

## Refining 1591

### Chapter 1591 – Who Could Ensure Their Survival?

With one hand holding his white robe, Qin Yu thought about his current cultivation realm. Somehow, he felt like using the words 'initial realm' to describe his current state was an understatement.

Forget it. Those who were going to come and bully him would not be good people. They would simply be surprised then.

Qin Yu sat down cross-legged and started to carefully sense his current state after he broke through.

Firstly, he was now in the Ruler realm of the True God Path. In other words, he was in the perception realm.

It would not be accurate for Qin Yu to say that he came up with this name on his own. When Qin Yu broke through, this word suddenly jumped into his mind.

Sensing the world and understanding its vastness also came with a suppression from the world itself. The world felt like a large net. Every living creature in the world lived in it, although each had a different cultivation rank.

Just thinking about it made Qin Yu feel a tight sensation in his chest and he started to feel fearful and anxious.

Qin Yu suppressed these thoughts and stopped mulling over it. He had a feeling that oversensing the big net of the world would be dangerous for him.

Aside from that was the Incense Child. Qin Yu could not sense that its existence was tied to himself.

However, this connection was not completely accurate. It had merged into Qin Yu's body but it was not inside Qin Yu's body. It felt like it had merged into another dimension. Regardless of where this dimension was, Qin Yu felt like he would be in the same place as the Incense Child no matter where he was.

It was hard for Qin Yu to explain the actual feeling that he had. He could only sense that the Incense Child had hidden itself in the Incense Territory of the empire of the West Desolate. Hm...Incense Territory. What was this? He did not have any impression of it but it popped into his head again.

He raised a hand to rub his brows and he only took it as a side effect from having sensed the world. He did not think much of it.

After confirming that the Incense Child was hidden well within the massive Incense Territory empire of the West Desolate and there was no way for it to be exposed, Qin Yu felt more satisfied with the work that Rourou did.

Secondly, after Qin Yu inherited the throne and became the new king of the Barbarian Clan, the bloodline of the Barbarian Clan in him had been continuously transforming and raising the strength of Qin Yu's physical body.

His eating and drinking festival had incredible effects and improved this process greatly. After Qin Yu broke through, there were finally obvious improvements. Since he was in the capital, Qin Yu would never try to use the strength of the Barbarian King bloodline unless he was on the brink of death. As such, he could only wait till next time to try it out.

The third thing that was also the greatest surprise for Qin Yu...was that the piece of darkness that had blocked his eyes had finally been gotten rid of.

This was what Rourou was referring to when she mentioned about the opportunity for Qin Yu. This was also how he was able to attract a massive amount of incense power continuously just now. Otherwise, did he really think that the Incense Child who stole victory so recently would be so strong?

With the darkness blocking his sight broken, the 'Soul Seed' could truly break out of the soil and germinate. Qin Yu received gifts from the heavens and his powers surged...at the same time, the suppression from the world was reduced. Otherwise, he would not have destroyed the darkness barrier once he entered the Ruler realm of the True God Path, also known as the Perception realm. It was not something that could be casually destroyed...even if he had successfully broken through, it was hard to predict what could have happened.

Unavoidably, dark and dangerous thoughts would invade the minds of people. For instance, some other people might have walked the True God Path before. However, they were not as lucky as Qin Yu and they did not manage to have a good perception of the world after their breakthrough. Instead, they met an unfortunate end.

This was a scary thought!

A few moments later, Qin Yu sighed deeply. He stood up, swayed his sleeves aside, and pushed open the door. Rourou previously mentioned that cultivators needed to take it slow and change their destiny step by step. It was not appropriate to think too much about it beforehand...her words were wise and he needed to learn from them.

Before she left, she had especially instructed Qin Yu to understand what was happening outside...with Qin Yu's understanding of her, she was trying to take credit for her work.

Qin Yu was truly curious about what had happened in the past few days.

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Even though Rourou claimed that she was going to rest, she did not really rest. She first gave a warning to that old demon in the Min Residence, telling him to be a good demon and not die. Otherwise, she was good at frying things. Then, she arrived at Long Horn Alley of the capital. There was a sign pasted on a residence. The lady in a white robe lived here with the sluggish man who had just changed his clothes again.

"Greetings my lady."

The white-robed lady bowed respectfully. Her eyes were burning with passion and there was endless respect in them. Her attitude was completely different from before.

The sword strike from the Imperial Palace was done by her and the sluggish man lent his powers too. She temporarily borrowed clothes from him but this matter was far more difficult than changing her own clothes. There was a large restriction as well.

As such, after his 'clothes' were destroyed, he became extremely sluggish and appeared to be in low spirits.

Rourou glanced at the man behind the white-robed lady. He looked devastated and Rourou merely scoffed, "This little problem started because of you. It is a small effort, do you really want to take credit for it?"

"Otherwise, do you want me to reward you with a great opportunity and write off your efforts? Then I will settle the scores with you again from there?"

Iron Wire shivered with fright. He did not dare to bargain in the slightest bit. As his face turned pale and sweat drenched him, he cried, "My lady, please do not be angry, it is my fault!"

He kowtowed his head to the ground without hesitation. He showed no intentions of shirking away.

His intuition told him that the lady was not in a good mood now. If he dared to test his luck, he may really die!

"Hmph!"

Rourou scoffed coldly and turned around to sit down.

The white-robed lady with the sword stepped forward. She poured some tea for Rourou and respectfully asked, "My Lady, what instructions do you have?"

Rourou glanced at her and said, "Take off your white robe."

The white-robed lady did not hesitate to obey.

Shoosh –

Iron Wire turned and ran as fast as he could. In the blink of an eye, he was out of the living room and he dared not peek at all.

Rourou's lips twitched. This bastard had good reactions but he wanted to use her hands to kill others.

After all, he had lived for a long time and his physical body's standards were going to be high.

The white robe fell to the ground and a face appeared. Perhaps because of all the unrest she had suffered in the past, her complexion felt rough. However, this did not hide her beauty. Either way, she seemed much more dignified than other ordinary female cultivators. Furthermore, her hostile expression was rather appealing to others...sexually deprived men were unable to resist her.

Rourou scanned the lady and she made some adjustments to her chest and legs. Then, her lips curled into a smirk.

"Alright, wear the robe. In the future, you are not allowed to take this white robe off without my permission."

“Yes, My Lady.” The lady respectfully bowed and put the white robe back on. She did not question the command nor feel offended.

Rourou lifted her tea cup and sipped it. She casually placed it down on the table with a thud and asked, “What is your name?”

“White Iris.”

“Very good. From today onwards, you shall be my servant.”

White Iris knelt down and her eyes brightened, “Yes, My Lady.”

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The nine areas of the Desolate Area were split into categories with five areas being the upper class and the other four areas being the lower class. The Central Desolate and the four main areas were considered the strongest in terms of ranking of the areas. However, the Central Desolate Area was still the leader of the upper five areas. This was not only because its territory was vast, it was also in a good position to receive the heavens’ favor.

The Central Desolate was the heart of the Great Desolate and it was favored by the world. It received opportunities and had a good source of spiritual energy from the world. It had the most complete set of laws from the world. Because of this, great demons would be born in the Central Desolate whereas other areas were more isolated from the world and did not have much leeway for demons to have offspring.

Additionally, the Central Desolate was a Divine Area. The Qin Clan unified and ruled the Divine Areas. Since the beginning, the ascension of a few hundred thrones had gone smoothly and nothing went wrong even till this day. The Qin Clan held innate imperial power, and one of the reasons for this was that their bloodline was naturally favored by the world. More importantly, the Qin Clan ruled the Central Desolate and it was rumored that they had powerful cultivators who could suppress their fates and preserve their power forever.

Because of this, numerous great families in the Central Desolate obeyed the Qin Clan and no one dared to have treacherous thoughts. This was the case at least on the surface, where no one revealed anything amiss. However, there was no doubt that there were things simmering in the dark.

Descendants of the clan received much fortune because their clan ruled the Central Desolate Area, and it was a favored clan of the world. Everyone would stare at the descendants with envious looks. This included the four great clans aside from the Imperial Clan, the Qin Clan. These four great clans were the Zhao, Xu, Li and Tian clans. Aside from them were the four major sects, Transcendent, Origin Dao, Blackpool, and Boundless World.

Sky Tide World was the base for the Li Family. It was once a cave hideout for ancient men, but it was obtained by ancestors of the Li Family later on. After numerous renovations and rebuilding, this small world was now comparable to a country. There was also a grand formation array around it that continuously absorbed spiritual energy of the world. This caused it to become a place for gods.

Today in Sky Tide World, a few men gathered in the ordinary-looking hall next to the ancestral hall of the Li Family. There was no aura drifting in the air but the few figures standing there looked as stable as mountains, with supreme aura that could suppress any living creature in the world.

Gods and ghosts could not approach them and the world could not touch them!

“There has been an accident in the West Desolate. Someone seems to have placed a trap and lured Li Ruhua and Li Ge into it. There is a conflict with the Imperial Clan of the West Desolate now. Li Ge has been involved with the nine-tailed fox. He was struck by the sword of the West Desolate King because of the Heart Connection. A few days ago, he passed away.”

Someone spoke in a calm voice and showed no emotions when he informed the rest of the group of this. The other people in the hall fell silent as if they were pondering over what it said. Yet, at the same time, they looked disconnected and unbothered by what happened.

“The reason why we are gathered here today is because Li Ruhua sent a message back to the clan. She suggests collaborating with the West Desolate to find the Barbarian King. She did not dare to make her own decision on this and she is waiting for our instructions.”

“What would the thirteenth floor think about collaborating with the West Desolate?”

“They do not forbid this. By the rules of the thirteenth floor, as long as there are no restrictions, we may proceed as we please.”

“I don’t have an opinion.”

The person who spoke first glanced at his surroundings, “Since that is the case, I will send a message to Li Ruhua and ask her to proceed.”

Buzz –

The figures in the hall quickly vibrated and disappeared. So none of the people with terrifying auras were actually physically present there. They were just projections from their divine sense that crossed vast distances to arrive at the ancestral hall here.

The death of Li Ge, a talented descendant of the clan who was being nurtured, was a great event. However, the behemoths of the family clan stood at the pinnacle of cultivation realms and they could not be bothered with this.

They had lived for so long and experienced many things. They had seen many talents with bright futures. In the end, there wasn’t anyone who managed to grow and enter the same ranks as them.

His death was as simple as that. In the grand scheme of things, everyone lived under the same sky. Who could ensure their survival?

## **Chapter 1592 – Later Years Hall**

“Second Miss, the West Desolate is too excessive with their bullying!” Li Zicheng grunted and his face filled with fury. At this moment, Lord Chengtian was waiting outside for the Li Family of the Central Desolate to give an answer.

Of course, the reason why Li Zicheng was so panicky was because of the aggressive attitude of the king in the palace.

Li Ge was dead!

However, he had clearly given Li Ge the holy medicine, the Nine Reversal Pill. He had also checked that his condition had stabilized. Most importantly, Li Zicheng had not seen the dead corpse of Li Ge.

Nonetheless, Li Ruhua had personally testified to this. Despite all his shock and confusion, he could only suppress it and keep it to himself. However, numerous flickers of sword flashes and bloody scenes were already etched into his mind.

The main family in the Central Desolate was not a single branch. After all, the family tree had many branches and leaves and there were a large number of descendants that were split into different factions. It was very natural for some to be close and others to be distant relatives. No one knew how many hidden dangers there were in this.

Regardless, there was no way to hide Li Ge's death. If the main family wanted him to investigate this, he would do it. Otherwise, he would pretend to be deaf and blind, ignoring everything that happened.

As such, Li Zicheng was faking it when he threw a tantrum. His emotions kept his heart were real.

Li Ruhua glanced at him with a calm expression. She calmly said, "Inform Lord Chengtian that I will be waiting for a reply from the family clan. I will then enter the Imperial Palace and pay a visit to the West Desolate King."

Although she said this without a change in her expression, there had been an invisible blade that cut off any relation and help she had from Li Zicheng's family.

If he chose to say anything or make any other indications, the outcome of this incident would turn out completely different.

Everything in this world was dependent on choices; people were ignorant!

The completely unassuming Li Zicheng bowed and left. He sighed in relief as he went to inform Lord Chengtian, who was waiting outside. He had truly been worried that Li Ruhua would try to do something with him or directly drag him down and drown him in the sea.

Thankfully, she did not do this.

Half of the Li Family manor had been destroyed because of the chaos previously. The guest hall had been hurriedly cleaned for the visitor.

After Lord Chengtian heard Li Zicheng's explanation, he frowned and stood up, "His Majesty is not in a good mood. I hope that you can urge them. I will take my leave first."

Li Zicheng wore a solemn expression, "Farewell."

Back then with the Great Vortex Array, Lord Chengtian gritted his teeth and was furious. It was almost unavoidable that he would be killed in revenge.

Lord Chengtian was expressionless but he laughed bitterly to himself. The king was still being mysterious with his actions. He unintentionally tied everyone to the same ship as him.

Thankfully, he was someone who the king single-handedly promoted. Both of them shared their weal and woes. Offending the Li Family...meant a volatile future, but this was not the time for him to think about it.

He hurried back to the palace to report this to the king. The king merely smirked coldly and snapped, "Continue to urge them!"

Lord Chengtian sensed the cold and hostile aura around the king and he could only sigh and say, "Yes, I will do so right now!"

He started sweating as he turned to go. It seems the king was truly angry this time.

As he expected, things were not as simple as they were on the surface.

The Li Family must have thoroughly enraged the king. Regardless of the fact that they were a great family in the Central Desolate Divine Area, they would have to pay a price.

Leaving and returning, Lord Chengtian's arrival at the Li Family manor created a heavy atmosphere. The air was cold and Li Zicheng's face was so dark, it was as though there was a dark cloud looming above his head.

The Old Ancestor of the Li Family often secluded himself to cultivate, and right now, he was truly getting annoyed. So what about the royalty? Even the imperial bloodline had to carry the 'Li' surname. Did the king forget whose credit it was that the imperial family could become royalty?

"Lord Chengtian, please return..." The moment he spoke, he was interrupted.

Li Zicheng turned and bowed, "Young Ancestor."

Li Ruhua said, "Lord Chengtian, I will return with you to greet the king."

"Thank you Miss Li for understanding. The king has waited for a while." Lord Chengtian cupped his hands together and bowed. He was exceptionally respectfully to a third generation descendant of the Li Family.

Li Zicheng stepped forward but Li Ruhua merely waved her hand and stopped him, "You may stay here."

"Yes."

A horse carriage was already prepared when they stepped out of the manor. Li Ruhua pushed aside the doors and entered the carriage. She leaned against the comfortable sofa with a peaceful expression.

Opposite him, Chen Sanglue hesitated before saying, "Miss Li, why did you bring me along?"

Li Ruhua glanced at him, "Rest assured. Even if I am going to sell you, you are too insignificant, there is no need for me to take any action."

Chen Sanglue was not offended and he simply replied, "I know, but that is why I do not understand."

Li Ruhua waved her hand, "Just take it as you being my entertainment for this boring journey. I brought you along for casual conversation so that I will not be bored."

Chen Sanglue suddenly came to a realization, "Miss Li, are you nervous?"

Li Ruhua stared at him with a calm expression, "You are smart...not bad. I am nervous indeed. Because I made a decision to do something when I enter the Imperial Palace. It will possibly decide my future."

Chen Sanglue said, "If that is the case, your nervousness is only natural. Otherwise, it will be a disrespect to the decision you made."

"What can I do for Miss Li? As long as you say it, I will agree."

Li Ruhua smiled, "Chen Sanglue, were you always this smart? Or did you gain enlightenment after being hit?"

Chen Sanglue pondered it before saying, "I was probably smart all along."

Li Ruhua's smile turned brighter and she closed her eyes as she leaned against the sofa, "I have a minor headache. Massage my head for me."

Chen Sanglue did not hesitate as he stood up and walked beside her. He sat down and stretched out his fingers, pressing them to her scalp.

There was silence in the horse carriage and they reached the Imperial Palace a short while later. Li Ruhua's eyes opened and she pushed open the door and stepped out.

Chen Sanglue followed behind her.

Lord Chengtian led the way. It was a direct path to a royal garden called Secluded Pavilion in the Imperial Palace. There were a wide variety of plants in the garden and many were competing against each other to bloom flowers. There were also fake mountains and ridges built around the garden, giving the entire area a royal vibe.

Beneath an octagon-shaped pavilion, the name of the garden, Secluded Pavilion, was inscribed on a plaque.

The person who wrote the words had been extremely rough. The words looked like they had been splattered as ink across the plaque, but it gave a noble and fierce aura.

Even though the entire garden had lustrous flowers blooming, it couldn't hide the icy cold aura that drifted in the air along with the flowery scent.

It was not strong but it pierced through bones!

The West Desolate King looked like a middle-aged man who was slightly plump but had fair skin. He sat below the pavilion and casually flipped through a book.

Lord Chengtian stopped a distance away from him and bowed, "Your Majesty, Miss Li has arrived."

Without lifting his head, the king waved his hand.

Lord Chengtian turned and said, "Miss Li, His Majesty invites you over."



She glanced at Chen Sanglue beside her. His face was pale and he was trying his best not to show fear.

Li Ruhua calmly said, "Stay here and don't stray away. I will come for you later."

Chen Sanglue bowed and he bade farewell to Li Ruhua as she walked towards the pavilion.

Lord Chengtian's expression did not change and he gestured, "Follow me."

He turned and left while wearing a cold smile on his face.

Chen Yuanshen of Seascapes City was an intelligent man who sat in high ranks all his life. Now that he was old, he came up with all sorts of schemes. As Lord Chengtian expected, there was something wrong back then already.

The Li Family from the Central Desolate was a powerful family. However, the king was determined and he even severed the Origin Sword Dao of the third generation disciple from the Li Family. What else would he be fearful of? Chen Yuanshen had no way out after this move.

Li Ruhua entered the shelter of the pavilion. She bowed, "Third generation disciple of the Li Family in the Central Desolate, Li Ruhua. Greetings to Your Majesty."

The king lifted his head and he smiled, "Li Ruhua, you don't need to be so respectful. I pressed you because I was uneasy. I wanted you to come here to explain some things."

His fingers drummed against the table. A few servants by the side and a eunuch a distance away lowered their heads and walked away.

Li Ruhua lifted her head and smiled, "I am here to give you an explanation. Please speak."

The king smiled, "There is no rush. The imperial chef took the effort to make some cakes. Miss Li, you may help yourself to them and see how they taste compared to those of the Central Desolate. Are they of the same quality?"

Li Ruhua bowed, "Thank you, Your Majesty."

She reached forward and placed a piece in her mouth. As she chewed, the smile on her face was as refreshing as the spring breeze. "The taste is excellent. It is soft, fragrant, and sweet. The imperial chef in the palace is outstanding."

The king smiled brightly, "Since you are satisfied, I will have to reward him. However, according to what I know, there was a Later Years Hall in the Central Desolate years ago. They make the best desserts in the Great Desolate Area. However, for some reason, they suddenly stopped passing down their techniques. Not even the scattered descendants had the chance to fully learn the techniques from Later Years Hall.

"Miss Li lives in the Central Desolate and has a high status. I wonder if you have eaten the desserts from Later Years Hall; I would be interested to hear your review."

Li Ruhua smiled and ate another bite of the dessert in her hands. She slowly savored the piece. The king was not in a hurry either and he picked up his tea cup and sipped it. His attention was directed to a blooming flower outside the pavilion.

It was as red as fire and it was fiery!

There was silence in the pavilion. Although Li Ruhua smiled, she sighed internally. She finally realized why the West Desolate King did not hesitate to take action and shatter Li Ge's Great Dao back then.

Later Years Hall in the Central Desolate Divine Area was truly like a miracle back then. The small pastry shop with its outstanding recipes started opening branches in a thousand cities in the Central Desolate Area. It was the leader of dessert shops in the world.

However, it was only later when one of the five great families in the Central Desolate suddenly erupted with good luck and fortune that people realized that Later Years Hall was actually their business all along. The pastry shop was a shop, but it was also a place to gather intelligence. It was where secret spies and criminals helped that family to do a lot of things in the dark.

The family managed to defeat many competitors in a single shot and this was to the credit of Later Years Hall!

Under normal circumstances, Later Years Hall would vanish after it was exposed and it would become a notorious name along with the family.

However, things did not proceed smoothly and there were mishaps along the way. They were kicked out of the five great families and they fell into a miserable state.

Later Years Hall was swept away and many secret spies were killed during that operation. This incident resulted in the deaths of over a million people and it was almost like a mid-scale war against the Barbarian Clan.

Among them were naturally innocent people, but there was no mercy and no one was spared...revenge was always cruel and bloodthirsty.

The sudden mention of Later Years Hall by the king was merely a passing note.

He had crushed Li Ge's Sword Dao to show his cruel and determined warning!

### **Chapter 1593 – Cooperate**

After thinking it over repeatedly, Li Ruhua placed the pastry in her hand down and stood up, "Your Majesty, I am not in a position to interfere with the decision made by elders in my clan. I have to apologize for what happened before."

The king narrowed his eyes but maintained his smile, "Is that all?"

Li Ruhua lifted her head up, "No, I came to the Imperial Palace today because an elder in my clan has suggested a collaboration with Your Majesty.

"Ignore the past. This cooperation shall be a new beginning. Your Majesty, please believe me, if everything goes smoothly, we may use this to change the stance of the elders in my clan. They may even change sides and stand on the side of the West Desolate."

The king looked at the blossomed flowers in the garden, admiring their fiery red color. "Who is the Li Family looking for?"

Li Ruhua smiled, "I knew that we could not hide this from Your Majesty." Her expression was calm but she was shocked internally. This was a top secret even in the Central Desolate Divine Area. For the West Desolate to have learned about this, they must have made preparations many years ago.

They were ambitious!

She sucked in a breath of air and lifted her head to look at the West Desolate King.

"No one is able to spy on us in the pavilion."

Li Ruhua said, "We are looking for the new Barbarian King."

The king frowned and he fell silent. No one could lie to him in the pavilion, and hence, Li Ruhua was telling the truth.

The Barbarian Clan...the new king...

He inevitably thought of the Great Barbarian Desolate War that happened during the first initiation ceremony of the empire.

Aside from the Desolate Divine Area, the other eight Divine Areas suffered great casualties from the Barbarian Clan and there were many injured too. The ancestors of the empire took advantage of the war. After many hard battles, they placed a leader in charge of the West Desolate and controlled the Desolate Area till this day. That great catastrophe which swept through the entire land was an east wind that helped the imperial clan of the empire.

The reason why that terrifying Great Barbarian Desolate War happened was because the last Barbarian King of the Barbarian Clan worked hard to consolidate and organize the barbarian tribes. He amassed the power of the entire Barbarian Clan.

If the Central Desolate Area had not used a Great Divine Way to kill the Barbarian King who broke through to the True King realm, the nine areas of the Desolate Area would not exist and they would be barbarian territory.

After that happened, the Barbarian Clan fell into a weakened state. The barbarian tribes scattered all across the land and they slowly arrived at their current situation.

Now, there was a new Barbarian King...a cold glare crossed the eyes of the West Desolate King and the temperature in the pavilion seemed to have plummeted.

Li Ruhua's eyes lit up and she was shocked by the power of the king. The West Desolate King's cultivation realm was so high. She recalled the reports and intelligence she received before she entered the West Desolate...it seemed that this king truly wanted to be the ruler of the West Desolate. Like the Qin king of the Central Desolate, it seemed as though the throne was passed to many others over the few hundred ascensions but it was always the same winner. He wanted to support the country forever and ensured its glory!

"I must have lost my focus." The king spoke slowly in a calm voice. However, there was a strong pressure and sternness, "The Barbarian King is a serious matter. Even though you told me about it, I have to verify your words."

Opposite him, Li Ruhua said, "Your Majesty, please rest assured. The Central Desolate has confirmed the descending of the new Barbarian King many times. The thirteenth floor gave these orders to the four major families and sects and they have sent their disciples to investigate this."

She thought about it and added, "Of course, the Old Ancestors of the families and sects want to take action personally to ensure that nothing goes wrong. However, their cultivation realms are too high and they cannot make hasty movements. Otherwise, they may spoil the plans."

The king nodded to express his understanding. If it wasn't Li Ruhua in front of him but an Old Ancestor of the Li Family from the Central Desolate, the circumstances here would be different. The chaos caused by the nine-tailed demon fox back then would have resulted in an earth-shattering battle.

"I am willing to cooperate with the Li Family to find the new Barbarian King, but you must provide me information about the new Barbarian King."

Li Ruhua said, "Of course." She took a light purple-colored jade slip that was filled with a noble aura. With one look, he could tell that it was an extraordinary item.

"When the new Barbarian King is born, the thirteenth floor would sense his presence. However, the Barbarian King's fate seems to have been disrupted by someone so we have to be extra careful. This jade slip contains limited information granted by the thirteenth floor. Otherwise, they would be alerting the enemy."

Powerful men of the world could not be addressed by their names directly.

For instance, King realm cultivators had sensory abilities that stretched across vast distances. If someone called out their real name, they would sense it immediately. They may even lock onto the disrespectful individual and target him. The individual who disrupted the fate of the new Barbarian King and limited the means of the thirteenth floor must be a powerful existence too.

Because he was in the pavilion, the king's cultivation realm was boosted. This was the case for cultivators when they were in their own territory. The king's eyes lowered and he observed the jade slip. He noted the powerful and complex restriction seals around it.

He stretched an arm forward and channeled his mental energy and divine sense into it.

A long while later, the king received a reply through his divine sense. The purple-colored jade slip in his hands turned into ashes silently. The ashes evaporated away and there was no evidence left of the jade slip.

The Barbarian King's aura was interrupted by an invisible force. His fates were disrupted and no one could lock onto his location. The thirteenth floor could not make an accurate judgement and they could only give a general direction. One of the suspected regions where he could be found was the barbarian territory between the west of the West Desolate and the east of the Traverse Mountains.

The new Barbarian King...the Tomb of the Barbarian King... At this moment, many thoughts flew through the West Desolate King's head and his expression darkened.

Li Ruhua waited silently.

"I thought of something. It is related to the imperial tomb in the Western Barbarian Land..." The king slowly spoke as he looked opposite him.

Li Ruhua nodded, "The Li Family knows about this, but no one can confirm whether the appearance of the new Barbarian King is related to it. Your Majesty, do you suspect someone?"

The king fell silent but the silhouette of a figure appeared in his mind.

Li Ruhua was hesitant and she whispered, "Marquis Chongwu, Ning Qin."

The king's eyes flashed. He did not speak but he expressed his attitude.

"As I expected." Li Ruhua said, "Not long ago, I investigated Marquis Chongwu, Ning Qin. Your Majesty, it seems like you do not fully trust him still. I believe in Your Majesty's judgement. Since you are still suspicious, there must be other reasons why."

She paused and sighed deeply, "Your Majesty, to tell you the truth, I investigated the murder of the disciple of the Li Family in Parasol County because I felt that the karma aura was related to the new Barbarian King. Furthermore, I also sensed a similar aura from the son of Seascapes City's Chen Yuanshen, Chen Sanglue. It is much stronger than the aura from the Li Family disciple.

"Both of these events are related to Marquis Chongwu Ning Qin...although it seems like an obvious trap where I am not fully confident of whether what I sensed is true, but...this matter relates to the new Barbarian King. We have to be extra cautious."

The king was expressionless and he was silent for a while. Then he said, "I once launched a Heaven Inquiry on Marquis Chongwu, Ning Qin. There is nothing wrong with him."

Li Ruhua bowed, "Your Majesty, nothing in this world is absolute, and even the heavens can be deceived...you should know about that person in the Central Desolate better than me."

The king looked at Li Ruhua who kept her gaze low. He closed his eyes, "I agree to give it another try. However, this must be kept under wraps or we will incite the court to take action."

Li Ruhua knew about what happened when Qin Yu broke through to become a Ruler using incense power. It was astonishing for anyone to absorb incense power for a long time. At this moment, it was not appropriate for news about the Imperial Palace's suspicions of him to spread.

"Your Majesty, rest assured. I am willing to investigate this and I promise you that it will go smoothly."

The king nodded, "I will give you this chance."

Although there was hostility between the West Desolate King and the three generations of the Li Family a while back because of disagreements on some issues, this did not stop them from establishing a pact after interacting.

Firstly, the new Barbarian King was an important issue and the king definitely did not want a repeat of the war in the past. After all, the imperial family of the empire may take this chance to replace the West Desolate King and anyone could do what he did before.

For instance, the Ye Family.

The king had the confidence to lead the way and give a chance for the Ye Family to redeem their fate. However, he was not willing to give the Ye Family a chance of obtaining the throne.

Secondly, there was still some suspicions deep within the West Desolate King's heart with regard to Marquis Chongwu Ning Qin. It was like a sharp needle that was hidden deep within his bones. Although it was not a big needle, it was constantly giving him pain and making him uneasy. Furthermore, the incident in the fragmented world. The crazy Li Four Seasons did not have a grudge against anyone but Ning Qin...there must be something wrong.

As such, the king sailed along with the waves and he allowed Li Ruhua to step forward to lead this operation. He would use the powers of the Li Family from the Central Desolate to do a final check. As for Chen Sanglue, since Li Ruhua wanted to keep him alive, the king did not mind closing an eye with regards to him.

This did not mean that he would live for as long as he leeches from his father. The future was unknown, but Chen Sanglue was too insignificant now to matter.

.....

In the Marquis Chongwu Residence, Rourou opened her eyes. Her face was pale and she looked tired. As she lifted her hand to rub her eyes, a cold smirk was revealed on her face.

"There isn't any place in this world that is hidden from me. At most, I would have to pay a price."

Although she said this, that pavilion in the Imperial Palace looked like any ordinary pavilion. However, it was a world by itself and it was not an exaggeration to call it a reversed world.

If ordinary people wanted to examine the world within the pavilion, they would be shredded apart before their divine sense even got close to it. Even she had to pay a huge price to hide herself and force her way in.

All of a sudden, the cold smirk on Rourou's lips suddenly froze.

Naturally, this wasn't because she exposed herself. However, Rourou felt very helpless as she realized that she was covering up a lot of loopholes for Qin Yu and she even voluntarily did this favor for him. This was definitely a loss-making business and she could not even get a single payment!

Slap –

Rourou slapped herself with the hand that she was using to rub her forehead. With her face covered by her palm, she grinded her teeth together angrily.

Damn it! Damn it!

She had to get to the bottom of this quickly. Otherwise, Rourou was really afraid that she would sacrifice herself for Qin Yu voluntarily in time.

Goodness, that would be too scary!

**Chapter 1594 – Accident**

The servant in a white robe, White Iris, stood in a corner and stared at her lord in admiration. There was also a worried look in her eyes.

Before she spoke, she was interrupted, "Stop that curiosity. If you are free, why don't you worry about how long you will continue living."

Rourou's face was dark and her tone was harsh. "Go, give this to Marquis Chongwu..." She paused for a while and then barked, "Hurry along!"

White Iris bowed respectfully, "Yes, My Lady." Her tone did not show any dissatisfaction.

She took the jade-like object from Rourou's sharp fingers and scampered away.

Marquis Chongwu, Ning Qin...once she was out of the yard, there was a cold glare in White Iris' eyes. She saw the fatigue in the lady's eyes and she also noticed that the change in her mood was because of him.

This person ought to be killed!

Smack –

Smack –

The leaves along the two sides of the long street were sliced apart. A menacing sword intent was stained on every piece, and a few servants stopped a distance away from White Iris. She was a weird servant who was called into the lady's manor. The servants' faces turned pale.

White Iris could not be bothered to glance at them and she hurried away.

When she found Qin Yu, he was thinking about his current circumstances with Rourou's plan.

The Li Family from the Central Desolate, the dead disciple of Parasol County...although everything seemed logical and reasonable, after thinking carefully about the sequence of events, Qin Yu's expression turned solemn. He could confirm that the two Young Ancestors from the Central Desolate were not here for the dead Li Cangzhou. Their real objective was him!

No, more accurately speaking, their objective was to find the new Barbarian King.

A bitter smile peeked at the corners of Qin Yu's lips. He fully trusted Rourou's skills, otherwise, he would not be in this current state now.

If not for her, the highly revered thirteenth floor in the Central Desolate would have sent a sword for him and sliced him into eight hundred parts.

As such, he was being suspected because he was unlucky. Somewhere, somehow, he revealed some traces.

The Tomb of the Barbarian King...saving the totems of the Barbarian Clan tribes...or was it the killing of the Li Family disciple from Parasol County...

Qin Yu did not understand, but it was not important. He had to find out how to pass this hurdle. He was being eyed by the Li Family and they were a powerful clan that was ranked highly in the Central Desolate. This was even more terrifying than the Later Ye Family.

With one mishap he would be unable to redeem himself and would be killed on the spot.

“General, a servant from the lady requests an audience.” Big Head Wang hobbled over and bowed respectfully.

On the day of the assassination attempt, he rushed to the front. It was the heavens’ blessing that he survived. Using his own words, if he could protect the general, so what about his legs? Even if he broke three legs, it would not be significant.

Overall, he was not hesitant to show his loyalty!

Qin Yu suppressed his thoughts and said, “Invite her in.”

White Iris was clad in a white robe and only had her eyes exposed. She stepped in and did not bother bowing. Her eyes stared directly at Qin Yu and she did not bother hiding her cold intent.

Qin Yu’s heart clenched. He felt a threatening feeling from this white-robed lady.

However, his expression was calm. With Rourou in the manor, he was not afraid of anyone overstepping their boundaries.

Even if this white-robed lady was Rourou’s servant, she could not threaten him.

Nonetheless, Qin Yu was not in a good mood. Anyone who received such an icy cold glare from a strange, foreign servant would not be in a good mood.

“What is it?”

His voice was low and his tone was deep.

White Iris’ eyes were still cold. She took something out from her sleeves and casually threw it forward, “My lady gives this to you.”

She focused her eyes on him and then turned to leave.

There was nothing impressive about Marquis Chongwu. If he attacked her, she was confident that she would be able to take him down in a single sword strike. This man did not deserve her lady at all.

White Iris was very disappointed!

However, within her disappointment, there was eagerness to give it a try.

Looking at the back of the disrespectful servant, Qin Yu frowned. He had not seen her before. He lowered his head and looked at the item that seemed like a jade.

Right at this moment, a few images flashed across his mind. Although he could not see them clearly and the voice was muffled, he could understand what happened in these images.

A few moments later, Qin Yu opened his eyes and his gaze darkened.



As he expected, his greatest worry had come true!

The West Desolate King still had suspicions about Qin Yu. This was something that Qin Yu noted a long time ago.

After all, the continuous trials along with the Heaven Inquiry were the best evidence to support his theory.

Now, the West Desolate and the Li Family were cooperating with each other. Looking at how confident Li Ruhua was, Qin Yu knew that this was going to be a tough hurdle to cross.

He smiled bitterly. Switching appearances and changing identities to deceive everyone was something that Qin Yu did a lot of times before. Furthermore, he was pretty successful at it.

However, this time was really tough! As he expected, the stronger someone was, the harder it was to trick them.

The king on the throne in the Imperial Palace would take action soon. Qin Yu could not avoid it nor could he have any intentions to avoid it.

Otherwise, the suspicions would only grow deeper. What should he do? His head hurt!

.....

White Iris hurried back to the manor. Once she arrived she bowed, "My Lady, I have sent the item over."

Rourou glanced at her. With a 'bam', White Iris was thrown outwards and she landed heavily on the floor. She did not dare to use her sword intent to block the blow and her face turned pale immediately as blood dripped from the corners of her mouth, staining her white robe.

"Do you know why I hit you?"

White Iris stood up, "I am ignorant."

Rourou scoffed and slapped White Iris. White Iris flew from the impact.

"Then get out and think carefully about why you deserved it. Come back only after you have understood!"

"My Lady!"

White Iris lifted her head up, "I...I simply felt that...Marquis Chongwu is not good enough for you..."

Slap –

Another slap to her face sent her tumbling to the ground. Both of her cheeks were swollen.

"Whether or not he deserves me is not your judgement to make. Don't forget your identity. You are a mere servant and you dare to speak with the term 'I'. Do you want to die?"

White Iris trembled in fear as Rourou glared at her. At this moment, she felt the aura of death.

Fear rushed up from the bottom of her heart and she struggled to kneel. Her body curved and she kowtowed, "Your servant is at fault. My Lady, please don't be angry!"

Rourou leaned forward slightly. Her eyes were icy cold, "Remember. If you dare to hold resentment in your heart or do anything out of the ordinary, I will kill you personally."

Her face was filled with disgust and she waved her hand, "Get lost!"

White Iris did not dare to speak and she bowed her head to floor respectfully before she turned and left.

"Hmph!"

Rourou scoffed coldly as she looked at White Iris' back. After this beating, if the idiot did not know her status still, she deserved death.

As for the issue with the Li Family of the Central Desolate...Rourou drummed her fingers against the table. Her expression was calm.

.....

Unexpectedly, the West Desolate King did not make any moves for a long time. Instead, a new storage ring was sent to Qin Yu's manor secretly. There was information regarding the Boundary Breaking Seal in the storage ring.

Lord Chengtian smiled brightly as he patted Qin Yu on his shoulder, "Marquis Chongwu, the king orders you to return to the West Border Army camp as soon as you can."

After the Incense Feedback when Qin Yu broke through his realm, Lord Chengtian was much more at ease. He felt that this was enough to dispel the suspicions that the West Desolate King had with regard to Qin Yu.

Now, the king was also allowing Marquis Chongwu to leave the capital and return to the West Border Army. This was the greatest evidence of his trust.

Qin Yu cupped his hands together, "Thank you for your efforts Lord Chengtian." He hesitated before saying, "Do I need to seek His Majesty's permission to leave the capital this time?"

Lord Chengtian waved his hand, "His Majesty has permitted you to forget it. Even important generals in the army do not receive this treatment. It demonstrates how well His Majesty thinks of you."

Qin Yu's face filled with appreciation and he bowed in the direction of the Imperial Palace. He said a few words of thanks so genuinely that he even started to believe his act.

"Marquis Chongwu, please take care of Hundred Saint when he works under you...you don't have to send me off, I will take my leave."

Lord Chengtian smiled gleefully as he left. He was in a good mood.

Looking at his back, Qin Yu's smile gradually faded away.

He frowned slightly and his expression turned serious.

If things went slightly off course, there was a demon lurking. Deep within Qin Yu's heart was a feeling of unease.

He thought about it and headed straight for the manor at the back of his residence.

In the past, his servants were as beautiful as fresh flowers. However, many faces had already disappeared. Qin Yu did not need to inquire about this. After all, people had to pay for the decisions they made.

In this regard, he trusted Rourou's judgements.

"My Lady, the marquis is here!"

Knowing that their masters did not like to have people present when they talked with each other, the group of servants bowed and took their leave. White Iris was among them. When she passed by Qin Yu, she hesitated slightly and bowed.

Qin Yu had a deep impression of this strange servant. After all, anyone who made him uneasy with just their gaze was memorable.

"Who is she? Where did she come from?" Qin Yu got to the point. There was no need for them to hide much from each other at this point.

Rourou lightly said, "You caused this trouble by yourself, but you question me. Do you want to die?"

Qin Yu did not understand why she got so angry. However, he was used to Rourou's harsh words. After thinking for a while, he frowned slightly and said, "This is the person that Great Shaman Mengshan asked me to save?"

Rourou nodded, "Her name is White Iris. She is my servant now."

A bitter smile played on Qin Yu's lips. She was a respected and powerful sword immortal but she was forced to be a servant to preserve her life. No wonder she was so unhappy and she got annoyed at Qin Yu.

As though she saw through Qin Yu's thoughts, Rourou smirked, "If you are daring enough, you can ask why she doesn't like you."

There was a hidden meaning in her words.

Qin Yu was unsure of how to react and he coughed lightly to change the topic, "Forget it, this is not important. As long as you are willing to help her, it is fine."

Rourou's eyebrows raised, "You aren't upset?"

Qin Yu's expression was calm, "Not at all. I simply did a favor for Great Shaman Mengshan. Whoever he wants me to help and however she treats me is not important."

Rourou stared at him in silence.

Qin Yu lifted his hand and rubbed his nose, "What, you think I am being pretentious? I probably can't beat her and I agreed to help him. I can only pretend that I don't care. Unless, you want me to be furious and grit my teeth angrily?"

**Chapter 1595 – How Cruel**

Originally, Rourou was in a good mood after seeing Qin Yu suffer injustice. However, her expression darkened when she saw him rub his nose.

“If you’re here, it certainly won’t be something good. Hurry up and tell me what you want!”

The deep and dark mood of a lady was like the weather in the sixth month, it changed by the second.

She had been in a good mood just now...furthermore, they hadn’t settled their debt from the past!

You...just wait till I get the chance in the future. Right now, I have to bear whatever I can and bear whatever I can’t too.

Qin Yu told Rourou about Lord Chengtian’s visit. “I feel like something is wrong. Is he just going to let us go like that?”

Rourou rolled her eyes and scoffed, “If you are not willing to, you can choose to remain here. But I am not going to wait.”

Qin Yu was mocked badly. If he couldn’t provoke her now, should he avoid her? He stood up and left. Although he did not appear to be ashamed, he left in a hurry as though he was escaping from her.

After he left the yard, he sucked in a long breath of air and sighed. When he interacted with the mysterious being in the past, he had been stubborn and he often gained the upper hand.

However, after it possessed Rourou’s body, the circumstances shifted. Qin Yu was completely crushed and it was hard for him to breathe. Could this be what was known as ‘hugging onto someone and feeling empty’? Somehow, he could not turn the tide!

A manly person reduced to such a state was...people were going to be so jealous!

Qin Yu smiled in satisfaction. With Rourou beside him, he was not afraid of anything. Who would not be satisfied with this level of treatment? However, he was not going to admit it. He was going to a stubborn duck!

For instance, although she did not say much before he was sent away, Qin Yu already received her answer.

Rourou’s attitude itself told him everything – she did not have an opinion on it and that meant they were not threatened.

As such, there was nothing to hesitate about. They ought to go immediately!

.....

Two days later, there was a big crisis. Before the crisis dispersed, Third-class Marquis Chongwu was permitted by the king to return to the West Border Army camp.

The news came very suddenly. Up until the residents left, leaving the mansion empty, Big Small King had not regained his senses.

They were gone? However, his next reaction was a celebration. Some other people even shed tears of joy; the jinx was gone.

First, it was the impeachment scandal, then it was the Heaven Inquiry. Before anyone could react, he was awarded the title of marquis.

There was only two days of rest before the Li Family from Parasol County arrived with another matter. Their descendant had been murdered and many in the court were intrigued by the case. A few people were excited to see the ensuing battle and they were waiting for the perfect opportunity to strike as well. They wanted to show Marquis Chongwu the consequences of climbing too high up the ladder!

However, before they could react, they were almost choked to death. The residence of the Li Family in the capital was wrecked and the great Li Family of the Central Desolate Divine Area was dragged in. One of the descendants had his cultivation severed by the king.

As for Marquis Chongwu? He successfully broke through his realm and received the feedback of the incense power. The feedback lasted a long time and a huge amount of incense power was amassed; it broke the records in all ancient history of the empire. Many important court officials of the empire suffered a severe case of jealousy that night.

Nonetheless, those who had not struck were lucky. In the murder case of the Li Family from Parasol County, the people who accused Qin Yu of being the murderer were now regretting it so much, their intestines shrivelled up.

Such a marquis was definitely a jinx that could not be provoked in the eyes of many big and small individuals in the capital.

Now, he had finally left. A simple sigh made these people feel a lot more relieved.

However, the individual who was the most relieved at this moment wasn't any of the big and small figures in the capital. Instead, it was the old man in the Min Residence.

"Gone, ha ha ha, they are really gone!" Lord Min danced around in joy; he was so happy that he felt like he was going to explode.

Although he had definitely suffered this time, it was a worthy price to pay to stabilize the entire situation.

"Housekeeper!"

Lord Min jumped up and yelled.

A housekeeper who was busy with other things rushed over. He was drenched in sweat and he bowed respectfully, "My Lord, what are your instructions?"

Lord Min waved his hand, "Go, hurry up and call the young master back. Then, instruct everyone to pack their things lightly. We are moving houses!"

"Ah?"

The housekeeper's eyes bulged wide open and he was stunned.

This...they were doing fine. Why did they have to move? This was an old residence that had been passed down through generations. Was the lord okay?

Lord Min glared at the housekeeper, "What are you staring at? I am very clearheaded. Hurry and pass my orders down! If things are delayed, I will hold you accountable!"

The housekeeper jumped in fright and quickly acknowledged the order. He rushed off in a panic.

The residence had sentimental value as they had lived there for a few thousand years. However, sentiments and feelings were something that could be nurtured in a different location too. They finally sent that lady off after much hardship. Wouldn't it be a stupid move to continue living here?

Go! They must go! The faster they went the better! The further they went the better!

Lord Min could no longer sit still and he personally went to press the servants to hurry up and pack the house. As neighbors looked on at the family in puzzlement, the family vanished. Some people asked about the issue and the reply given by the residence was that an elder of the clan had fallen gravely ill and they were rushing to visit him.

The West Desolate naturally noticed the movement. However, before the young eunuch showed himself, Lord Min told them that he was afraid of retribution and dismissed him.

Stopping the Min Family from leaving their residence...oh well, this could only be a thought. Unless the West Desolate was ready to rebuild the majority of the capital, they had to remain impartial about this.

Of course, from another angle, it might be a good thing for the Min Family to move away from the capital.

As such, they remained silent, did not stop the Min Family, and did not express their opinion on the matter.

"Daughter, are you ready?"

"Yes, Father!" The lady with two black and long pigtailed blinked her eyes in confusion and asked, "But why do we have to move?"

Her face suddenly turned red and her voice sounded like the buzzing of a mosquito, "Father, are you thinking of marrying me off as a concubine to Lord Min? Even if I don't oppose this, they have already left. We will definitely be mocked for chasing after them!"

The store owner laughed and rubbed his daughter's head, "Our daughter is blessed and she is very accurate in her assessment of things and people. Don't worry, before the lord left, he gave me an instruction. I know that he loves the daily breakfast and he has eaten that for a few decades. He would definitely not like it if he had to change places. As such, we are following him to make him happy."

The young lady was confused and she thought to herself that Lord Min had such a big residence and so many servants. It was even rumored that he owned mountainous heaps of gold and silver. What delicacies would he not be able to get his hands on? Why did he have to miss their small shop? However, her father gave his instructions and she could only nod obediently.

As he watched his daughter pack the last of her things, the store owner sat on a chair and took out some tobacco. His expression turned complicated as he puffed out a whiff of smoke. My foolish daughter, if I was marrying you off to Lord Min, what else would I have to worry about? Even if I die without the chance of being reincarnated, it would be worth it too!

A few moments later, the father and daughter pair hopped onto a carriage. Without alerting anyone, they went down the long alley and left. The next day, their neighbors realized that the shop was not open. After some confusion, they sent men to visit the store owner's house and found that it was empty. They were still puzzled but they already started shouting, "Lord Min, you idiot. You moved away but why did you have to bring along the shop that has been operating here for decades. What should we do then? How cruel!"

.....

The Teleportation Portal zone for the Capital Border was heavily guarded by the Imperial Defense Division. Marqius Chongwu's journey went smoothly after a check and they were allowed to move ahead by the army.

However, before Qin Yu's horse carriage entered the Teleportation Portal, they were stopped.

"Marquis, I have been waiting for you." Eunuch Wei Ming smiled brightly and bowed respectfully.

Many guards at the Teleportation Portal zone were stunned and they looked at the horse carriage with new respect.

Qin Yu pushed open the doors of the carriage and walked down. He cupped his hands together and asked, "Eunuch Wei Ming, is there an imperial order?"

Wei Ming smiled and nodded, "Marquis, you are right. His Majesty stated that the world is unfair. For instance, the group of dead assassins from Huicui Pavilion. His Majesty thought about the people who want you dead in the capital and he cannot be at ease."

He raised his hand and pointed towards a black carriage stopped a distance away. "There are some elders of the palace in there. His Majesty asks you to bring them along and let them settle any inconveniences for you."

Qin Yu stared at the black carriage. Even though he could not see the people inside, he could sense the cold aura emanating from it. It felt very familiar.

It was the four Old Four Claws from the Imperial Palace. That's right, it was them.

One two three four...there were actually four of them this time. It seemed that the West Desolate King paid huge attention to him.

A grateful look crossed Qin Yu's face and he bowed in the direction of the Imperial Palace to express his thanks to the king. He claimed that he would do his best to continue contributing to the West Desolate.

Wei Ming stepped backwards, "I have completed my task and I won't delay you on your travels. I wish you a smooth journey, and please continue to contribute to the military."

"Thank you for your kind words, Eunuch Wei Ming." Qin Yu smiled as he bowed. He glanced sideways and then jumped back into the carriage.

Hundred Saint was waiting at one side and he smiled as he walked towards Wei Ming. Eunuchs who came to deliver edicts from the Imperial Palace should not return empty-handed. Otherwise, it would reflect badly on him.

Wei Ming rejected him again and again but he eventually received the gift that Hundred Saint claimed was a worthless item from the border. When Wei Ming lowered his head to look at the item, he grinned from ear to ear.

“Marquis, please go ahead. I will bow to you to send you off.” With that, he really bowed respectfully.

The four Old Four Claws and the prince and princesses in the capital did not treat Wei Ming that well. The marquis was looked upon highly upon by the king; what was his future going to look like? Bowing was nothing, it was Wei Ming’s blessing to do so!

Eunuchs of the palace looked like they had high statuses. However, they were men without roots and were the dogs and chickens of the king. To live a comfortable life, they had to make good connections.

As he smiled and stared at the group while they disappeared into the Teleportation Array, Wei Ming did not know the extent of the mistake he had just made.

Unfortunately, he was going to suffer.

.....

Rourou frowned as she looked at Qin Yu opposite him. Her face was full of disdain and she snapped, “Why are you in my carriage? Don’t you have somewhere else?”

Qin Yu smiled, “The journey is boring, let’s talk.” He had already hugged onto her leg, however, it was too embarrassing to admit this directly.

Rourou scoffed and closed her eyes to rest. She wore a look that suggested she would be a fool for believing Qin Yu.

In a corner of the carriage wearing her white robe, White Iris stared at Qin Yu.

He smiled and, like Rourou, he closed his eyes and steadied his breathing.

White Iris lowered her head and a cold aura appeared in her eyes. However, she quickly returned to normal.

### **Chapter 1596 – Rebellion And Dog**

If an important general in the military was leaving the capital to return to the border, the accompanying troops had to abide by procedures and they could not randomly choose where they wanted to stop. Instead, they had to follow the route designated by the military which had pit stops along the way. This was also so that these places could be prepared beforehand and ensure that risks of accidents were kept to a minimum.

Perhaps it was a coincidence, but when Qin Yu left the capital and stepped out of the Teleportation Portal, he appeared in Seascapes City again.

According to the explanation from the military, the personal guards of the marquis suffered injuries during the assassination attempt and a long journey would not be suitable for them. Continuously jumping between Teleportation Portals could also result in accidents. The reason was very logical and appropriate and so the team was to rest in Seascapes City for a day after arriving there.



Qin Yu did not have an opinion on this. He was waiting for the king to take action. Since he had already decided to ally with the Li Family, he was bound to make a move. He originally thought that there would be issues during his one day stay at Seascap City. However, Qin Yu realized that many people in the city were anxious and the city itself was in a state of chaos. On the way to the rest station he heard booming explosions nearby, and it seemed like there was a fight happening somewhere.

When they reached the rest station, it was also a chaotic scene. The deputy master of the station was missing, but thankfully, a small official stepped forward. He gritted his teeth as he led the marquis in and arranged him accommodations at the best-furnished yard. Then, he arranged servants to serve the marquis.

Mistakes were unavoidable if people were pushed to do something beyond their abilities. However, at least, he did not leave the well-respected Marquis Chongwu homeless in the city.

The deputy master finally rushed over in a frantic panic. His face was as white as a sheet as he knelt on the ground and kowtowed to Qin Yu multiple times while he begged for mercy. As a minor official who was assigned to be a deputy master, he was very observant because of the nature of his work. He had a good understanding of Marquis Chongwu's might.

Furthermore, the current circumstances of Seascap City made his heart clench...who knew if this event was related to Marquis Chongwu? As he thought of this, the deputy master's face grew more pale.

Of course, Qin Yu was in no mood to make things harder for the deputy master. He waved his hand and gestured for the deputy master to stand up, "What happened in the city? Who dares to wreak havoc here?"

Each of the 108 cities of the West Desolate were not inconsequential. Ignoring the fact that they were all guarded with individual military strengths, they were connected to the empire's nation fate. Even a peak level Ruler will not be able to escape punishment if he caused trouble here.

The deputy master carefully looked at Marquis Chongwu and he wondered if there was a deeper meaning behind Marquis Chongwu's words. However, making a u-turn in front of death's door, the deputy master was highly agitated and he did not dare to pull any tricks. He truthfully answered, "The city governor of Seascap City, Chen Yuanshen, that old prick, secretly planned a revolt. Thankfully, Assistant General Xu Shen discovered and reported it. Now, he is refusing to surrender."

Qin Yu frowned as surprise filled his eyes. He never imagined that the cause of the chaos in Seascap City was due to this. Chen Yuanshen rebelled? It was obvious to Qin Yu that this was impossible. Unless the city governor went crazy, he would never do this.

Observing the silence from Marquis Chongwu, the deputy master did not dare to say much too and he kept silent. Marquis Chongwu was not familiar with the situation. Oh... I am overstepping my boundaries. A small deputy master like me should not dare to guess what the lord is thinking. Who knows if the marquis was secretly savouring the sweet taste of revenge.

The deputy master acted respectful and wore an expressionless face that seemed to say that he was not thinking of anything. Qin Yu could guess his thoughts and his lips twitched. He thought to himself, 'This was really not related to me'. However, now that Chen Yuanshen 'rebelled' and Qin Yu was

coincidentally at Seascap City, it was hard not to draw the conclusion that Qin Yu was unrelated to the rebel. After all, the relationship between the two of them was no secret. Hehe... This was truly hard.

Although he was not bothered taking the blame for this inconsequential thing, the king had made his move and Chen Yuanshen will sink to the darkness. He did not need to have any hopes of living after this and there would be no severe aftermath of the rebel. However, Qin Yu was displeased by what was happening. He dismissed the deputy master since the deputy master was not going to say anything else.

At night, the deafening sounds of fighting could be vaguely heard from afar. Thunderous explosions came as the light from arrays tore through the darkness and outshined the stars and moon that hung high up in the sky. No one came to the station to request for Marquis Chongwu's help. Regardless of whether they wanted to avoid having credit stolen from them or any other reason, Qin Yu was glad for the peace and he ignored what was happening.

In the later half of the night, the fighting died down. Before dawn, a few people arrived at the station. They were drenched in the aura of blood and they looked tired. They were three men of influence in Seascap City. One of them was Marquis Guoqi. Of course, he was not an actual marquis and his position was completely mediocre as compared to Marquis Chongwu's status in the military. Assistant General Xu Shen was among the three. His broken limb had recovered completely and his expression was dark as he lowered his head.

In ordinary circumstances, the deputy master would never have the chance to meet these lords. He was so frightened, he trembled as he bowed respectfully. Before he spoke, he was interrupted by Marquis Guoqi. This man wore brilliant silver-colored armor and he lifted up a bloody knife. His voice boomed, "Don't waste time here. Hurry and report to Marquis Chongwu that Chen Yuanshen's rebellion has been suppressed. The marquis has been invited to see the proceedings."

The deputy master hurriedly nodded. His soul almost left his body when the bloody knife was pointed at him. With his face as pale as a sheet, he turned and ran. It felt like if he delayed any longer, he would be sliced in half mercilessly by the sword.

Qin Yu sensed the commotion outside the station. When the deputy master returned, Qin Yu said, "Tell them that I am under imperial orders and I am only passing by Seascap City. When day breaks, I will leave automatically. They should report to the capital and settle the issue accordingly."

The deputy master definitely did not want to oppose Qin Yu and he hurried back to inform the group of Marquis Chongwu's reply. Aside from Xu Shen, the other two men's faces lit up. The reason why they did not come to the station previously to request for assistance was because they were afraid that the credit of suppressing the rebellion would be stolen by the marquis. By then, they would be ignored.

They rushed over to the station now because the outcome had already been decided. Regardless of who was going to make the report, they had made their contributions. As such, they came to invite the marquis to oversee the proceedings to avoid being faulted by the marquis later. It was a kind act for them to distribute some of the credit to him.

Unexpectedly, Marquis Chongwu was not greedy to take credit and they also extended the invite to him. They were hence not worried that the marquis will hold a grudge against them in the future and they were able to savour the rewards of their contributions to themselves. Each of them bowed towards the

station as they said, "Marquis, rest assured, we will do our best to stabilize the city." Then, they left on their horse carriages.

Xu Shen maintained silent the entire time and his eyes were dark as he stared at the station that was covered by the dark of the night.

Day break and the darkness dissipated.

Most people left but there was one man who stayed outside the station and asked to see Marquis Chongwu.

This man did not reveal his identity but his face was even more white than the deputy master. He looked like a sickly person who did not have much longer to live. The deputy master pondered over it but he didn't dare to underestimate this man in the end. After he bowed and instructed the man to wait here, he gritted his teeth and went to inform the marquis.

Of course, the reason why he dared to do this was because he realized that Marquis Chongwu was much more easygoing than the rumors said. He did not kill mercilessly for trivial matters. Otherwise, the deputy master would not have taken this risk.

Qin Yu frowned upon realizing the identity of the man. He did not expect him. Although they have not met, this man had been attacked by an incense item and his Sword Dao was severed. These two points proved the man's identity. Didn't the news say that the third generation disciple of the Li Family of Central Desolate died from his severe wounds?

He originally wanted to turn Li Ge away to avoid adding trouble for himself unknowingly. However, before Qin Yu said anything, he heard Rourou's calm voice in his mind, "Let him in, this lad is interesting."

Qin Yu's eyes flashed and he instructed, "Let him in."

Very quickly, the corpse-like Li Ge whose face was as white as a sheet entered the yard. The first sentence he said as soon as he saw Qin Yu sitting calmly in the living room was absurd!

"I am not here to see you."

Qin Yu scoffed coldly to himself and he wanted to counter, 'If you are not here for me, get lost.' However, he held it in eventually.

Lad, although she is incredible, not everyone has the qualifications to leech onto her.

He was here for Rourou. Hehe, I think that sword attack destroyed your brain too. Hell has no doors but you still barged in!

The sound of footsteps came and Rourou walked forward and sat down on a seat beside Qin Yu. She lowered her head to look at Li Ge. With just this look, he grunted and beads of sweat formed on his forehead. Very quickly, he was drenched in sweat, as though he was bearing intense pain.

However, amidst the pain in his eyes, there was undeniably a complicated look that was mixed with excitement. With a thud, he knelt down to the ground. His hoarse voice echoed through the hall, "Please save me. I am willing to give you anything!"

Rourou's eyebrows lifted and she smirked, "You are willing to be a dog?"

Li Ge lowered his head, "Yes!"

"Very well. From this day onwards, you are called Leftover Dog. Don't ask me the meaning of this name, you are not qualified to know."

Li Ge stood up. He sucked in a deep breath of air and said, "Yes, Master."

As a dog, he needed to have a master. He did not lack this awareness.

Rourou pointed towards Qin Yu, "Remember, he is also considered half your master. When I am not around, the order applies."

Li Ge nodded.

Rourou waved her hand, "Leave. You won't die for a while so live like that."

When Li Ge left, Rourou turned to look at Qin Yu. She laughed coldly, "See that, Qin Yu? This is what the difference in our status is supposed to be like? I didn't even do anything but people step forward voluntarily to be my dog. In my opinion, Leftover Dog's awareness is much better than yours. Look at you, always bargaining with me for everything. You should know your status properly."

Qin Yu cupped his hands together, "Your honor is powerful and mighty, I am in full admiration of you." Flattering her was one thing, he did not mention what happened. He could not always let her flatter herself and be prideful right? Furthermore, Rourou had a tendency to do that.

Rourou gritted her teeth and her voice deepened, "Qin Yu, you are getting more outrageous and bold!" It felt like she had been seen through and it made her furious.

Qin Yu yawned and stood up, "I am tired. See you in the day!"

He turned and left quickly.

Behind him, Rourou yelled, "It is daytime already, you idiot!"

### **Chapter 1597A – Foolish Woman**

On the eve of dawn after the heaviest night, the entire city governor's mansion had been destroyed in the battle in just one day. The rubble was everywhere, and most of the bodies laying on the ground were largely incomplete. The earth was dyed red and the air was filled with the heavy, metallic smell of blood.

In a big iron cage that had talismans carved on it, Chen Yuanshen's hair was disheveled and all his limbs had been broken. Two thick black chains penetrated through his shoulder blades, imprisoning his body and cultivation. Blood flowed from his wounds and down the chains, dripping continuously onto the floor.

It was indeed unexpected that such a traitor would still be alive today. After all, compared to being arrested and dragged back to the Imperial Capital to be interrogated, committing suicide here was better. At least he could save himself from going through some pain, and maintain some of his dignity.

However, a traitor who was alive was far more capable than reaping the credits of a corpse. Since Chen Yuanshen did not have the courage to kill himself, the people who helped to suppress the rebellion in the city were extremely satisfied. They had already done all the necessary investigations and gathered all the evidence. It was a hard fact that Chen Yuanshen had committed treason.

They had to do all this in order to send him to the Imperial Capital with peace of mind. If there happened to be any mistakes, not only would they lose all credit, they would also bring trouble to themselves.

“Escort the traitor back to the Imperial Capital. Let’s set out!” Marquis Guoqi looked excited and high-spirited as he roared, swinging the large sword in his hand heavily. He never thought that one day, he would be able to escort Chen Yuanshen, who never once even looked him straight in the eye, into jail. He could not feel more satisfied.

As the carriage that was pulling the cage along slowly exited the city governor’s mansion, which was now a pile of rubble, the thick darkness above it rapidly dissipated. The nine suns rose in the sky, getting rid of any darkness. On the two sides of the road, numb faces became visible in the brightness.

They could now see Chen Yuanshen, who was suppressed in that big iron cage. Their faces became ugly as they grit their teeth in endless resentment.

Their homes were mostly located around the city governor’s mansion and had suffered from collateral damage, so they were all shattered now. Additionally, every one of their families had also suffered countless casualties. Therefore, after their initial disbelief that it was Chen Yuanshen who instigated all of this, they were immediately filled with deep hatred.

“You swindler, return my daughter to me!”

“Chen Yuanshen, you deserve to die!”

“I curse your Chen Family to never be able to produce descendants ever again!”

Bang –

A rock flew over and hit Chen Yuanshen’s forehead. It created a wound and fresh blood immediately started to flow.

The crowd went silent for a while. However, after seeing that throwing a rock elicited no response from the escorting soldiers, in the next moment, pieces of rock, eggs, soil and even feces...came pelting down from the sky. They were desperately hoping that they could smash that once-dignified city governor into pieces.

Chen Yuanshen curled up into a ball to protect himself as much as he could.

Behind the agitated crowd, a window near the long street quietly opened. As the person behind the window watched this scene unfolding, their eyes reddened. They breathed heavily as they raised an arm to grab the window.

“You can jump out right now if you’re seeking death. However, if you do this, everything that your father has done will be for nothing,” Li Ruhua said slowly as she held the tea cup. Her tone was cold and indifferent, devoid of any emotion.

Chen Sanglue's body shivered and his eyes were red. Without turning back, he said, "Save him. I know you can do it. I am willing to pay the price, whatever it is!"

Li Ruhua drank a sip of tea and her voice became even colder, "Your life is mine since I saved you. Therefore, you are in no position right now to make a deal with me."

She put down the cup, and after a few moments of silence, she continued slowly, "You knew from the moment your father chose to go down this route, that it was to sacrifice his own life so that you could continue to live. Furthermore...I can't save him."

At this moment, Chen Sanglue who was in the big iron cage, suddenly raised his head to look in the direction of the window. In his shocked but calm eyes, there was a bit of relief and restraint. He wanted to go and see who it was, but resolutely shook his head.

The escorting team and carriage gradually travelled into the distance. The crowd on the long street followed closely behind. The silence that descended on this place afterwards made it easy for people to feel like they were in a trance.

Pu-tong!

Chen Sanglue collapsed to the ground like a withered tree and tears started to flow from his eyes.

"Go ahead and cry. Take this as a chance to see your father off. I have indeed underestimated Chen Yuanshen. However, you have to remember that the reason why your father suffering such plight today is purely because of Marquis Chongwu. It was him who forced your father to take this step to keep you alive."

Li Ruhua walked to him and knelt down beside him, whispering these words softly and calmly. Her words were like a stream of water as they poured into his heart, filling him with ferocious hatred and violence, and he wished that he could destroy everything.

"Marquis Chongwu Ning Qin...Marquis Chongwu Ning Qin...Marquis Chongwu Ning Qin..." He mumbled repeatedly to himself, his voice full of anger and resentment.

Amongst the ruins of the city governor's mansion, there was a hidden shadow. It was Rourou who was standing here. She had always been here, even from the beginning, but no one could see her. At this moment, she raised her head to look in the direction of the window and her eyes turned cold.

She was not worried about the West Desolate colluding with the Li Family. The reason was simple – after leaving the West Desolate's Imperial Capital, she would no longer have anything to worry about. She could just kill these two people easily, and the alliance would just break instantly. Furthermore, Li Ruhua's motives made Rourou's killing intent surge even more. The corner of her lips turned up and she revealed an evil grin.

She was really, really, extremely fierce and savage. These were not empty words. To her, killing people was the simplest task. She treated Qin Yu differently.

So what if they were three generations of the Li Family? If she killed them, who would be able to find her afterwards? Or, even if they managed to find her, she would not be scared. They would just be like snacks that found their own way to her stomach.

Raising her hand, Rourou pointed at the darkness. The darkness instantly thickened, like a big monster that appeared quietly out of nowhere and opened its mouth to swallow everything in this world.

In the room, Li Ruhua's face changed drastically. The red spot in her palm lit up at this moment and produced a searing pain! Without any hesitation, she reached out to grab Chen Sanglue. With a low growl, both of them disappeared.

Rourou raised her eyebrows and continued pointing at the darkness. Then, she frowned with helplessness, "You're so hateful, why are you getting in my way?"

"What's the matter? Am I provoking you now? Can you be more reasonable? They're just two little worms, why are your words so harsh?"

"Fine, fine. I won't kill them if you don't want me to; don't lose your temper so easily, alright? We were neighbors for so many years after all."

"Hmph, fine, I got it. I'm going to go back first, your nagging is annoying me!"

She then turned and left, the violent energy condensing and surging in her eyes.

Whoosh –

Rourou disappeared in the darkness.

.....

"Your Majesty, I do not understand," Lord Chengtian frowned as he spoke, with worry on his face.

He was never really close to Chen Yuanshen, but they did have some history together. Otherwise, back then, Hundred Saint would not have taken the initiative to go and visit Chen Yuanshen.

Lord Chengtian thought that he had some understanding about Chen Yuanshen. He was a smart person, so why would he do something foolish like this?

Committing treason and rebelling? It was simply a big joke. Unless there was a big catastrophe that fell upon the world, there was no one that could challenge the West Desolate King's rule.

Chen Yuanshen's rebellion was basically courting death.

The escorting team finally reached the Capital Border Area. After their identities were checked by the Imperial Defense Division, they sent him to the Imperial Prison to await interrogation. However, everyone was clear that Chen Yuanshen, who was now behind bars in the Imperial Capital, was destined to die. The interrogation was just a formality.

The worry on Lord Chengtian's face right now was not because of the fact that Chen Yuanshen was going to die. Instead, it was because Chen Yuanshen was a city governor after all, so his position was considered to be quite important. If he was suddenly given a death sentence because of his 'rebellion' and it was not executed properly, then there would be turmoil in the political court.

## **Chapter 1597B – Foolish Woman**

The dignified West Desolate King behind the bead curtains remained calm, "Chen Yuanshen is courting death. He returned to the Imperial Capital alive to get back at me, and to beg for his son's life, who has been sent to work with the Central Desolate's Li Family."

After a few moments of silence, the king continued, "Chen Yuanshen understands my personality well, but he overestimated my generosity. However, I will still grant his wish and let his son live."

Lord Chengtian bowed and started to sing praises, "Your Majesty is magnanimous!"

The king waved his hand and said, "Go, send a message to the Justice Division. Tell them that they don't have to do any more investigations. Give Chen Yuanshen a quick death. After all, he once governed over one of the West Desolate's main cities, so he cannot be humiliated too much."

Lord Chengtian bowed once again and turned to leave the main hall, releasing a soft sigh of relief. His Majesty was as hypocritical as he had always been, but choosing to give Chen Yuanshen a quick death was a rare act of benevolence.

Shaking his head, he retracted all his thoughts and went straight to the Justice Division's Imperial Prison.

.....

As Marquis Chongwu's carriage fleet rode out from the inn, there was an extra person traveling with them. Li Ge, whose face was pale, hid in one of the carriages. His aura was almost non-existent.

His Sword Dao had been destroyed by the incense item, and all his cultivation had been severed.

However, for some reason, even though he was weak to the point where even a gust of wind could blow him down, he still gave people a feeling that he was very dangerous.

Wearing a white robe that covered her entire body except her eyes, White Iris was also in the carriage together with Li Ge. Today, before they set out, she was chased out of Rourou's carriage. Even though her face was calm, she was extremely upset in her heart.

Looking at Li Ge, who appeared so pale that it felt like there was no blood left in his veins, White Iris frowned and a glint of coldness flashed in her eyes.

Why did My Lady keep him around? He is just a cripple!

Could it be because of Marquis Chongwu? Even though her lady's cultivation level was very high, beyond what White Iris could even perceive, saving this cripple was still rather strange. It was going to inevitably cause huge damage to their own bodies.

Thinking of this, White Iris' gaze became even colder.

Right at this moment, Li Ge, who sat opposite her, opened his eyes. His gaze was dim but sharp, which made White Iris feel like he was boring a hole through her heart.

"I have no ill intentions towards you, I hope you will not kill me."

After a few moments of silence, Li Ge opened his mouth to speak again. His voice was hoarse and his breath smelled like blood, which made one's heart palpitate, "Trust me, even though you are very strong, if I die, you will die with me."



White Iris narrowed her eyes. She wanted to scoff very badly, but intuition told her that Li Ge was not bluffing.

He indeed had the capability to make her perish together with him!

Why? Li Ge's Sword Dao had undoubtedly been broken and his whole cultivation had been ruined; he was a cripple through and through.

Li Ge closed his eyes and continued to regulate his breath. His body was in a terrible state now; if he did not take care of it properly, he could die anytime.

Opposite him, White Iris took in a deep breath and suppressed the urge to kill him.

However, this did not mean that she was scared of Li Ge. On the contrary, the killing intent that she felt from the bottom of her heart had never disappeared. If Li Ge's existence was truly a threat to her lady, then she would kill him without any hesitation. Even if it was Marquis Chongwu Ning Qin who became a threat, she would kill him too!

So what if they could kill her in the process too? She had gotten tired of living a long time ago anyway, so it was fine as long as her lady was not hurt in any way.

.....

Qin Yu opened his eyes and hesitated for a while before saying, "Could you not smile so strangely and coldly all of a sudden? It makes me slightly nervous."

Opposite him, Rourou rolled her eyes and replied, "If you don't want to see it, you can leave. Did I force you to stay here?"

Qin Yu choked for a moment and changed his posture such that his back was now facing her. He then closed his eyes, thinking to himself, 'These days are so hard to get by, when will all this end?'

However, after thinking about it for a while, other than the alliance between the West Desolate King and Li Family that was a threat to him, there was also that cunning tiger from the Later Ye Family that wanted to kill him too.

What a headache!

He would have to bear with Rourou for the time being, it seemed.

Well, so be it. He was a man, and had to adapt to be tough or soft when the situation called for it. This was the philosophy for surviving!

Rourou humphed and closed her eyes too, thinking to herself, 'What a foolish woman, always over-calculating every situation!'

Worrying about me? Do I need you to worry about me? This Great Shaman Mengshan has such a high level of cultivation, but he is a bit blind. What was the point of saving an idiot who had nothing other than a good Sword Dao? It would be better if she just died plain and simple, otherwise he might potentially implicate others.

Therefore, even though Rourou kept White Iris as her servant, she would not bother to protect her. She would see how things went. If somehow, White Iris died, then that would be because of her horrible fate, and Rourou could not be blamed for that. Or, if perhaps she was in a good mood one day, it was possible that Rourou would save her too.

.....

Outside Seascap City, a thousand miles away.

In a certain cave dwelling, Li Ruhua slowly opened her eyes. Even after regulating her breath for a few hours, her face was still terribly pale.

Lowering her head, she took a look at the red spot on her palm and thought about the aura that she felt in that split second. Her body shivered and a deep fear blossomed from the bottom of her heart that she could not suppress.

Where did that killing intent come from? It was extremely terrifying, like a surging wave in a raging black sea that could overturn the heavens and earth! Even though it lasted only for a short moment, it was enough to make Li Ruhua feel like she had been put in a threatening life-and-death situation, with no chance of escaping.

Even though she used the power of the red spot to travel through miles of space away from Seascap City, intuition told her that it was not that this person was unable to kill her before she was able to teleport away, but rather, this person had decided to give up on the deed at the last minute.

Otherwise, she would probably be a cold corpse by now.

Who was the source of that killing intent?

Li Ruhua took a deep breath and suppressed the turbulence in her heart with a bitter smile on her face.

Before she left the Li Family, she always felt that the world was vast, and as long as she did not provoke those big and powerful figures, she could live in peace and the world would be her oyster.

She did not think that trying to find the new Barbarian King would be a difficult task, but not much time had passed, and she had already gotten a big reality check.

Because of the nine-tailed fox, Li Ge's entire Sword Dao cultivation had been destroyed in the Imperial Capital. Now, his whereabouts were unknown and she did not know if she would ever see him again. Furthermore, she had mysteriously experienced that terrifying killing intent in Seascap City, making her feel close to death in just an instant.

Mm...

Li Ruhua's expression changed slightly. She suddenly thought of a possibility. Could that killing intent be related to the new Barbarian King?

Previously, she thought that everything that happened in the Imperial Capital was just a trap. However, she now thought of the mutual plotting by the various great clans and major sects in the Central Desolate Divine Area.

But why couldn't all these be part of the Barbarian King's scheme? And since this scheme was targeted at the Li Family, it was definitely executed covertly, away from the prying eyes of everyone.

If this really was the case, then the terrifying killing intent she felt in Seascap City finally had an explanation – the new Barbarian King was trying to prevent her from getting close to Marquis Chongwu!

At this moment, Li Ruhua's eyes brightened.

### **Chapter 1598 – Gathering Troops from Qinghe**

There were not many knowledgeable people in this world, but Li Ruhua was one of them. The red spot on her palm was the biggest secret that she had.

Regarding her identity, it was a secret that was strictly guarded by the Li Family's inner circle. It was to the extent that there were fewer than three people who knew thoroughly about her origins. Of the two people who knew, one of them was as powerful as a divine dragon who traveled the world all year round and had not shown his face in the family for a long time.

In the Central Desolate's Li Family, even though Li Ruhua had a very ordinary name, she was really not ordinary at all. Her status and position was far above the other third-generation descendants. Even whatever Li Ge knew about her barely scratched the surface.

In the cave dwelling, Li Ruhua's eyes were bright as she lowered her head and continued pondering. She looked in front of her and said, "Chen Sanglue, go outside and guard the entrance."

Chen Sanglue opened his eyes. He had an indifferent expression on his face and his eyes did not waver. However, in the deepest parts of his eyes, there was a faint glimmer. He nodded and went out without a word.

Li Ruhua raised her hand and spread her fingers to reveal the red spot on her palm and said, "Heaven Fire."

As she spoke with a low voice, she suddenly raised her head. Her eyes and long hair turned crimson at the same time. They were like burning flames, but at the same time, they were also the color of fresh blood.

Li Ruhua's aura changed. It was ice-cold and indifferent, like a god had descended upon the earth and looked at all living creatures beneath its feet as if they were ants. She raised her hand and pointed at the space in front of her. A small world was formed around her, completely separating herself from the outside world.

"Li Mu."

A calm voice emanated from her mouth.

.....

Seascap City.

As Marquis Chongwu's carriage fleet moved into the Teleportation Portal, it was only then that the city's great figures really breathed a sigh of relief. Even though Marquis Chongwu had taken the initiative to

reject their offer to escort him to the border, no one knew if he was plotting something secretly. He was a great general in the military, and a marquis. His status and position was very high, and if he wanted to do something, he was definitely able to suppress anyone who got in his way easily.

Ye Gui was here too.

Back then, from the moment he left the Later Ye Family, he was already a dead man. Now that he was still alive, he was just a lonely ghost without any roots. He was not afraid of death, but he had already promised the marshal that he would give up his life to repay the Later Ye Family. Therefore, he had always been seeking an opportunity.

When he saw Marquis Chongwu's carriage fleet step into the Teleportation Portal, Ye Gui turned and left. He returned to where he was staying in the city, and on the table in the room, he saw a green jade slip.

It was made of a very ordinary material and could only record a few simple characters. He glanced at it for a moment before taking it in his hands, then after a few breaths, he exerted some strength with his fingers and the jade slip shattered into powder without a sound.

Ye Gui got up and faced the direction of the Imperial Capital. He kowtowed thrice, and when he got up, there was a smile on his face that looked like he was being relieved of a huge burden.

.....

"Your Majesty, I have always felt that Li Four Season's words cannot be trusted after he went mad. It's highly possible that he's just part of a scheme. It is understandable that you have become very cautious when facing Marquis Chongwu, but this time, it is really risky."

The young eunuch rarely had this solemn expression on his face as he bowed towards the hall. In a serious tone, he continued, "What if this was truly a plot by that clan and the Central Desolate's Li Family? After all, Marquis Chongwu Ning Qin has now become an important chess piece; if he is destroyed...Your Majesty, your whole plan would be compromised to a stage where it would be irreparable."

The dignified West Desolate King had a calm expression behind the bead curtain, "Li Zhouqing, in what capacity are you issuing this advice to me?"

The young eunuch bowed even lower and continued calmly, "I am merely your servant, Your Majesty, but I am also a servant of the West Desolate. I am sincere and only have the best interests of the empire at heart. Your Majesty, please take my words into consideration."

"Hmph!" the West Desolate King scoffed. "I don't need your reminders to carry out my plans...I have my own discretion regarding Marquis Chongwu. But you, don't forget to continue searching for the whereabouts of the Min Residence. As long as that old monster is still in West Desolate territory, even if you have to flip the earth upside down, you had better find him!"

The young eunuch smiled bitterly and obeyed the king's order. He retreated into the shadows and disappeared. His capacity? What capacity did he have? In the realm of the shadows, under the broad eunuch robes, his fists were clenched tightly and his fingernails dug into his palms.

Your Majesty, it is not me who owes the Imperial Clan, it is the Imperial Clan that owes me!

.....

After stepping into the Teleportation Portal at Seascapes City, they reached Qinghe, which was a stronghold of the imperial troops. Having the position of Marquis Chongwu and a first-ranked great general in the military was, of course, not just an empty title.

The number of troops that he controlled had also increased greatly. When Lord Chengtian brought the West Desolate King's imperial decree that summoned Qin Yu back to the West Border Army's main camp, he had also given him a Tiger Amulet which gave him the power to dispatch troops.

Evidently, Qinghe had already gotten advance notice of Marquis Chongwu's arrival. This time, Marquis Chongwu's carriage fleet did not need to report to anyone in order to meet with Qinghe's ambassador. This was because they had been waiting here ever since the imperial order of Marquis Chongwu being sent back to the West Border Army was spread throughout the military.

Marquis Chongwu's position was extremely different from General Jinwu's back then.

General Zhongshan was in the crowd too. However, he was now about seven or eight ranks behind the top figurehead. Back then, when Hundred Saint said that General Zhongshan 'oversees the training of the Qinghe Army', he was just trying to give Qin Yu the best impression.

In reality, Qinghe Twenty Eastern Counties really contained twenty counties' worth of territory, which was why it could gather tens of thousands of troops and become the most important stronghold of the imperial military.

The one who was truly overseeing the training of the Qinghe Army was actually a retired, old general of the army whose name was Ye Qianxing. That's right, this man was from the ancient Old Ye Family.

They were known as one of the pillars of the military – these were not empty words.

Even if they only had half their limbs now, had become someone else's puppet, and had trouble walking, Ye Qianxing was still the top figure in the Qinghe Army.

"Marquis Chongwu, the 400,000 new troops have already been prepared. They will be ready to move out in two days," Ye Qianxing extended his arm and said, "Marquis, please come with me to settle in first."

Qin Yu cupped his hands and said, "I've troubled you, General." According to the arrangements made by the imperial military headquarters, they could stay in Qinghe for three days at most.

Ye Qianxing turned around and looked at the carriages behind Qin Yu, "I heard that your wife is with you..."

Qin Yu smiled lightly, "My wife does not like big crowds, so you don't have to pay your respects to her."

Ye Qianxing nodded his head and did not say much afterwards. The journey was smooth and they quickly reached the inn that had been prepared for them in advance. Of course, this place was different from the place that they stayed in the last time they were here. Qin Yu did not care much about these

things, so the innkeepers, who had been restless for days, breathed a sigh of relief. They became much more eager in the way they served him.

If they continued to travel west beyond Qinghe, they would no longer be able to pass through Teleportation Portals that would bring them across the West Desolate's territory. They would have to transport their troops to the border via an airship, which would take a month.

If the West Desolate King and Li Family wanted to make their move, they would do it in this timeframe. After all, if they waited longer than that, when the airship reached the West Border Army's main camp, it would be inconvenient for them to do anything. It was also highly likely that they would cause turmoil to unfold in the military.

And as for these 400,000 new troops, they were still very unfamiliar with their commander since they did not have any interaction at all. One just had to plant a few capable people within them, and they could make use of an awry situation to turn their blades and backstab their commander, forcing him into a desperate situation. Even if this happened, there would not be much trouble that came with it afterwards.

Of course, Qin Yu could not be completely sure whether things would truly get to this stage or turn out the way he was expecting them to, so he could only be patient and continue waiting. The good thing was that he was not afraid, so he was not having a very hard time over this. Rather, he was just passing time. This lifeline that he had was indeed amazing, and no one could understand this feeling unless they held onto it themselves. Whoever had it would rejoice; it was simply a great feeling!

Smiling a little, Qin Yu closed his eyes and continued to cultivate. The Incense Child had stealthily entered the West Desolate's Incense Territory, which was equivalent to opening a small stream in a large, flowing river. There was an endless source of incense power that flowed into Qin Yu's body, which meant that other than his own cultivation, there was another catalyst that could boost his cultivation.

Of course, the effectiveness of this incense power could not be compared to the Incense Feedback that he received back then when he was breaking through, but it was still rather remarkable. After the darkness that followed Qin Yu had been broken, and on top of that, he had received the Incense Gift, it was enough to keep him in a state of 'heavenly paradise' cultivation efficiency that every cultivator had hoped for. It was a bit of an exaggeration to say that he could achieve in a day the cultivation amount that normal cultivators achieved in a year. It was more accurate to say that he could achieve in a day what normal cultivators could achieve in about three to five months.

This made Qin Yu unwilling to waste any time that he could spend cultivating. Ever since he broke through to the Ruler realm, whenever he had free time, he would cultivate painstakingly. However, there was one thing that worried him. As his power continued to increase, there was a growing pressure inside of him that felt like he was becoming a bigger fish caught in this world's net which contained all living beings in this world, unable to escape.

Rourou had said before that, 'Even if the sky falls down, there are powerful beings to hold it up'. But...why would the sky fall? Would these 'powerful beings' really be able to hold the heavens up? What if they couldn't? What would be the result then?

Qin Yu continuously told himself that he should take one step at a time and not 'bite off more than he could chew' and worry about things that were beyond his concern for now. However, the anxiety deep in his heart refused to go away, even if he was now hugging onto a very huge lifebuoy.

This was because Qin Yu could not help but feel that even this mysterious being from space time could not hold up the heavens.

Not far away from the Qinghe inn he was staying at, Rourou looked in the direction of where Qin Yu was cultivating and she raised her eyebrows.

Indeed, there was a problem.

Who exactly was Qin Yu? Was he the reincarnation of someone mighty? However, there was no trace of reincarnation on him. Even if Qin Yu was so special that she could not understand exactly who Qin Yu was, as one of the most special and oldest existences between the heavens and earth, Rourou did not remember owing any mighty being any debt in the long time that she had been alive.

As for eating mighty beings, well, she had indeed eaten some of them.

Therefore, this could not explain why she always uncontrollably did something reckless, or something that was unlike her, when facing Qin Yu.

Rourou rubbed the spot between her eyebrows and froze slightly. With a gloomy expression, she retracted her hand. She took a deep breath and suppressed whatever emotions she was feeling and looked up into the distance.

Her eyes brightened, and then returned to calm after a few moments. She seemed to ponder for a while, before a cold smile appeared on her face, "Well, it seems you're not all useless. If so, then I'll let you live for a while longer."

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Since the original arrangement was to stay only for two days, they were really going to stay for only two days. After completing the transaction with Ye Qianxing, who was the figurehead of Qinghe, the 400,000 new troops greeted their commander. After that, they boarded the airships. As there were so many of them, they were very densely packed. The airships were huge and the sheer number of them covered a large area of the sky, casting an endless shadow.

It was a majestic scene to behold, and the aura that emanated from these troops could swallow mountains and rivers! Whether or not these 400,000 troops would eventually rebel against their commander was a topic for another day. This feeling, right now, of being in control of these troops, was a great one.

The moment these 400,000 troops saluted and knelt to the ground, Qin Yu felt the thrill of 'holding immense power'. The incense power stolen by the Incense Child also started to surge. It was as if it was closely related to Qin Yu's fortunes.

"Let's set out!"

Qin Yu waved his hand, and the formation pattern carved on the airships lit up. The space around the airships started to vibrate quickly, like numerous big fish in the deep ocean swimming faster and further away.

### **Chapter 1599 – Grandeur Stone and Millet Tree**

In the Demon Sect, strange incidents had been happening recently. It stirred a huge commotion that alerted even the top figures of the sect.

Firstly, it was said that a little nameless disciple from the sect had suddenly fainted for no reason. After he woke up two days later, his cultivation had increased greatly, and no one knew how he had learned a Divine Way known as powerful as Overturning Sea. This Divine Way truly had the power to topple the mountains and overturn the seas, cause rivers to flow in the opposite direction and flood lands until half a mountain was submerged. This caused quite a ruckus when this nameless disciple directly killed a few of his fellow disciples who had been bullying and humiliating him for many years.

Secondly, in a certain city, the oldest legitimate son of a wealthy man had been born as a fool. However, overnight, it was like he was suddenly enlightened. He was instantly gifted with profound knowledge and spoke cleverly like a scholar, causing all the relatives in the family to become extremely shocked. They spent a huge amount of money to invite an immortal teacher to conduct an investigation. In the end, it was confirmed that this oldest legitimate son did not experience any terrifying encounters at all. He had truly been enlightened and gained the 'heavenly gift' of knowledge.

If it were only these two incidents, then it would not really be worth the Demon Sect's attention. After all, countless miracles happened in this world. There had been a few cases in the Demon Sect's history where someone had suddenly undergone a change in their fate.

However, the third incident was too shocking. A guardian of the Demon Sect who had sealed himself in closed-door meditation was originally reaching the end of the line. From the very beginning, there was no hope of breaking through at all. He could only be like a withered tree that waited for death. However, for some unknown reason, it was like multicolored light had shone through the clouds and onto the nine lands. Countless rules were manifested and he broke through to the Ruler realm in just one step, becoming a new elder of the Demon Sect. The only thing was that after this elder broke through, there was a huge change in his personality. When interrogated by the sect, he kept quiet throughout, and at the end, he suddenly lost his temper and started to attack others. Then, he escaped and disappeared, and no one knew where he had gone.

In light of these continuous incidents that captured the Demon Sect's attention, they conducted a thorough investigation. Through this, they realized that many similar incidents had occurred. There was even another incident that happened in a faraway village in the mountains where everyone had been eaten by a demonic creature.

This demonic creature had been captured, and its origins were extremely bizarre. It was actually originally a dog that was owned by a butcher. In the past, there were many cases where people tried to eat beasts that transformed into demonic creatures which ended up eating these people in return. However, this dog was clearly a normal, domesticated animal, Yet, overnight, it had transformed into an enlightened demonic creature. It was truly unimaginable that something like this would happen.



New and strange incidents were constantly being reported. As the master of the Demon Sect, the Night Demon Sect Master had investigated all these cases personally. His eyes became brighter and brighter and he became increasingly agitated.

“Give my orders: regarding the recent incidents, suppress them temporarily and don’t let news of it leak out.” With this directive, the Night Demon Sect Master turned to leave.

Marquis Chongwu left the Imperial Capital and returned to the West Border Army. The route that he took required him to pass by Qinghe where he gathered the troops that a great general was meant to have. All these events that transpired were not a secret. The young miss was following Marquis Chongwu, and according to the timeline they should have reached a place that was not too far from the Demon Sect by now.

In the secret chamber, the Night Demon Sect Master held a jade slip in his hands. After imprinting the message, he wrapped his fingers around the jade slip tightly and shattered it. However, the message within the jade slip had been passed out through a unique sect method.

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On the airship, in a cabin that Rourou occupied alone, she had finally gotten news from the Demon Sect that she had waited a very long time for. At a glance, the news was close to what she expected. She got up and approached Qin Yu, who had found some precious free time and was cultivating. She said, “There is an opportunity that just appeared right in front of us, do you want to take it?”

Even though she spoke casually like she did not regard this opportunity to be important at all, from Qin Yu’s understanding of Rourou, the fact that she had come personally to mention this to him meant that it was definitely an extraordinary opportunity.

It only meant nothing to Rourou because she was too powerful and her cultivation level was too high. Even to this day, Qin Yu was unable to truly understand how powerful she was.

But of course, he also did not have the qualification and confidence to even try and understand.

“Yes!” he said cleanly.

He felt the constant pressure of the World’s Net weighing down on him. Even though he became more powerful, this pressure kept on increasing. But he could not ‘stop eating due to the fear of choking’, and not move forward?

Perhaps this pressure would keep increasing as his abilities increased, and one day, it would be broken. Even if it did not break, if he became stronger, it was possible that he could one day reach the peak and find out the reason for this pressure, and then rid himself of it.

Rourou turned to leave.

Qin Yu hurriedly followed behind her.

After a few moments, an order was spread throughout the airships that made many generals’ faces become strange. They were thinking, ‘Marquis Chongwu, you’re highly regarded by His Majesty, but are you sure it’s okay to do something like this?’

"I am going to bring my wife to visit her relatives at the Demon Sect and I will return in a few days. All of you, continue to adhere to the plan and move forward."

Of course, Hundred Saint could not even get a word in. He could only smile bitterly, without any power to stop Qin Yu. He had to just deal with the inquiries that came from the numerous airships to the best of his ability.

On the other hand, at this moment, Qin Yu and Rourou were rushing to the Demon Sect.

"Cough, we left just like that, but I still don't know what the opportunity really is?" Qin Yu's brows creased with puzzlement.

He wanted to leave quietly and stealthily so that no one knew they were gone. He did not know what the point was of announcing to everyone that they were returning to the Demon Sect to visit relatives.

Rourou's expression was calm, "On the airship, there are the four Old Four Claws that were gifted by His Majesty. It's possible to hide from them for a while, but after a while, they would notice that we were gone. Isn't it better for both of us to leave openly?"

Qin Yu frowned, "That's it?"

Rourou replied, "Of course...no, we are also leaving openly because the opportunity that arose from the Demon Sect was created by the alliance between the West Desolate King and the Li Family. Since they are being so sincere and have gone through so much trouble, of course you should take the opportunity and let them know that you are taking it as well."

Qin Yu's expression became serious as he started to comprehend what was going on. After a while, he said, "You haven't told me what this opportunity really is yet."

Rourou thought for a while before she said, "If I say it as it is, it will be a very complicated and troublesome matter. Let me explain it to you through storytelling, you just need to listen carefully."

After seeing that Qin Yu nodded, she continued, "In the ancient times, long, long ago, there was a strange stone that existed in this world. It contained a Divine Way that had the power to interfere with the passing of time. If this was all the power it had, it would at most be a remarkable treasure that would be passed down through generations. However, coincidentally, not long after this stone appeared, a seed landed on this stone before anyone managed to find it. This seed sprouted very successfully and grew to become a huge tree."

As Rourou mentioned this tree, Qin Yu thought about her two mysterious and powerful big trees that had shocking cooking skills, which had now disappeared without a trace.

"This huge tree cannot be compared to those two trees that I have. Even though the two trees have somewhat extraordinary origins, even if ten thousand years or a hundred thousand years passed, they still could not be compared to this huge tree. In short, the huge tree had grown on top of the stone, and it was almost like a marriage between two treasures...uh, of course, something like this could have been done by the gods, but it still gave birth to something miraculous. A real, mysterious, and powerful treasure was born because of this."

The stone was known as 'Grandeur'.

The huge tree was known as 'Millet'.

Putting these two together, where the Millet tree grew on top of the Grandeur stone, a paradise had been born. Any living creature in the world that stepped into this new world could gain an extra life out of thin air, and these benefits could be transferred to their original body.

Therefore, there was the incident of 'reaching the heavens in one step', the incident of 'the spring breeze that arrived at night which awakened a myriad of pear blossoms', and also the incident of 'a dog that ascended to the heavens after being enlightened by the Great Dao'. Miracles like these happened frequently, and there were many reasons that could be attributed to these occurrences.

After pondering over this for a long time, Qin Yu's eyes brightened and were filled with anticipation. However, he suddenly thought about something and his expression changed slightly, "You've told me so much, about this paradise land born from the Grandeur stone and Millet tree coming together, but it is not a place that anyone can enter..."

Rourou looked at him and snorted heavily, "Since I have offered this opportunity to you, it means I naturally have the means to help you enter. You just have to wait."

Qin Yu nodded his head, but just as he was about to execute this movement, he felt a sudden tiredness that attacked his body. His eyelids suddenly became unbearably sore and heavy, and before his brain had time to react, his body softened and he entered a state of deep sleep.

Rourou turned around and extended her arm, holding Qin Yu against her as an expression of unwillingness formed on her face. It seemed that she had already expected something like this to happen.

Right at this moment, Rourou frowned and a coldness appeared in her eyes, "You shameless thing, you'd better hurry back!"

As her voice fell, the space suddenly started to distort even though she had not done anything yet. A powerful repulsive force was produced from within and with a muffled 'bang', it seemed as if something had been forced to retreat.

Whoosh –

Rourou stepped forward and her silhouette instantly disappeared. In the next moment, she arrived straight at one of the courtyards in the Demon Sect.

The Night Demon Sect Master seemed to have detected this and he smiled as he bowed, "This servant greets Young Miss."

Rourou nodded and said blandly, "I need to borrow this courtyard for a period of time; stand guard outside and do not allow anyone to come in."

Her tone was very rude, but the Night Demon Sect Master, who was the leader of the Demon Sect and a peak Ruler, did not seem to be annoyed at all. He respectfully bowed and obeyed her orders. He did not even ask any questions, and merely turned to leave. He activated all the defensive formations around the courtyard and blocked even his own divine sense from entering as he stood outside.

Rourou turned around and walked, as if she was very familiar with this place. She activated a few mechanisms and passed through a few trap formations and killing formations before she reached an underground secret chamber.

She put Qin Yu on the futon that was on the ground before walking to a corner of the chamber. She glanced at the space in front of her and smiled coldly, "Since you know that I'm already here, why don't you just show yourself? Or, do you want me to come and grab you myself?"

Buzz –

There was a slight tremble, and among the space fluctuations, a tablet appeared. Following that, a tiny person was condensed amongst the mist. This tiny person looked shocked and frightened as she bowed to Rourou continuously.

"Hmph! Rest assured, a small thing like you is not even enough to get stuck between my teeth, and you are stained by bad luck. I'm too lazy to even open my mouth to eat you," Rourou said as she raised her hand to touch the tablet. "However, this tablet that you are staying in temporarily is pretty good. Lend it to me for a while."

The tiny person was about to cry as she knelt and kowtowed repeatedly.

Rourou's gaze turned ice-cold as she asked, "Why? You aren't willing to lend it to me?"

The tiny person stiffened, and could only unwillingly nod her head.

"Come out, then."

The tiny person was extremely unwilling. This tablet was the foundation to her life. If it was taken away from her, she would dissipate.

However, looking at Rourou's impatient face in front of her, she did not dare to hesitate. Otherwise, she was going to shatter into powder if Rourou slapped her.

Do you really think Rourou was just poking around for fun earlier? No, she was issuing a blatant threat!

The mist began to roll fiercely. The tiny person who emerged just now was directly pinched by two fingers.

She did not even manage to let out a scream as her vision turned black and she fell into a state of unconsciousness.

Rourou licked the corner of her mouth, thinking to herself, 'This tiny little thing is indeed really stupid. I may seem like I did not care about this tiny thing just now, but in reality, my mouth is indeed itching for a snack. I shall eat her to fulfill my desires.'

However, right at this time, Rourou frowned as dissatisfaction could be seen in her eyes. She looked at the tiny person that had fainted in her fingers, who was now gone.

She raised her hand and touched the spot between her eyebrows, "Don't you forget what I said today, otherwise, I'm going to be really angry."

Turning around to look at Qin Yu, Rourou took a step forward. Her body instantly vanished as it blended into the tablet that was suspended in the mist.

### **Chapter 1600 – The Fairy in Grandeur Nation**

The Grandeur stone was illusory, and the Millet tree was immaterial.

Even if these two treasures were right in front of you, it was hard to catch them with the naked eye, and they were undetectable by divine sense.

This was a gift from the heavens, and after these two treasures underwent a ‘marriage’, naturally, it gave birth to their own Divine Ways.

It was purely coincidental and fateful that Li Mu was able to get his hands on them. It was not an exaggeration to say that he had heaven-defying fortune and luck.

Of course, he indeed was the world’s luckiest man.

It was likely that no one could surpass his luck. He took a walk and fell, stumbling over treasures. When he slept, just turning over in bed could give him enlightenment and help him to break through to the next realm. This was the kind of luck we were talking about.

Of course, if one were to compare himself with Li Mu, there was only an old saying that waited for them – ‘comparison is the thief of joy’.

One would be angered to death at how some people could be so lucky!

This was because it was truly unimaginable how someone in this world could be this fortunate. The key thing was, on what basis did they manage to get such good fortune? Everyone was equally alive; it was not as if Li Mu had an extra brain or an extra arm!

All along, there had been many people who hated him out of envy and jealousy. There were so many that Li Mu had long ago learned not to pay any attention to them. This was because everything that he came into contact with would be able to be rewarded with his luck as well.

At the Demon Sect, beneath the sun, there was a huge rock that was suspended in the air without any shade. Its surface was grayish in color, and there were small cracks all over it. It looked completely ordinary. Yet, now, there was a big tree that had grown out of the stone and it was covered in dense branches and leaves.

Mist was being released from the bottom of the tree, which was absorbed greedily by the branches and leaves. Not a single wisp of mist was allowed to slip away.

Sitting on the raised rock, Li Mu controlled the fire with one hand and held a stick that pierced through a few fish in the other. He had a serious look in his eyes as he roasted the fish carefully. Right at this moment, a ‘pop’ sound could be heard. Sparks were ignited and burst out.

Li Mu raised his eyebrows and there was a bit of shock on his face. When he closed his eyes to try and sense what was wrong, he could not find anything. This made him feel uneasy in his heart.

He raised his head to look at Li Ruhua, who sat opposite the fire, and was in the process of recovering and readjusting her aura. He coughed lightly and said, "Ruhua, even though I have always trusted your judgment, this time, it seems to be a different case...are you hiding something from me?"

Li Ruhua opened her eyes calmly.

Pa –

Li Mu raised his hands to cover his face and his lips twitched. He laughed bitterly, "Why can't you just say it directly? Doing something like this will end up killing someone."

The corners of Li Ruhua's lips turned up slightly, "Has he gone in?"

Li Mu nodded his head and his smile became even more bitter.

Li Ruhua got up and dusted her hands, "Don't worry. With your luck, I am extremely confident that even if everyone died, you would still be alive and kicking."

She walked to the tree, raised her arm, and patted the trunk, "It's time to work, let me in."

Li Mu raised his eyebrows and asked, "So fast?"

Li Ruhua sighed softly, "Li Ge's death is somehow related to him. It's already good that I won't kill him; do you expect me to really give him another opportunity?"

Li Mu shook his head, "This is still not a reason."

Li Ruhua was silent for a while before she suddenly raised her head and smiled, "The reason is because I, Li Ruhua, fell in love with him. I can't wait to go in so that I can become his wife. Are you happy now?"

Li Mu snapped his fingers and Li Ruhua sat down on the floor cross-legged. Before her consciousness entered the darkness, Li Mu's voice rang in her ears, "I told you before not to speak rashly; what if your prediction comes true? I'll see what you'll do when that happens...go and quickly come back, you might be able to have some cooked fish."

Li Ruhua scoffed, "My prediction coming true? I'm afraid there is no longer a chance for that to happen."

Everything in front of her turned black before lighting up again. She appeared at the side of a rushing stream. Above her head, there was a big sun hanging silently in the sky. The white clouds in the sky moved slowly together with the light breeze.

She walked a few steps forward and looked down at the river. When she saw her current appearance in the reflection, Li Ruhua's face turned black. Damned Li Mu, he actually made her show her 'true face' here. Even though it was only about seventy or eighty percent similar, it was enough to reveal her secret. She gritted her teeth. She was already in Millet Nation now, so she could only bear with it for the time being. When she returned, she was going to settle the score with Li Mu!

Pu-tong!

The sound of someone landing in the water could be heard, followed by someone exclaiming. Li Ruhua looked helpless as she turned around to see what it was. She saw a boy who brought a cow to drink

water from the stream. He was standing up in the water, and when he realized that Li Ruhua was looking at him, his face flushed red.

Li Ruhua humphed and turned around to walk away. However, she stopped after taking only two steps. She turned around again and looked at the boy at the stream, "Hey, where is this?"

The boy was frozen for a while, thinking that she had the nicest voice he had ever heard, but after seeing the expression on her face, he stammered, "This...this is Grandeur Nation..."

"Li Mu!"

Li Ruhua, who had the appearance of an eleven- or twelve-year-old, and was extremely pretty like a fairy, could not help but scream.

He did it on purpose, that bastard, he definitely did it on purpose!

The boy was thoroughly drenched as he watched the scene in front of him. He suddenly thought to himself, 'So when girls get angry, not all of them are as scary as my mother who becomes like a tiger. This girl is cute when she gets angry.'

After Li Ruhua screamed, she lowered her head and pondered. Then, she pointed at the cow, "Little boy, your cow is not bad. Can you give it to me?"

"Ah...cow...cow..." The boy's eyes widened as he stuttered, "It...is...my mother said...it is my dowry...for when I want to marry someone..."

Li Ruhua laughed, "Fine, give it to me. When I grow up, I will be your wife."

Very quickly, she started to ride the cow down south of the river.

She had to keep on going, and going, until she reached the border of Grandeur Nation so that she could find that person in Millet Nation. It was going to be an extremely long journey.

As for growing up and becoming that boy's wife, sorry but I am not going to stay here for a long time. Once I kill someone, I'm going to leave.

So, whether this cow was a dowry or not did not matter at all.

Suddenly, there was the sound of quick footsteps that came from behind her.

Li Ruhua frowned and turned around, "What are you doing? The cow is already mine. You gave it to me yourself. You are a man, are you going to go back on your word?"

She was a little annoyed. If she wasn't in Grandeur Nation right now, where the only price for staying awake was to not lash out recklessly, she would already have given this boy one tight slap.

The boy's face was red as he panted repeatedly. He shook his head vigorously, "No...that's not it...I came to tell you that I stay at Niu Village. The first house at the west of the village. If you can't find it, just say that you are looking for the pharmacy. My father is the village doctor and he is very famous in the area!"

Li Ruhua looked extremely annoyed, "I got it, I got it. Why are you nagging so much? Go back quickly!"

The boy kept waving behind her as he shouted, "One last thing! From today onwards, you are my wife. You have to abide by the decorum that a wife should have and not mess around outside. Otherwise, if I find out about your deeds, I will definitely chase after you and demand an explanation from you!"

Li Ruhua grimaced as she patted the cow's neck to make it move faster, thinking to herself, 'What kind of place is this? I'm not going to return in the future. And Li Mu, you better close your eyes. If you dare to spread what happened here today, I will not let you off!'

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In actual fact, Li Mu was truly not paying attention to whatever was happening in Grandeur Nation now. This was because right as Li Ruhua had entered Grandeur Nation, there was a very small tablet that had appeared below the Millet tree. However, in Li Mu's perception, this tablet was big, so big that it could cover the entire sky.

The corners of his lips twitched as he silently scolded Li Ruhua in his heart for causing him trouble. He greeted the tablet with one hand, and held onto the fish that was almost done roasting in the other. Vaguely, Li Mu could feel someone looking at his roasted fish, and this caused him to hold onto the fish even tighter. He licked his lips and coughed lightly, "May I know who you are, Your Excellency?"

The mist in front of the tablet trembled as laughter rang out from it. However, the next words were rather impolite, "Your ancestor."

Li Mu's face turned bitter, "Even if you are my ancestor, you are a tablet now. You can't joke around with me like this, after all, my Li Family from the Central Desolate deserves a bit of respect."

On the surface of the tablet, the mist continued to surge, "If you aren't happy, you can come and hit me."

Li Mu thought about it carefully before shaking his head, "I think it's better not to court death. Your Excellency, don't you think I'm right?"

The tablet shook a bit, as if it was nodding its head, "Since you don't wish to die, then open up a path for me to enter; I want to go take a look."

Li Mu held on even tighter to his stick that had a few fish pierced through on it. His knuckles turned white but his expression remained calm. He looked slightly conflicted, "With Your Excellency's cultivation level, even if the world is vast, what could there possibly be that you've never experienced before? Why do you want to enter? Why don't I invite Your Excellency to have some fish with me today and we can end it at that?"

A cold laughter rang out from the tablet, "I see that you are really wishing for death." After a slight pause, it continued, "Li Mu, your luck is indeed very good. I might even go as far to say that you are the luckiest person of all living beings that I've met. However, have you heard that people with great luck are very likely to die when they encounter just a small problem...such as, not opening up a path for me."

This threat was straightforward and unconcealed.

Li Mu raised his hand to wipe the beads of cold sweat away from his forehead. It was not an act, he was really sweating now, because intuition told him that today...he really might die. This was the first time



he was getting such a feeling. He was rather curious and wanted to challenge it. After all, he was getting really bored of life. This was the moment he had been waiting for for so long: a true challenge.

However, when Li Mu raised his head and looked at the tablet, he instantly got rid of the foolish thought that he was harboring. It was extremely inauspicious for him to do anything to this tablet. If he was not careful, he would really die, and that would be the most tragic ending.

Cough, cough, that's right! I was being a pretentious prick just now, but there's no rule in this world that states that I can't be a pretentious prick!

"Your Excellency, can you promise not to harm Li Ruhua?"

From the tablet, a bland voice rang out, "I promise you."

So fast? It sounded rather insincere! Li Mu lamented to himself internally, but when he saw the mist that was surging impatiently in front of the tablet, he snapped his fingers.

Whoosh –

A strand of mist separated from the tablet before completely dissipating.

Li Mu's eyes widened and there was astonishment on his face.

There was a cold laughter from the tablet, "Surprised? I did not say that my entire body was going to enter; you're the one who was thinking too much!"