### Sprit Vessel 481

### Chapter 481: Unreasonable Request

Feng Feiyun took a deep breath and hid all of his auras. Even the flow of his blood was virtually halted as he turned into a statue and directly dived into the bath.

The surface was covered with flower petals. If one didn't use their divine intents, they wouldn't be able to see that there was someone hiding beneath the water. Moreover, Feiyun was quite gifted in the art of stealth. Perhaps divine intents wouldn't be able to find him.

As long as there was no other complication, Nangong Hongyan wouldn't be able to find him.

"Sister Ye, may I come in?" The footstep halted as Hongyan asked for permission with a voice as heavenly as a swan.

"I..." Ye Xiaoxiang was still trembling as she tried to cover her jade-peaks. Her eyebrows were still wet as she stared at the ripples in the bath. After all, she had never taken a bath with a man before so her heart was jumping like crazy.

Plus, she realized that Feiyun could be staring at her naked body right now. With this thought, she couldn't help but lowering one hand to cover her lower body while the other focused on her honey peach breasts. Shades of red took over her jade complexion due to her chaotic thoughts.

"Click, click." More footsteps sounded.

Nangong Hongyan was already inside now and stood by the bath with her legs as beautiful as a lotus. She slightly leaned forward, revealing half of her perfectly round breasts. She still had a veil covering her face but her eyes were as pretty as the stars. She smiled and said: "Sister, are you actually shy? Want me to join you?"

"..." Ye Xiaoxiang was quite alarmed. If Hongyan were to join, she would find out about the man hiding. How will she think of her then?

But there was no way to explain it either. More importantly, Hongyan would be naked too so this damned Feiyun would also take advantage of her sister. Xiaoxiang blinked while panicking just like an adulterer getting caught in the act.

Hongyan was experienced and wily so she naturally could read that something was wrong. She looked at the rippling waves in the pool and said: "Haha, sister, why are you so nervous? Don't tell me there's a man under there?"

Feiyun swallowed some water after hearing this and became quite tense. If Hongyan were to drag him out, then even if he were to jump into the Jin River, it still wouldn't be enough to show his innocence.

What would Hongyan think of him? And these two are close sisters, this might negatively affect their relationship.

Xiaoxiang tried to relax and said: "Of course not, Hongyan'er, don't tease your big sis now. I just don't want you to waste time before the banquet tonight and make all the prodigies wait. Go now, I won't be coming."

Hongyan nodded and said: "That's fine. I guess it would be problematic if Beauty's Smile were to find out that you're here. Haha, very well, you can keep on having fun with your lover then."

She stared intensely at the pool for a bit before slowly leaving with a smile. Of course, once she made it to the door, she didn't forget to turn back and blink twice at Ye Xiaoxiang.

Once she left the pavilion, she started murmuring: "There was certainly a man hiding in there. To be able to hide from my divine intents, his cultivation can't be bad. If it is a young prodigy, then it'll be someone on the historical lists."

"Why is sister hiding it from me? Is that man the one who let her down in the first place? Sigh, fine, I'll let them settle this themselves. If she can't, then I'll teach him a lesson later. She's so protective of him so if he chooses to be foolish, I'll show him what trouble is."

After carefully musing it through, she looked back at the top floor of the pavilion before smiling. Next, she rode the wind and flew away like a specter.

"Splash!" Feiyun finally rushed out of the water after knowing that Hongyan was gone and spewed out a bunch of flower water like a spring. He had a serious expression on: 'She still found out but at least she doesn't know that it's me or she might try and kill me! She doesn't care about the other women, but she'll hate me for the rest of her life for getting together with her sister."

Xiaoxiang was hiding in the corner with her hands on her breasts. Her head was barely above water as she said: "How... how did you know I was here?"

She wasn't aware of Feiyun's romantic relationship with Hongyan and assumed that he came specifically to find her. This was the reason why tears were about to come out.

Feiyun went closer and carried her out of the pool. He used spirit energy to dry her body while not looking at her: "Sorry, it wasn't on purpose."

"But... you did see everything." She spoke as quietly as the buzzing of a mosquito, as fragile as a little kitty that had just fallen in the water.

"I closed my eyes." Feiyun awkwardly said.

"I might be slow but I'm not a fool. You were already hiding out in the window, right? When I was taking off my clothes, you were certainly peeping... Just admit it..."

Feiyun turned red with no response.

Xiaoxiang whimpered with great emotional pain: "Do you think I'm easy just because I was born in these parts? What am I going to do now, being seen naked by someone else? If I were to marry in the future, how am I going to face my husband? Tell him that I've been seen before by another man? He won't know if I don't tell him, but how can I live with the guilt?"

She bit her lips nearly to the point of blood.

Feiyun sighed and said: "I... really didn't see too clearly."

He didn't know why he gave such a terrible response. If he couldn't fool himself, how could he fool her?

With tears dripping out now, she bitterly said: "Fine! You didn't see clearly then. Tell me why you're here at Supreme Beauty, to find me?"

Her eyes were full of hope and imagination.

Feiyun hesitated for a bit before smiling: "Yes, I'm here to find you, and to bring you your flute."

Feiyun took out a purple flute from his chest pocket and slowly handed it towards her. Meanwhile, she was out of the bath with a violet robe covering her wet and soft body. Beads of water were still running down her neck, shoulders, and arms.

She was just like a pure and white lotus flower. Two shapely bowls were arching beneath her rope just like two peaches.

She nervously pinched her robe while stubbornly refusing: "How can I take back a gift?"

Feiyun turned back to look at the woman resembling a blossoming flower. Her figure was splendid, accentuated by her wet hair and misty eyes, full of adoration. One couldn't help but love and take her into their embrace before a tenderly caress.

The robe was made out of silk so it was slightly see-through, especially at the forbidden zone near her thighs.

Feiyun felt his throat drying up and wanted to take off her purple robe so he could have his way with her just like he did with those heretical demonesses. However, he still restrained this most primal lust and simply swallowed his saliva: "Xiaoxiang, I have an unreasonable request, will you help me?"

He wanted to ask for her help in dealing with Li Xiaonan and the other geniuses. Only someone of her musical talents would be able to suppress those people who think they were such great and attractive scholars.

Xiaoxiang's mind wandered as she gently bit her lips: 'You hurt me so badly and left me outside of the capital in the wilderness and even saw my everything now then you refused all responsibilities? Now, you're here asking for my help, why should I? Don't help him, Xiaoxiang, if you help him, then you're just asking to be hurt and thrown away again... you stupid, idiot girl...'

Feiyun asked: "I want you to come with me to Supreme Pavilion and lend me a hand..."

"I'll do it!" She interrupted him but quickly realized that she was too eager in doing so, like a foolish maiden ready to sacrifice anything for love. She paused and lowered her head in embarrassment: "Since you are actually asking nicely, it shows that this matter is important to you. How can I not help?"

"Thank you." Feiyun sincerely responded.

Feiyun waited outside of the pavilion. Xiaoxiang came out after she put on proper attire in a bashful manner. She had full make-up and pieces of jewelry on just like a pampered daughter.

She wasn't that bashful in nature but her face kept on blushing while being around him. She was aware that he was a scoundrel, the most wretched man in the world, but she couldn't help wanting to get closer. Just looking at him gave her an indescribable excitement.

In the eyes of others, she was "Maestro Ye", "Fairy Xiao", a goddess not to be disrespected. However, she was a swan fallen out of grace in front of him. An ugly and mud-stained frog has jumped on her and blatantly destroyed her nobility.

The worst part was that she was willing to follow this ugly frog like a foolish swan.

### Chapter 482: Musical Contest

Buildings were floating everywhere like a paradise at Supreme Beauty.

Numerous prodigies sat up there, all dressing quite dashingly. The men were handsome while the women beautiful. From below looking up, they looked like a group of immortals.

Four youths, three boys and one girl, were dressed in the daoist uniform. They were young kings from the Daoist Gate. The surrounding radius was full of pure and primordial energy.

A Buddhist woman riding a silver wolf arrived with Dongfang Tianmu. She stood on top of the wolf's head with a holy aura. Of course, her beauty was unquestionable just like a goddess. This was Chan Ling'er from a sacred ground of the Buddhist doctrine, Beastmaster Camp.

The young lord of the Xiyue, Lanshan, was proud since he was at the ninth spot on the lower list. People respected him so he sat in a prestigious position with courtesans talking to him about music.

Beiming Potian and Long Shenya were also present. Both had prestigious status and sat close together since they were cousins.

There were a total of seven heretical lords from the Senluo Temple. They wore their signature black cloak and looked quite imposing with their thunderous aura. The person sitting in the most important chair in their group was the Second Lord, Xie Honglian.

There were also five demonesses - Lu Liwei and Bi Xianxian were among them. The young males were staring at them with lustful eyes.

Dongfang Jingshui and Dongfang Jingyue also attracted a lot of attention, especially because she had obtained the jade vessel. Her cultivation soared so her aura became even thicker as if on the verge of ascending. Even Jingshui paled in comparison.

Rumor has it that she was just as pretty as Nangong Hongyan.

"You think Feiyun will show up tonight?" Jingshui quietly asked with a smile.

Jingyue was sitting on a jade seat hovering in the sky. Her skin fairer than the white snow; this was a goddess sitting above the nine firmaments. Her veil fluttered to the wind as she answered: "What does that have to do with me? The one who cares the most is his wife, the King Consort."

She slightly pointed over so Jingshui changed his gaze. Sure enough, Princess Yue was riding an imperial carriage over.

Jingshui laughed in response: "Two women are already loud enough, now one more..."

Jingyue glared at him so he quickly shut his mouth. His attention turned and his eyes became serious. An evil cloud rushed out of his aura with the will to fight. His tiger eyes saw sixteen muses landing down from the sky as he stated: "Li Xiaonan is here too."

The sixteen music emissaries under Xiaonan were all top ladies. Their cultivation was comparable to the young overlords.

Jingshui wasn't the only one. Potian and Shenya were ready to fight as well, unconvinced about being placed below Xiaonan on the upper list.

Lotus flowers made out of spirit energy descended like the rain. Xiaonan slowly landed in his white embroidered robe. He was cool and calm with four beauties behind him, the world-renowned sword maids.

All girls stole glances at him. His immortal-like aura attracted all of them. Some even lamented with a sigh at his perfection.

"There she is gathering the dolichos! A day without seeing her feels as long as three months! There he is gathering the oxtail-southern-wood! A day without seeing her seems like three seasons have passed! There he is gathering the mugwort! A day without seeing her torments for three moons!"

Xiaonan revealed a handsome smile while reciting a longing poem with his eyes fixated on Dongfang Jingyue. He slowly walked over and closed his eyes while taking a deep breath to say: "Junior Sister, it has been four years since we last met at Sacred Spirit, but I feel like several thousand years have passed."

Jingyue's eyes remained nonchalant like a virgin sitting among the clouds: "That's cultivation. One day in training, a thousand years in the mundane realm."

"Junior Sister, I yet to have a place to stay at the capital. May I trouble you at the dragon lake for several days?" He continued staring at her with his sharp, shapely brows.

"Clank." The sound of armor plates hitting each other came about.

Ling Donglai stood up and smiled sarcastically: "The famous most talented scholar is so shameless. Miss Dongfang doesn't know you yet you still want to force the issue? A day without seeing her torments for three moons? I'm sure you say that to every woman."

"Whoosh!" One sword maid formed a hand seal and unleashed more than one thousand sword energies straight at Donglai.

Donglai retaliated with a single palm strike. It turned into a Trinity Taiji Diagram and shattered all the energies. He sneered: "The Sacred Spirit Palace is too petty, other people aren't allowed to even talk?"

Xiaonan remained cool and ignored Donglai. He still stared lovingly at Dongfang Jingyue: "Junior Sister, may I sit next to you?"

Jingyue held her pipa and answered: "The banquet tonight focuses on music. If you can beat me with your musical prowess, then naturally, you may sit next to me. This applies to everyone here."

Xiaonan had a confident smile after hearing her response.

"To be able to compete against the Fourth Daughter of the Yingou is a blessing in life. I'll start." Xueyi Lanshan lifted his sleeve and a green ray came out. It was a set of bells.

It was divided into three levels and eight sections with eighteen main bells and forty-five secondary bells. The bells in the three sections at the top levels were main while the ones on the lower two levels and remaining five sections were secondary bells. They varied in size with beast runes carved on them while emitting a green glow and oppressive energy.

This was a set of sixty-three pseudo treasures bought from the Yingou Ward at an insane price. It had several thousand years of history and was meant to be given to Nangong Hongyan as a first-meeting gift. Alas, Lanshan wanted to use it against Jingyue for now.

He began tapping the bells. A pure and ancient musical note reverberated across the entire area. Cultivators on the ground became lost in the music.

"Sis, that Fourth Daughter of the Yingou Ward is quite wily. She's here to steal your thunder! Looks like your biggest love rival isn't Princess Yue but her. She acts as if she's above everything but with just one sentence, the limelight is on her now." Xue Wu looked at the calm Jingyue and said.

Nangong Hongyan had her zither ready and smirked: "Feng Feiyun had told me about this lady before. They loved each other deeply once but it turned out that she was only playing with his heart. Even if she doesn't consider me an enemy, I still won't spare her. I'll make sure a bitch like her suffers." [1]

Feiyun actually told Hongyan about Shui Yueting's old tales with him. However, Yueting wasn't from this world so he had to replace her name with Dongfang Jingyue. Thus, Hongyan had always kept this name in mind. A seed of trouble has been growing the entire time.

"That Xiyue Lanshan guy is quite gifted in the musical art." Xue Wu said.

"The children of the top clans are meticulously groomed so they naturally won't be inferior to anyone. That bastard Feng Feiyun is the only one who plays around and doesn't know anything about the arts." Hongyan pouted after not seeing Feiyun around, feeling quite disappointed inside.

Musical mastery wasn't only about the pleasant notes to the listeners. It needed to be harmonious and resonating with the heavenly dao.

If one were to divide a melody into three levels, then Xiyue Lanshan was at the entry level, the musical stage of "a mountain is a mountain; water is water". [2]

Though this was only the entry stage to the art of music, it was already quite amazing. He would be considered a great musical master in the mortal realm.

"Your musical level is far inferior compared to Junior Sister. Let me show you!" Li Xiaonan took out an ocarina made out of white jade. He started playing and countless musical images flew out. In the air was an illusory palace in accordance with the grand dao.

The pressure from the new song stopped Xiyue Lanshan from playing his bells any further. No melody would come out.

"Impressive! You are worthy of your fame as the number one scholar. Your musical ability is far above me. I lost, completely convinced." Lanshan put away the set of bells and sat back down.

No one looked down on him despite his defeat. After all, his musical talents weren't bad. Not too many people here were better than him.

Many other prodigies who wanted to compete with Jingyue were all stopped by Li Xiaonan. He defeated them one by one; his musical abilities outshined everyone here. Meanwhile, the noble ladies became big fans and viewed him as the perfect man.

Even Nangong Hongyan had the urge to play a song against him, to see which of them was better.

"Please, this is all the greatest scholar can do? Average skills, the tune is not elegant enough, and average musical ability at best, far inferior compared to me." An arrogant voice came from another floating palace. This was the most blatant provocation, insulting Xiaonan's song.

Feng Feiyun didn't bother hiding his voice so those who knew him recognized that it was him.

"Shit?! Feng Feiyun is just as tone-deaf as me, where did he get the courage to criticize Li Xiaonan?" Bi Ningshuai was also hiding among the crowd. He just got a priceless set of bells in his pocket since Xiyue Lanshan was not paying attention earlier.

# Chapter 483: Drumming

Everyone was staring at the other floating palace while sneering inside. Feiyun didn't get an invitation but he still got in.

Of course, they felt that he was shamelessly boasting despite not knowing anything about music. He'll surely expose himself and become embarrassed.

Li Xiaonan put away his jade ocarina and said coolly: "Young Divine King, you are a musical maestro also? I see, please give me some pointers then."

The spectators were certainly laughing quietly. Xiaonan was being very polite but he was clearly slapping Feiyun in the face. Everyone knows that the demon's son has no musical talents.

That's the number one scholar for you, no need for vulgarity to insult someone.

Feiyun seemed to not hear the sarcasm and laughed loudly: "Since you're being so humble, I'll teach you. You played four songs earlier, "King's Whisper", "Wind Rest", "Ode of the Gray-haired Beauty", and "Snow Valley's Cicadas". They're all fine pieces of writing, but in the eyes of true masters, the way you played was exceedingly vulgar. The King's Whisper should have a majestic aura with powerful notes but you played it too femininely, like a woman."

"We'll move on to Wind Rest, a song about freedom with a soft and flying cadence. 'Come to Wind Rest and watch the clouds', but you played it with too many restraints, not as brilliant like Ye Wenji back then."

Xiaonan's relaxed expression became serious. Feiyun wasn't spouting nonsense and clearly listed his weaknesses. He aimed to embarrass the guy but didn't expect this reversal.

Dongfang Jingyue also blurted out a surprise "oh". She found it quite strange, how did the guy who couldn't even read a musical score have such an excellent analysis?

The other prodigies were stunned too. Could the demon's son actually be a musical maestro?

"Next is Ode of the Gray-haired Beauty. This is a grieving song written by the famous Maestro, Third Lady Gongsun. She was so beautiful yet the Dao Sect Master still left her so her hair turned gray overnight, resulting in this masterpiece. The moment the tunes come out, the insects will cry and the clouds lose their colors. What a pity, she also jumped into the Jin River after writing this song, the end of a beauty - gone with the wind. From then on, the song became a classic but no one could replicate onetenth of the longing sadness."

"Your version has enough longing indeed, but it lacks the despair and pain after being abandoned by one's lover. The difference is too great." Feiyun continued to speak like a sage on the topic of music. The prodigies were nodding their head in agreement.

"As for the last song, Snow Valley's Cicadas, this is written for the flute but using an ocarina is fine too. However, why the lack of cicadas' chirping? How can it be called Snow Valley's Cicadas if there are no cries from them?" Feiyun sighed with disappointment and shook his head: "This is all the number one scholar can do? A false reputation, indeed."

Nangong Hongyan made her entrance this time. She stood by the balcony and looked at the palace before pleasing everyone with her melodious voice: "When it is all said and done, you are still only talking about theories. Anyone can memorize and repeat but can you actually play a song for everyone?"

Xiaonan posed with both hands behind his back and smiled freely: "Miss Hongyan is right. If Brother Feng is so amazing, why not play and broaden everyone's horizon?"

There was no answer from the palace for a long time.

People began to snort and felt that he was no match for Xiaonan in actual practice.

"Creak." The entrance to that palace opened as Feiyun came out while holding a large jar of wine. The smell of alcohol covered his body as he looked at the prodigies in the distant and laughed: "You want to broaden your horizon? So be it, I'll show you what real music is today."

He began dancing on the palace's steps with white light flashing in his palm. 108 wine bowls fell to the ground and formed nine circles, appropriate for an astronomical formation art.

He continued drinking while pouring wine into the bowls with great agility. After the bowls rotated nine times, all the bowls were amazing filled to the same spot. This was indeed impressive.

"Bowl drumming art? But that usually only consists of seven bowls. Even the top experts can only handle eighteen. Too many would result in too many variations and impossible to control. Plus, no one can be that fast." Xiyue Lanshan said.

"I think it is, but maybe not. 108 is simply too much, can Feng Feiyun actually be that talented?" The ones versed in music glanced at each other in disbelief.

Nangong Hongyan grimaced and felt that something was strange without being able to pinpoint it.

Feiyun stomped on the ground and all 108 bowls floated in the air. He took out a pair of silver chopstick and looked at the crowd: "I'll show you all the real Wind Rest."

Feng Feiyun swung his chopsticks and tapped the bowls with increasingly faster speed.

Meanwhile, Li Xiaonan gestured and the sixteen musical emissaries flew to the sky at the same time with their different instruments. While standing in different positions, they also played Wind Rest in order to stop Feng Feiyun.

He started drumming faster and faster with a clear and pleasant melody like the wind in spring. All listeners became quite comfortable.

"Boom!" The emissaries exerted their force in unison. An invisible tempest swept over with unstoppable momentum. It blew away all the clouds in the sky. This was only the power of music, no spirit energy.

Feiyun was still increasing his pace and became fast enough to look like a faint shadow. The drumming was full of emotions as it stirred the crowd, causing their blood to boil as if they were facing a rampaging army.

"Rumble!" A monstrous coil took shape around Feng Feiyun and spread to the bowls. It eventually turned into a raging dragon that retaliated.

It was possible to wield world-destruction power after producing music in accordance with the heavenly dao.

This was the reason why the maestros of their respective field could become saints after reaching a certain level. Their power wasn't weaker than cultivators at all. Though it was a different path than cultivation, it was still finding harmonization with the dao so they could still become saints and immortals.

"Boom! Boom!." The instruments from the emissaries cracked while the strings severed. The women spat out a mouthful of blood and were blown flying due to the musical energy.

There were times when a musical duel was more dangerous than a divine intent battle.

"The hell, he's that strong?" Ningshuai's eunuch outfit was bloating. Who knows how many items he had stolen already. Glimmers of treasures occasionally flashed between the gaps.

He wasn't the only one shocked in this place. All were staring at Feng Feiyun as if he was a monster since they haven't heard about his musical prowess at all.

Feiyun put away the chopsticks and picked up a bowl for a drink before smiling at the crowd: "Excuse me for the unsightly performance."

"Such fast reaction time and melody control, hitting 108 beats in each breath with the same force. What kind of musical mastery is required to do this task?" Hongyan said while slightly touching the strings on her zither.

Xue Wu asked: "Sis, can you reach that level?"

Hongyan nodded then shook her head: "If I focus completely and play at the highest level, yes, but I can't do it every time. I only know of one person who is at this level."

"Who?"

"Sister Ye. Her musical mastery is one step higher than me. No one in the capital can match her when it comes to music." Suddenly, Hongyan's expression changed: "Xue Wu, go to the White Cloud Pavilion to see if Sister Ye is still there."

"You mean..." Xue Wu turned her gaze towards Feiyun and the palace behind him.

Hongyan did the same while biting down on her lips. Her mind was running amok: 'Could it be... no way...'

Dongfang Jingshui rubbed his eyes in astonishment: "I can't believe this Feng Feiyun is so gifted at music, even better than Li Xiaonan."

Dongfang Jingyue was lost in contemplation. Who knows what she was thinking right now?

All in all, Feiyun's abilities have shocked everyone. All were waiting for him to take on Li Xiaonan. A tense atmosphere came amidst.

# SPIRIT VESSEL

# Chapter 484: Words Piercing The Heart

Hongyan's pretty eyes were fixated on Feiyun. Others might not know but she was surely aware of whether he was talented or not in music.

This guy was boasting wildly again! The only person who could perform at this level is Sister Ye. But if he got help from Sister Ye, then doesn't that mean he was the person in the bath earlier?

Hongyan almost couldn't accept this answer and hoped that she was simply overthinking it.

"Incredible! Brother Feng hid his talents quite well! That level of music mastery is comparable to a maestro." Wolong Sheng looked quite ambitious, especially due to his one hawk-like eye. Destruction has formed an alliance with the Feng so he was naturally on Feiyun's side.

"Thank you, thank you. My little skills were taught to me by Miss Hongyan." Feiyun was being quite humble and intentionally told everyone that he had a special relationship with Nangong Hongyan. Others should be smart and stay the hell away.

Feiyun slightly stole glances at her and thought that she would be excited after hearing this. Alas, he shuddered after seeing her gaze. 'Why is she looking at me like that? Wait.... This isn't right, this isn't how it was supposed to go!'

She looked as if she wanted to eat him alive.

Feiyun's public announcement naturally made many unhappy. For example, his fiancee, Princess Yue.

Long Cangyue had to come today. It didn't matter whether she actually liked Feiyun or not because she was still his fiancee in name. If she didn't give a damn, what would the people at the capital think of her? And the other princes and princesses?

The Divine King can be a romantic but not a successful playboy or people would mock her!

'Hmph! Nangong Hongyan, you are quite lucky, so many experts in the Feng couldn't kill you last time... However, I'll mutilate your face eventually, you would rather be dead at that point!' Long Cangyue had perfect skin and a shapely chin. Her sharp and well-defined brows were too attractive.

Dongfang Jingshui converged his evil aura and became a young noble. He quietly chuckled: "Sis, Feiyun is revealing all of his stuff tonight, you think it's because of you or Nangong Hongyan?"

Jingyue was not affected by his teasing. It was as if nothing in this world could move her: "Nothing to do with me..."

She was interrupted by Feiyun's loud request: "Miss Dongfang, earlier, you said that anyone who can defeat you musically would be able to sit next to you, right?"

Feiyun wanted to take Li Xiaonan down a notch by getting next to Dongfang Jingyue since she was clearly his crush. Thus, wouldn't the result be even better by defeating him in this manner?

Moreover, it would also affect Nangong Hongyan. Feiyun wanted to retaliate since Hongyan started this mess in the first place.

'We'll see who becomes anxious first.' Feiyun thought.

Jingshui laughed after hearing this: "Right, nothing to do with you, haha."

There was no change in Jingyue's black pearl eyes. She quietly said: "Sir Divine King, you want to sit next to me?"

Feiyun smiled: "Is that a no?"

"Of course not, I just think it is more appropriate for you to sit next with the King Consort." Jingyue calmly said.

The prodigies here felt that something was strange today. The air here felt a bit tense.

The gallant Xiaonan joined in: "Divine King, you're indeed very talented but there's something I don't get, why are you staying so far away from us? If you come sit together with the King Consort and play a song together, it'll be an amazing tale for everyone to talk about in the future."

Xiaonan was initially shocked at Feiyun's musical abilities but as the greatest gentleman, he was intelligent to see that there was something wrong and felt that Feiyun couldn't play that song earlier by himself. There was a master guiding him in the shadows.

After hearing this, the top prodigies all gazed over at the palace and realized something too.

Some of them released their divine intents in order to find something. However, Feiyun's intents were naturally superior and repelled all of them back.

These prodigies all groaned at the same time. Their intents were injured so they nearly became unconscious.

Even Li Xiaonan wasn't a match for Feiyun when it came to mental power, let alone them.

Feiyun was cursing at Jingyue for stepping out of line and not playing along with him on top of bringing up the King Consort. This only created an opening for Li Xiaonan to trouble him.

His drumming earlier was naturally done with the help of Ye Xiaoxiang in secrecy. However, if he got too close, it wouldn't be as crisp and mistakes would be obvious.

'I gotta teach this Dongfang girl a lesson, so annoying.' He saw her eyes again and shuddered as if struck by lightning, losing sensation all over his body. Her eyes... that's Shui Yueting...

The pair of eyes was too familiar to him. This was definitely Shui Yueting, no doubt about that. He was nearly scared out of his mind but on the next glance, her eyes became emotionless again.

'Am I just seeing things? Must be ...'

"Sir Divine King, you're being a bit disrespectful to the King Consort, do you really not want to sit with her?" Lanshan tried to add shade to the situation. He had lost a lot of face back at Blissful so he wanted to repay the debt.

'Feiyun, you have showed off too much, we'll see how you're gonna get yourself out of this one.' He also felt that Feiyun knew nothing about music so there was someone else helping him.

If he were to sit in front of everyone, he would surely expose himself. 'Keke, you'll be the laughingstock of the capital soon enough.'

Feiyun coughed and said with a tinge of disappointment: "It's a bit embarrassing, really, I also want to sit with everyone, but unfortunately, I didn't get an invitation from the number one beauty, that's why... I have to stay far away."

He sighed several times as if lamenting his own situation.

Everyone glanced at each other. The young Divine King, a top member of the new generation, actually didn't get an invitation? This truly astounded everyone so all eyes turned towards Nangong Hongyan.

The ones who knew the inside story was aware of what was going on, but most people were confused.

This beauty wanted to go against the Divine King?

Hongyan rolled her eyes once and apologetically said: "It's not that I didn't want to send an invitation to you, Divine King, but I didn't dare to! After all, you're an engaged man. If you were to come to these places, the princess might misunderstand. A thousand deaths from me wouldn't be enough as atonement."

She put it in a very delicate and appropriate manner, but one could sense some jealousy within.

"Miss Hongyan, I'm not that petty. My Divine King can go wherever and I'll quietly walk behind him, it is not my place to interfere." Long Cangyue was no slouch herself: "On the contrary, I feel like you are purposely insulting the Divine King, thinking that he isn't qualified to be here with the other young heroes. If you look down on people like this, Miss Hongyan, I no longer want to be your friend. I'll go stand by the Divine King." Long Cangyue looked quite feminine and feeble but each word pierced the heart. Nangong Hongyan had no response and turned pale.

Meanwhile, Cangyue rode the wind and landed on the faraway palace, as beautiful as a rose under the moonlight. She performed a ceremonial greeting before Feiyun and respectfully said: "Your wife greets you, Divine King."

Feiyun didn't expect Long Cangyue to help him like this and give him plenty of face before everyone. He felt quite good about the whole thing as if he was walking on air. He quickly walked up to help her up and said softly: "Yue'er, rise."

"Thank you, Divine King." Cangyue stood up straight into Feiyun's embrace. His neck and her hair touched and she quietly said: "She thinks she can look down on you just because she's the number one beauty? She thinks that you can't stand together with the other prodigies? Why is that? Divine King, I'm truly hurt by her contempt for you."

Feiyun hugged her back and gently tapped her shoulder while staring in the distance: "If she looks down on me, I'll treat her in the same manner. In my eyes, you are more beautiful."

Nangong Hongyan felt quite bitter and wronged because of his statement. She had trouble holding onto her zither because her heart felt a deep pain.

She naturally knew Feiyun was aggravating her on purpose but the pain was still there. She had plans of angering him as payback but didn't expect to become the angry one instead.

If it wasn't for the veil covering her face, everyone would have noticed.

## Chapter 485: The Formidable King Consort

"This Princess Yue is something else! Crafty and articulate, seasoned in her conduct, quite scary indeed." Dongfang Jingshui quietly praised.

Dongfang Jingyue naturally noticed all of this. Her sharp eyes became even sharper: "The one who should be worrying right now is Nangong Hongyan. She believed herself to be infallible, but she's probably wanting to cry right now."

"She really overdid it. A woman should prioritize being gentle to deal with men, especially someone like Feiyun who wouldn't stand for this kind of play. She's certainly not a match for Princess Yue in this regards." Jingshui stated.

"You know romance so well?"

"Cough... I'm just helping you out!" Jingshui smiled wryly.

Jingyue stood there, carefree like the wind. There was no emotion in her eyes so who knows what she was thinking?

"So out of line! I have to interject!" Xiyue Lanshan stood up and turned towards Nangong Hongyan to perform a gentlemanly bow: "Supreme Beauty belongs to Miss Hongyan, so why should she give a damn about you in this place, Feng Feiyun?! Not sending you an invitation is looking down on you? Don't be so unreasonable now!" Others might be afraid of Feiyun's identity but not him. He had the Western Yue behind him. The world might be vast but a person who he was afraid of didn't exist.

He naturally wanted to stand up for Hongyan but more importantly, he wanted to create a rift between the two in order to break them up entirely.

"None of your business whether I got an invitation or not." Feiyun sneered.

Lanshan posed with both hands behind his back and laughed in a seemingly heroic manner: Feng Feiyun, how are you here if you didn't get an invitation? Don't tell me you climbed the wall or dig a hole? Haha! So the young Divine King of the dynasty is only a thief, how can someone like you be eligible to enter such an elegant place?"

Though Hongyan was unhappy with Feiyun, she would never allow for someone else to insult him, not even a little quip. Thus, Xiyue Lanshan failed completely and even angered Hongyan, stirring her into wanting to kill him.

She could aggravate Feng Feiyun but she wouldn't allow anyone else to do so.

But she was a bit slow when it came to romance so Long Cangyue took the initiative for the second time.

"How impudent! Insults aren't to be thrown at the Divine King." Long Cangyue revealed her oppressive aura and said coldly: "Nangong Hongyan, you purposely invited these prodigies to embarrass the Divine King?! You're quite a vicious woman."

"I..." Hongyan tried to answer but she was interrupted by Long Cangyue.

Cangyue didn't give her a chance at all to retort: "Nangong Hongyan, Xiyue Lanshan, you two wretches must have conspired long ago against the Divine King. Did you think that he would let this go because of his gentle nature? But don't forget, I, the King Consort, am also here. Today, the next person who dares to utter another foul word, off with his tongue!"

Hongyan's expression darkened as she glanced toward Feiyun, afraid that he was misunderstanding the whole thing. Alas, his eyes were on the princess and didn't even bother looking back at her. This pained her even more so she was on the verge of crying.

'Why aren't you looking at me?! Do you think I planned all of this?! This Lanshan had escalated this trivial matter. If It wasn't for him, Princess Yue wouldn't have taken advantage of the situation to scold me. If Feiyun actually misunderstands, one hundred deaths wouldn't be enough for Lanshan to atone.'

"Haha! The Divine King Faction is quite unreasonable! Acting like a thief yet not allowing anyone to speak up? Miss Hongyan, no need to be afraid of her threat, people know who is in the right." Lanshan laughed as if he was the defender of justice.

Today, he had acted quite amazing in front of the prettiest woman in the world. 'Surely Miss Hongyan has a deep impression of me today and is feeling quite grateful that I'm standing up for her'

Having thought to this point, a happy grin appeared on his face.

"You're courting death." An evil light flashed in Cangyue's eyes with murderous intent as sharp as a blade. She turned into a black shadow and instantly appeared before Lanshan to unleash a claw straight for his neck.

Her aura engulfed the entire area and froze the atmosphere. An earth image emerged from her power.

On the other hand, Lanshan was ninth on the lower list so he wasn't a nobody. He made a sword seal with his fingers and a white light condensed together to unleash more than a thousand sword energies, as thin as a needle.

"Boom!" Cangyue focused her gaze. A scene of a massacre appeared in her black eyes. Suddenly, it changed into hell with countless graves...

Lanshan was stunned with his eyes agape as if he had just seen a devil. The sword energies in his hand lost control.

"Boom!" Cangyue with a cold expression struck his head with her palm, forcing him down on the ground. His kneecaps slammed on the ground and nearly went flying. The formations on the ground were shattered.

Lanshan didn't expect for this graceful princess to actually be so powerful. He was quite shocked inside and wanted to stand up. However, she placed her palm on his head and a black wave of light emanated, stopping him from moving.

If this wasn't in public, she would have used her evil treasure arts to devour all of his cultivation.

"Whoosh!" She took out a sword and a bright flash ensued. Blood gushed out of Lanshan's mouth with a piece of his tongue.

He twitched and coiled on the ground while covering his bloody mouth and issuing miserable and muffled cries.

"This is the result of those who disrespect the Divine King." She gazed at the crowd, scaring many of the prodigies.

So frightening! This princess has been keeping a low profile. If it wasn't for the engagement, people wouldn't know about her existence. Everyone thought that she was a feeble princess, not expecting for her first move to be so astonishing.

Even someone on the lower historical list has been subdued by her with his tongue cut off. This cultivation, decisiveness, and cruelty changed everyone's opinion. They needed to reevaluate her once more.

She naturally had reasons for doing so. Her goal was for the crown prince position so she needed to establish her prestige, telling the world that she had the power to compete.

Though doing this pushed her into the limelight, this was still beneficial since it let others know that there was a third faction for the crown prince position. Some will secretly support her; this was one way for her faction to grow.

Moreover, she was also forcing Feiyun to make a decision in order to stand with her side.

Feiyun understood her intention as well but he quietly watched without revealing his attitude. What's inevitable will come. The time didn't matter.

Beiming Potian gave her a deep stare and said: "Looks like this princess is quite strong, her cultivation is not below Princess Luofu. You got another tough rival."

Long Shenya had a calm expression. He sipped his wine and said: "We'll see if she's strong enough."

Two old men helped Lanshan who was coughing blood on the ground and took him away with the piece of tongue on the ground. They placed it into a jade box; if the vitality was still there, then they could probably attach it to him again.

Long Cangyue and Hongyan gave each other one last fierce stare before Cangyue swung her sleeve and returned to the palace. She gently grabbed Feiyun's arm and revealed a prestige fitting of a King Consort.

"Satisfied with my performance today?" Cangyue secretly sent him a message.

"Well played, indeed." Feiyun replied back.

"Thanks." Cangyue smiled back.

Feiyun then laughed and told the crowd: "Yue'er is too mischievous, excuse us, everyone. Oh right, today is about music. Miss Dongfang, why don't we play a tune? If I win, I will sit next to you with the King Consort, okay?"

He still didn't give up on aggravating Hongyan so he purposely didn't look at her at all.

This was her banquet but he didn't ask for her opinion at all. She was naturally angry to the point of gritting her teeth.

"If Divine King is in such a mood, then Jingyue will play a song with you." Jingyue said: "However, I wish to do it privately with no one else around."

It was a pure type of competition usually used by the famous maestros back then. Two music lovers would fight with their songs for no other reasons than to test themselves. Only gentlemen would use this type of contest.

'What does she want to do?' Feiyun wasn't afraid of being together with her alone so he invited her into his palace then closed the doors. Only the two of them went inside. Even Long Cangyue stood out in waiting for the result.

# Chapter 486: Dragons Devouring The Heaven

Everyone became disappointed since they wanted to hear Dongfang Jingyue's tune with her pipa. Many prodigies sighed continuously.

Hongyan was on the verge of stomping her feet from anger. Feiyun had truly done it tonight so she was about to erupt: 'Know that I will not like it yet you still choose to go in the same room alone with Dongfang Jingyue? Are you not afraid of me dying from popping a blood vessel?'

In her mind, Feiyun and Jingyue were old lovers. The interesting thing about old lovers was that even if they truly hated each other, the flame of passion could always be lit again. Thus, Hongyan was naturally alarmed.

It was as if there was a cat crawling on her heart.

'Jerk! Scoundrel! You clearly got played by her before and hated her. Now, you're staying all alone in there? There's clearly still some feelings left.' Hongyan bit her thin lips.

"Sis." Xue Wu returned at this point.

Hongyan asked: "So?"

Xue Wu glanced at the palace and hesitated for a bit: "Sister Ye is not there..."

Hongyan clenched her petite fingers tighter and felt that she brought all of this pain upon herself by initiating this whole mess.

The palace's doors were closed, nothing but darkness was inside.

"Poof!" A plume of flame lit up on Feiyun's finger just like a spirit lamp in order to illuminate the dark palace.

Dongfang Jingyue held her pipa while leaning below a window. The faint light illuminated a jade reflection from her face so she looked very ethereal. She said: "Do you know why I want to do this in private?"

"Do tell, my lady." Feiyun politely said.

She flicked once on the pipa's strings and a wave sound flew out, removing a layer on the limestone and left behind words.

This was the perfect mastery of sound, allowing her to write.

There were dozens of names on the ground arranged in a circle. Each occupied an area with different auras and glows, just like an astronomy board.

Feng Feiyun glanced at the ground and found this to be very familiar. Right, this was the astronomical sign of the chaos ahead, of dragons devouring the dynasty. However, Jingyue had listed the names instead.

There were a total of thirty-two names. Twenty of them were historical geniuses while the other twelve only had one character. The latter group was quite mysterious and Jingyue didn't carve their name down.

Some had a marking of one dragon, other two dragons, and three had three dragons - Feng Feiyun, Li Xiaonan, and someone else represented by the word "Void".

"This is...?" Feiyun became serious.

"Dragons Devouring The Heaven", my brother ran to the Ancient Jiang Prefecture to ask Grand Wisdom Master Jing Feng for details." Jingyue said.

Feiyun smiled: "I don't have any interest in the 'heaven', so how can I be one of the dragons? Plus, assigning me three dragons too? That's baseless. Looks like the wisdom master is old now, can't calculate for anything."

"Wisdom Master Jing Feng used his life to calculate it." Jingyue replied.

"Really?" Feiyun turned serious.

"The great master has returned to the earth four months ago on the Observation Platform. Now, the spiritual leader of the Ancient Jiang Prefecture is his disciple, the Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess." Jingyue added.

Feiyun and the wisdom master have met once. The old man gave a letter to Jingshui so that he could neutralize the grievances between Feiyun and Jingyue, so he was a relatively nice guy. Feiyun was a bit disappointed to hear about his death.

The people from this prefecture were also called barbarians by others. Three tribes had the most power now, and the Heaven Worship Division was one of them. After the death of Jing Feng, the newly appointed goddess couldn't handle the wild members of the tribes. Something big was going to happen in that prefecture.

This world was truly becoming more chaotic by the day.

Feiyun knew that this private meeting between them wouldn't be that simple, but he didn't expect for her to reveal such a big secret to him.

'What the hell does she want?' He thought.

Jingyue continued: "Do you know why you are a dragon with three marks? Because you are a dragon among dragons."

## "Why?"

"Though you may not want to rule the world, but your existence itself affects the future path. For example, the capital is the biggest catalyst in the dynasty, and you have access to light it up. Thus, you represent the capital." Jingyue stated.

Feiyun could understand what she was trying to say. Those around him all wanted to rule. For example, Long Cangyue, Princess Luofu, and Feng Mo. Right now, he was the Divine King while the Jin Emperor had sealed off his divine intents for cultivation. His influence was nearly on the same level as the Grand Chancellor, so it was natural that he was marked with three dragons.

"You represent the capital while Li Xiaonan represents the threat of the four surrounding dynasties." Jingyue said.

"He's not from Jin?" Feiyun asked.

She shook her head: "To be more exact, Sacred Spirit Palace is not. Do you know why it is ranked higher than Jin?"

"That sect influences the other four dynasties?"

Jingyue said: "That's right. The five dynasties occupy a small corner of the world, a relatively remote place compared to three thousand other dynasties. They are low level as well, but for us right now, the dynasties are powerful with numerous sects. However, the palace looms above these dynasties, working in the background."

Anyone else would be shocked after this revelation, but he was knowledgeable and remained calm: "What kind of place is it?"

"It can determine the fate of the five dynasties since it is under the direct order of the sixth, the central dynasty around here. I can tell you that Li Xiaonan might be a top dog at Jin with no one stronger than him in the young generation, but he is only top five at best back at the palace."

"He's the messenger from the palace so to a certain extent, he represents the attitude from the other dynasties. If the Jin Dynasty loses control of the situation, then he could incite the other four to join in and take over. This is why he's another one with three marks. Of course, this is unlikely as well, because the palace doesn't want to involve itself with the internal affairs of the dynasties. It has its own enemies and will need their help."

Feiyun smiled and said: "He's only second on the upper list, so how can you say no one is his match at Jin?"

Jingyue pointed at the third person with three dragons with the character, Void, and said: "That's the number one of the upper list. Unfortunately, even Scholar Heaven Calculating couldn't figure out who he is, only the character for Void. We do know that he has made his debut and is a bringer of chaos. Before his appearance, Li Xiaonan was indeed the number one. People like my brother, Beiming Potian, Su Yun, and Long Shenya, they probably can't last more than one hundred moves against him. The arts of the Sacred Spirit Palace is beyond your imagination."

Feiyun took a deep breath. Of course, he wouldn't care for someone like Xiaonan in his previous life. However, this wasn't the case in the present. His cultivation was still too weak. Being arrogant would only end in death.

"Why are you telling me this?" Feiyun smiled. He didn't think that their relationship was that good.

Jingyue answered: "The chaos will come within one to three years and the dynasty will head towards declination. Our Yin Gou Clan will naturally be involved, so I am under the order of our clan master to find out your thoughts. Who do you want to become the crown prince?"

In the past, Feiyun wasn't qualified to know all of this and the clan master of the Yin Gou wouldn't care for his opinion. However, he had the power to influence the dynasty right now.

"Well... then who does your clan want to become the crown prince?" Feiyun answered with a question.

Jingyue glanced at him and said: "Only the clan master knows, not me."

'Like hell I would believe you.' He thought, 'if you don't know, then why would the clan master send you on this important mission?'

This matter had the utmost importance. Just one wrong move and one would even lose their life. He naturally wouldn't tell her carelessly since he didn't trust her and unconsciously had enmity towards her.

He smiled and said: "I'm still thinking about... Hmph! Who wants to spy on me and Miss Dongfang's competition?!"

A monstrous yet obscured divine intent was spying on them. Others wouldn't have noticed, but Feiyun did.

Someone wanted to hear their conversation, a real master.

"Boom!" Feiyun released his divine intents outside so the person quickly withdrew their own.

Next, Feiyun quickly jumped through the palace's poof and landed above. He looked aggressive like a general from the heaven as he took out his black King's Order.

He channeled the power of the previous generations of kings and threw it to the sky. He was able to do so as its master now.

"Boom! Boom!" Seven figures landed from above, each towered at one hundred meters with a golden glow. A massive power surged from them.

"Ah!" A miserable scream came from the dark. An expert at fifth-level Heaven's Mandate got annihilated by the order. What's left of him streamed down the sky like a waterfall of blood.

### Chapter 487: Furious Hongyan

The moon, cold and silent, shining down on Feiyun with the King's Order in his grasp on the roof of the palace. Brilliant golden rays returned to the black order but the suppressive and arrogant aura remained.

He rushed out like a phantom towards the spot where the victim fell. Remnant energy remained with hot air, causing the ground to dry up.

"Who is this? No clues at all, they came prepared then." Feiyun put away the order and flew back to the palace and went inside.

The prodigies in the distant, outside of a select few, were horrified at the power of the order capable of killing a fifth-level Heaven's Mandate.

Feiyun saw that Jingyue was still standing in the center with her wondrous figure and perfect skin. The pipa in the hand made she look like a moon-fairy. She calmly asked: "Dead?"

"Yes." Feiyun glanced at the ground and saw that the carving has been erased.

He has already remembered the thirty-two names on it and would keep an eye out later on when meeting these people.

Dongfang Jingyue spoke with a flash of anticipation: "Using the power in the order is not easy and requires a monstrous divine intent. How many times can you use it in a day with your current cultivation?"

"I... don't know." Feiyun was guarded and didn't tell her such an important detail.

He had forty intents, far stronger than others at the same cultivation level. Ordinary people couldn't predict the number he could use the order in one day.

"It's good to be cautious." She gave him a slight look before changing the subject, aware that he didn't want to tell her: "You have the order to back you up but so does Potian and Shenya. Being arrogant can be a downfall. Alright, we'll end this here. I will personally visit your mansion later."

She spoke with pride and elegance while exuding a special aura. Other men might not be able to look straight at her.

"This girl seems to be different now." Feiyun slightly touched his chin in rumination.

Jingyue came to the gate and stopped without turning around: "The power behind Beauty's Smile is the sacred ground of the heretical faction, Mount Potala. If they want to find someone, even if the person was buried underground, they would dig them out. That's all I want to say, take care of yourself."

'Hmm...' Feiyun took a deep breath and felt that this girl was becoming more inscrutable. She must have recognized that Xiaoxiang was hiding in the palace, reminding him to take Xiaoxiang away before inciting a disaster.

'Your father isn't afraid of a disaster.' He had a disdainful look, not caring of Mount Potala at all.

Ye Xiaoxiang was a hen that lays golden eggs for Beauty's Smile, so this place would certainly do everything to get her back. In the end, it even involved Mount Potala. Even staying at Supreme Beauty wouldn't be enough for her to escape.

'I have to bring her back to the mansion or those heretical experts might destroy Supreme Beauty just like Blissful. Only the power of the Divine King Faction will be able to protect Xiaoxiang.' Feiyun's expression was sober.

"Creak!" The doors of the palace opened as Jingyue came out and sighed: "Sir Divine King's musical abilities are wondrous. Jingyue is inferior and had lost two rounds. I have no face to linger around these parts so I'll be returning to the dragon lake."

She waved her sleeve and a ten-meter tall white crane descended. She jumped on its back and it started flying to the sky.

"Haha! I'll be going too." Dongfang Jingshui stood up - his armor was shining under the moonlight while his red cloak fluttered. He then leaped towards the sky.

Li Xiaonan slightly grimaced and also stood up, wanting to leave with his followers. He came initially for Dongfang Jingyue. There was no point in staying without her.

Feiyun called out: "Brother Li, the feast has only just begun, why are you leaving so soon? We still need to test each other musically!

Xiaonan was standing on a cloud and smiled back: "I will be accompanying my Junior Sister today and won't be staying. As for the musical duel, we'll have more chances later. In the next several days will be the Flower competition. All the beauties and top musicians will be there, we'll do it then."

Having said that, he left with his group of beauties, resembling a team of immortals. They were flying after Dongfang Jingyue.

Feiyun's eyes turned cold after seeing this. He felt quite annoyed and wanted to give chase.

The change in his eyes didn't elude Hongyan. She became even more furious, 'The two of them... yes, they have rekindled their passion again.'

She then shouted: "Sir Divine King, your musical abilities are truly amazing, I also want to have a private competition against you. Will you grant me the honor?"

Feiyun wanted to give chase but after hearing her cold voice, he immediately knew that Hongyan'er was quite angry. Chasing after Jingyue would antagonize her completely now.

There was a point to stop instead of pushing her too much.

Feiyun gave up and smiled at Hongyan: "Miss Hongyan is the prettiest in the world, someone from the heavens. I, Feng Feiyun, am only a wretched mortal. Of course I would love the opportunity to compete against you."

Hongyan had a smile on her face but a scary glint flashed in her eyes. She entered the palace first. Feiyun stared hesitantly at Long Cangyue before following Hongyan inside.

"Looks like there's nothing else to see here. Let's go." Potian smiled at Shenya standing next to him and stood up.

Shenya pondered for a bit before standing up as well. He told Cangyue who was standing outside: "Royal Sister, today has truly wronged you, your fiance is meeting up with another woman while you have to stand outside and guard? How pitiful, if this story were to spread, I'm afraid others will laugh at you."

"Royal Brother, you're overthinking it. If anyone dares to run their mouth foolishly, I'll just cut their tongue off. Plus, the Divine King Mansion wouldn't let people insult the current generation." Long Cangyue confidently replied.

Shenya slightly smiled and nodded before leaving with Potian.

The other prodigies left one after another. Many were disappointed in not being able to listen to the prettiest's song or see her face. Alas, the Flower competition was soon so Hongyan would surely come up there to play a song.

Inside the palace, Hongyan glared at him without hiding her anger: "Feng Feiyun, you're forcing me to kill right now."

"Who? Me?" He could sense her dense murderous intent. It was freezing his blood and creating frost on the ground.

"I want to kill Dongfang Jingyue, Princess Yue, anyone with the name, Yue. You're pushing me to that point." Hongyan raised her cute fist like an angry hen; her moist, round eyes angrily widened.

Feiyun replied: "That's no good. Jingyue is the fourth lady of the Yin Gou, Princess Yue is the emperor's daughter. Killing them will cause a lot of trouble. Hongyan, you have always been intelligent, don't do such careless acts."

"I don't give a damn! My mind is telling me that they must die, or I'll be forever vexed." Hongyan remained stubborn: "Feiyun, I know you have rekindled your romance with Jingyue. If she doesn't die, I'll lose several decades from being stressed."

"Rekindled romance... what roma..." Feiyun suddenly realized that he had told her about Shui Yueting, but Yueting was replaced with Jingyue.

He indeed stabbed himself with this matter.

He became gentle and placed his hands on her shoulders before putting on an expression full of hatred: "Hongyan, calm down for me now. Dongfang Jingyue and I have an irreconcilable feud, that bitch toyed with my heart, so how can I have any feelings for her now? Count me in if you want to kill her, but... not now."

"Irreconcilable feud with Jingyue? Then what about that princess? The two of you are engaged, only by killing her would the engagement dissolved." She took a deep breath and calmed her chaotic mind.

'This damned Feng Feiyun, he's the one who infuriated me, now he has the nerves to tell me to calm down?' She thought.

Hongyan had a strong mind, unchanging even if Mount Tai were to fall in front of her and unmoved during murderous acts. However, Feiyun could still make her go crazy.

A powerful and calm woman was still a woman in the end.

Feiyun saw that she had calmed down so he let go: "I couldn't refuse the engagement with Princess Yue. At that time, all the experts of the royal clan gathered at the Highest Shrine. If I dared to utter the word, "no", there was no way for me to leave the palace alive. I don't want to marry her either, if I could only marry one woman in the world, she has to be you!"

## Chapter 488: An Old Woman's Wrath Knows No Bound

"That's... more like it." Nangong Hongyan became content and all the annoyance disappeared. She leaned her soft body on Feiyun while slowly closing her eyes. Her long eyebrows gently shook.

Her pair of eyes looked like amber in a spirit spring - gentle, beautiful, spirited, and full of love...

Feiyun continued: "Though I'm engaged with her, there is still another year till the wedding. I'm sure something big will happen in the dynasty then, and who knows if I will still be the Divine King at that point, so..."

"I'll go wherever you go, even to the end of the world. One will find Hongyan standing next to Feiyun, never abandoning you even when the world grows decrepit." She calmly said.

"Hongyan'er." He hugged and tenderly caressed her shoulders. At this moment, it felt as if they were the only people left in the world.

Alas, they have forgotten another person inside the palace. She was quietly crying in the darkness.

The cold wind snuck in through the window lattices and made Hongyan's veil flutter, revealing her smooth chin. On top was a radiating pair of lips, as red as jade. No other pair of lips could be prettier.

Just a corner of her face alone was shocking enough. This was also his first time seeing her chin and lips.

The moonlight above the palace descended on her, nearly illuminating the perfect and breathtaking features beneath the veil.

Feiyun couldn't help himself from holding her neck with one hand and her ear with the other. He slightly raised the veil and smelled the sweet fragrance before kissing her honey lips. Electric coursed through their brain and made their soul shudder.

The greatest and most romantic thing was to quietly embrace a lover for a gentle kiss. A cataclysm couldn't ruin this moment.

Their lips finally parted after a long time. Feiyun licked his lips to bask in the sweet aftertaste.

"Wait a minute!" Feiyun's expression suddenly changed after realizing that Ye Xiaoxiang was also in the palace. Why would she think after seeing him and Hongyan hug and kiss?

Hongyan also realized it as well. She already knew that Xiaoxiang was helping Feiyun so Xiaoxiang had to be in this palace as well.

Earlier, she was absent-minded and had completely forgotten until Feiyun blurted out.

"Sister Ye..." She got out of Feiyun's embrace and glared at him.

Feiyun quickly looked around the palace but Xiaoxiang was nowhere to be found.

How could she stay here and wait after seeing this scene? It would only further hurt her.

Most importantly, she thought he came to find her but now, she realized that it was all in her head. He was here to find Hongyan.

From beginning to end, she was only a wishful fool, at least in her mind. Thus, what was the point in staying as the third wheel?

"This isn't good, people from Beauty's Smile are certainly looking for her. Once she leaves, she'll be captured and taken back." Feiyun was blaming himself.

"Go and find her already, it's too dangerous for her to be alone." Hongyan's flame emanated since she wanted to look for Xiaoxiang.

"You're not going. She won't go back with you anyway, leave it to me!" Feiyun held her back and said with a determined glare: "Trust me, I'll bring her back, safe and sound."

He jumped out of the palace with his Swift Samsara and released his divine intents to cover a large area before turning into a flying ray.

Long Cangyue noticed the ray crossing through the sky and started to think: "What is this guy rushing for?"

She also performed her specter-like movement technique and blended in with the night to give chase.

A thick layer of snow covered the streets. The gales brushed by and blew flakes all over the sky. Even pig iron would eventually crack from the frigid torture, so even cultivators didn't come outside.

However, there was someone running and tripping on the street. It wasn't because her cultivation was too low or that she was in a hurry; her mind was in disarray so her pace naturally followed suit.

'Why are you even crying? There's no reason to since there was nothing between you two.' Tears didn't listen to Xiaoxiang and continued to stream down her cheeks, faster than ever.

She held her dress and kept on running though she had depleted her spirit energy. Back then, she has never forgotten about escaping towards freedom. But today, she didn't know where she wanted to run to.

In the end, fatigue had the best of her so she fell into the snow. She looked like a poor beggar now, perhaps even more pitiful.

"Thump, thump!" Footsteps rang by her ears.

"Finally found you, Xiaoxiang, return to Beauty's Smile with us now!" An old woman with a walking stick was coughing, coming from the other side of the street. Her hair grayed while her face was covered in wrinkles. Nevertheless, her eyes were still sharp and fierce.

Her cheeks were bony while her wrinkled skin caved down in many spots. Just standing there, she exuded a chilling presence.

Xiaoxiang shuddered after hearing the woman's voice. She looked up and bit her lips while shaking her head in fear: "Aunt... Aunt Qin, I don't want to go back."

This was the madame who bought and brought her to Beauty's Smile. Xiaoxiang, of course, didn't want to yield back then. Unfortunately, this woman was brutal and performed all types of torture on her.

Xiaoxiang's cultivation was weak so she couldn't bear the agony. In the end, she finally succumbed and obeyed.

"Xiaoxiang, have you forgotten all of my lessons? You think you can live after leaving Beauty's Smile?" Aunt Qin raised her quivering finger towards Xiaoxiang.

A group of men in black numbered in the fifties followed her. Each was powerful with an old-style saber on their waist, brimming with bloodthirst. Among them were a few with surging qi images above their head.

This was Beauty's Smile's trained death squad. The third-ranked members have cultivated for several hundred years and have been at the Heaven's Mandate realm for a while now.

After receiving the order, two men walked forward with eyes as cold as beasts. They mercilessly tied her hands and pulled her up. The pain caused her to bite down on her lips, causing blood to drip.

"Boom! Boom!" Aunt Qin's stick struck like a venomous snake. Two black rays shot forward and the two men's head exploded. Blood gushed all over Xiaoxiang, scaring her even more.

"Bastards, Fairy Xiang isn't someone dirty men like you can touch. Death is not enough as atonement. Xiaoxiang, be good now, come back with Aunt Qin. Don't misunderstand me though, I'm not trying to scare you, only disciplining the dogs that don't listen." She smirked deviously like a ghost beneath the moon. Her dried hand gently cleaned the blood off her stick; everything was purposely done before Xiaoxiang.

Xiaoxiang felt that she was a courageous woman but when standing before Aunt Qin, she was only a white mouse before a venomous snake.

Blood was still flowing down her beautiful face. It quickly froze because of the temperature. She lowered her head quietly while quivering and shrinking in fear.

Aunt Qin's expression grew colder. She spoke with a harsh voice like sand grains grinding together: "So you want it the hard way? Who do you think you are? Only a slut who sells smiles. You think your musical abilities are amazing and many fawns over you? Haha, just wait for a few more decades when you're only bones left, we'll see if any man will take a second look at you, slut! Come, hit her, hit her hard until she begs for forgiveness!"

Two more ferocious men walked out with arms as tough as steel and began hitting Xiaoxiang.

They knew that as long as they didn't kill her, just crippling her would be fine. Spirit pills would solve this problem later on.

"Boom!" Their tough fists issued detonation in the air.

Aunt Qin was looking quite twisted. The older the woman, the more they hated young and beautiful girls. Her face wasn't the only twisted thing, even her mind was.

"You court death!" A loud shout came from the sky like thunder and made the street split in several places. The snow layer on the surface went flying.

Feiyun was here. He stood before Xiaoxiang, furious. He punched forward and shattered the arm of one of the assailants. Next, the force broke the guy's entire body so he fell down, twitching on the ground like a pile of mud.

## Chapter 489: Beauty's Smile Lord

"Boom!" Feng Feiyun gathered an energy wave in the shape of a palm. He slammed it on the second brute and rendered his organs to a pulp. Blood dripped out of all seven orifices before he dropped to the ground.

It wasn't long before both of them became cold corpses. The chilling weather quickly added a layer of frost on them.

Aunt Qin stood there with her walking stick with a frightening grimace.

"Are you alright?" Feiyun apologetically stared at Xiaoxiang and grabbed her hand, afraid that she would start to run after seeing him.

She nodded then shook her head in confusion.

"Cough. Decent cultivation but you're quite bold to interfere with Beauty's Smile's business." Aunt Qin covered her mouth and coughed hoarsely.

Feiyun maintained firm while staring at the guards behind her: "How did you all figure out her location?"

Aunt Qin smiled: "You led us to her."

He didn't expect this answer.

"Rumble!" A white ray descended from the sky like a waterfall. A middle-aged woman dressed in a jade robe stood on top of a pavilion - stately and oppressive in temperament.

Feiyun's eyes narrowed: "Wan Huatong!"

"Greetings, Our Lord!" The old woman and the guarded kneeled and bowed with reverence towards the newcomer.

This was the lord of Beauty's Smile, Wan Huazhu.

Few have actually seen her before so that's why not many were able to recognize her identity. In the eyes of outsiders, the lord of this faction was shrouded with mysteries.

"Young Divine King, we meet again." Wan Huazhu looked down, no longer resembling a madame like before, more like an ambitious heroine.

Feiyun sneered: "Lord Wan, not bad! To actually fooled me, impressive."

Everyone in the capital knew that Ye Xiaoxiang was last seen with Feiyun. So of course, in order to find her, it was best to start with him. Thus, Huazhu pretended to be a madame to hang around Feiyun. She finally entered Supreme Beauty to find Xiaoxiang.

"One shouldn't mind the minor details to accomplish great things." Huazhu said with a fierce glare: "Hand her over!"

"She'll decide where she goes." He retorted.

"And if I want to take her?" Huazhu bit back.

"I'm afraid it won't be that easy." He didn't relent.

"People can... still kill at the capital." With a cold temperament, she waved her sleeve. Four old men emerged from the black sky; each taking a corner. They raised their hands and sealed the entire area.

"Boom!" Runes gushed up from the ground and covered the sky.

This was necessary in order to stop others from knowing that they wanted to deal with Feiyun. His status was too prestigious in this place so they needed to silence by killing him.

Xiaoxiang was shocked: "Run already, they'll kill you and erase all the evidence!"

"Come with me." He pulled her arm and rushed forward in order to kill his way out.

"Too late for that." Aunt Qin's stick turned into a ten-meter-wide skull serpent and aimed straight at him.

He retaliated with a palm strike carrying the power of 9,932 beast souls and knocked the serpent back. Aunt Qin stumbled backward in astonishment, 'this Feng Feiyun is something else, comparable to a fourth-level when he's only at the second.'

"Go, we'll kill the Divine King today, there will be a handsome reward." She gave the order.

The guards shrouded in black robes and masks rushed forward with their blades. Each had an emotionless expression with great bloodthirst. They didn't hold back at all and unleashed a torrent of different techniques.

"Boom! Boom!" This was quite a destructive onslaught.

'Not looking good, some real masters are hiding among them - young kings and historical geniuses...' Feiyun's spiritual awareness was strong enough to detect this unfavorable situation. This was an unprecedented danger due to the top masters hiding among the guards.

There were at least five young kings and three historical geniuses - some might be on the upper list. However, their face was hidden and aura concealed by treasures. It was hard to know who they were but Feiyun was certain that he had met them before.

These people might be using Beauty's Smile. They wanted to kill Feiyun but were afraid of his faction. Thus, hiding among these guards was the best choice. In the future, even if this matter was exposed, all the blame would be on Beauty's Smile.

The dangerous sensation grew for Feng Feiyun. If he couldn't escape from this trap today, death was certain.

"Rumble!" He began with the Minor Change Art in order to perform a Heaven Punishing Hammer intending on breaking the seal in the area. However, the ones maintaining the seal were at the half-step level. The hammer failed to break through.

In the large group, a shadow rushed to the sky with a golden lotus beneath its feet. It took out a secondranked treasure that looked like a hook. The power of this treasure activated and turned into a moon slamming down.

This was definitely a top young king attacking.

Feiyun was unperturbed and used his Thunderfire Jewel to release a wave of thunder to stop the hook. His feet were pushed into the ground.

The two spirit treasures hitting each other resulted in a powerful shockwave. More than ten guards fell to the ground with shocking wounds and broken bones. These were the real guards from Beauty's Smile.

Wan Huazhu could see that something was wrong. These young prodigies wanted to use them to kill Feiyun. Nevertheless, it was still saving her a lot of effort.

"Rumble!" A gigantic square boulder was lifted by another guard. He threw it straight at Feng Feiyun with a devastating momentum resembling a meteor.

Feiyun was surrounded on all sides. He gathered beast souls in his palm again and crushed the boulder to dust - a successful repel.

The remnant force of his palm strike slammed into the sky but an invisible barrier turned it to smoke.

No one outside knew what was going on due to the barrier.

Half-steps were forming this barrier in order to kill Feiyun. He needed to take it down at all cost.

Next, four young kings attacked at the same time with their spirit treasures and most powerful attacks in order to win as fast as possible. They themselves had no idea who each other was.

"Woosh!" A saber slash rushed from behind him with lightning speed and immense power.

Feiyun used his Samsara Step but it was still too late. A twenty-centimeter wound was left on him with blood dripping down. It was quite deep - one could see the bone on his back.

This was definitely someone on the upper historical list, capable of overcoming Feiyun's speed.

'Just who is so fast with a saber?' Feiyun released the King's Order behind him.

This ambusher quickly disappeared into the night to dodge the order.

"Feng Feiyun, you're dead for sure, King's Order or not." A hoarse sneer came from the darkness.

The guy purposely changed his voice but Feiyun was certain that he knew the guy.

"Your cultivation can only use the order three times a day max. You did it once at Supreme Beauty and another just now. Just one more then you're done for." A different voice came about, a bit familiar as well.

Feiyun's eyes became serious. The opponents were going all out. He thought that with the order earlier, he would at least grievously wound the guy if not kill him outside. He didn't expect for the opponent to have a talisman created by a Super Giant. Of course, the talisman was destroyed and fell to the ground.

All of these guys came prepared to fight.

#### Chapter 490: Unconcealed Assassin

"Are you afraid?" Feiyun grabbed Xiaoxiang's cold hand and calmly said.

"I'm... not." She said.

He ripped out his sleeve and gently tied it around her eyes before carrying her on his back. He used Swift Samsara and turned into a specter to join the fight again.

All 9,932 beast souls were activated right now. Roars emanated from his body and made the earth tremble.

"Boom!" Feng Feiyun showed no mercy as his red glowed slightly red as if bleeding. Each time he unleashed a palm, one guard would fall down. One head exploded like a watermelon while another had their heart blown out of their body. Some got rendered into a bloody mist entirely.

In just a split second, eight have fallen, subjected to a terrible death.

Xiaoxiang was actually quite courageous. Though she could hear the miserable wails and sounds of flesh and bones breaking, she still bit her teeth and didn't utter a single yelp. She didn't want Feiyun to be distracted.

"Die!" With eyes as ferocious as a beast, Feiyun turned his sight on Aunt Qin.

This old woman has pushed it. Only by killing her would he be able to remove Xiaoxiang's inner demon.

"Hmph! Fool!" Aunt Qin sneered. Her hunchback body disappeared like a ghost.

Feiyun's palm only shattered her remnant shadow while she was nowhere to be found.

"An incorporeal technique?" Feiyun's brows raised as he used his Heavenly Phoenix Gaze.

Despite her hiding technique, there was no escaping. He raised his hand and the Infinite Spirit Ring flew out of his thumb. Six diagrams automatically flew out and dazzlingly attacked the empty space.

The ring was at the second rank now so it was several times stronger than before. The bright rays from the diagrams made the ground crack in several places.

"Boom!" Aunt Qin was forced out by the ring's attack. The stick in her hand turned into a gigantic snake and managed to stop the remaining force.

"Pluff!" A white draconic ray flew forward and severed her left hand. The energy then devoured it completely.

Aunt Qin screamed and tried to run.

"Whoosh!" The tip of his white saber was still dripping with blood. He immediately gave chase with an emotionless glance.

The other young experts knew that Feiyun could use the King's Order one more time so no one wanted to be the first to attack.

"Everyone, attack together or he'll get away!" A shout came from the shadows.

A one-meter-thick pillar of light rushed forward causing the air to twist. Everything turned to ashes in its trajectory.

It was a sword ray condensed from violet energy with an incomparable sharpness. A historical genius was certainly behind this offense.

"Dragon King's Third Slash, Sun Piercer!" Feiyun unleashed a white arc from his saber, also one meter thick. It looked like a powerful rainbow rushing through the sky.

The two rays slammed into each other and resulted in a blinding explosion.

Feiyun saw the attacker and unleashed another slash with both hands. This person dressed in black was standing at the top of a tall tree. He was relaxed with an extraordinary aura. He raised his finger and a large maelstrom resembling a dragon tornado emerged as a defensive measure.

He could casually perform a dao art so quickly? Just how powerful was he?

"Whoosh!" Nine stars more than one-hundred-meter-long fell from the sky just like nine little mountains, carrying immense power.

This was the spirit treasure, Nine Stars. A young king used it to attack Feiyun.

These experts in disguise were all amazing with incredible battle power.

Feiyun directly took out his vessel and channeled its power. This force grew bigger and bigger until it reached the limit. Next, he threw it straight at the sky, nearly destroying the fabrics of space.

"Boom!" The nine stars were blown flying back, unable to withstand the mighty vessel.

A shadow screamed miserably and fell down from the sky. At the midway point, this person finally stabilized and didn't fall to his death. He heaved a sigh of relief, thinking that he had escaped with his life.

Suddenly, Feiyun stomped straight on his head and made his body sink into the mud.

Next, Feiyun removed his veil. Though his head was cracked and stained with blood, Feiyun could finally see the guy. This was someone who was close to Xiyue Lanshan back in Supreme Beauty Pavilion. Feiyun then kicked his chest to rupture his heart.

"Such a powerful spirit treasure, this ship is mine!" Another figure in black suddenly appeared behind Feiyun. A black mist condensed in his palm and turned into a black sword. He then slashed it vertically for Feiyun's head.

"Boom!" Feiyun swung the vessel back and a massive wave of energy came forth. It shattered the black sword and destroyed the black veil. However, there was a golden mask beneath; only a young pair of proud eyes were shown.

This person wasn't afraid at all. He waved his hands in the air and created a crimson cauldron. It was more than thirty meters tall with draconic and phoenix runes carved on the surface. It was as red as fire and emitted fiery waves while flowing through the air.

The vessel shattered this cauldron but couldn't hurt the guy.

This was one of Feiyun's strongest attacks right now. He could only use it nine times a day but it still failed to kill the opponent.

How many among the young generation could actually have this cultivation?

Despite using the phoenix gaze, Feiyun couldn't see through the person's disguise. All of these people weren't using their own techniques so there was no way of guessing their identity.

Tonight was the best time to take Feiyun down. There wouldn't be another opportunity like this again.

"Whoosh!" A sharp glint as fast as lightning aimed straight for Feiyun's speed with amazing accuracy.

The opponent was simply too fast. Feiyun couldn't see his figure at all, only the saber.

Feiyun stomped on the ground in order to flip backward. Alas, the saber still left a bloody mark from his throat to his ear. The opponent was fast and stealthy. This must be another top-ranked member of the young generation.

The guy's figure disappeared again.

'It's an assassin.' Feiyun thought.

The opponent appeared behind Feng Feiyun. He was dressed in black but there was no veil hiding his figure. He coolly stood on the street with a long shadow created by the moonlight.

Black energies hovered around him; his blade was rusting as if it hasn't been polished in a long time.

"The Unconcealed Assassin, Du Shougao!" Someone recognized his face.

Want to kill someone now? Find Du Shougao.

This was the best young assassin of the Pinnacle Fate Ending Palace. He never actually assassinated someone before and always did it in an open manner, hence his title. He was fifth on the lower list right behind Ling Donglai. However, in terms of battle abilities and murderous potential, Donglai was certainly not his match.

Feiyun was higher than Donglai on the list but against a scary opponent like Shougao, there was no guarantee in staying alive.

An assassin's ability to kill was far beyond his fighting prowess and cultivation.

Feiyun touched his wound and turned back while lifting his saber. He stared at the foe and smiled: "What an interesting night, an assassin without a mask while the non-assassins all hide their face."

"Feiyun, this is the second time you have escaped from me." Du Shougao declared then turned and left.

"You only use one slash to kill someone. If the slash didn't kill and the guy was down and crawling on the ground, you would still spare him. You will never attack twice in one day unless the opponent was aiming for your life." Feiyun was aware of Shougao's style.

"Have to take care of people's problem after getting paid. I might try again tomorrow, remember, no one has been able to escape three times from me." Shougao said before disappearing into the night.

"The best assassin? Pretty useless. Feng Feiyun, I'll be the one to kill you then!" A brutal voice came from the sky.

A gigantic palm strike descended. It was covered with an amalgamation of bloody liquid, mist, and clouds.

Feiyun took out the King's Order. Seven golden figures came out and unleashed an attack at the gigantic palm. They crushed it easily and a miserable scream resounded. Another assailant dressed in black got rendered into a bloody rain.