it is that Chu Chuyan would soon die under Mi Li's possession. If the two of them could share consciousness, wouldn't it be double the happiness for me?

But speaking of which, why are you joining the crowd too, Qiao Xueying?

It took a bit of effort for Zu An to shrug off his miscellaneous thoughts and continue on, "Besides... we did have an intimate moment with one another. I'm not as heartless as you as to be able to turn against someone whom you were... tightly bonded with just a moment ago!"

"..." Chu Chuyan.

"..." Mi Li.

You have successfully trolled Chu Chuyan for +1024 Rage!

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +1024 Rage!

You have successfully trolled Qiao Xueying for +1024 Rage!

This huge output of Rage points frightened Zu An.

What the hell! Why are they supplying me the same amount of Rage points all at once? Heh, this means that the excuse I'm spinning up works, right?

It was then that a resounding explosion sounded.

All of them quickly turned their heads over, only to see the lake not too far away bubbling furiously. The massive green lotus leaves had already vanished without a trace, and the entire underground cavern began shaking intensely. Bits of stone fragments fell to the ground from the ceiling.

"What's going on?" asked Zu An.

"The ghosts are here," replied Mi Li with a deep frown.

"???" Zu An.

Mi Li quickly elaborated, "Zhang Han has incited the death of the 200,000 elite soldiers of the Qin Dynasty back then. Afraid that these soldiers would rise as vengeful spirits to exact vengeance on him, he conspired with the Hegemon-King of Western Chu to use the lingering aura of my Soul Suppression Seal together with the Evanescent Lotus to set up a smaller Soul Suppression Seal to suppress those 200,000 evil spirits."

Zu An was impressed. "Just the lingering aura of your seal is enough to suppress over 200,000 evil spirits? My gosh! You're even more frightening than ghosts!"

"..." Mi Li.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +378 Rage!

"After you released the Soul Suppression Seal, the foundation of the smaller seal that Zhang Han had set up gradually lost its effectiveness," replied Mi Li. "It's all your fault! If not for your intervention, I

wouldn't have forgotten about this. I was going to leave here as soon as possible, but now I'm forced to deal with this trouble with you lot!"

Zu An rolled his eyes. "Are you saying that you're afraid of those 200,000 evil spirits? I mean, those evil spirits were sealed with just the lingering aura of your Soul Suppression Seal!"

"Of course I wouldn't be afraid of them if I was in my peak. However, the Red Tear of Lady Xiang has destroyed my body, and the current body I'm using is simply too weak. I won't be able to cope with them in my current state." Mi Li harrumphed coldly.

"..." Chu Chuyan.

She had been viewed as a prodigious cultivator even from a young age, an existence who towered over the others. This was the first time that someone had scorned her to be weak, and to make things worse, she actually couldn't refute it.

How maddening!

"Why are you telling me all of this?" Zu An was perplexed as to why Mi Li was suddenly explaining all of this to him.

A commotion suddenly happened not too far away. The terracotta soldiers had also noticed the happenings over at the lake and quickly made their way over, but a large bunch of blue evil spirits abruptly rushed out of the lake and swiftly engulfed the first row of the terracotta soldiers.

While Zu An was dumbfounded by the sight, Mi Li's voice suddenly sounded, "Why don't we make a deal?"

Chapter 199: Life-and-Death Contract

"What kind of deal?" asked Zu An as he gazed upon the undead army in horror. He hadn't even resolved the crisis with Mi Li when another disaster began falling upon him.

It looks like I'm really doomed now.

"You should also know that everyone here will die once those vengeful evil spirits rush out," said Mi Li.

The intrigued Zu An asked, "Aren't they soldiers of the Qin Dynasty before their deaths? It's one thing for them to hate Zhang Han, but surely you should be able to order them as the empress of the Qin Dynasty?"

Mi Li shook her head and replied, "It's true that they were soldiers of the Qin Dynasty, but they died with a heart filled with hatred, and they were sealed for a thousand years afterward. Their hatred has eroded their sentience, turning them into vengeful spirits. All that's left in them is viciousness and bloodlust, and it's in their instinct to eliminate all living creatures before them. None of us will live once they fully escape from the confines of that lake."

"What kind of deal are you proposing then?" asked Zu An.

He was only able to joke around with Mi Li because she was pretty, but there was no way he would bother entertaining these evil spirits.

"Instead of wasting your purification on me, use it to deal with those vengeful spirits. This will be beneficial to both of us!" replied Mi Li.

Zu An was delighted. It seems like this woman really thinks that I'm able to purify her and is afraid now.

With such thoughts in mind, his attitude became even harder. "Why should I? You nearly caused my wife's death. I have no reason to let you off so easily!"

Mi Li's face darkened as she struggled internally to come to a decision. She took a glance over at the lake and saw that the terracotta soldiers were gradually being pushed back. It was only a matter of time before the vengeful spirits overwhelmed them.

After all, there was a huge difference in terms of forces. There were over 200,000 evil spirits whereas there were only around several thousand terracotta soldiers. If not for the fact that the evil spirits weren't able to escape the seal all at once, the battle would have ended in an instance.

"Fine! I'll leave your wife's body, but you mustn't use your purification against me. On top of that, you must gather resources for me so that I can reconstruct my body," replied Mi Li grimly.

Zu An was delighted. This was the best outcome he could hope for. It seemed like she was really frightened of the so-called purification. "Very well, I'll agree to your deal. Hurry up and get out of Chuyan's body right now!"

"Do you take me for a fool? What if you renege on your promise afterward?" sneered Mi Li.

"What do you want me to do then? Should we seal another contract then?" asked Zu An.

"That won't do. There are far too many loopholes with contracts, and you seem to be quite a despicable man. Who knows what kind of verbal traps you have prepared for me!" rejected Mi Li right away.

"..." Zu An.

"Big sis empress, I do recall that you were the one who tampered with the contract and reneged on our promise earlier. How in the world do you have the cheek to raise this matter before me?"

Damn it, it angers me just to think of it!

"Ah Zu, you mustn't accept her deal! That woman is a crafty one. She's definitely up to something!" exclaimed Chu Chuyan.

Qiao Xueying nodded in agreement too. "Indeed, this woman is vile. We can't trust her!"

"Foolish women. All is fair in war! I don't know any of you, so it's only normal for me to pull some tricks. You should blame yourselves for being foolish enough to fall into my tricks. However, things are different now that we're on the same boat!" Mi Li harrumphed.

Zu An was rendered speechless by Mi Li's shamelessness. Somehow, he felt a little offended by her words. However, he knew that he had no choice to go along with Mi Li's demands since he was just putting on an act right now.

“What do you want to do then?”

Mi Li had already thought things through properly. “There are simply far too many plausible loopholes in the contract. Let’s just simplify things and go with a ‘Life-and-Death Contract’ instead. This way, none of us can pull anything at all.”

“Life-and-Death Contract? What’s that?” asked Zu An in confusion.

Mi Li quickly explained, “A promise transcending life and death shall be made; two shall age together...”

Qiao Xueying couldn’t help but interject, “How shameless. Aren’t you just using this as an excuse to snatch Miss Chu’s husband?”

Chu Chuyan’s shocked expression showed that she had the same thoughts in mind too.

Mi Li flew into a state of rage, bellowing, “What are you two dumb women thinking about? Who in the world would want to snatch this scum from you? That poem isn’t used to describe romance between a man and a woman back then but the camaraderie shared by those in the military. As the words suggest, it refers to a promise to die together on the battlefield with one’s comrades in times of crisis.”

Qiao Xueying’s face reddened. “I... I mean exactly that!”

Chu Chuyan was also embarrassed by her thoughts that she didn’t notice Qiao Xueying’s anomaly.

“This contract would seal both of our souls together. If you die, I’ll die as well, and vice-versa. This way, we won’t have to worry about each other doing anything contrary to our interests,” replied Mi Li. “This is the only way I’ll feel secure enough to leave your wife’s body. Otherwise, I’ll rather all of us go down together.”

“You want us to die together?” Zu An hesitated upon hearing those words. He didn’t want to entrust his fate into the hands of another person.

Chu Chuyan gritted her teeth and said, “Ah Zu, don’t agree to that. Bring Snow out of here; I’ll stall her for the time being!”

Zu An frowned upon hearing those words. Before he could say anything, Mi Li had already interjected, “You really are a dumb woman. He would have long run away if he’s able to abandon you! He wouldn’t have waited till now, sustaining such severe injuries for you!”

“Besides, if anyone is disadvantaged in this contract, it’s me! I haven’t even scorned him yet, and you’re already scorning me? Do you know how powerful I am? There are few in the world who have the ability to hurt me whereas your man is so measly weak. I am the one who should be worried here!”

Qiao Xueying still wasn’t willing to let this matter slide. “Hmph, who’s scorning who? At the very least, he should be able to live till a thousand years old, possibly higher than that once his cultivation rank goes up. It’s his loss for tying his fate with you!”

She had shared at least 700 to 800 years of her lifespan to him through her Half Life’s Fate, and cultivators usually had a lifespan far longer than ordinary mortals. Living a thousand years was really a walk in the park for him.

After she had contributed half of her lifespan to Zu An, there was no way she would be content to see Zu An dying together with another woman. What a huge loss it would be for her if that were to happen!

“A thousand years?” Chu Chuyan was surprised, not knowing why Snow was saying those words. Given Zu An’s current cultivation rank, he was still a long way off from living a thousand years.

On the other hand, Mi Li harrumphed coldly and said, “A thousand years? Hmph! Even if he lives for two thousand, I’m still the one suffering a huge loss here!”

Qiao Xueying and Chu Chuyan fell into silence. They knew that she was right here, especially since she had already lived for an immeasurable period of time in this dark underground cavern.

Zu An couldn’t resist asking, “Big sis empress, how old are you?”

“Who are you asking this question?” Mi Li rolled her eyes. “Don’t you know that it’s rude to ask a woman for her age?”

Toward that, Zu An replied, “I have no doubt even if you say that you can live for ten thousand years, but I reckon that you should have been sealed down here for several thousand years now. If you’re already nearing your final years, don’t I have much to lose by sealing this Life-and-Death Contract with you?”

“...” Mi Li.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +777 Rage!

Qiao Xueying burst into laughter upon hearing those words. There were so many times where Zu An drove her crazy, but it was oddly exhilarating to see him do the same to other people.

“You brat! Stop challenging my patience!” Mi Li’s eyelids twitched as she bellowed with gritted teeth.

“Fine, I’ll agree to your request to get into a Life-and-Death Contract with you,” replied Zu An.

Qiao Xueying and Chu Chuyan immediately exclaimed anxiously, “Ah Zu, you mustn’t!”

However, Zu An stopped them with a wave of his hand and said, “Don’t worry. I don’t have much to lose by signing this contract. We need to resolve the situation before us after all, so it wouldn’t do for us to get stuck at an impasse here.”

Qiao Xueying and Chu Chuyan didn’t think that it was right for Zu An to sign such a contract with Mi Li, but they knew that what he said was true. Since he had already made up his mind, they decided to accept his decision.

As for Zu An, he knew that he was just taking Mi Li for a ride here. He was actually desperate to sign whatever contract she said so as to tie her down, just that he was afraid that his act would be seen through if he appeared too enthusiastic, which was why he nonchalantly changed the subject so as to appear relaxed.

Fortunately, his distractions worked out well, and Mi Li didn’t notice a thing at all.

“How do we sign this ‘Life-and-Death Contract?’” asked Zu An.

Mi Li raised her hand and said, "Give me a drop of your blood essence."

"Blood essence?" Zu An scratched his head awkwardly. "Is this really good? I mean, to take off my pants before all of you is really a bit..."

"..." Qiao Xueying.

"..." Chu Chuyan.

"..." Mi Li.

"Wash those filthy thoughts out of your mind!" bellowed Mi Li. "Blood essence refers to the origin of your life force. It's different from your normal blood, and it definitely isn't what you're thinking of!"

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +517 Rage!

Zu An laughed sheepishly. It sure was awkward to have misinterpreted her words in a lewd manner... though honestly, he didn't think that he was to be blamed for this since he did use the other type of 'blood essence' to fix up Chu Chuyan's ki meridians earlier on.

Mi Li couldn't be bothered to waste her words with him, so she pressed her forefinger on his forehead and pulled out a droplet of blood essence that looked far more vibrantly crimson than ordinary blood.

Chu Chuyan was horrified. She tried to stop her, but Mi Li said, "Relax, I won't hurt your man."

Zu An suddenly felt a surge of powerlessness. Fatigue far greater than whatever he had felt before swept across his body. It would seem like losing one's blood essence really took a huge toll on one's body.

"Stretch out your finger and draw the same symbols with me," instructed Mi Li.

"Be careful, Ah Zu!" warned Qiao Xueying.

Chu Chuyan also added, "If you sense anything amiss, stab your sword through my heart right away."

Zu An assured them with a smile, "Don't worry, she isn't able to kill me."

He wasn't frightened of Mi Li as long as the Heiress' Ball of Delight was still working.

"You're oddly confident," remarked Mi Li, displeased by how lightly Zu An was taking her.

However, Zu An didn't bother saying anything. He raised his hand and touched the tip of Mi Li's finger. The icy sensation felt incredibly comfortable, and for a moment there, he wondered if this comfort was coming from Chu Chuyan or Mi Li.

"Gather your focus!" Mi Li frowned. Zu An's expression made her feel incredibly uncomfortable. "Slowly draw along with me."

Zu An replied with a nod. With the tips of their fingers linked together, using the blood essence as ink, they drew out a profound formation in mid-air.

Once the formation was complete, a golden light burst forth and rushed into each of their foreheads before finally vanishing without a trace.

Zu An blinked his eyes blankly. All of a sudden, Mi Li felt far more intimate to him, and he intuitively knew that she hadn't been lying to him. This contract was indeed able to make the two of them share fates.

This wasn't a feeling conveyed through words, but a natural enlightenment arising from the rules of the world.

Zu An suddenly thought about an incredibly important question, and he asked, "What do you intend to do once you leave my wife's body?"

He was eager for Mi Li to leave Chu Chuyan's body earlier than he hadn't really thought about the aftermath, but now that their fates were linked together, he began worrying that Mi Li would suddenly dissipate and die off. That would spell his death as well.

Chapter 200: I Haven't Had Enough Fun Yet

Mi Li lowered her head to look at his sword and said, "I'll stay in the Tai'e Sword for the time being."

Zu An was surprised. "The Tai'e Sword could house people too?"

Mi Li rolled her eyes and said, "Divine weapons with the Tai'e Sword contain a pocket of space within them. It's fortunate that the sword spirit has been greatly depleted, or else it wouldn't be easy for me to slip in easily."

"The sword spirit has been greatly depleted?" Zu An was perplexed by those words.

Mi Li looked at Zu An as if he was asking the obvious as she explained, "The Tai'e Sword's spirit suffered a heavy blow in a battle back then, and ever since then, Ying Zheng had never used the sword ever again. However, he felt that it would be a huge waste to abandon it, so he chose to use it as the Soul Suppression Seal's formation core, using it to supply energy to the formation. Over thousands of years of having its energy extracted, the Tai'e Sword is far more weakened than ever. Otherwise, someone of your caliber couldn't possibly hope to wield it. The moment you got into contact with it, you would have already been torn into shreds by its sword ki!"

Zu An nodded in realization.

Mi Li had hinted at the great strength the Tai'e Sword wielded several times throughout their encounter, but he hadn't noticed anything particularly outstanding about it while holding it in his hand. If its sword spirit was already depleted right from the start, it would be more of like a 'dead sword' that only retained a small portion of its true powers. Other than its sharp edge and resilient blade, there was probably nothing really noteworthy to it at the moment.

"Have your wife let go of the blade first," said Mi Li as she watched helplessly as the sword stabbed in and out of her chest repetitively. She dared not to let her guard down at all, or else she might just drop dead in the next moment.

"Chuyan, you can let go of the blade now. Everything is under control," said Zu An hurriedly.

Chu Chuyan hesitated for a moment before finally releasing her grip.

Mi Li began murmuring a series of obscure chants before her silhouette began rising out of Chu Chuyan's body before seeping into the Tai'e Sword, which caused the sword to reverberate lightly.

Zu An could somehow sense that the sword had become a little different from before, but he couldn't really put his finger on how it was different.

Meanwhile, Chu Chuyan's body suddenly fell limp and collapsed to the side. Astonished, Zu An rushed forward to support her, "What's wrong?"

"She just hasn't regained full control of her body yet since I was on the dominant side earlier. Don't worry, she'll be fine soon," replied Mi Li.

"Hm? Why does your voice sound so feeble?" asked Zu An curiously.

"What else do you expect? A normal human's soul would dissipate as soon as it leaves its body, and I've already left two bodies in a row now. Isn't it obvious that I'm going to suffer tremendous damage from that?" replied Mi Li hatefully.

Clearly, she was holding a grudge toward him for that.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +233 Rage!

Zu An chuckled sheepishly as he wisely chose not to incur her ire at a time like this. He turned his attention back to the beauty in his arms and asked, "Honey, how are you feeling?"

Chu Chuyan's eyes slowly fluttered open. She stared at him for a moment before her cheeks suddenly turned red, which spurred her to push him away. Then, she awkwardly walked over to Qiao Xueying's side to help her up.

"..." Zu An.

Why is she suddenly acting so distant? She was still so concerned about me while Mi Li was in her body.

"Stop acting all lovey-dovey over there now. Hurry up and purify those vengeful spirits! Otherwise, once all 200,000 of them rushes out of the lake, all of us will be doomed!" reminded Mi Li.

"Alright!" replied Zu An decisively as he made his way toward the lake.

But barely a few steps later, his footsteps suddenly halted. He hesitantly turned around and asked, "So, about that... how do I purify those vengeful spirits again?"

"???" Mi Li.

Chu Chuyan and Qiao Xueying also looked at him in bewilderment. It was the latter's great confidence that persuaded Mi Li to leave earlier, but judging from what he was saying now...

"You don't know the art of purification?" Mi Li finally grasped what was going on and asked in disbelief.

Zu An shyly replied, "I was supposed to learn it, but Ying Zheng's soul dissipated before he could teach me that..."

"!!!" Mi Li.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +1024!

She was really on the verge of exploding from anger. How could she have been fooled by him into willingly inflicting such grievous damage to her soul?!

"I'm going to mince you up!"

The Tai'e Sword reverberated sharply as it flew out of Zu An's hands and began chasing him around, attempting to hack off his neck.

"..." Chu Chuyan.

"..." Qiao Xueying.

They finally understood why he had chosen to accept Mi Li's condition despite the risks. It turned out that it was just bravado.

He sure is scheming. He doesn't even bat an eyelid when he makes such a blatant lie!

Meanwhile, Zu An was frantically scurrying around like a mouse as he shouted, "We already signed the Life-and-Death Contract, so our fates are linked to one another now! If you kill me, you're going to die too!"

Upon hearing those words, the Tai'e Sword finally paused in mid-air. That being said, it continued to convey Mi Li's overflowing rage through its intense vibration. If it was possible, she would indubitably slice Zu An down into a thousand pieces right away, but the contract left her with no choice but to swallow down her grievances.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +1024 Rage!

"Shall we leave this place first? We should tide across this crisis first. You can always settle the score with me later on," suggested Zu An.

"..." Mi Li.

It took a long time before she finally calmed down. "Leave? Those evil spirits have already seen all of you and locked onto your auras. Even if you run to the ends of the world, they'll still track you down and kill you. You'll have to resolve the problem right now."

"But I don't know the art of purification!" cried Zu An bitterly.

"Once you cultivate the Primordial Origin Sutra to the second rank, you'll be able to purify any malevolent beings with your primordial ki," replied Mi Li.

"Second rank?" Zu An was put in a spot. "But I'm only at the first rank at the moment."

"You've been channeling the Primordial Origin Sutra all this while in order to heal your injuries, so I reckon that you should be on the verge of a breakthrough now. Try channeling it again to heal your wounds," said Mi Li with a cold harrumph.

"Alright." Zu An began channeling the Primordial Origin Sutra, and soon, he felt his wounds recovering swiftly.

It was then that the Tai'e Sword suddenly let out a metallic reverberation and pierced right toward his body. Zu An focusing his attention on recovering his wounds, so there was no way he could cope with the unexpected attack.

Qiao Xueying and Chu Chuyan also didn't expect Mi Li to suddenly make a move here, so it was too late for them to stop her. They could only watch helplessly as the Tai'e Sword pierced right into Zu An's body.

"What are you doing?!" hollered the two women. Chu Chuyan even began making her way forward to deal with Mi Li.

"This is necessary to raise the speed of his breakthrough. Those terracotta soldiers are already at their limit," replied Mi Li coldly.

Qiao Xueying and Chu Chuyan quickly turned their heads over, only to see that the terracotta soldiers were swiftly getting overwhelmed by the evil spirits coming out from the lake.

"Don't worry, I know what I'm doing. I won't go too far as to take his life," replied Mi Li as she stabbed the blade yet into another part of Zu An's body.

"..." Chu Chuyan.

"..." Qiao Xueying.

Zu An took in a sharp breath as he asked, "Are you sure you aren't making use of this opportunity to get even with me?"

"So what if I am? Do you how huge of a loss you have caused me? Just man up and bear with it!" replied Mi Li gleefully. She did feel a bit better after stabbing Zu An a few times.

"..." Zu An.

Wow, I didn't think that she would admit to it so frankly.

Knowing that the situation was dire, he could only continue channeling the Primordial Origin Sutra and pray that he would make a breakthrough as soon as possible.

Some time later, he suddenly jolted as he felt his body growing lighter than ever. He found himself entering a profound state of consciousness, reminiscent of the moment right before his transmigration.

It was a dark and silent place, nothing to be seen, heard, or felt at all. No matter how he tried to widen his eyes, there was simply nothing at all.

A while later, a brilliant light suddenly glared from the distance. He couldn't even begin to describe how bright that light was. He previously thought that the sun was the greatest source of light for the world, but it was nothing compared to what he was witnessing at this very moment.

The light swiftly spread all around, and soon, the world he was in was no longer dark anymore.

He tried to perceive his surroundings carefully as the light had already reached his surroundings, but before he could see anything, he had already been jolted awake.

That earlier sight... is that the inception of the world?

Zu An was stunned. He felt that the surrounding air felt far more refreshingly sweet than it ever had. Nourishing primordial ki began gushing in his direction. If he had only been able to sense a small amount of primordial ki in his surroundings no matter how he searched in the past, right now, he no longer had to exert any effort at all. Primordial ki was automatically drawn to him, allowing him to absorb it at a far faster speed than before.

Chu Chuyan and Qiao Xueying saw his severe wounds recovering at a rate visible to the eye.

"Hm, I didn't expect you to make a breakthrough so quickly. I haven't had my fun yet," remarked Mi Li regretfully.

"..." Zu An.

"Hurry up and tell me how to purify those evil spirits!" said Zu An with a darkened face.

"Channel your primordial ki into the Tai'e Sword and slash at those evil spirits. That would be enough to purify them," replied Mi Li.

Qiao Xueying immediately asked, "But the battle over there is so intense. Given his cultivation, even the slightest shockwave could easily take his life!"

She was indeed putting light of Zu An's strength, but everyone could tell that she was saying those words out of concern.

Against that, Mi Li calmly replied, "He's holding the Sword of Kingship; those terracotta soldiers will know better than to attack him. As for those evil spirits, the second rank primordial ki is their natural nemesis. They won't be able to pose a threat to him."

Qiao Xueying's worries were finally put to ease.

Chu Chuyan, on the other hand, had thought things out even deeper. "But there are over 200,00 evil spirits here. If he stabs them one by one, there won't be an end to it."

"Don't worry, it won't take too long," replied Mi Li.

Zu An had another question to ask, "The primordial ki in this underground palace is much more concentrated than anywhere else, but there's still a limit to it. On top of that, my rate of absorption is limited too. I don't think that my stamina will be enough to purify all 200,000 evil spirits."

"You don't have to worry about that. Those evil spirits harness a certain amount of primordial ki in their bodies, so you'll be able to continue healing up throughout the battle," replied Mi Li. "Besides, your body is far more resilient than you think. Your current injuries would have been enough to kill any other cultivators ten times over."

Zu An nodded in response, though he knew that he was only able to hang on due to the Heiress' Ball of Delight. Looking at the time, its effects should be running out very soon. He still remembered the agony he went through once the effects died out after he was struck by the Wailing Whip, and he had no intention of going through that once more. He was determined to heal up as much as possible before then.

So, with the Tai'e Sword in hand, he made his way over toward the lake. Perhaps it was due to them sensing the presence of the Tai'e Sword, the terracotta soldiers opened up a pathway for him, allowing him to quickly arrive at the frontlines.

The sudden presence of a living being immediately spurred the aggression of the evil spirits. As if sharks catching onto the scent of blood, they began charging toward him with shrill shrieks.