Refining 1041

Chapter 1041 – Demon Commander

It was said that those who weren't far-sighted would soon have immediate worries...these words were negative and also unlucky, but there was some truth to them. It was an excellent strategy to always be prepared for danger, even in times of peace. And now that Qin Yu was in the abyss, he felt that it was necessary to maintain as many preparations as possible.

When he arrived at Great Deer City he had already completed plans for the worst possible situation. For instance, if Feature's existence was discovered by the abyssal demons...the Merry Forest was an escape route that Qin Yu had found for himself.

This was a dark and gloomy place that was lawless and chaotic. Countless sins were committed here every day. To him, this was the best choice. As long as he could flee here, he might have a chance to escape whatever tribulation was chasing him.

Because of this, Qin Yu learned as much about the Merry Forest as he could. So when he heard the horned python clan youth speak to him, his eyes sparkled and he revealed a look of surprise. "You can buy your own life in the Merry Forest?"

The horned python clan youth was expressionless. "I'm in a good mood today."

Qin Yu glanced at him and slowly shook his head. "Then I'll have to disappoint you and your good mood. There's nothing on me that I can give to you."

The horned python clan youth frowned, "You want to die?"

"Of course not." Qin Yu smiled. "Although I have lived for a considerable period of time, I'm still far away from being hopeless and tired of living. So I have to live; I definitely have to live."

The horned python clan youth's eyes twitched, as if he was reaching the end of his patience. After several breaths of silence he lifted a hand and pointed a finger. "The exit is there. Leave!"

Qin Yu raised an eyebrow and smiled. "Then, I'll have to thank you." He glanced at the scattered corpses on the ground and thought it was a pity. He was originally thinking of taking advantage of these abyssal demons and making another fortune for himself.

He didn't care about demon crystals and things like that, but if Feature wanted to become a demonic refining master, then that was an occupation that burnt money like a fever dream. In that case, it was best to be armed with money at all times. But now it seemed that his plan had failed...whatever, he would find another solution later.

He turned to leave. But, Qin Yu was doomed to not be able to leave the Merry Forest so easily today. As he turned around, he could hear someone cackling out loud, "Blacklight, this person intentionally provoked trouble and fled into my Merry Forest. If he leaves so easily, won't we just be made a joke of?"

With a flapping sound, the surrounding demons quickly dispersed. A woman walked forward, bringing several others with her. She had a tall figure, comparable to that of ordinary male demons. Her figure was explosive and she wore a revealing dress.

Now, as her light purple eyes fell on the horned python youth, her lips lifted in a taunting smile.

Blacklight furrowed his eyebrows before stretching them back out. "This region is under my control. I will handle things how I want to. Firefly, mind your own business!"

"The master has given me patrol duties so there is nothing in the entire Merry Forest that I cannot manage...or, Blacklight, do you believe yourself so strong that you can now question the master's orders?" Firefly's smile widened.

Blacklight had a calm expression, unmoved by her words. "You don't have the qualifications to question my loyalty towards the master."

"Good. Then I will personally manage this person who dared to cause trouble and then flee into my Merry Forest." Firefly covered her mouth and laughed. She looked at Qin Yu and said, "Go, cut off his head and hang it at the entrance. Let everyone know how stupid it is to provoke our Merry Forest."

"Yes, miss!" A demon behind her bowed. He stepped forward and stared at Qin Yu. His eyes immediately turned red, "Your scent is quite good. I will taste your flesh and blood, and if the flavor is decent, I will eat you!"

The abyssal demon race had a wisdom and intelligence no less than that of humans. But, they had various powerful demon bloodlines flowing within them, and they also originated from the same source as abyssal demon beasts.

Due to the influence of their demon bloodlines, they were naturally predisposed to being cruel and bloodthirsty. Swallowing and eating powerful enemies to strengthen themselves was a common occurrence.

So this demon wasn't trying to scare or threaten Qin Yu, but was actually thinking it. Qin Yu naturally knew this. He frowned, a cold chill gushing out from his heart.

Because his heart of the abyss had absorbed a part of the abyss' source, his current state was that of a genuine abyssal demon. But, he still loathed and detested these bloodthirsty methods.

Qin Yu didn't want to create any issues so he was willing to leave like this. But since the people of the Merry Forest weren't willing to let him go, he would take a good look at how much strength was hidden in this dark region of Great Deer City.

Bang -

The ground cracked. The abyssal demon with crimson eyes grinned and turned into a shadow as he threw himself forward. Before he arrived, a cruel aura shrouded the mind. If one's will wasn't strong they would definitely be affected. Their heart would fill with panic and fear and their strength would be drastically reduced.

The demon raised an arm and punched out. Abyssal energy surged on the surface of the giant fist as it tore through the air. The complexions of the surrounding abyssal demons changed.

This strength was near the level of a Demon General. It was said that Miss Firefly's strength was deep and she had numerous powerhouses as her subordinates. Now that they saw it for themselves, they knew it was true. No wonder the master held her in such high regard!

"Humph! Bitterfang's demon breaking power is becoming increasingly astonishing with every day. Even a Demon General cannot easily withstand such an all-out attack!"

"Killing this brat is as easy as turning a hand. I think this punch is going to pierce his chest and grab his heart!"

"Hehe, that is Bitterfang's specialty. To break through someone's chest, take their heart, and then eat it up!"

"Bitterfang, be careful and don't destroy his head! The miss still needs to hang it at the entrance!"

Firefly coldly sneered. She glanced at Blacklight. The two of them were the most powerful subordinates of the master, so competition between them was inevitable. They had many conflicts behind the scenes.

Killing this person would tarnish Blacklight's honor and allow her to win the occupying side once again. It would teach everyone in the Merry Forest just which side was better to choose.

But when she glanced at Blacklight's face, she frowned. This was because she discovered that Blacklight's expression was too calm, as if he didn't care about what was happening in front of him.

What was going on here?

Before Firefly could think further, there was a loud explosion followed by the sound of breaking bones. Her heart shrank and she looked up to see a giant shadow come flying over. Blood spurted out from every orifice of his face, mixed with fragments of flesh.

Bang -

The shadow crashed into the ground and blasted open a deep pit. Looking down, one could see Bitterfang lying at the bottom of the pit, barely breathing. The scene fell deathly silent. Numerous demons widened their eyes with panic and horror. They clearly hadn't expected that this would be the result.

Blacklight's pupils shrank. In that instant just now, he had barely seen Qin Yu attack. With just one strike, without any strength or preparations, he had casually punched out a fist and sent Bitterfang tumbling backwards.

He glanced at the pit in the ground and determined that Bitterfang was more or less dead. His expression became even more serious...this person's strength was far higher than he first estimated.

He was absolutely at the Demon General level, and his strength was tyrannical!

Firefly looked away from Blackwind, her eyes freezing over. For her to have her current status as a demon woman, disregarding her own strength, she was sufficiently intelligent. She had already realized what was happening.

Blacklight had likely noticed that this demon wasn't easy to provoke and so he decided to let him go. As for herself, she hadn't known about this. She thought she had found a way to suppress Blacklight's arrogance but had instead fallen into a pit of her own making.

Or perhaps Blacklight had already sensed her arrival and intentionally led her into this trap...no matter what the truth was, that was no longer important. The key was that if Firefly couldn't kill this demon in front of her, her face would sweep the floor!

This was absolutely unacceptable.

She took a deep breath and pressed down with her hand. In the pit, Bitterfang's neck cracked. His body twitched a few times before he fell completely silent.

"Your injuries are too heavy and I have no means of saving you. But Bitterfang, rest assured that I will kill this person to take revenge for you!"

Behind her, her followers roared again and again, brutality in their eyes. Their suppressed bravado began to burn once again.

In the abyss, slaughter and killing happened all the time. They were all accustomed to seeing death. Since there was no cure for Bitterfang, living was meaningless. He might as well die and free himself from this hell.

In any case, Miss Firefly said that she would avenge Bitterfang. Those that dared to kill them would eventually die an even more pitiful death!

At this time, Blacklight spoke up. "Firefly, you should give up here and leave with your followers."

Firefly was silent for a moment. Then, she laughed out loud, her chest heaving up and down. "I just personally killed my close subordinate and now you want me to leave? Blacklight, do you really think I would agree with this?"

Blacklight frowned. He looked at her deeply and said, "I am just doing my duty as one of the master's subordinates. Since you won't listen to my advice, then anything else that happens from here on out has nothing to do with me."

Firefly's eyes shined and her cheeks flushed red. She whispered, "Of course. I will be responsible for everything that happens today." She looked at Qin Yu and stepped forward, "Indeed, I underestimated you. But if I can kill a formidable Demon General and steal your bloodline, perhaps I will be able to break through my current limits."

An invisible aura was released from her body and instantly flooded every inch of the surrounding space. The abyssal demons in the area all had dull expressions on their faces. Then, they started to smile, as if they had fallen into an incomparably wonderful dream.

Blacklight furrowed his eyebrows. He took several steps back, avoiding being covered by this aura. Besides him, only the subordinates that she brought here kept their heads lowered and didn't dare to look at her. Only like this could they barely resist the pull on their minds.

However, their bodies still shivered and beads of sweat covered their foreheads. One could see how difficult it was for them to resist this.

The abyssal Siren Clan. In the legends, it was said that the royal bloodline of the Nightmare Clan flowed in their veins and they had a formidable ability to control the minds of others.

In the vast and boundless abyssal sea, a siren was synonymous with success. Anyone they targeted would eventually vanish into the endless sea. Only after hundreds or thousands of years would they have the possibility of being found by others.

The giant ships that sank to the bottom of the sea, completely preserved but utterly empty, had helped them achieve their current terrifying reputation!

As for Firefly, she was the product of a bloodline union between some abyssal species and a siren. She had obtained the ability of the sirens to control minds and could also break free from the abyssal sea and survive on land.

Of course, this was an absolute secret within the Merry Forest. Blacklight had only inadvertently discovered this. As a result, he had always dreaded Firefly. While they had many conflicts behind the scenes, he patiently endured it and didn't allow anything to erupt into public view.

This was because Blacklight wasn't confident he could resist the abilities of a siren.

The strength of the abyssal tribes was established on the foundation of their bloodlines. Besides a small number of tribes, most were in an inherently weak position when facing the abilities of a siren.

In addition to their demon bloodlines influencing their minds, it was even easier for them to fall under mental control.

A Demon General was already considered a powerhouse in the abyss. Yet, he wasn't able to get the upper hand when facing Firefly. This was because besides her mind controlling abilities, she herself was also a formidable Demon General level existence.

Of course, because most of her strength came from plundering the power of others, her strength was all mixed up. She could only be considered to be at the very bottom of Demon Generals.

But no matter how low she was, she was still a Demon General. If a person's mind was controlled by the enemy, then unless their strength reached the Demon Commander level and they could protect their body with abyssal energy, they would die without a doubt.

Chapter 1042A – I Am Cow Sledgehammer

Seeing Firefly approach and the power that was constantly trying to interfere with his soul, Qin Yu was stunned. Because he was familiar with this strange power for some reason, as if it belonged to him in the first place.

With just a thought, he could control it as he wished. Even this demon woman would be controlled as well.

He could feel the excited beating of the heart of the abyss in his chest. He pondered for a moment. Could this be because of the Nightmare bloodline within him?

The reason this heart of the abyss was successfully condensed was because of Cangwu's strength. Although it had fused with a part of the abyss' source and the demon bloodline had been altered afterwards, if he said he was from the Nightmare Royal Family, no one would doubt him.

So, while an incomplete Nightmare bloodline flowed through Firefly's veins, she wanted to use the Nightmare Clan's ability to manipulate the minds of others to deal with him...

How to say it? This was no different from courting death. And she had even given the saber to Qin Yu on her own initiative and offered up her own throat.

His complexion grew strange.

But now, looking at his stunned and strange expression, in Firefly's opinion he had fallen into her control.

While things weren't going exactly as she thought they would, he was still supposedly a Demon General level existence, so there was bound to be some resistance. This was well within reason, thus she didn't dwell on this further.

Her eyes turned cold but her expression became increasingly gentle. Her face flushed red and her breathing quickened. She reached Qin Yu and stretched out her arms, wrapping them around his neck. She clung to him and breathed into his ear, "Do you love me?"

"I love you." Qin Yu said with a wooden expression.

"Do you love me enough to commit suicide?"

"Yes."

Without hesitation, Qin Yu stabbed his hand into his neck. Blood spurted out, spewing over Firefly's body. She took a deep breath. The scent of this blood was so delicious. It was a delicacy that her mind drowned in.

Without delay, she latched onto Qin Yu's neck and began to swallow gulps of blood. With each mouthful she could feel her body changing.

A formidable strength grew within her, rushing through her limbs and bones. The bottleneck that had troubled her for so many years was instantly shattered.

"Ah! This is it, this is it! Give me more strength!" Firefly screamed in excitement. She swallowed faster and faster. And, Qin Yu's blood seemed to be endless. It violently spurted out from inside him.

The strength in her body grew greater and greater until it finally broke through a limit. Firefly suddenly felt as if something broke apart and she entered a brand new boundary. This was a feeling as if she grasped the surrounding heavens and earth, capable of summoning abyssal energy to use with just a thought.

Demon Commander!

This was the Demon Commander boundary!

Tears flowed down from Firefly's eyes. She shivered and let go of Qin Yu. She looked at her hands and whispered, "Demon Commander...I've broken through to the Demon Commander boundary...mother, do you see me...I've become a Demon Commander...

"Those people who harmed us and chased us out will pay the most brutal and despairing price for their actions!

"I, your daughter, promise that I will send all those people into the most terrifying purgatory of the abyss, so that they howl and scream in pain and sorrow forever!"

Firefly laughed and cried. She looked towards the dead Qin Yu who was still wildly gushing out blood from his neck. "No, a Demon Commander is not enough. I must become a supreme King and control the will of the abyss to completely ruin them!"

She plunged at Qin Yu, biting down on his neck wound and continuing to crazily suck up blood.

Blacklight felt as if he had fallen into an icy cave. He froze in place as he looked at Firefly crawling on the ground, madly eating dirt and rocks.

While he had expected that Qin Yu wouldn't be easy to deal with, he never thought that he would be formidable to such a degree.

Demon General...no, this was absolutely not it. To have Firefly fall into an illusion without any resistance at all, could a mere Demon General possess such a potent power?

Could he be a Demon Commander?

As this thought appeared, Blacklight's complexion paled further and despair appeared in his eyes. As an upper Demon General, he was well aware of what sort of terrifying strength Demon Commanders possessed.

Even if there were ten of him working together, they would all be instantly suppressed when facing a Demon Commander!

This was because while it seemed that there was only a single level of difference between a Demon Commander and Demon General, they actually represented almost two completely different species.

The difference in strength was as great as the distance between the heavens and earth!

Qin Yu glanced at Blacklight and was able to guess what he was thinking. It seemed that his performance had frightened this young horned python clan powerhouse.

His thoughts raced and his eyes flashed. He looked up.

A moment later, a calm voice resounded in his ears. "My subordinates have eyes but cannot see, and have offended Your Excellency. Please be merciful and spare their lives."

The voice was calm but it carried a faint yin chill aura. It wrapped around the body, causing one to feel alarmed.

As if at any moment, countless needles would arrive and tear apart their soul!

Demon Commander!

Only a Demon Commander could use such a method of summoning and mobilizing abyssal energy with just a thought. There was no other possibility.

Qin Yu was expressionless. He confronted this aura for a few breaths of time before turning and leaving.

Hu -

Blacklight fell to the ground, gasping for breath as his body streamed with sweat. He had never felt death so close before. It was like he would be devoured at any moment!

...

As numerous eyes watched him with awe, Qin Yu left the Merry Forest. He turned and glanced back at that place where low buildings were stacked up upon each other and he narrowed his eyes.

To be able to control a region within the large Great Deer City and become the actual ruler, there had to be a reason for it.

Demon Commander!

If he didn't see it with his own eyes he wouldn't have dared to believe it. A powerhouse that stood at the peak of the abyss was actually willing to withdraw and hide in such a small place.

That's right, although the Merry Forest had a notorious reputation and was considered a lawless zone of Great Deer City, it actually occupied nearly a fifth of the entire city.

But such a place was far, far too small for a Demon Commander. It was like a great dragon that had dove into a tiny lake. There was just no way for them to stretch their wings.

Sure enough, after living in this world for long enough one could encounter anything, no matter how strange it was. But he wasn't without harvests. When he faced this hidden Demon Commander in the Merry Forest, he felt that he was around the same level and could confront him if needed.

This gave him a general judgment of his own strength. After his heart of the abyss had fused together with a part of the abyss' source, it gave him a pleasant surprise.

It was a pity that this strength could only be used in the abyss. Once Qin Yu returned to the living world, the abilities he obtained from the abyss would be sealed away just like his cultivation was now.

He shook his head and tossed away these thoughts. He turned and walked away. This time, he smoothly returned to his courtyard.

Previously he had made a fortune from Liu Huo. In order to ensure Feature's safety, he had spent some time and effort when purchasing this small courtyard. Its location wasn't too far away from the residence of Great Deer City's Lord.

So while there were all sorts of undercurrents surging in Great Deer City and many conflicts had broken out, the environment and public safety in this area was still good.

After checking his arrangements and determining that no one had touched anything, he closed the courtyard doors. An impatient Feature was already waiting for him. "What took you so long? Give me the things I asked for!"

Qin Yu's lips twitched. If it weren't for the fact that she went crazy and decided to be an abyssal demonic refining master or whatever, he wouldn't have had to go through so much trouble. If it weren't

for the fact that he needed her to undo the Path of 10,000 Souls, he would just sit back and see how she screwed herself over...

Though he cursed inwardly, he didn't reveal anything on his face. He took out the demon leather bag and said, "The things you want are in here."

Feature grabbed it and checked inside. Joy lit up her face. But soon, there she had a vigilant expression. "Your attitude is so nice. Were you cursing me inwardly just now?"

Qin Yu nearly choked on himself. Was this a woman's intuition, or was this some great supernatural power similar to mind reading?

"Heh. Looking at your expression I knew I guessed correctly. Let me warn you, it is best for you not to do that again. My senses are sharp!"

Qin Yu turned and walked away, "I have no idea what you are talking about." Continuing to argue this topic with her would clearly be an unwise choice.

"Hey! Remember to look through the things I gave you. I don't want you to be completely clueless still when I ask you for help! As the future strongest demonic refining master in the abyss, if I fail in my refining then that will be the greatest insult of my life! I will be extremely angry!"

This was a threat. This was an open and naked threat!

Dark lines appeared on Qin Yu's forehead and he nodded. Only when he closed the doors behind him in his room did he bitterly smile. He took out the demon crystal cards that Feature gave him and started sifting through them with his divine sense.

He might as well take a look just in case. If the refining failed because of him, who knew what sort of mess that woman would cause!

Although he had never had any contact with this demonic refining master occupation before, he could still be considered an alchemy grandmaster. And for a time, he had played a guest role as a beast trainer grandmaster too.

Perhaps because there were many commonalities between these types of occupations, Qin Yu quickly immersed himself. The information in the demon crystal cards wasn't too difficult to understand.

Gradually, he gained an intuitive understanding of the demonic refining master occupation. At the very least, he understood what it was.

Of course, this didn't mean that Qin Yu had become an abyssal demonic refining master. To be exact, he was still far, far away. At best he had a simple and preliminary understanding of this demonic refining knowledge.

Chapter 1042B - I Am Cow Sledgehammer

"Qin Yu! Qin Yu! Hurry over here!" An eager voice shouted. The voice sounded breathless and when it fell into the ears, it titillated the imagination.

Qin Yu woke up from his trance and revealed a helpless look. This Feature woman was becoming increasingly strange with every passing day. He always thought that something was wrong.

Did she need to use that tone of voice just to call him over? If a stranger heard this, they would think that he had just been doing something more provocative with her.

He complained inwardly but he didn't dare delay. Like a ghost, he quickly raced out and flew into her room.

As Qin Yu first surveyed the scene, his face stiffened. He had no idea what sort of problems occurred during the refining process, but her perfectly good clothes had been torn up and burnt all over again. Large swathes of her fair and clear skin were revealed.

The degree of exposure was even more eye-catching than yesterday. It was enough to give a person a nosebleed!

"What are you doing standing there? Hurry up and insert abyssal energy. Remember, you have to be very gentle. It is too frail right now and cannot withstand fluctuations that are too great."

A mass of light floated in front of Feature. The lights surged with color, red, blue, and green. It gave off an incomparably chaotic feeling, like it would explode at any moment.

Qin Yu took a deep breath and steadied his mind. He braced himself and walked over. Before he could do anything, Feature grabbed onto him. "Hurry and do it. Through your senses, I will tell you how much abyssal energy to put in."

This woman...

When she hugged him so unexpectedly, he nearly leapt up in fright. If he really did that and any fluctuations of strength escaped, this sphere of light would have blown up.

He did his best to not pay attention to the astonishing touch from their contact. He stabilized his mind and started to slowly summon abyssal energy from within his body.

Immediately, Feature lowered her voice and said, "Slow down. Slow down some more. You are using too much abyssal energy.

"That's right. Reduce it by another third. The speed can be a little faster. Do you see the light changing as it flashes? After it stabilizes, continue infusing energy this way for three breaths of time.

"Increase the output of abyssal energy by three times. Hurry up, we must cut through the mess with a sharp knife and bring these disobedient little things together.

"It will soon succeed. Maintain this rhythm for a bit longer and you can retire with your merits and leave the rest to me.

"Good. You may leave now. Remember to close the door and don't disturb me."

Qin Yu left and gently closed the door behind him. He finally let out a long breath that he had been keeping in. He subconsciously wiped the beads of sweat from his forehead.

With the firmness of his mind, assisting in injecting some abyssal energy wasn't a problem. The key issue here was that in order to not affect the refinement process, Feature had pasted herself against him and was quietly whispering into his ear.

It was only today that Qin Yu truly understood the meaning behind the saying 'Breathing like an Orchid'. While he wasn't happy with what Feature did, her breath lifted the heart and mind.

Only the heavens knew that Qin Yu had to expend a great deal of strength to not reveal anything inappropriate.

He turned and glanced at the door. He bitterly smiled. This work as an assistant was a bit too uncomfortable.

This was absolutely taking advantage of someone and pretending not to know about it. The problem was that Qin Yu knew long ago that Feature wasn't someone who was good to provoke.

And she had once vaguely affirmed this point.

Now that he had taken advantage of her, who knew what sort of price he would have to pay in the future? His intuition told him that this was absolutely something he didn't want to face!

Stand firm! Stand firm! Don't be fooled by that woman's tricks! Who knew when she would suddenly flip over the table and become completely unrecognizable?

An hour later, wearing tattered robes and looking like a lunatic that just escaped from an insane asylum, Feature came screaming out from her room. She held a black pill in her hand.

"I've succeeded! I've succeeded! Hahaha, I knew that I was a true genius! I will inevitably become the future strongest demonic refining master in the abyss!"

Seeing her movements and her chest bouncing up and down as she jumped, Qin Yu took a deep breath and lowered his head. He pretended not to see anything at all, as if all he saw was nothing but a dream, begging his eyes not to be charmed.

Of course, only Qin Yu knew what the effect of this was. But looking at his expression as he lowered his head and turned his eyes away, it clearly wasn't working out too well.

However, Feature had truly succeeded and managed to refine a demonic medicine. This was a bit beyond Qin Yu's expectations. But when he thought about it clearly, if she could even refine something that could conceal her aura, this sort of basic demon medicine wasn't much at all.

Certainly, while the demon medicine had been refined, the effects would only be known after experimentation. Then, Qin Yu decisively rejected Feature's proposal to have him test the medicine. No matter how much she curled her lips, he remained stoic.

What nonsense, you want me to test the medicine just because you asked? What happens if I die?

"Qin Yu! Since you can't recognize the goodwill of others, then go and bring back some abyssal demons. Remember that they must be injured. I want to see what the efficacy of this medicine is like."

Qin Yu's lips twitched. You think that there are injured abyssal demons everywhere? I'll have to be the one doing it in the end.

But when he left the courtyard, he discovered that Feature's mouth was actually extremely accurate.

An abyssal demon lay unconscious not too far away from the entrance. A large pool of blood had gathered beneath his body. While many other demons were coming and going, none of them stopped for him.

The beast tide was coming and everyone was racking their brains on how to survive this catastrophe. No one had any energy to care about the life and death of others.

He glanced around. Then, he grabbed this person and walked back into the courtyard.

Is such a severe injury enough to satisfy you? Mm, he's solid to the touch too. Such a large body should be considered a good testing material!

Seeing Qin Yu immediately return carrying such a heavily wounded abyssal demon with him, Feature was pleasantly surprised. She greeted him and ordered him to put the person down.

But when it came to truly saving others, she was at a loss for a time. After thinking about it, she took out three pitch black demon medicines and told Qin Yu to mix them with water and feed it to him.

The unconsciously abyssal demon soon began to twitch and convulse. Blood spurted out from his hideous face and body, and soon he stopped moving.

Feature was stunned. "He died?"

Qin Yu examined him. He blankly said, "Not yet, but he's almost there." His lips twitched again and he rubbed his forehead. Was this what you meant when you said I cannot recognize the goodwill of others?

This abyssal demon had his stomach torn open and carelessly wrapped up and still didn't die. Yet such a strong demon had died after taking that medicine. Qin Yu was fortunate that he had firmly rejected her, otherwise the person lying on the floor right now would be him!

"That's not right. No, how can things be like this? There is absolutely nothing wrong with the demon medicine I refined so how can this be the result? This is impossible!" Feature had a look of complete disbelief on her face. When Qin Yu saw this, his own complexion darkened even further.

This demon is about to die, so what do you mean it is impossible?

Hohoho, you really are blind!

"Don't let him suffer any longer. Killing him is also a form of mercy." As Qin Yu spoke, he was about to finish the job.

Feature screamed, "No! Don't touch him! He is my first test subject; you cannot kill him!"

Qin Yu was expressionless. "With this demon's current condition, I cannot guarantee that he won't suddenly explode. If you're affected, don't blame me for not having warned you."

Feature bit her lips. "Anyways, you cannot kill him...then...how about throwing him outside the door? What if he survives somehow?"

Qin Yu laughed inwardly. He picked up the demon and tossed him a bit further away from the courtyard. If he really did die right at their entrance, things might be a bit troublesome.

This woman was such a hypocrite. How could she be so argumentative when it came to destroying the corpse and eliminating evidence?

"Qin Yu, trust me, there is absolutely no problem with the demon medicine. How about you try it yourself? What if it is because that demon's physique has a problem and he was born unable to use the demon medicine I refined?"

Feature said earnestly.

Qin Yu pointed at his forehead, "Do I look like an idiot to you?"

He turned and swaggered away!

No matter what, it was impossible for him to test the medicine. She could go insane all she wanted, but he wouldn't join in with her craziness.

Feature's broken thoughts still came from behind him. "This isn't right. How can this be? I definitely didn't make a mistake! Ahhh! There's no way I was wrong!"

...

My name is Sledgehammer. Yes, that's right, the big iron hammer that is used to hit things very hard.

To us abyssal demons, things like names are all just aliases. There is simply no significance to them.

As long as one is strong enough, no one will dare laugh at you. This is what my father taught me. He also taught me that as a descendant of the Raging Cow Clan, I cannot admit I was wrong no matter what.

No matter who it was, as long as they dared to force me, there was no reason to talk, let's just fight! I thought my father's words were reasonable so I continued like this my entire life.

Wherever Sledgehammer went, he would deal with anything he was dissatisfied with. Those that dared to leap out at him would be pounded into the ground!

But as the saying went, if one walks along the riverside for a long time, how can their shoes not get wet? I rampaged through the abyss for many years and finally I met my match.

It was a hybrid crossbreed freak of the Tiger and Mastiff Clans. He actually dared to call me stupid. I think your grandma is stupid! I didn't care about how fierce he was and rolled up my sleeves and fought.

The process was too painful and I don't want to recall it. But I really couldn't stand it after the battle. After pulling off his arm, I staggered away and fled. I went as far as I could before collapsing in darkness.

I originally thought I was dead, so can someone tell me how I managed to survive?

Moreover, my arms and thighs are clearly much stronger than before. I, Cow Sledgehammer, can feel an incomparable strength running through them.

Could this be the so-called blessings one received after surviving a catastrophe? Did my bloodline evolve?

When I woke up, I found a river and washed myself. I looked into the reflection and saw two thick black horns jutting out from the top of my head. I couldn't help but cry tears of joy.

Father, so you weren't lying when you boasted to me before! Our ancestor really was a Black Demon Cow!

Today, your son has awakened our ancestor's bloodline. You can rest in peace now. I, Sledgehammer, will definitely become famous in the abyss. I will find you a few more daughter-in-laws and give birth to hundreds of babies, multiplying our cow bloodline!

But right now, I have something even more important to do. That tiger mastiff who dared to fight with me, your grandfather Sledgehammer has returned.

Hum hum hum, this time, I will have you understand what it means to have a bowl-like fist, it means to see red!

Chapter 1043A - Selling Medicine

The beast tide that the entire abyssal world was waiting for finally erupted. Even though it was a long distance from the city walls, one could still hear the cries of war. Thunderous claps resounded as the earth constantly trembled.

Today's Great Deer City was more chaotic than ever. The abyssal demons that rushed through the streets all had panicked and flustered expressions.

Chattering filled the air. It was said that this time's beast tide was different from before. The number of demon beasts gathering outside the city was far higher than ever recorded and their numbers were still increasing.

But Qin Yu didn't care about this. No matter how many demon beasts there were, that only meant more abyssal demons would die.

As for whether or not Great Deer City would be breached...well, Great Deer City had the advantage of topography as well as sturdy walls that defended it. The city itself was filled with countless powerhouses, and through the tens of millions of years for which beast tides had been occurring, there had never been an accident.

Of course, even if he took a step back and considered the possibility that the beast tide would break into Great Deer City, so what? Qin Yu was confident in his strength. Even if he had to drag along a deadweight like Feature, he was sure that his escape speed would be far faster than the overwhelming majority of abyssal demons here.

If the city was breached there would inevitably be nothing but pure chaos and carnage. The demon beasts would be busy slaughtering and eating the abyssal demons, so it wouldn't be difficult to withdraw in the chaos.

So, this matter only stayed in Qin Yu's mind for a brief moment before he tossed it to the side.

Moments later, he stopped walking and looked up at Thousand Eye Temple in the distance. He saw the surging streams of people going in and out of the entrance and he sighed with emotion. This place was experiencing more and more business each day.

The blue-tailed demon appeared somewhat listless from exhaustion. After seeing Qin Yu he only casually nodded before hurrying along to help another guest.

This was deliberate neglect. It was just that as the beast tide erupted, all sorts of scarce materials were being wildly dumped and bought. No matter how high the prices rose, the volume of sales still climbed up.

In just a few days, there were seven or eight transactions that had a value of more than 10 million demon crystals. The largest one was said to be worth more than 40 million demon crystals.

Naturally, in such a hectic situation, Qin Yu's preferential treatment in Thousand Eye Temple was greatly reduced.

But Qin Yu preferred this result, because he didn't come here to buy, but to sell.

That's right. What Qin Yu wanted to sell was the batch of demon medicine that Feature had refined the other day. She gave it a very loud and resounding name – the mighty heaven ascending pill!

It was indeed mighty and it could indeed help someone ascend to the heavens. That previously sturdy-looking and heavily wounded abyssal demon had swallowed three and was completely finished with just that.

He hadn't seen the demon's corpse afterwards, but he figured it had been dragged away by the demon guards. However, from what Qin Yu had seen, that demon could not be saved.

Tsk tsk, Qin Yu really couldn't figure it out. The truth was placed right in front of Feature, so how did she have the face to continue trying for her first place fame?

And what he found most difficult to accept was that Feature unexpectedly asked him to sell these mighty heaven ascending pills. She wanted him to change them into demon crystals to purchase more materials so she could start refining again.

Listening to her speak, there might have been a minor problem with this batch of mighty heaven ascending pills. However, as long as she put in a bit more effort, the next batch of demon medicines was bound to be perfect!

Of course, it was fine just listening to this. Qin Yu didn't take it seriously. So what if he disagreed? So what if he couldn't accept it?

Facing the shameless Feature who continued walking with her head up as if nothing wrong had happened, he could only pinch his nose and nod. So, he came here to sell her mighty heaven ascending pills.

It wasn't that Qin Yu hadn't thought about finding a place to throw away these medicines, and then taking out a few abyssal demons and 'borrowing' their demon crystals to get this over with quickly.

But Feature seemed to have thought of this possibility already. She demanded that Qin Yu had to bring back the transaction receipt to her. After that, there was nothing else he could do.

This was why he came here today.

Following the streams of people, he entered the crowded Thousand Eye Temple. The hall had already been noisy and packed before, but now it had all risen by several degrees.

Each worker of Thousand Eye Temple was surrounded by a group of people as they dealt with various inquiries and questions. There were even long lines waiting at the front of the transaction counter windows.

Qin Yu glanced around and decided to give up the idea of looking for help. In any case, everyone was waiting so he could just find a line and stand there.

Thousand Eye Temple's strength was without doubt. Otherwise, it would be impossible for them to bloom in all levels of the abyss and establish countless branches.

There were no demons that dared to cause trouble here. So while the waiting process was slow, it proceeded smoothly and without accident.

It was finally Qin Yu's turn.

A demon girl of the Rabbit Clan was standing behind the counter. Compared to other demon tribes, they had a considerably gentle and warm disposition. It was said that the entire clan was discussing the issue of vegetarianism and refused to drink blood.

As for why he could see this with a glance, it was because of the two drooping rabbit ears on her head as well as the rabbit dress she wore. At least in Qin Yu's eyes, this costume was quite seductive.

"Hello, dear guest. May I ask what you need?" Although she was tired, the rabbit girl still smiled sweetly.

Qin Yu sat down and placed a jar on the tabletop. "Cough...I have some demon medicine here. Will you take it?"

Although he appeared calm, he didn't have much energy when he spoke. He was afraid that they would take the jar and hurl it away.

The rabbit girl was stunned. She never thought that as the beast tide was erupting, someone would actually still be selling demon medicine. These days, everyone was desperately trying to purchase as much as they could.

But these doubts weren't a problem. If these were qualified demon medicines, Thousand Eye Temple could still make a profit in reselling them.

"We will." The rabbit girl looked at the jar of demon medicine on the tabletop. She said, "But before the transaction, we will need to examine it. Please wait a moment."

Qin Yu stood up and said, "No problem. I'll wait at the side."

The rabbit girl sweetly smiled. "Then I will have to trouble you. We shall finish this as soon as possible." She passed the jar to another worker before asking the next guest to come forward.

Perhaps business was too hot in Thousand Eye Temple, or perhaps in their opinion, the demon medicine that Qin Yu sold was nothing to speak of. Only after waiting a long time did the appraisal result come out. It was an ordinary jar of healing demon medicine, with a value of 22,000 demon crystals.

But this result was already beyond Qin Yu's expectations. He even began to doubt Thousand Eye Temple's appraisal level. They had determined this was ordinary healing demon medicine? Hoho, did he need to explain to them the meaning of the mighty heaven ascending pill?

Of course, Qin Yu wouldn't trouble himself with warning them. As for which unlucky idiot they managed to sell these pills to in the end or what sort of trouble was provoked as a result, this wasn't anything he needed to pay attention to.

As for the price...of course he had no problem. And strictly speaking, not counting the discount that the fox woman had given him, Feature had actually earned demon crystals.

"22,000 demon crystals. Guest, please receive it." The rabbit girl spoke quickly as she handed a demon leather bag to Qin Yu.

"Can I bother you for a transaction receipt? The name of the demonic refining master is...cough cough...The Abyss' Number One..." Qin Yu grimaced as he said this.

This was also one of the reasons why he was so resistant to coming to Thousand Eye Temple. If she wanted to leave a name she should just leave a name. Why be so impolite about it?

It was like she dared to swallow the heavens after opening her mouth!

Sure enough, the eyes of the surrounding demons, including the rabbit girl, all turned strange. The general meaning was – brother, you are so proud, just how did you manage to survive in the abyss until now?

"Drawing up the receipt will require some time. If dear guest wants to wait, there will be no problem."

Qin Yu nodded, "Please."

If he couldn't bring back the receipt, that Feature woman would never stop bothering him.

After waiting a bit longer, he finally obtained a transaction receipt from the rabbit girl. Then he turned and walked out of Thousand Eye Temple.

While he hadn't caused any commotion this time, that didn't mean no one noticed him.

There were some people that had seen Qin Yu before in Thousand Eye Temple today. Their complexions changed and they revealed dread.

Originally when Qin Yu had disappeared two days ago, they assumed he had been eliminated already. They never thought he would show up again today.

And the people who had followed him before...a good number of them had vanished without any news.

With these facts combined...this person...he wasn't someone good to provoke!

Many demons secretly rejoiced that they didn't do anything before, otherwise the ones that vanished might have been them.

Besides them, someone else had noticed Qin Yu's arrival. It was the fox woman with an enchanting posture and a charming demeanor.

When she was sending out a guest she inadvertently saw Qin Yu. She thought about it and didn't approach him. But after he left, she went and asked what he had come here today for.

"Selling demon medicine?" The fox woman frowned, confused. From the amount of resources that Liu Huo had shown in his first transaction, there was no need for this.

Moreover, what he sold was only some ordinary healing demon medicine. After asking about the type, she immediately recalled the batch of materials he purchased. They just happened to match the ingredients needed for this type of ordinary healing medicine.

Waving a hand, she dismissed the worker in front of her. She returned to the reception room in the back and approached the resting old fox, reporting to him about this matter.

The old fox rubbed his forehead and said, "There's no need to manage that Liu Huo person anymore. I've obtained some information on him. He's just a demonic refining master of little fame from some remote area. He isn't much of anything. And the first transaction definitely emptied out almost all of his demon crystals..."

As he spoke to here, he paused. He thought back to the first time he saw Liu Huo and what he felt...mm...perhaps it had just been an illusion...how could a little demonic refining master put any pressure on him?

Chapter 1043B – Selling Medicine

Of course, Qin Yu couldn't bring back 22,000 demon crystals. He made a circle and turned them all into materials in a shop near Thousand Eye Temple.

As for why he didn't simply purchase the materials at Thousand Eye Temple, one reason was that he couldn't bear those eyes that looked at him with pity as if he were mentally handicapped. Another more important reason was that he didn't hope to have any further contact with the people of Thousand Eye Temple.

For instance, the fox woman who saw him but pretended to not notice. He didn't want her to develop some interest in him because of the contrast in his transactions.

In fact, Qin Yu wasn't overthinking things. The fox woman was curious, but her curiosities were dismissed by the old fox. He even secretly rejoiced that he didn't take too many advantages before.

Without the honored guest discount from Thousand Eye Temple and in addition to the soaring price of materials, he could only purchase less than half of the original things he wanted.

This left Feature extremely dissatisfied. She pointed out that Qin Yu really was useless and could only exchange her carefully crafted demon medicines for such a small amount of materials.

If it weren't for the fact that this woman was useful to him and that he also felt some dread towards her, he would have taught her what it meant when people said words have consequences!

He would write this down in his account book and temporarily endure it for now!

...

A demon called Cow Sledgehammer had been the cause of much news in Great Deer City recently. Of course, the reason wasn't that he used his bowl-like fist to kill a tiger mastiff hybrid demon on the spot, but because of his bizarre transformation.

After surviving a great battle he had almost been torn to shreds. But not only had he not died, his bloodline had transformed.

There were indeed cases in the abyss where someone experienced too much trauma and was on the verge of death, and then their bloodline would suddenly awaken and transform, turning disaster into a blessing.

For a time, there were even many abyssal demons who tried to deliberately use this method to stimulate their bloodline and become stronger.

But without exception, almost all these attempts ended in failure. After countless abyssal demons died this method was eventually abandoned.

However, a living example was right in front of them. Cow Sledgehammer had become a target of envy overnight.

It was rumored that an old and frail black demon cow powerhouse had heard about this incident and wanted Cow Sledgehammer to be the man for his eight daughters, so that they could multiply and expand the bloodline of their black demon cow lineage.

As for whether or not Cow Sledgehammer could withstand the onslaught of eight tall and strong black demon cow women, this encounter alone left everyone's eyes burning with heat.

Then, after the City Lord Mansion deliberately promoted it, Cow Sledgehammer became the most desired goal for the abyssal demons that had to defend the city walls from the beast tide...perhaps they too could temper themselves in battle and awaken their bloodline?

The wind wolf clan's Big Mountain also thought this.

As a member of an abyssal tribe known for their speed and agility, Big Mountain couldn't figure out why his parents had given him such a name...mm, it seemed that there had been a lot of confusion concerning his name lately. If so, he would have to reduce it as much as possible in the future.

In short, Big Mountain didn't think he was any worse than Cow Sledgehammer. He thought he could awaken his bloodline and not die in the process.

A mess of thoughts raced through his mind. He looked down at his chest that was nearly torn open and he spat out a mouthful of black blood. His field of vision started to darken.

Then, almost all of those heroic thoughts in his mind faded away...

This was a heavy wound and it also had a highly poisonous attribute. He didn't have any poison cure medicine, so it would likely be difficult to survive!

I am still so young. Although I've slept with many female demons of my tribe, I have never left behind my bloodline. I am unwilling to die here!

With a trembling hand, Big Mountain took out several demon medicines from his chest. These were healing demon medicines he purchased at great cost from Thousand Eye Temple before being sent to the city walls.

Although their quality was only ordinary, Thousand Eye Temple had a good reputation. He hoped they could help him.

He indiscriminately grabbed a handful and stuffed them into his mouth. Chewing a few times, he swallowed them down and covered the wound on his chest. Soon his eyes widened and he twitched several times before falling over.

"Hurry! Hurry! Another one has been poisoned! Toss him into the city below, he cannot be taken away by the demon beasts as rations!"

Plop -

The wind wolf Big Mountain was thrown off the city walls, soon buried in the mound of corpses around him.

...

"I'm very, very serious this time! There are absolutely no problems with the demon medicine I've refined! Qin Yu, what kind of look is that? I'm telling you the truth, you have to believe in my professionalism!" Feature unhappily said as she jutted out her lip.

From the moment she had discovered the existence of demonic refining masters, not even ten days had passed. But, you want me to believe in your professionalism? How about I trust your face! Moreover, the demon medicines you refined might have managed to sell somehow, but I have personally seen the results myself!

Whoever buys them is in for some bad luck!

"Qin Yu, because of your extremely excessive behavior, I have been gravely harmed and saddened. If any fluctuations occur in my mood, it will likely cause my aura to emit further." Feature said, squinting her eyes. The meaning was approximately this: I will soon be unable to control myself. Go figure things out yourself!

Qin Yu's complexion paled. His face shook and he roared, "What do you want now!?"

Feature snapped her fingers. "Simple. Sell the demon medicines I refine. I want you to see just how popular they will become. They are enough to cause every single demon in the entire abyss to go crazy for them!"

Qin Yu: Shit...

Qin Yu's face was so dark that it looked like it would drip water. The two glared at each other, neither side willing to back down. He took a deep breath and finally relented, "I will grab a demon so you can experiment."

"Hoho, the beast tide has already erupted and the City Lord Mansion is doing their best to find demons and send them up the city walls to resist the invasion of demon beasts. You want to capture someone now? If you're discovered, you'll be the first one sent up the wall." Feature rubbed the jar in her hands, arrogance on her face. "And, do you think just any demon has the qualifications to use the demon medicine I refine? Forget holding a cleansing ceremony, they at least have to pay a high price for them!"

The two were in a stand-off for a long time once again. Finally, it ended with Qin Yu surrendering once again.

Of course, Feature was also forced to make concessions. This was the last time Qin Yu would help sell her refined demon medicines, and she couldn't pester him endlessly about this matter in the future.

When he left the courtyard and closed the doors, his lips twitched. Feature had happily agreed just now, but he felt uneasy because she had been too happy...based on his understanding of her so far, she was someone who had a high probability of going back on her word.

His temples began to throb. He took a deep breath and suppressed these thoughts before walking away.

He certainly couldn't go to Thousand Eye Temple again. He had no idea what happened to the demon medicine he sold them before, so he couldn't visit them anymore.

Fortunately, in the vast Great Deer City, beside Thousand Eye Temple there were also many other businesses that purchased demon medicines.

"Halt!" With a shout, a squad of demon guards stopped Qin Yu. The leader had a scar on his face and he had a ferocious appearance. He coldly said, "Take out your status token."

Qin Yu took out a black iron token. It had the official seal of Great Deer City engraved on the back, which was regarded as a certificate of a native who lived here. Once again, he thanked the dead Liu Huo and the many demon crystals he had which allowed Qin Yu to buy this courtyard. Otherwise, he would have had to join the other outsider demons in mounting the city walls and resisting the beast tide.

After examining it, the guard leader passed the token back to Qin Yu. Then the guards left in a hurry.

There were fewer people on the streets today, but the ones here were rushing in a hurry. Qin Yu thought about the baptism of catastrophe that the demons in Great Deer City must be suffering right now, and how many of them died every day...but no matter how he thought about it, it was hard for him to feel any compassion. In fact, the more that died the better...

But none of that mattered right now. He needed to find a place and sell these ticking bomb-like demon medicines first.

...

In Great Deer City, another person's bloodline had transformed in a crucial life or death situation!

The lucky fellow this time was a wind wolf called Big Mountain. Of course, that was no longer correct. He should now be called His Excellency the silver moon wolf Big Mountain.

This was because amongst the numerous abyssal tribes, the Silver Moon Wolf Clan was a royal bloodline. The King of this tribe was called the Howling Moon Wolf King and many legends surrounded him throughout the layers of the abyss.

First it was the black demon cow bloodline and now it was the silver moon wolf royal bloodline. Although the people of Great Deer City were panicking under the impact of the beast tide, many of them had shining eyes.

If there was just one bloodline transformation, this might only be a coincidence that luckily appeared. But if it appeared twice, that couldn't be just a coincidence anymore.

Undercurrents started to surge again in Great Deer City. Behind the scenes where ordinary people couldn't see, a search started for the reason why Cow Sledgehammer and Big Mountain were able to transform their bloodlines.

Big Mountain now had long silver-white hair and his appearance had become much more handsome. However, he exuded a terrifying aura. He certainly knew that his bloodline had transformed. As he was struck with a grievous injury, he firmed his will and faced off against the shadow of death, eventually causing his bloodline to transform...but this wasn't everything.

Big Mountain looked up at the giant signboard of Thousand Eye Temple. After taking a deep breath, he put on his mask and walked inside.

Of course, he wasn't hiding his appearance to be mysterious. Rather, he vaguely felt something wrong.

"Ordinary healing demon medicine. How much do you need, honored guest?"

Big Mountain took out a jar and said in a quiet voice. "I want this...demon medicine refined by the Abyss' Number One. How much do you have?"

The rabbit girl behind the counter was stunned because she also had an impression of this name. It had been far too surprising and shocking at the time, so she couldn't forget about it even if she wanted to.

She lightly coughed and smiled, "Our Thousand Eye Temple's demon medicine is only sold to the outside after undergoing strict testing measures. The effects will all be the same."

"No. I only want demon medicine refined by the Abyss' Number One. Give me a price. I'll buy it all." Big Mountain furrowed his eyebrows.

At this time, the crowd behind him parted and the fox woman sashayed forward. She smiled and said, "Dear guest, our Thousand Eye Temple can surely satisfy your request, but we will need time to prepare. Please follow me to the reception room to wait."

Big Mountain's complexion changed. He took a step back, "I have a matter to attend to. I'll come back another day."

The fox woman stepped forward and grabbed his arm. In a voice only the two of them could hear, she said, "Your Excellency Big Mountain, there are many people coveting your silver moon royal bloodline

right now. Usually, no one would dare to provoke a royal bloodline. But now with the beast tide attacking the city, casualties are unavoidable and it will be difficult to investigate anything afterwards...according to what my Thousand Eye Temple knows, there are some wolf clan powerhouses within the Merry Forest that have put out a contract on you to seize your bloodline. If you leave like this, I fear something will happen."

Beneath his robes, Big Mountain paled. This was his greatest fear.

The fox woman continued, "Your Excellency Big Mountain, my Thousand Eye Temple has some deterring effect. How about staying here for some time? At least you can ensure your safety."

Chapter 1044 - Abyss Walker

Sometime later, in a finely decorated reception room, Big Mountain took a sip of tea that was steeped by the fox woman. But, he couldn't even taste it at all. He said in a dejected tone, "I can tell you, but Thousand Eye Temple must guarantee my safety."

Old Fox smiled and said, "From now on, you will be a guest official of my Thousand Eye Temple's Great Deer City Branch Division."

Big Mountain was silent for a moment. He clenched his teeth and said, "Yesterday when I was severely wounded and dying, I took the healing demon medicine that I purchased from here. At that time I wasn't unconscious yet so I realized something." He pursed his lips before continuing to say, "It's likely that the reason I was able to awaken my bloodline was because I took those demon medicines."

Old Fox furrowed his eyebrows and said, "Are you saying that ordinary healing demon medicine was able to stimulate your bloodline?"

"That's right. So I came back here hoping to purchase more." After saying all of this, Big Mountain felt much more relaxed. He took out a jar from his chest and placed it on the table. "The demon medicine I purchased at the time was in this jar. I carefully examined it and saw the words 'Abyss' Number One' engraved on the bottom. I suspect it is the nickname of the demonic refining master who created them."

Old Fox's lips twitched. Abyss' Number One. The confidence in that name was high enough.

But if what Big Mountain said was true, then this so-called Abyss' Number One was an appropriate title.

The abyss was endless and millions of tribal clans lived within it. The occupation of demonic refining master was rare, but if one considered the entire abyss, there were a good number of them.

The peak existences amongst them were politely referred to as Abyss Walkers. They had a status comparable to that of Abyssal Kings. In fact, to a certain extent, the influence of an Abyss Walker could be said to be even more formidable than that of an Abyssal King.

This was because the reason that these demonic refining masters that stood at the pinnacle were called Abyss Walkers was that they had a heaven-defying ability to change one's fate – that was to stimulate the bloodline!

Abyssal demons were a race that was built upon the foundation of their demon bloodline. The level of their tribal bloodline basically determined the extent of their future achievements.

Of course, this wasn't an absolute. Because over the long span of years, after countless generations of crossbreeding, it was hard to find those with pure bloodlines even in the entire abyss.

It was just that only the bloodline with the largest proportion would be revealed. As for some thin bloodlines, they were hidden and almost impossible to trigger.

There was a chance that the strongest abyssal demon dragon bloodline was hiding in the body of the weakest demon rat clansman.

Of course, this was only an analogy. Because no matter how obscene and lustful abyssal demon dragons were by nature, it would be difficult for them to intersect and breed with an abyssal demon rat.

As for Abyss Walkers, through their potent demonic refining methods, they had the ability to refine demon medicines that could stimulate the bloodlines hiding within an abyssal demon.

This was a heaven-defying ability for any abyssal tribe. It was a power that only the will of the abyss could control. So, they had the title of Abyss Walker, meaning that they walked through the abyss, replacing a part of the abyss' power and will.

After arranging a safe place for Big Mountain, Old Fox's eyes flashed with light. He said, "Immediately find the source of this batch of pills. This matter must be kept a secret. Absolutely no one is allowed to know about it." He paused and then continued to say, "And investigate that Cow Sledgehammer. Perhaps his bloodline transformation is connected in some way."

The fox woman's pupils widened. "Steward, are you saying that the reason their bloodline was able to transform was that..."

"It's just a possibility. Hurry and investigate. Remember to be careful. No matter what discovery you find, immediately inform me and don't act rashly!" Old Fox drew in a deep breath, but his heart was still violently beating.

If they were able to refine demon medicine that could stimulate the bloodline of an abyssal demon, that person had the qualifications to be called an Abyss Walker.

But being an Abyss Walker didn't mean that they would succeed every time. To be exact, if they wanted to help an abyssal demon stimulate their bloodline they would need to spend a massive amount of time preparing as well as consuming countless precious materials.

And in Great Deer City, two formidable bloodlines had been stimulated in a short period of time. If these were really the actions of the same person...

Then that person truly deserved the name of Abyss' Number One!

....

The incidents in Great Deer City likely involved an Abyss Walker. Even if nothing else was mentioned, the value of this information alone was enough for Old Fox to completely mobilize the full power of Thousand Eye Temple that was lurking throughout the city.

There was no time to ask for instructions from headquarters. He could only take action first and deal with the rest later. Even if he found nothing in the end, he had a reason for doing this and would likely only be punished at most.

However, if he really did find this Abyss Walker, that represented an almost unimaginable good fortune!

The choice was evident to Old Fox, who had become ever more wily and cunning as he aged.

Ever since Thousand Eye Temple had established itself in Great Deer City, an unknown number of spies had been inserted all over. Now, they were all activated and burst out with an amazing energy.

Two hours later, under the premise that the other influences in Great Deer City were disturbed as little as possible, two demon crystal cards were placed in front of Old Fox.

One of the demon crystal cards contained information about that demonic refining master who called themselves Abyss' Number One. The information was much easier to obtain than imagined.

This was because when the jar of demon medicine was sold, a transaction receipt was left behind. Moreover, the rabbit girl who handled this had an impression of that person.

The fox woman's complexion paled. Although she was calm, she gave off a faint and erratic feeling. "It has been investigated and confirmed. The one who sold this jar of demon medicine that day is Liu Huo."

Old Fox sighed. He rubbed his forehead, bitterness spilling over into his features.

He had been cautious for his entire life, never committing any great mistakes. This was the reason he was able to become a steward of one of Thousand Eye Temple's branch divisions.

He was so old already, yet he managed to make such a great mistake so late in the game...although he had no idea whether or not these demon medicines were refined by Liu Huo, according to the fox woman's words, he had once purchased the corresponding materials needed for them. If so, this batch of demon medicine had to be related to him.

There were two possibilities. Either this Liu Huo was deeply hiding his abilities and was concealing the truth from everyone, or there was an extremely formidable Abyss Walker standing behind him.

But no matter which possibility it was, this Liu Huo was worth being won over by Thousand Eye Temple with the greatest sincerity possible. And, the mistake he made was that he had missed out on the chance to establish relations with Liu Huo.

In fact, because of their previous contact, there was likely a wall between them now...if Liu Huo was only Liu Huo, then a wall was just a wall. No matter how thick it was, Thousand Eye Temple wouldn't care at all.

But the key point was that Liu Huo was not just Liu Huo. This made things difficult.

If he wanted to remedy this and regain Liu Huo's good impression, he would have to exhaust endless effort, and all of this was likely doomed to fail in the end.

Still, anything had to be tried first before a conclusion could be drawn. In any case, just these findings alone were enough to warrant winning over Liu Huo no matter the cost.

Old Fox looked at the other demon crystal card. The details recorded within were related to Cow Sledgehammer. There was a great deal of information, but nothing too useful.

Faintly, Old Fox thought that something important was lacking.

If he really could draw a line and connect Cow Sledgehammer and Big Mountain, then Liu Huo's weight would be even greater than it was at this time.

Old Fox had to clearly ascertain Liu Huo's true value before he could put forth a corresponding level of sincerity.

Thus, he waited for the final news to arrive.

...

My name is Cow Sledgehammer. Just like a big hammer, giant steel hammers, and all sorts of hammers used to smash things.

That's right. I appeared once again, but this time my image wasn't as glamorous as it was before.

Because this time I have been tied up, blindfolded, and fed something unknown. My body turned limp and weak and I couldn't exert any strength at all.

My black demon cow bloodline told me that I was in a very bad situation. If I didn't cooperate, I would most likely be done for.

It was with great difficulty that I managed to awaken the latent black demon cow bloodline passed down from my ancestor. If I were to die here without crossing the nuptial threshold with my eight wives that were as pretty as flowers, I really would find this hard to accept.

Moreover, my dead father might shove open his coffin and leap out before blasting me apart with a hammer.

Mm...speaking of my dad, in addition to the words he told me before, there was also one more thing: A man had to act like a man. Being unyielding and brave was a must, but when it came time to admit loss, one had to be fast.

I thought that this was the time to admit loss. So after I woke up from unconsciousness, I immediately made a judgment and yelled out, "I'll tell you anything you want to know! Don't hurt me!"

After that, I said everything.

My name is Cow Sledgehammer, the sledgehammer from all sorts of different hammers. No matter what you want to know, I can tell you.

But really, please don't hurt me!

Chapter 1045 - Your Excellency Liu Huo

The fox woman left after a short time, carrying another demon crystal card with her. Old Fox said, "Did he speak?"

"Yes. We've asked him many times and there haven't been any mistakes. He shouldn't be lying."

Old Fox picked up the demon crystal card and sifted through it. He slowly closed his eyes and said, "I remember that you once assigned people to investigate Liu Huo in secret. You should know where he lives."

The fox woman trembled. "Yes. Liu Huo's dwelling within the city is on Billowing Mountain Avenue."

"Cow Sledgehammer said that just before he fell unconscious that day, he was on Billowing Mountain Avenue, right?"

"Yes."

The Old Fox's heartbeat accelerated and his face flushed red. He slammed his armrests and suddenly said, "I need you to investigate what happened after the second time Liu Huo came to my Thousand Eye Temple."

A hoarse voice came out from the shadows beneath his feet. "Yes, Lord Steward."

The shadow crept and tumbled like boiling water. Several breaths of time later, it returned to normal.

The room fell deathly silent. The fox woman thought of a possibility and her breathing quickened. She even felt suffocated and dizzy.

Liu Huo...Liu Huo...although there wasn't definite evidence yet, these things couldn't be separated from him.

Was it really him?

The fox woman was lost in a daze for a long time. She was brought back to reality by a sudden sound. The hoarse voice spoke out once again, "Reporting to the steward, after Qin Yu left on that day he was chased into the Merry Forest by others. He left alone afterwards, and the demons chasing him have been missing."

Old Fox drew in a deep breath, "What was the exact situation?"

"We haven't fully investigated yet, but after that day, many people vanished from the Merry Forest. As for that person's subordinates Blacklight and Firefly, they also went into hiding. It seems that something important happened on that day." After a brief pause, the hoarse voice continued to say, "I have activated our spies within the Merry Forest. It seems that one personally took action that day."

Shua -

Old Fox fiercely stood up. He closed his eyes, connecting all of this information in his mind. He gently shivered.

There was no mistake, there was definitely no mistake...Liu Huo, what a good Liu Huo. Where did he obtain this inheritance from? Or was there another story behind it? If it weren't for the beast tide erupting and him being forced to enter Great Deer City, then perhaps even now no one would have noticed his secret!

Abyss Walker...Abyss Walker...

Who could have imagined he was hiding such a shocking status beneath that veneer of his?

That's right. Through all the obtained information, Old Fox determined that there was no great mountain supporting Liu Huo from behind. Because he himself was that incomparably formidable 'Abyss' Number One'!

But why?

As an Abyss Walker, even if he faced the tyrannical and violent Demon Dragon Clan, he would still receive the highest level of courteous reception. As long as he revealed his identity, he could walk throughout the abyss without fear of anything or anyone.

But ever since he met Liu Huo, his actions weren't consistent with his status.

What was even more inconceivable was that he would help those two low level abyssal demons, Big Mountain and Cow Sledgehammer, stimulate their bloodlines.

It had to be known that even the mighty and noble Abyss Walkers had to expend countless precious treasures to refine a demon medicine that could stimulate one's bloodline. Even ordinary royal family members didn't have the financial resources to invite one to help them.

There was a problem. There was definitely a problem.

Old Fox was deep in thought. He knew that only by figuring out this point could he truly establish relations with this strange Abyss Walker.

The fox woman glanced at Old Fox who had a cloudy expression and hesitated before softly saying, "Uncle, perhaps Liu Huo has decided to live with another identity to accumulate different experiences and increase his strength."

Old Fox was startled. His hand shook and he tore off a few beard hairs. But, he ignored the pain as his eyes brightened.

Decided to live with another identity...

To accumulate different experiences and increase one's strength, that was a weak way of doing things. But, that didn't mean it was impossible.

If a ranking list was created in the abyss that listed how long someone managed to survive, then a large number of the top spots would be occupied by demonic refining masters.

They each had strange and bizarre methods that allowed themselves to live for a very long time. It was said that some could even live long enough to the point where they would decay together with the abyss.

At least, Old Fox knew of an example. There was a senior demonic refining master powerhouse who didn't have much time remaining. It was unknown what price he paid, but he completed a bloodline sharing with a Demon Dragon Clan Elder. Both sides shared the same life afterwards. As long as the Demon Dragon Elder didn't die, then he would continue living on.

And the Demon Dragon Clan was the well-deserved darling of the abyss. Every grownup demon dragon would automatically obtain the approval of the abyss and become a formidable existence similar to an Abyssal King.

Their lifespan was limitless. It was said that even if they were killed, as long as their dragon soul didn't perish, they would eventually be reborn through the abyss.

This was a peak existence that stood at the top of the biological pyramid. They were nearly endless and indestructible.

It had to be known that Abyss Walkers were the most powerful of demonic refining masters, and as such they had even greater methods to lengthen their lifespan.

For instance, in the example given above. If there really was an Abyss Walker who was willing to share bloodlines with a demon dragon, there were bound to be countless abyssal demon dragons that would beat themselves up for this chance!

There was nothing to do about it. This was the great strength of an Abyss Walker. Even many members of the Demon Dragon Clan would have to lower their noble heads.

To be fair, this example was a bit off tangent. In short, any Abyss Walker would live for an incomparably long time unless an accident happened.

And the question appeared here.

All beings of the worlds, besides a few anomalies that were reborn, lived in harmony with the heavens and earth. From the time they were born, they had to fight and struggle against death.

As they bitterly struggled to live longer, there were some that lived for so long that their mindsets were altered.

To put it simply, they lived a poor lifestyle and their hearts became tired and empty. They were unable to summon energy to do anything...the general symptoms were similar to those with severe depression.

Even if they knew that death was the wrong choice, they would slowly fall into the abyss of destruction.

As the steward in charge of this Thousand Eye Temple Branch Division, Old Fox had lived for a long, long time. While he hadn't lived long enough to the point where he wanted to end his life, he still knew much about these secret things.

Therefore, when certain existences with ancient lifespans started to perceive that something was wrong with their condition, they would try to put it back on track. They would try to reignite their interest in life so that they didn't fall into a pit of self-destruction.

Changing one's identity, taking on a different appearance, and even banishing oneself somewhere remote in the abyss, was an effective method of doing so.

Was it possible that Liu Huo was in such a condition?

The more Old Fox thought about this the more excited he became. He felt that he had grasped the key of this matter, and that this key would allow Thousand Eye Temple to truly establish steady relations with him.

Since His Excellency Liu Huo wanted to experience a brand new life so that he would no longer be tired of living, then reminding him of his true identity was an extremely wrong move.

That's right, this was it!

If he wanted to be on good terms with him, he had to pretend to be confused and not knowing anything so that he didn't pierce through the fa?ade.

Otherwise, if he were to ruin Liu Huo's process of re-experiencing life, then let alone being on good terms, perhaps this entire Great Deer City branch division – including all the personnel here – would be crushed into dust!

Old Fox rejoiced inwardly. He was fortunate that he had realized this, otherwise if he had impatiently rushed over to Liu Huo after discovering his identity, he feared he would already be a corpse.

He glanced at the fox woman and nodded in appreciation. "What you say makes sense. Remember, unless Liu Huo reveals his true identity on his own initiative, our Thousand Eye Temple will play the role of a mute. Do you understand me?"

The fox woman hurriedly bowed, "Uncle, rest assured. Your niece will keep this firmly in mind." She looked up at Old Fox and hesitated.

"I understand your intentions, but what a pity it is that we have already missed the best opportunity. At the start, if you had been able to figure out a way to climb into Lord Liu Huo's bed...then it would have been the greatest lucky chance for not only you, but also our entire Tushan Fox Clan!" Old Fox drew in a deep breath, "Alright. We will think of other ways in the future. The most important task at hand is to reestablish contact with Lord Liu Huo...for instance, having him become the most honored guest of our Thousand Eye Temple's Great Deer City Branch Division."

The fox woman's eyes widened. "Uncle, you want to conceal Liu Huo's existence? This...this...how will you explain this to headquarters..."

"Humph! Even if some people are dissatisfied, they will have to wait until the beast tide ends to launch any attacks on me." A sharp light surged in his eyes. "Moreover, I will not conceal his status forever. I am just taking the initiative. At the very least, I must become an indispensable intermediary between His Excellency Liu Huo and our Thousand Eye Temple."

After discovering that there was a chance Liu Huo was a formidable Abyss Walker who had hidden his status and exiled himself in the abyss, his thoughts began to change.

Once he smoothly achieved his goal, his status within Thousand Eye Temple would rise precipitously. Becoming a Vice Temple Master wouldn't be difficult at all.

The fox woman soon realized all of this. Old Fox was her closest bloodline relative. The higher his status, the more she would profit. She bowed and said, "Uncle is indeed considerate."

Old Fox took a deep breath, "Since His Excellency Liu Hu doesn't wish to be disturbed, then we must plan our following actions well. Now, go and find His Excellency Liu Huo. Our Thousand Eye Temple will be hosting a banquet for distinguished guests and promoting internal discounts. He must be invited!"

The fox woman bowed respectfully, "I will immediately manage this!"

...

Qin Yu had no idea that in order to find a reasonable opportunity to contact him, someone had already decided to make a big move without any hesitation in spending demon crystals. If he did, he wouldn't have such a headache over how few demon crystals he had.

Feature's demon medicine had smoothly been refined again. This caused Qin Yu to be speechless at the so-called appraisal abilities of the abyssal demons.

With that sort of level, how had they ever managed to stay in business?

Tsk tsk, he couldn't figure it out at all!

But it didn't matter if he couldn't figure out these things. The demon medicines weren't his and he wasn't eating them, so any problems that occurred afterwards had nothing to do with him.

What gave him a headache was him trying to figure out how to use these demon medicines to obtain the demon crystals needed to buy more materials for Feature.

As the beast tide attack on Great Deer City grew increasingly violent, the price of demon medicines in the city rose higher and higher. Although they were still healing demon medicines, because of the scarce market, the trading value here was much higher than what was offered by Thousand Eye Temple.

But what left him feeling helpless was that Feature said she would no longer refine such low-level demon medicines. As the future strongest demonic refining master of the abyss, her journey was to the sea of stars.

To summarize things, she asked Qin Yu to buy even higher-quality materials so she could refine stronger demon medicines.

As the price of demon medicines soared, the price of their materials would also rise in tandem. This was especially true for the high-grade materials she needed.

Qin Yu had asked for the price before and the answer had left his complexion darkening. The demon crystals he had in hand weren't enough to purchase them all, and the shortfall wasn't small.

Standing outside a shop with flows of people surging around him, Qin Yu rubbed his chin. As he was thinking about the possibility of using force, from behind a window on the second floor of the shop, a demon inadvertently glanced over and saw him. The demon trembled and immediately paled!

Chapter 1046A - Extortion

The Merry Forest had a notorious reputation. Besides demons that had no other path left to them or demons that were already fierce and sinister, almost no one was willing to live there.

This also led to the fact that there were many combat personnel in the Merry Forest, but most of them weren't productive at all. Simply put, besides a rare few, most of them were poor.

If the Merry Forest only relied on the miserable and poor people within their territory to obtain demon crystals and materials from, then not to mention having to distribute and provide resources to all the subordinates, the entirety of the Merry Forest would have broken down and collapsed long ago.

So they actually had numerous businesses outside of the Merry Forest. If one added them up all together, they brought in a considerable amount of wealth.

Flying Pigeon was a hybrid abyssal demon of the black crow clan and the demon pigeon clan. His bloodline wasn't strong and his strength was only average. But, he had inherited the black-bellied cunningness and craftiness of the black crow clan as well as the calm wisdom of the demon pigeon clan. With that in addition to his hard work, he finally managed to get the attention of Blacklight and was appointed as a manager of seven or eight small shops scattered throughout Great Deer City.

Recently, due to the eruption of the beast tide, the price of materials in the city had soared. Flying Pigeon needed to patrol the shops every day, raising prices by the necessary amount required to maximize profits.

After careful calculation, even though he was mentally prepared, the profit figures of this shop made his heart beat faster. His smile almost reached his ears.

No matter what the reason was, a high income was his merit. Lord Blacklight was fair in how he handled things so he was sure to be rewarded.

As he was happy, his heart began to heat up. In addition, he had hooked up with the shopkeeper of this store not too long ago. She was a demon from the black swan clan who had an enchanting voice.

As for how Flying Pigeon knew this woman had a charming voice, that was another intense and vivid story. There wasn't much else to say about it.

In short, Flying Pigeon's interest was piqued. He called the shopkeeper over and after glancing around the room, asked her to lie against the window with her back turned to him.

As Flying Pigeon was about to carry his spear into battle, his eyes looked through the slightly opened curtains to see someone standing outside the shop.

He froze in place and his hard spear immediately wilted. His crotch turned cold as if he had transformed into a wooden puppet.

While he had only watched from afar, Flying Pigeon had a profound impression of this face. He would never forget what happened to Miss Firefly, that infamously ruthless and beautiful villainess of the Merry Forest who had fallen into distress. She had ended up crawling on the ground, eating dirt while she laughed and cried like a lunatic.

As for Lord Blacklight who he had always idolized, his face had drained of all color. He didn't even dare to speak out loud. This was the first time that Flying Pigeon had ever seen Lord Blacklight like that.

Afterwards, he heard that the master personally took action and that was the only reason that person left. Otherwise, it was unknown how things would have ended up.

How could Flying Pigeon forget such a person? In fact, he desperately branded that image in his mind. He wanted to ensure that if he ever encountered that person in the future, he wouldn't do anything that was worthy of death.

Being careful and considerate was of course a good quality. But, Flying Pigeon never thought that he would see him here. And right now, that man was standing outside the shop he managed, looking up at him with a thoughtful expression.

What did he want?

As Flying Pigeon's mind was shaking, Qin Yu looked up and their eyes met in midair. Flying Pigeon's knees weakened and he almost fell to the ground. His ears buzzed and his vision flashed black.

It's over, it's all over. He's discovered me - what do I do?

On ordinary days, Flying Pigeon believed that he was wise and intelligent. But now his brain seemed to be filled with syrup and he felt as if he had been thrown into an ice pond and was constantly sinking deeper.

"Brother Flying, Brother Flying, what are you doing?" The black swan demon slowly turned around when the expected storm didn't arrive. Shocked by what she saw, she picked up her skirt and grabbed onto him, steadying him.

"Ahh...ah...I'm fine..." Flying Pigeon suddenly regained his composure. Then, he leapt three feet in the air as if his buttocks had caught on fire before rushing out.

Flying Pigeon squeezed through the crowd, startling numerous demons. Then, after making it out of the shop, he stopped far away and respectfully bowed to Qin Yu, gasping as he said, "I had no idea your lord was visiting. Please forgive me for not welcoming you."

His heart beat rapidly. Flying Pigeon felt as if he was dancing on the edge of a knife.

Throughout the vast Great Deer City, there were over 20 million stores. This entire street belonged to the Merry Forest.

Qin Yu just happened to appear here. Could that be a coincidence?

Flying Pigeon didn't dare to guess what Qin Yu's goal was. But if he saw him and pretended he didn't see anything, he feared his little life would soon be ended.

Don't worry about the reason and just bow your head and admit defeat. This was a person who could play with Miss Firefly in the palm of his hands and who made Lord Blacklight feel dread and terror. Besides the master, who else dared to be disrespectful towards him?

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows together. He had no impression of this person speaking to him.

Flying Pigeon sensed the mood. He knew that this great person wouldn't remember someone like him who played such a minor role. "Several days ago, my lord entered the Merry Forest. I was accompanying Lord Blacklight at the time and saw you from afar."

Qin Yu looked at Flying Pigeon's pale complexion and his thoughts turned. He could approximately guess what he was thinking.

"You're from the Merry Forest?" That's fortunate. If his luck was good, then perhaps he could save himself a good deal of trouble this time around.

Qin Yu lightly coughed and said, "I came here today to purchase some materials." He took out a demon crystal card. "This is a list. Do you have the items listed here?"

Flying Pigeon received the card with both hands and searched through it with his divine sense. He immediately shivered, more sure of his own thoughts.

This person had really come here to find them!

The only good news was that there seemed to be some wiggle room. All he had to do was hand over what he wanted.

With a pale face and sweat dripping down his forehead, Flying Pigeon said in a shaking voice, "We do have these items. My lord, please come in and wait. I will prepare everything for you as soon as possible."

Qin Yu's eyes brightened. The demon crystal card he took out was the 'big list' that Feature had given to him after lengthy consideration. There were so many items listed, including many of considerable value, that just glancing at it gave him a headache.

Compared to the 'little list' that he originally came to purchase this time, the difference in the materials listed was as great as the heavens and earth.

They even had all of this?

Hoho, it seemed that he had underestimated the Merry Forest's financial resources!

Extorting others was an action that would offend people regardless of who they were. Since he was going to offend someone, he might as well do it to the extreme.

After this, Feature would have enough materials to mess around with her new hobby for a long time. This was an important point.

Qin Yu didn't want to be constantly tossed around by her.

As for whether there would be a grudge...hoho, Liu Huo was already dead. Once he switched to a new identity, good luck finding him!

Qin Yu nodded and followed behind Flying Pigeon, walking into the room. Then, as everyone watched him in awe, he was brought into a quiet room where two rabbit girls waited on him.

The true decision makers of this shop all came from the Merry Forest. This was not a secret. In fact, it was because of this that people rarely tried to bully them.

For this reason, the two rabbit girls were proud because they always served someone from the Merry Forest.

But today, they truly experienced what people meant when they said that there was always a higher mountain. The ordinarily powerful and prestigious Brother Flying had become as obsequious as a grandson. His waist was bent so low that it looked as if he would snap in half.

To have Brother Flying, someone who came from the Merry Forest and had considerable status, act so humbly, just what was this person's identity? Just imagining it left them breathless!

Qin Yu drank tea and ate a few cakes made from unknown ingredients. Perhaps it was because his current state was that of an abyssal demon, but he thought they tasted quite good.

As for Flying Pigeon who had left with the excuse of preparing things, Qin Yu knew that he had to be busy contacting the Merry Forest. Still, he didn't stop him.

The 'big list' that Feature had given him had many materials of astonishing value. Moreover, there were a great number of items listed. It definitely wasn't something that a small shop like this could collect on its own.

If he wanted to obtain what he wanted, he would need a nod from the Merry Forest's Demon Commander. Thus, he let Flying Pigeon send a message.

As for whether or not that Demon Commander would agree, Qin Yu believed there was a 50/50 chance. Although he was extorting them, it was also the Merry Forest that owed him first.

Additionally, he had let Firefly and Blacklight live. No matter who the Demon Commander was, he had to give him some face.

And in any case, if the two of them truly fought, it was unknown who would emerge victorious in the end.

After thinking about it a few times, Qin Yu felt it was unlikely that the Merry Forest would turn against him. At most, they would give him a discount on the items he wanted.

Even if he obtained just 10% of the items on the 'big list', that would still be a great gain.

In fact, Qin Yu's guess was correct. When Flying Pigeon left the room, he didn't even have the time to wipe the sweat from his face before he contacted Lord Blacklight.

But nothing happened after that. After the news was sent out, it was like a pebble in the sea, without any reaction.

What is the situation? Should we give him what he wants or flip the tables? For better or worse you should give me a response.

Or, had this store and everyone within it already been abandoned?

If this was true, Flying Pigeon felt that no matter what happened, there was no way he would survive past this day!

Of course, it was impossible for there to be no response.

Chapter 1046B - Extortion

After receiving Flying Pigeon's message, the cold-faced demon youth Blacklight leapt up in the air, his face turning blue and white.

Liu Huo. It was that person. He had come looking for them!

Damn it all. Every debt had a debtor. Even if he was looking for trouble, he should be searching for Firefly. How did he end up in that person's line of sight himself?

But there was obviously no answer to this question. After pacing around in a few circles, Blacklight turned and walked out. There was nothing he could do. Since this matter involved Liu Huo, things were beyond his control.

He would have to ask the master for orders!

As Blacklight hurried towards the depths of the Merry Forest to report on this, Thousand Eye Temple had also finally locked onto Qin Yu's whereabouts.

They discovered that His Excellency Liu Huo wasn't at his dwelling. Rather, he had gone to a small store that didn't have much of a reputation. After further investigation, they discovered that this small store's background was the Merry Forest.

This required a little caution.

It was said that dragons couldn't suppress local snakes. Moreover, while 'that person' who controlled the Merry Forest might not be a flood dragon, he was still an overwhelmingly large python.

This discovery caused Old Fox to hesitate. But soon, he received some news that left him gasping for breath.

Because Qin Yu had gone to this store to sell another jar of demon medicine. The demon medicine was also of ordinary quality!

Only the heavens knew how they appraised it to be ordinary...once this matter ended, he would have to bring in new blood to replace every appraiser. All of them were brainless idiots!

"Investigate, continue investigating!" Old Fox drew in a few deep breaths, warning himself not to be impulsive. Selling a jar of demon medicine wasn't anything at all. He had the means to obtain this jar of demon medicine for himself.

If he was reckless in his actions and other people noticed His Excellency Liu Huo, that would truly be troublesome.

Soon, more and more news came in.

Liu Huo had been respectfully requested to enter the store.

He also entered a quiet room. No one was allowed to approach.

A change occurred in the Merry Forest. After Blacklight had a meeting with that person, a massive amount of wealth was mobilized.

There was definitive evidence that the Merry Forest was preparing a large quantity of precious materials. Their current purpose was unknown.

•••

With every bit of news, Old Fox's eyes turned increasingly red. The faint trace of hope in his heart completely disappeared.

"Merry Forest!"

That old dog had an amazing sense of smell and had surely noticed something. It seemed that they weren't the only faction to have noticed Liu Huo.

Originally, he thought that he had grasped a secret no one knew. He could carefully plan his next step to maximize his benefits.

But in the blink of an eye, let alone playing chess, even the entire chessboard was almost stolen away! You damned old dog, you have gone too far! I will never let this matter go!

"Let's go. We're going to pay a visit to His Excellency Liu Huo. As an honored guest of our Thousand Eye Temple, no matter what materials he needs, he can obtain them from us!"

He could not wait any longer, otherwise this final prize might be taken away by the Merry Forest!

At this time, Old Fox's complexion was pale but a horrifying light shined in his eyes.

...

Blacklight knelt on the ground. His back was soaked with sweat. It had been a long silence, and this silence had to be proportional to the master's anger.

But he understood the master. The master wouldn't easily take action, and yet on that day he had let Liu Huo leave safely without doing anything to him.

This point alone proved that there were other points of consideration.

As Blacklight felt the air becoming increasingly thick, almost making it difficult to breathe, the master's cold and indifferent voice finally resounded from up above. "Blacklight, go in my place and tell Liu Huo that the Merry Forest will agree to his conditions. But, he must know that this is the first time and also the last time, otherwise he will not like the consequences."

The master was enduring it!

Although he had already expected this, when he truly heard this order, he still felt his heart empty out.

Did even the master dread that person so much? As he thought, Liu Huo had to be a Demon Commander! But no matter how he sifted through his memories, he had no impression of this person. Could he have come from another layer of the abyss?

Demon Commanders. They were the greatest powerhouses below an Abyssal King. They already stood at an unimaginable peak for countless abyssal demons.

Such a character could lift a hand and summon endless might. Regardless of which Abyssal King they pledged themselves to, they could obtain their own manor and become a ruler of their own domain, controlling the life and death of hundreds of millions of abyssal demons.

But such a person, an absolutely great figure of the abyss, had done something as tacky as knocking on someone's door and extorting them...this simply ruined the dignity of all other Demon Commanders!

If Blacklight hadn't personally experienced this, he simply wouldn't be able to imagine it.

"Yes, master."

He took a deep breath, bowed, and stood up. He glanced up at the giant shadow of the master behind a black curtain and sighed inwardly.

While he also felt that the master's decision was the wisest choice, today's matter involved many precious materials. It would be impossible to keep it a secret. Once news of this spread out, he was afraid the Merry Forest would become a target of ridicule for many people.

...

Flying Pigeon was on the verge of a nervous breakdown. When he finally received a reply from the Merry Forest, he let out a long breath of relief. Only then did he discover that he was drenched in sweat, dripping off of him as if he had just emerged from a bath.

It was good that they agreed, very good. If the master decided to tear apart all pretense of face with Liu Huo, no one knew what the result would be. But, Flying Pigeon was sure that he would be the first to die.

He quickly changed into a new set of clothes and walked out. He knocked on the door of the quiet room and then only entered after hearing someone call him in.

"My lord, the things you want are being prepared right now. Lord Blacklight will personally arrive to hand them to you."

To be honest, this result was beyond Qin Yu's expectations. He had played a game of extortion and he had opened his mouth as wide as a lion's. He never thought that he would succeed in obtaining everything.

In his heart, Qin Yu had given room for the Merry Forest to bargain. As long as he could end up with 30-40% of what he wanted, that would be more than enough in his opinion.

But now, he was being given everything without any discount at all. Could it be that the Merry Forest had a deep background and simply didn't care about giving away so much, or was there another reason behind it all?

No matter how he looked at it, the possibility of the latter was higher...however, this was still a happy and unexpected surprise. He smiled.

When Flying Pigeon saw Qin Yu's smile, only then did his heart stop getting stuck in his throat. It seemed that he had passed this calamity without incident.

It was only now that he had the mood to think about the materials listed in the demon crystal card. His heart twitched a few times.

In being extorted to such an extent, he feared that all the profits that the Merry Forest made from the beast tide eruption would have to be used up. In fact, that might not be enough.

Blacklight finally arrived. After dismissing everyone, only he and Qin Yu remained in the quiet room. With a dignified expression, he placed a demon leather bag on the table.

"Lord Liu Huo, the Merry Forest has accepted your request. All the materials are here. Please examine them."

Qin Yu glanced at the demon leather bag. "No need. I trust in your sincerity."

Blacklight's lips twitched. Hey, we really don't need this kind of trust!

But a thought was just a thought. He would never dare to reveal it. In fact, he had to express his gratitude at Qin Yu's trust.

Blacklight took a deep breath and continued to say, "In addition, my master has some words that he would like to relay to Lord Liu Huo. We hope that this matter..."

Just as he started to speak, the door to the quiet room was thrust open. Blacklight stopped speaking and looked over with a cloudy expression.

However, when he saw the intruder, his complexion changed again. He subconsciously stood up and said, "Old Fox, why are you here?"

The steward of Thousand Eye Temple. He was the true leader of their Great Deer City's branch division. In this region, he was one of the most powerful and influential people.

Moreover, Blacklight was vaguely aware that his master knew Old Fox from long ago. While they had a bad relationship, they weren't true enemies. On the contrary, they had a subtle and tacit understanding on many issues.

Facing Old Fox, he certainly didn't dare to pull rank. He spoke with sufficient respect.

But unexpectedly, facing Blacklight's question, Old Fox didn't pay him any attention at all. Old Fox strode in and smiled, "Mister Liu Huo, because of some busy work, I neglected you previously. All of this is a mistake of Thousand Eye Temple. We ask that you not feel offended and give us a chance to prove ourselves again."

As he spoke, his eyes swept over the demon leather bag on the table and his smile brightened. "To express our sincerity, no matter what Mister Liu Huo needs, our Thousand Eye Temple is willing to sell it to you at the lowest possible price. Moreover, we can guarantee our quality. Throughout the entire Great Deer City, there is no other store that can compare with my Thousand Eye Temple."

What was going on here? Blacklight was stunned for a moment, uncertain of what to do. The items had been brought but he hadn't been able to relay the master's words. He couldn't allow his business to be interrupted by the people from Thousand Eye Temple.

He squeezed out a smile. "Old Fox, are you misunderstanding something? Our Merry Forest has a deep connection with Lord Liu Huo, so all the items inside that demon leather bag are free gifts. It is a way of expressing our sincerity. We are in no way competing for business with the Thousand Eye Temple."

Free gifts?

Old Fox's lips twitched and he shouted out curses in his heart. You dead damned dog, you are actually able to do something like this!

As he thought, that old thing must have grasped the truth. Otherwise he never would have put down such capital.

Although he had no idea what was in the demon leather bag, with what information he had grasped, it must have cost a sky-high amount of demon stones.

You said you are giving it to someone and I should trust that you are giving it away? Then throughout all these years, how come I've never seen you give anything away?

He coldly glared at Blacklight. This young brat, what did he mean by competing for business? That's right, you aren't competing for business. What you are trying to do is to steal my future good fortune!

I, Old Fox, will never let this matter rest!

Chapter 1047 - Unusual Events

"Mister Liu Huo, the Merry Forest is notoriously infamous. It is a vicious and dangerous place that no one wants to approach. If you cooperate with them, that will definitely affect your reputation. Our Thousand Eye Temple is willing to pay an amount of goods equivalent to what the Merry Forest gifted you for your forgiveness, friendship, and continued cooperation." Old Fox looked backwards, "What are you doing? Show our sincerity and then ask Mister Liu Huo to join us."

The fox woman respectfully bowed. She held a demon leather bag in both hands and said, "Mister, it was I who neglected you before. I am willing to accept any punishment, but I ask that you give me a chance to atone. Otherwise, the steward will hold me accountable and I fear that I won't survive."

Her eyes shimmered with tears and she spoke in a choked voice. For such a delicate beauty to softly beg for forgiveness, this scene was enough to touch anyone's heart.

However, could someone tell Blacklight what this strange scene was? Our Merry Forest was about to draw a clear line with Liu Huo and have no further connection with him, so why was this so difficult? Why did these Thousand Eye Temple people leap out from nowhere and what did they want?

The master had patiently held in his anger and handed over his property; this was already the greatest concession possible. If he couldn't handle this matter well, the master would surely be disappointed in him.

Blacklight clenched his teeth and spoke in a much louder voice, "Old Fox! This place is a part of my Merry Forest. I hope that you can wait for a moment. After Lord Liu Huo leaves, no matter what business you have with him, we will not interfere!"

"Humph!" Old Fox sneered, "Young brat, I haven't seen you in a few years and your wings have already hardened. You dare to speak like that to this old man?"

Blacklight flushed red, "You were the one being unreasonable first!"

"I am unreasonable; what are you going to do about it? Screw off! With your weight, you do not have the qualifications to speak with me!" Old Fox dismissively waved his hand, disdain in his eyes.

At this time, a calm voice rang out in everyone's ears. "Old Fox, you've actually scurried into my domain to cause trouble. Your courage isn't small."

Blacklight's eyes brightened. He quickly bowed, "I greet the master!"

"Rise."

The one who spoke was a middle-aged demon in black clothes. His appearance was exactly the same as a human's. If it weren't for the fact that this was the abyss, it would have been impossible to tell his identity.

In other words, this person was a member of an abyssal royal family. It was just unknown which clan he came from.

He took a step forward and cupped his hands together, "Mister Liu Huo, Today is the second time we have met. I hope that you can complete the agreement with our Merry Forest."

Old Fox's face distorted in anger. He blurted out loud, "Don't even think about it!" He fiercely glared and said, "Black Astral, I'm warning you, don't forget that I hold your little tail in my hand. If you really provoke my anger, don't think I can't make things bad for you!"

The true ruler of the Merry Forest was the calm and black-robed Black Astral. "If something happens to me, you won't be any better off."

Old Fox trembled all over. However, a considerable part of his appearance was a deliberate act. This could be regarded as a tactic to lower the enemy's guard. Old Fox really was irritated, but his thoughts remained clear and his mind was racing.

He had suddenly arrived here today. While he had concealed his whereabouts as best he could, he couldn't completely hide from outside eyes.

Moreover, this old dog had even come here.

This world never lacked smart people. Old Fox didn't believe that if he could find a clue, others couldn't.

If too much attention was drawn here because of this matter and others began to suspect Liu Huo's secret, then there was a possibility he would be exposed.

If something like that happened and Liu Huo was angered, they would all have to endure his anger.

At the very least, all of his plans and calculations would fail. He would even have to withstand a severe punishment from Thousand Eye Temple's headquarters.

After all, no one here was a fool. By looking at his previous actions and all the information he hadn't reported, it would be easy to guess his thoughts.

Originally, this should have been a good situation where he was able to reap countless benefits. But because of the appearance of the Merry Forest, this shit-stirring stick, things had spiraled out of control and were veering into an unknown direction.

This damned black dog, he really is my nemesis! Nothing good ever happens when I meet him!

I can't let this continue any longer. I have to figure out a way to return things to their original flow. Perhaps...I will have to join hands with them.

Old Fox took a deep breath and suppressed his angry thoughts. He smiled and said, "Mister Liu Huo, there are some matters I must discuss with Black Astral first. I ask you to please wait a moment. Rest assured, we will finish soon and won't make you wait too long."

Black Astral smiled. "That's right, there are some things to discuss. I'll have to bother mister with waiting."

Qin Yu: ...

This really was like waking up from a dream and then falling asleep again. Could someone tell him what was going on?

Why did people from Thousand Eye Temple appear? And even if they appeared, they shouldn't be acting like this.

The Merry Forest's Demon Commander was also acting strangely. It was like he knew nothing and yet also knew everything.

But looking at the current situation, while it was unusual, it didn't seem to be anything bad.

They were struggling to give him things...

Was this because he didn't have a deep understanding of the abyss? Were they actually a race that were particularly friendly and caring for others?

As thoughts clashed in his mind, his silence was like a tacit agreement in the eyes of Old Fox. Old Fox humphed and walked away.

Black Astral cupped his hands together and followed close behind.

The two old demons left just like that.

The fox woman knelt on the ground, tears in her eyes. Her hands still held onto the demon leather bag and her abundant white breasts were exposed.

Blacklight clenched his teeth. He picked up the demon leather bag that the Merry Forest had prepared and knelt on another side, "Lord Liu Huo, I have no idea what is happening, but if you must accept something, please accept our offering."

The fox woman was posing as a pitiful person so she couldn't immediately react. Still, she wished she could bite this damned horned python to death!

I am currently displaying my great temptation skills to attract Lord Liu Huo's attention, so why are you bothering me? What an eyesore. Hurry up and die!

Blacklight looked over, coldly sneering inside. You brazen fox, you can forget acting shy and na?ve in front of Lord Liu Huo!

In this quiet room, the fox woman and Blacklight were engaged in a secret contest. Somewhere else, Old Fox and Black Astral entered another room.

After closing the door, Old Fox's angry expression completely vanished without a trace. He furrowed his eyebrows and asked, "You old black dog, just what do you want?"

Black Astral had a light look. "You smelly fox, you and I are both aware so why waste our time...you should also be thinking that if that person waits too long, who knows what could happen?"

The Old Fox's eyelids leapt and he took a deep breath, "Let's work together!"

"I can cooperate with you, but you need to explain exactly how before we can reach an agreement."

"Damn it, at this moment, there is no time to delay...if you and I are discovered by others, we will both be finished and neither of us will obtain even the slightest benefit!"

Black Astral's eyes flashed. "Are you sure that only the two of us know about this?"

"At least for now. But sooner or later, our movements will be noticed by others..." Old Fox's voice came to a sudden stop and his eyes started to widen. He stared at Black Astral and said, "You didn't know!"

His face flushed with blood and even his eyes began to turn red. His breathing turned heavy as if he would lunge forward at any moment.

Black Astral took a deep breath and slowly said, "Before now, I indeed didn't know anything. But your words gave me a reminder...the appearance of the black demon cow and the silver moon wolf royal bloodline, was that all because of Liu Huo?"

As he spoke to here, even with his calm and steady mind his voice had become hoarse. It could be seen how wildly his emotions were fluctuating.

Bang -

The comfortable sofa that Old Fox sat on suddenly shattered into countless pieces. The soft materials were ripped apart by a wild strength.

"Shit! Shit! You damned dog, I'll kill you! I'll definitely kill you!" Old Fox, who believed he was wise and crafty, simply couldn't accept that he had exposed such important information.

Perhaps Thousand Eye Temple might be able to hide their actions from others, but the Merry Forest was an organization that had taken root in Great Deer City. They were a local tyrant through and through, and in terms of spies, no one could match them.

So with Old Fox's words, Black Astral was able to immediately grasp the truth of the situation.

After a series of loud explosions and rumbles, the demons outside the quiet room were all on guard.

"Old Fox..."

"Master..."

The demons had just opened the door but were pushed away by a loud roar from the room, "All of you screw off!"

This was good. These two big brothers were out of breath but still full of life. There didn't seem to be any major problems.

But just what had happened for these two big brothers to become so agitated?

They couldn't think about it and they didn't want to think about it. It was better to obediently wait outside. Trying to listen in was only provoking trouble for themselves.

At this time, everything was in chaos in the quiet room. All of the furnishings had been destroyed by a rampant strength.

Old Fox and Black Astral each sat on a tattered sofa and gasped for breath.

"You dead dog, consider yourself as having a good life! But tell me, just what is going on today?"

After having determined Qin Yu's status, Black Astral's heart was still racing in excitement.

He grinned. The action caused the injury on his mouth to sting, and his smile brightened, "If I tell you, you'll feel even sadder."

Sure enough, as Old Fox learned what was going on between Qin Yu and the Merry Forest today, his intestines almost turned blue from regret.

He could only blame himself for being impatient. If he had waited until Qin Yu left the shop, he could have monopolized this secret for himself.

But with things having gotten to this point, it didn't matter how annoyed or unwilling he was about it. Old Fox could only comfort himself with the fact that he had confirmed Qin Yu's identity from another aspect.

Demon Commander!

Who could have imagined that such a terrifying strength existed beneath that ordinary aura.

There was no mistaking it. Liu Huo was an Abyss Walker who had taken on a new identity and exiled himself in the abyss to experience a brand new life!

Moments later, after cleaning everything up, Old Fox and Black Astral emerged from the quiet room, as calm as they usually were.

An hour later, Qin Yu carried two demon leather bags as he returned to his residence.

Looking at the familiar courtyard doors, he rubbed his eyebrows. Even now he felt as if he were living in a dream.

Too many strange things happened today. Was the abyss becoming abnormal?

Chapter 1048 - Cooperation

The Merry Forest and Thousand Eye Temple came into conflict because of a batch of materials. It was said that the trouble which broke out was extremely serious. The steward of Thousand Eye Temple as well as the master of the Merry Forest both intervened in this matter. After a brief battle, both sides left on bad terms.

Afterwards, Thousand Eye Temple announced that they would have the Merry Forest pay a deep price for this.

The Merry Forest showed no weakness. They declared that they would brook no provocation and they would return any outside infringement ten times over.

As something that involved two giant influences within Great Deer City, this matter spread out far and wide, attracting countless eyes.

Of course, not everyone believed this was everything. But after a brief investigation, it seemed that this was all true. No one found any flaws in the story.

As a result, thanks to the active participation of Black Astral and Old Fox, Qin Yu's existence there became extremely diluted, eventually becoming that of a passerby with no name.

This was naturally the result of the cooperation between the Merry Forest and Thousand Eye Temple. It was difficult to completely erase Qin Yu's traces without being noticed by anyone.

Qin Yu had no idea that all of this was occurring behind the scenes, otherwise he would have definitely praised the two of them. This was because he didn't want to attract even more attention towards Feature's existence.

Playing a small and invisible role was good.

However, in truth, Qin Yu knew that after this matter it would be absolutely impossible to maintain his previous tranquil days.

There was just one thing he couldn't figure out. Had the demons of Thousand Eye Temple and the Merry Forest really gone insane?

The mighty heaven ascending pill was actually regarded as a treasure. In Qin Yu's opinion, this was far too suspect.

But whether or not Qin Yu could figure it out, there was only one explanation for it all...the fundamental reason for why these two groups of people came to visit and were so humble and respectful was the demon medicines he had sold!

Because of this, Feature reared back her head and laughed into the skies. She mocked Qin Yu, saying that with his low level taste, he simply couldn't sense how amazing the demon medicines she produced actually were.

In short, winter insects couldn't speak the language of summer. They were on two completely different channels.

With your level and ability, you are destined to only be the assistant of this future Abyss' Number One demonic refining master.

Qin Yu snorted with contempt. Keep dreaming!

But soon another unexpected situation occurred, because Old Fox and Black Astral came to visit the next day.

Even though these two old demons spoke in vague circles, Qin Yu could make out the meaning behind their words – we want to cooperate!

Moreover, they seemed to recognize Qin Yu as the person who refined those demon medicines.

Feature's look of smug satisfaction completely froze on her face. Qin Yu seemed to hear the sound of her heart breaking.

As the conversation progressed, Feature turned into a cold air generator. Her expression was so dark and gloomy that it seemed as if it would rain soon.

Even Old Fox and Black Astral couldn't help but glance at her a few times. They had no idea why her emotions were fluctuating so much.

But seeing Qin Yu turn a blind eye to her, the two old demons cleverly didn't show anything. Instead, they raised the importance of Feature by at least two levels.

This was obvious. When a host was greeting his guests, an ordinary young maid didn't conceal her expressions and yet she wasn't reprimanded at all. How could she be ordinary?

Of course, the most important reason was that Feature was sufficiently beautiful...yes, she was beautiful. Perhaps because they had a different sense of aesthetics, Feature only appeared ordinary in Qin Yu's eyes. But in the eyes of the two old demons, she represented the peak of beauty.

When Old Fox and Black Astral first saw Feature, they were given a fright. They thought that an Abyss Walker really was invincible; they could have a royal family member as a maid!

They had never heard of something so brutal like this before!

But soon, they discovered that Feature didn't exude any formidable aura. It was impossible for her to be a true royal.

But there was a possibility that Liu Huo had refined some demon medicine that was able to conceal the traces of her clan bloodline.

Similar medicines existed in the abyss. They were particularly loved by women from the higher abyssal races, so they were extremely valuable.

This confirmed their thoughts again. If Liu Huo was willing to use such expensive demon medicines on this ordinary maid, could she really just be a maid?

"We would like to thank Mister Liu Huo for the approval. We hope that we can happily cooperate in the future. Of course, to express our sincerity, no matter what issue or needs you have in the future, feel free to mention it. We will do our best to solve the problem." Old Fox smiled, his eyes glistening.

Success!

Moreover, the entire process went much smoother than he imagined.

If he had easily achieved victory any other time, Old Fox would have become suspicious.

This was the necessary caution that one had to have in order to survive for a long time in the abyss.

But in the eyes of Old Fox, this matter involved an Abyss Walker who had lived for countless years already and was starting to hate and detest living so much that he was trying to stimulate his love for life once again.

For an existence this old whose personality had become distorted and even wanted to kill themselves, regardless of what they did it was normal.

Black Astral agreed.

So when the two old demons secretly left the courtyard, they glanced at each other and could see the excitement in the other's eyes.

To achieve cooperation with an Abyss Walker...even with their status, they never could have imagined it was possible.

But they had succeeded without a doubt. As long as they managed things properly after this, they could obtain endless good fortune.

Black Astral licked his lips. His serene expression had flushed red and even his fingers were shivering.

Across from him, Old Fox took a deep breath and suppressed his state of mind. He looked over and furrowed his eyebrows, "Old dog, although I can understand why you are excited, we both know how difficult this matter is. In fact, it is even more difficult than refining a life-changing demon medicine that can stimulate one's bloodline. You have tried many times throughout the years, so I advise you not to speak so easily."

Black Astral closed his eyes. After several breaths of time he opened them again, but was unable to completely hide his surging emotions. "Smelly fox, of course I understand what you're saying. It's just that I have tried so many times in these past years that I understand this might be my final opportunity."

He paused and let out a deep breath, "The vast abyss is limitless, but peak demonic refining masters are unfathomably rare. If I miss out on this chance, I fear I won't ever get a second one. So no matter what, I have to try...even if I am refused, I can give up and extinguish any thoughts I have, spending the last of my years in Great Deer City."

Old Fox was silent for a long time. He gently sighed and said, "Then you should prepare a sufficiently rich gift. If you need my help, you can ask...after all, the reason you ended up in such a state is also partly because of me."

Black Astral smiled. "No need. I have waited countless years for today and have completed the necessary preparations." He looked at Old Fox and said, "You do not need to harbor any guilt towards me. During that year, you were not wrong. It was just that you and I had different standpoints."

The carriage fell silent. After entering the Merry Forest, Old Fox got out secretly and left in another direction.

Black Astral stood with his hands crossed behind his back. Blacklight stood respectfully to the side, curiosity in his eyes. He had no idea where his master had gone and he had no idea why Old Fox had joined his master.

It had to be known that ever since he joined the Merry Forest, although there had been no conflict between his master and the steward of Thousand Eye Temple, their relationship wasn't too good.

As for what relationship they had...he had no idea. In truth, he didn't want to know either. Because for a subordinate, the best choice was to maintain a certain level of ignorance.

"Blacklight, I will be going into seclusion for a time. I will temporarily hand over the management of the Merry Forest to you." As Black Astral spoke, abyssal energy surged around him and he vanished from sight.

Blacklight bowed, "Yes, master."

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Feature glared at Qin Yu. And she had maintained this action for a long time already. It made one worry that her eyes would fall out from her head if she were to remain in this position any longer.

Qin Yu originally didn't want to deal with her. Of course, in his heart, he also had thoughts about laughing at her. But she had stayed glaring at him for far too long, so long that it had become uncomfortable. This was true for anyone, even if the one staring at you was a beautiful and seductive woman.

"They were the ones who personally determined that I refined the demon medicine. It has nothing to do with me, right?" Qin Yu rubbed his forehead as he spoke.

"Humph!" Feature sneered, unmoved by his words.

Qin Yu helplessly said, "You should know that while you can freely appear in front of the abyssal demons, that is because you are wearing the Pendant of Disguise. Being famous is useless to you and will only bring about unnecessary trouble. It is for the best if you leave these burdens to me, right?"

"Humph!"

"What do you want?"

"The demon medicine I refine is all refined by me. But they think it is you. That is the greatest wound to my pride! Do you know that my ideal of being the Abyss' Number One demonic refining master had just begun and then it was completely trampled over by you?"

Qin Yu had a black face. "Then there's no need. I'll find them and tell them that the Abyss' Number One who refined the demon medicine is you. Feature, there is no need to be emotional. To me, this trip to the abyss is only a part of my life's journey. We must return to the world of the living eventually, and after we leave, everything that happens here will become meaningless."

Qin Yu took a deep breath and relaxed his tone, "For some insignificant fame, isn't it not worth it?"

Feature bit her lips. "I don't care..." She lowered her head and thought for a moment. Then, her eyes lit up. "You said that we will leave the abyss sooner or later, so everything that happens here is meaningless, right?"

Qin Yu nodded.

"Good! Then I want you to agree. Before leaving the abyss, you must publicly announce that the one who refined these demon medicines is I, Miss Feature, the strongest demonic refining master in the abyss! As for you, you are only my assistant, someone who played a tiny role in the refining process!"

Qin Yu said, "Alright."

"You agree?"

"Mm."

"You can't go back on your word!"

"Is there a need to?"

"You must promise!"

"Okay, I promise."

Things had finally calmed down...

Looking at Feature's back, Qin Yu couldn't help but bitterly smile. He thought that sometimes women were truly incomprehensible.

He really had no idea why Feature would care so much about this.

Since he couldn't figure it out, there was no need to waste his energy here. The answer would come eventually.

Strictly speaking, after Thousand Eye Temple and the Merry Forest started cooperating, there was basically no problem with security inside Great Deer City.

Although it was unknown what sort of forces could be produced when they joined together, if both sides were cooperating, they had to be on similar levels.

In other words, the strength of Thousand Eye Temple was no weaker than the Merry Forest. And the Merry Forest occupied a fifth of Great Deer City.

In simpler terms, in such a situation, even if the City Lord Mansion wanted to deal with Qin Yu they might not succeed.

The only thing to be careful about was Feature. As time passed, the scent she emitted would grow stronger.

The Pendant of Disguise was good, but it was unknown how long it could be used for. Perhaps it was time to start gathering materials that could conceal her aura even further.

Chapter 1049A – Beast Tide Mutation

This was the seventh day since the beast tide erupted.

Only the heavens knew how many demon beast corpses had fallen into the endless ravine in front of Great Deer City. Even so, they remained inexhaustible as they covered the mountains and plains. In the eyes of the abyssal demons, it was like the more they killed, the more that appeared.

Although the city had the advantage of naturally defensive topography on their side as well as the firm and sturdy city walls, the casualty count in these past six days was still terrifying.

Ordinary demons only knew that this eruption of the beast tide was especially fierce. As for the City Lord Mansion who controlled all resources and organized everything to fight against it, they knew exactly what was happening.

In a short seven days, the deaths and injuries in Great Deer City had equaled the average sum of all the previous beast tide eruptions once they had ended.

And according to convention, once a beast tide erupted it would last for at least a month. As time went by, the beast tide would grow increasingly streaking, reaching the peak at around 20 days in.

Not to mention what would happen if the city was breached by the beast tide, even if they managed to withstand it, the final total of casualties would reach an alarming number.

Moreover, what was strange was that not all cities were experiencing such a brutal and frigid beast tide.

On the contrary, according to the reports that were received, the two closest large-scale cities were withstanding a beast tide that was much weaker than prior times.

This was a rare occurrence. But the abyss had existed for countless years and the beast tide had erupted innumerable times. By no means were there no similar examples from the past.

If the intensity of a beast tide increased in a certain centralized area, that was most likely because there was something extremely tempting within the city.

In the ancient records of the abyss, tens of thousands of years ago there existed a city called Sable Abyss. It was the most magnificent creation of the Sable Clan when they were at the zenith of their glory. It possessed incomparably strong defensive abilities and it was said that not even an Abyssal King could capture it.

But during a beast tide it was thoroughly destroyed and plunged into the abyss. None of the hundreds of millions of demons in the city survived.

After an investigation, it was found that Sable Abyss City was using the hearts of three demon dragons to provide an endless supply of abyssal energy to the entire city.

Because the aura of a demon dragon's heart couldn't be completely covered, it spurred a change in the beast tide. The size and terror of the beast tide had been over a hundred times greater!

The City Lord Mansion suspected that Great Deer City's disaster was caused by the fact that something had appeared in the city that held an intense temptation for demon beasts.

Of course, this was only a temporary suspicion. It was impossible to look up the reason for why beast tides erupted in the first place, so who could tell what these crazy demon beasts were actually thinking.

But it didn't matter why the beast tide had strengthened. It was an immutable fact that Great Deer City was in grave peril.

Thus, the City Lord Mansion believed that the current situation had to be reported to the other forces within the city. Only by uniting all of their forces could they hope to withstand the impact of the beast tide.

Otherwise, once Great Deer City was broken into, while the ruling class might be able to escape with their lives, they would suffer the greatest losses.

The City Lord Mansion's correspondence was quickly sent out. But the first response left the City Lord frowning.

Black Astral had gone into seclusion!

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The Merry Forest occupied almost a fifth of Great Deer City. They were a part of the system but at the same time they were beyond the City Lord Mansion's control, making them a city within a city.

City Lord Blackpool was a flood dragon and python hybrid. The reason he let Blacklight, someone who had a bloodline relation to him, join the Merry Forest and become Black Astral's trusted subordinate was naturally because he dreaded the strength of the Demon Commander boundary.

Otherwise, if it were anyone else? Humph, our City Lord Blackpool would slap them to death with a single hand!

So when he received a response stating that Black Astral was in seclusion, the City Lord was left helpless. There simply wasn't anything he could do based on this news, because it was confirmed that Black Astral had gone into seclusion on the day before he sent his message.

That bastard boy, after entering the Happy Forest he really had fallen for Black Astral and become his most absolute confidant. To think that he would maintain such a cold attitude towards his uncle. But in this matter, Blackpool believed that this boy wouldn't dare to lie to him about something like that.

Without Black Astral, Great Deer City was short a Demon Commander level combatant. This had a great influence on his plans.

But now with the beast tide growing stronger with every day, countless demons were dying. He couldn't wait any longer. This wasn't because City Lord Blackpool was kind and benevolent and valued the demons within the city. Rather, his wealth only existed when there were people.

If most of the demons in Great Deer City died off, what would be the meaning of being the City Lord? Or if he thought of a more extreme example, if Great Deer City really was broken through by the beast tide, would the City Lord still be the City Lord?

So when it came to resisting the beast tide, City Lord Blackpool was the most enthusiastic person of all.

The Merry Forest was absent and the Thousand Eyes Temple and Three Lives Pavilion arrived as scheduled. Together with the City Lord Mansion, they were considered the top four factions in the city.

Of course, in terms of absolute strength, the City Lord Mansion which had the approval of an Abyssal King was outwardly recognized as the greatest.

But if everyone really tore apart all pretense of face and started to fight, it was unknown who would be the last one smiling.

After all, the City Lord Mansion might have the approval of an Abyssal King, but it wasn't like the others didn't have backers either.

Aside from the unexpected anomaly that was the Merry Forest, whether it was Thousand Eye Temple or Three Lives Pavilion, they were both giant chain organizations that spread throughout the abyss.

Not to mention what sort of formidable strength these two giant influences had on their own, if they could do business and thrive in the abyss, how could they not have a formidable supporter?

In short, on the surface, the City Lord Mansion controlled Great Deer City. Ordinarily, everyone would give them a certain degree of respect.

But when they were all on stage and truly faced each other, they were more or less on equal footing...there was an addendum that had to be added here. At the beginning the Merry Forest wasn't afforded such status.

After all, as a savage locally grown influence and on the premise that they had no background, it would be a joke to consider them as equals.

The final outcome of this matter was that Black Astral exploded into combat with Three Lives Pavilion's steward. It was unknown exactly what happened, but the Merry Forest now had their current aloof status.

As for the steward of the Three Lives Pavilion, he was a cold and cunning man from the Pit Viper Clan. From that day on, there was an extra black blindfold on his face that he never took off.

City Lord Blackpool sat in the seat of honor and glanced at the other two. "Everyone, you should know the reason why I invited you here today. There has been a change in the beast tide. To prevent the situation from worsening and devolving beyond our control, we must immediately move to contain it."

The situation was intense. There was no need to meander and talk in circles. It was time to go straight to the point!

Old Fox frowned. "Although I know that there is something wrong with this beast tide, are things really that bad?"

City Lord Blackpool flicked his sleeves and two demon crystal cards fell on the tabletop. "This is information collected and recorded by the City Lord Mansion. After looking inside, you two should understand what is happening."

Moments later, after putting down the demon crystal cards, the room was deathly still. The atmosphere was constrained.

Old Fox frowned, a cloudy look on his face. He indeed hadn't expected that Great Deer City's situation would be so dangerous.

According to the City Lord Mansion's calculations, if the beast tide were to continue to grow stronger at this rate, it was highly likely that Great Deer City would be broken though!

Without Great Deer City, the City Lord would no longer be the City Lord. As for his Thousand Eye Temple branch division, he wouldn't be a steward anymore either.

Old Fox drew in a deep breath and slowly said, "If this is the situation we should take action and intervene ahead of time."

At this moment, Three Lives Pavilion's steward laughed out loud. "If Great Deer City is in a critical situation, it is naturally my duty to help. But I cannot figure out why the Merry Forest is staying out. Shouldn't they be contributing equally to help safeguard Great Deer City?"

City Lord Blackpool furrowed his eyebrows, "Black Astral has gone into seclusion. This was before I sent my message. His absence is only a coincidence."

"So what if it's a coincidence? The beast tide has mutated and the city is about to be breached. He might be in seclusion, but can he not temporarily pause it?" The Three Lives Pavilion steward's laughter became increasingly cold. "My Three Lives Pavilion won't become the vanguard that dies for others!"

Ever since that battle after which the steward was forced to wear a blindfold with only one eye remaining, there was no peace between the Merry Forest and Three Lives Pavilion. They tried to take advantage of each other at any possible moment and were like fire and water.

It was unknown how many secret battles had occurred between them during this time, but both parties were stained with blood.

So in truth, the City Lord hadn't been unprepared for this moment. He took out two more demon crystal cards and said, "Great Deer City cannot be lost. This involves all of our vital interests. But as the City Lord, my responsibility is even greater. Thus, these two demon crystal cards list the compensations I have prepared. After the beast tide is over, I will certainly fulfill it."

The Three Lives Pavilion steward took a demon crystal card. His lone eye immediately lit up. "The City Lord's compensation is tempting, but..."

Chapter 1050 - Mighty Invincibility Pill

After hesitating for a moment, Old Fox smiled and said, "Mister Liu Huo, according to your agreement with Thousand Eye Temple, we shall purchase this demon medicine at the highest market price. But, the exact price will need to be determined after a test. Would you like to wait here? We will complete the test as soon as possible and then settle the transaction with you."

"There's no need to go through so much trouble. I will leave the demon medicine here and you can slowly examine it at your own leisure. The reason I came this time is because I have something I would like to bother Thousand Eye Temple with." Qin Yu took out a demon crystal card and said, "Recorded in here are some materials. I hope that you can gather them for me as soon as possible."

Old Fox received the demon crystal card with both hands and probed it with his divine sense. After some time, he looked up, a helpless expression on his face. "Mister, the materials you've asked for this time are far too precious and our Thousand Eye Temple is unable to collect them immediately. But with the beast tide eruption, an immense amount of demon beasts are attacking Great Deer City. There are massive harvests every day, so I will immediately post a collection reward. Perhaps there will be results soon."

Qin Yu nodded, "Then I'll have to trouble you."

Old Fox smiled. "Mister Liu Huo speaks too cautiously. It is our greatest honor that you have decided to cooperate with us and we will do our utmost to serve your needs."

After a brief praise, he suddenly said, "There is also another matter I would like to remind mister of. We have obtained a warning notice from the City Lord Mansion. A change has occurred with the beast tide and the impact that Great Deer City must withstand is far beyond what it has been in the past. We must take actions to weaken the onslaught of the beast tide, and if we fail, there is a high chance that Great Deer City will be breached."

Qin Yu furrowed his eyebrows together, "There's something like that happening?"

Before, he didn't care if the demons in Great Deer City lived or died. But since he had started to cooperate with Thousand Eye Temple and the Merry Forest, it was in his best interests to stay in Great Deer City. If the city was broken through by the beast tide then he would have to return to his previously cautious lifestyle.

Old Fox looked over. "That's right. Since mister knows of this matter now, it is best to make some preparations. But the situation will likely not completely collapse."

Although he had a serene demeanor, his heart was racing. With Qin Yu's reaction, it seemed that he didn't know of the change happening to the beast tide.

Did this matter have nothing to do with him? If so, the request that Black Astral wanted to make would likely not be accepted!

Qin Yu nodded. These abyssal demons would naturally figure out how to support Great Deer City. This wasn't his problem to have a headache over.

He drew in a deep breath and suppressed his thoughts. He stood up and said, "There are some matters I must attend to so I won't stay any longer. Goodbye." He took several steps out and paused, as if suddenly remembering something. He turned and said, "There's something I forgot to warn you about. If you want to test the medicinal efficacy, make sure that the test subject is strong. This demon medicine isn't ordinary."

He could only give a vague description, as he was conveying Feature's words. As for how the demon medicine wasn't ordinary, that would depend on them to find out.

Old Fox hurriedly said, "I thank you for the reminder. Please allow me to send you out."

Qin Yu shook his head, "No need. The fox woman can deliver me." This old demon had a precious status. If he were to personally escort him out, he would surely be noticed by others. It was best to keep a low profile if possible.

Old Fox walked to the entrance and ordered the fox woman to lead Qin Yu out. Once the two vanished from his line of sight, he hurriedly returned to the quiet room and took out the jar of demon medicine.

"Mighty invincibility pill..." Although he knew the name, when he repeated it to himself his eyes couldn't help but twitch.

Whatever. The name didn't matter. All he needed to care about was the effects.

With Qin Yu's warning, Old Fox was extremely cautious. He chose a relatively strong Colonel level demon as a test subject.

A Lieutenant level demon could basically be regarded as officially stepping into the ruling class of abyssal demons. No matter what background or tribe they came from, as long as they became a Demon Lieutenant they would obtain a considerable status.

And the Colonel level was the strongest rank beneath a Demon General. Even if Thousand Eye Temple had a great industry and many assets, they wouldn't be willing to use a Demon General to do something as dangerous as testing demon medicines. A Demon Colonel was already the strongest tester that they could afford.

Moreover, this demon came from the Iron Armored Cow Clan. In the past when he was testing a medicine, he had turned misfortune into a blessing and his bloodline had become purified. He had a strong physique, and while a common Demon General could easily suppress him, wanting to kill him would still take some time and effort.

"Begin."

Old Fox passed out orders and took a seat outside the testing area. A large number of specialized researchers stood around the perimeter, collecting various data points.

Upon taking one mighty invincibility pill, the iron armored cow demon's appearance started to change. He roared as loud pops and crackles exploded from within his body. One could even see his rapidly inflating muscles beneath his skin.

His entire body grew at an astonishing rate, soon doubling his original size!

His eyes turned crimson and the iron armored cow demon howled into the air. He lifted his hands and brought them crashing down onto a black crystal in front of him. After the crystal withstood this strike, its surface shined as abyssal energy surged around it.

Old Fox's eyes brightened. Outside the testing ring, the demon researchers all cried out in alarm as they quickly recorded what was happening.

"The eruption of strength is three times the original!"

"What amazing demon medicine!"

"Look. His body is still expanding. The potency of this demon medicine hasn't been fully released yet!"

The iron armored cow demon roared out loud and smashed his hands down a second time. The entire testing facility started to shake.

The abyssal light surging on the surface of the black crystal hadn't yet dissipated. It turned even richer in color, as if it were a little black sun.

"The eruption of strength has reached five times!"

"This is unbelievable!"

"Buy it, we must buy it! Once news of this demon medicine is announced to the outside world, it will definitely be popular!"

"The only worry is whether there are any hidden dangers left behind once the medicinal efficacy fades away."

"That's right, this is the key issue."

Bang -

The iron armored cow demon smashed out its fist a third time. This time, the teacup near Old Fox flew into the air, scattering tea all around.

"Seven times!"

"This is bad, the iron armored cow demon's aura is becoming chaotic! He is going to lose control!"

"Withdraw, everyone withdraw from the immediate area!"

In the chaos, the stone pillars that were nailed into the ground of the testing site began to light up with demonic runes. A barrier was released that isolated the inside from the outside.

"Ahh!" With a cry of pain, the iron armored cow demon struck out once again. This time a crack could be heard in everyone's ears, causing their eyes to widen. They even paused in backing away.

The examination demon crystal had broken...how was this possible!?

Before they could think further, a thunderous explosion spread throughout the entire facility. The iron armored cow demon whose body had expanded to 500 feet suddenly blew apart into countless pieces.

Blood fog filled the air, mixed in with pieces of hashed meat and broken bones. The entire testing facility was covered in wreckage.

Old Fox stood up. Even with his willpower, his palms still shivered beneath his robes.

Mighty invincibility pill, this was the mighty invincibility pill!

A moment ago, he had clearly seen that a crack had been left in the examination demon crystal by the iron armored cow demon's strike.

It had to be known that Thousand Eye Temple's examination demon crystal was amongst the hardest and highest quality. Even if a common Demon General did their best, they would find it difficult to damage it.

In other words, before he died, the iron armored cow demon had erupted with strength comparable to a Demon General and even stronger than that.

The abyss was a great slaughter field of death and battle. Trillions upon trillions of abyssal demons tried to rise to the top, and for this they were willing to bathe themselves in blood.

Because of this brutal living environment, they had seen numerous kinds of demon medicines that stimulated one's potential and allowed them to erupt with strength beyond their limits. This type of demon medicine wasn't uncommon and a massive number of them were sold every day.

But as far as Old Fox knew, there was no demon medicine that could allow a demon to fight beyond their level.

It had to be known that the abyss had a strict hierarchy. A superior demon could easily control the life and death of a demon below them.

And this severe gap in level was based on the giant disparity in power between the two sides.

The difference of a single boundary was like the distance between the heavens and earth!

But today, Old Fox had witnessed the effects of this mighty invincibility pill...it was truly worthy of being refined by an Abyss Walker. It really was incredible.

Moreover, what Old Fox was even more excited about was the condition of the iron armored cow demon after he struck out that last time with an attack comparable to that of a Demon General.

The result was because his bloodline and body were unable to withstand the rapidly growing strength in his body, leading to self-collapse.

Perhaps...he hadn't released the full potential of the demon medicine even before he died!

If a Demon General, someone with a stronger bloodline and body, were to swallow this demon medicine, they would likely be able to withstand even more of the medicinal efficacy.

For a brief time, they might even be able to contend with a Demon Commander.

As this thought appeared, Old Fox's heart leapt in excitement. He thought about the mission that was soon about to start, where a squad would be sent in to kill the commanding demon beast of this beast tide.

In a critical situation, if the three Demon Generals of Thousand Eye Temple were to swallow the mighty invincibility pill then not only would their chances of success be much higher, but there was also a chance they could return alive! As for the City Lord Mansion and Three Lives Pavilion's Demon Generals...hoho, they could die however they wanted. In fact, the more the merrier!

With his eyes indecisive, Old Fox drew in a deep breath and finally came to a decision. He was Thousand Eye Temple's steward and he had to be responsible for his own status. Moreover, Qin Yu's response made it so that he wasn't sure whether or not this beast tide was related to him.

In other words, the previous matter would still depend on Black Astral's luck! Old Fox ordered that no word of what happened here today was to be passed out. Then, he turned and left.