#### Sprit Vessel 651

### Chapter 651: Heavy Casualties

"Boom!" The Bi'an's monstrous stature was destructive. It tore apart one of the blood talismans and broke the containment.

The other four talismans became useless as a result and were recalled by the protectors, afraid of the beast damaging another one.

They were precious treasures; just losing one was already a grievous loss.

This spirit beast with the mighty bloodline was something else, far stronger than ordinary spirit beasts. It ate three heretics in the blink of an eye and issued frightening crunching noises to the horror of the crowd.

The fifth and sixth protectors shot out two spirit treasures - one white and one black pagoda, yin and yang. They grew to one thousand feet in height and acted like two mountains absorbing the purest black and white rays, wanting to suppress this Bi'an for the second time.

"Raaa!" It spewed out black lightning bolts that were thicker than a man's arm. Enough came out to form an oceanic current that pushes away the two pagodas.

It suddenly rushed forward like a tsunami towards the two protects. They had no choice but to leap backward, not wanting to take any risk.

"Rumble!" It broke through a mountain. Boulders started rolling down along with the trees on top, filling up the valley nearby.

"It's enraged but His Venerable Walker isn't back, we can't suppress it, should we leave first?" The fifty-first protector proposed.

The situation has gotten out of control. This mad monster loved killing so they needed to avoid losses.

The fifth and sixth protectors only made it wilder and killed another eight heretics with a stomp.

Gu Lida was unwilling to give up since only a little bit more and the ceremony would have been successful. He despised Feng Feiyun right now.

"Raaa!"

"Raaa!"

Beasts howled on top of the altar. The place quaked more violently than before, on the verge of collapsing.

Feiyun turned his weapon essence into one thousand daggers. They flew down like the rain to cut iron chains.

More than twenty thousand imprisoned beasts got out and jumped down. They were enraged and started hunting anyone in black.

They weren't as smart as spirit beasts yet but could still tell friends from foes.

"Pluff!"

"Crack!"

It only took a few seconds before ten more heretics got eaten and twenty seriously maimed. Arms got ripped; one person got half of his head eaten; more got stomped by these gigantic beasts, resulting in internal injuries causing them to vomit blood.

These other three protectors have killed about a hundred beasts right now but it was no use. There were too many around. They would die too once surrounded.

Feiyun took off his cloak and stood on top of the altar, looking quite cool and nonchalant. He watched the fierce battle below with an evil smirk. Destructive techniques and lights from various treasures permeated the area.

The goddess was frightened by the sudden development. It took a while before she got up from the ground, hair down to her waist with a face as vibrant as a spring flower. Her silver robe fluttered in the wind, clearly outlining her figure.

She held her shiny staff while looking at the handsome man with her pure eyes. A sense of familiarity struck her as if she had met him before.

She had great intuition for reading people and knew that he wasn't a good person judging from his murderous intent and evil energy. His smile was especially nefarious just like a devil from hell.

Alas, such a person was saving her right now, leaving her at a loss of what to do.

She hesitated, wanting to come forward to express gratitude yet feeling that not getting close to him was wiser. Running was the best option but curiosity got the best of her.

'Who is he?'

Feiyun seemed to notice her gaze and looked back to smile at her.

She was scared out of her mind after seeing this smile and stumbled backward like a frightened rabbit. She then floated in the air. Silvery glows condensed behind her and formed a pair of wings, allowing her to fly away towards the distant mountains.

Feiyun was surprised by this and rubbed his chin: "My smile is that scary? I tried to be friendly."

"Still running, little girl?!" Gu Lida saw this and blew two 600-year-old beasts next to him away.

He leaped into the air; his dried hand pierced the void to form a black palm.

The goddess felt the air around her freezing as if she has fallen into a quagmire and couldn't move at all.

She looked back and saw a massive black palm right above. It was oppressive like a sky falling down - aiming on pushing her to the ground.

"Bam!" The palm got severed by a blinding slash. A handsome man in green darted through the explosion while holding a long saber.

His stalwart appearance became bigger and filled up her pupils. He then grabbed her by the waist and embraced her tightly into his muscular chest in a domineering manner. Her head became empty and she forgot to resist.

Gu Lida was already wounded with half of his spine missing. That's why Feiyun was able to destroy his palm strike earlier.

"Stop right there!" He spat out a mouthful of blood onto his animal hide and sent it flying.

It spread out and blotted out the sun. He would never let the goddess get away or his lifelong goal would be finished.

Feiyun smirked with contempt as if mocking Gu Lida for being stupid. He waved his sleeve and put on the invisible cloak again. Both he and the goddess disappeared from sight.

"You won't get away!" Lida's eyes turned red with fury. The animal hide attacked the surrounding area, turning the forest within a hundred miles into scorched earth. This wasn't enough to get those two out in the open.

They have already left the area.

"Gu Lida, where's the goddess?" The sixth protector had a gruesome wound on his shoulder. One could see the bones inside.

Three more protectors got away from the fight; all wounded. Next came forty or more heretics, bloodied with both their own blood and the beasts' blood.

"That bastard Feiyun took her away." Gu Lida's head was blowing steam from anger.

"What? We're done for if the young lord finds out." The fifth protector became worried.

They thought that with five protectors around, even ten Feiyuns wouldn't be able to do anything. Alas, even one protector became meal for that Bi'an now.

Senluo Temple suffered heavy losses. One protector and more than ten half-steps along with numerous third-level to fifth-level Heaven's Mandate cultivators. Worst of all, Feiyun took the goddess away.

So humiliating! Everyone here would be punished severely after a full report.

The sixth protector immediately said after a quick assessment: "Report this to the venerable Life Walker! He's easier to talk to, maybe there is still a chance to reverse this, but it'll be too late when Feiyun takes her back to Witch God."

The other protectors nodded in agreement.

"Yes, we can't let him take her back to Witch God."

"Raaa!" Roars penetrated the forest filled with miasma. It made this hateful essence fly straight to the sky.

Next came more roars and rapid stompings to the horror of these cultivators who have just gotten out.

The fifth protector frowned: "We can't stay here for long, let's leave first! I will go find the Life Walker and let him mobilize troops to stop all passages leading to Witch God. The rest of you chase after Feng Feiyun, we must get the goddess back. If he wins this match, that young lord won't let us off easily."

"What should we do with regards to the young lord?" The sixth protector became worried.

"The young lord is on the way, he'll be here soon to preside over the situation. I thought that we could defeat Feiyun before he gets here but we only managed to alert the enemies and worsened everything." The fifth protector said.

"We need to capture those two before the young lord arrives to save face or all the other protectors are going to laugh at us for being useless, losing to one junior."

The ground trembled as the enraged beasts drew closer. The heretics hurriedly left the area and started searching for clues of Feiyun's path with the exception of the fifth protector.

# Chapter 652: Aura Of A Phoenix

Mountains spanned endlessly with treacherous cliffs. Some towered into the clouds with centuries-old precious grass and vines growing on top.

Their medicinal fragrances traveled for miles but numerous poisonous snakes spewed out black smoke in that area so no one dared to get close.

There existed valleys with miasma as well, almost as deep as an abyss. Below came the roars from unknown monstrosities.

This was the rough area outside of Endless Land with perilous terrains and dangerous beasts. Even cultivators wanting to train in adversity rarely came here.

Of course, there were paradises of nature here too, completely separated from the world. They have turned into their own domains with beautiful sceneries.

"Whoosh!" Two people suddenly landed on the shore of a rippling lake, scaring a group of three-colored peacocks nearby. They quacked and flitted away on the lake surface, making quite a few waves.

They left behind eggs on the shallow side. These eggs also had three colors - white, green, and purple. Each was as big as a human head and emitted a faint glow.

The peacocks noticed that the two humans only got here by accident so they returned back for their eggs. The females sat down on the eggs again and focused on incubation.

Of course, their long neck and round eyes all pointed in the same direction - the two intruders.

"Just who are you? Let me go already." The goddess' tender body struggled in order to get away from his clutch by the waist.

Her silver staff exploded with holy light as she swung it towards his head.

Feiyun put away the cloak before easily catching the staff. He then took a good look at her.

It has been many years and the young girl grew up to be a great beauty. Less innocence and more elegance.

He has matured compared to his fourteen-year-old self so his face changed a bit. It was understandable that she didn't recognize him.

"Why are you staring at me?" She frowned, afraid of the intense stare. This evil-looking man was definitely not a good person. His cultivation was high too. This place was completely remote, what was she going to do if he has impure ideas?

Her thoughts were written on her face so he knew exactly what she was thinking and became slightly amused.

"Nothing." He chuckled and loosened his grip before looking around.

This was a large lake with clear green water. A cliff nearby had a waterfall running down and issuing splashing noises. Several old willow trees were on top of this cliff with long branches drooping down, perched by some white cranes.

Next to the lake were the incubating peacocks arranged in an orderly fashion. They had a golden glow on their feathers due to the sunset.

This was a peaceful place, very rare in the Endless Land. It was around 8,000 miles from the ancestral altar.

Not a bad place to seek temporary refuge.

No place was safe in Ancient Jiang since Senluo Temple was so strong. Feiyun needed to grow stronger in order to seize the initiative.

'I hope I can get that second phoenix bone soon.' He found a shiny boulder worn down by the waterfall current, weighing around ten thousand pounds or so. He sat on it and took out a beast core to absorb its spirit energy, once again falling into cultivation for his phoenix physique.

This core was taken from a spirit beast in the dragon spirit vein. He had absorbed more than half of its energy. The rest should be enough to create the second bone.

Heretical cultivators must be searching everywhere right now for them. It wouldn't be long until they find this place. He needed every second for cultivation.

The goddess stared at the man in meditation. His body was covered with a faint layer of fire. All of the spirit energy nearby condensed on a bone in his head. It issued a pinkish glow, looking like a heavenly peace of jade.

She secretly converged her aura, thinking about escaping.

"They'll catch you right away if you run." Feiyun said with his eyes still closed.

She stopped and said: "You're a villain too. I need to return to Witch God."

"They certainly prepared traps all around the city. You'll be captured before you can set one foot into Witch God. Be a good girl and stay, I will protect you."

She had an anxious expression and hesitated for a moment before speaking: "I've used my pot to look at the heavenly images earlier and saw dangers from all directions gathering at Witch God. I know how perilous it is... but I must return."

"Foolish girl." He said before focusing on cultivation again.

She scowled, not liking this comment. Next, she started floating with silver particles around her before flying across the lake and disappearing into the mountains.

Strangely enough, she returned a short while after and landed in front of the waterfall then quietly stared at Feiyun.

"Why are you back?" He said without moving.

She found him to be more and more familiar: "I was only testing to see if you're a bad person."

"And?"

"If you're a bad person, you would have given chase earlier to capture me again. You didn't do so." She said after a short pause.

"Looks like you're a tiny bit smarter than I thought, not completely foolish."

"You really can protect me?" She bit her lip, not wanting to be called stupid.

"Senluo Temple is the force that wants to take your divine tree. No one can protect you from them without a miracle." He wasn't trying to scare her. The powerful enemy was the reason why he needed to grow stronger right away.

He has won the first exchange but that was only the beginning. One misstep from now on and he could lose everything.

The sun returned to the west and came nightfall.

A crescent moon hung in the black yet clear sky with stars over in the horizons. They looked like jewels that have been engraved on a black canvas.

The goddess sat by the shore and kept quiet with a long silver cloak keeping her warm. She blamed herself for being too stupid, unable to wake up the divine tree after several years. With its power, she could end this war and avoid needless casualties.

'Yu'er, you're not worthy of being the Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess, you're only a waitress from a tea shop, this is all your fault, more people will die because of you... you idiot, a harbinger of misfortune and disaster...' Tears built around her eyes during this moment of reflection.

She wanted to return to the city and help her people but given her current abilities, she would only be troubling them.

Feiyun has fallen into a zen state. This was a crucial moment to create his second bone. The wisdom bone on his head has been carved with phoenix runes. The laws of heaven and earth flowed towards it, causing it to be more profound and covered with a faint phoenix flame.

Changing a human bone to a phoenix bone was arduous. One couldn't change the bones themselves, only the runes inside the bones and the cultivation method.

The bones created from this physique were true phoenix bones. This type of bone contains double the runes compared to a regular phoenix bone. Each successful attempt resulted in a full polishment of one's bones, flesh, blood. This would also increase the user's cultivation talents.

This would be Feiyun's first self-refined bone, not adding a pre-existing bone from another phoenix. More and more runes appeared, turning the wisdom bone into a jade with the shade of blood.

Waves of flame emerged around him and started rotating. They eventually formed an ethereal image of a phoenix that fully engulf him.

Half of the lake surface turned red from the illumination to the horror of the creatures nearby. They sensed the aura of the great mythical bird - a phoenix!

A few gigantic shadows came from the distance. One could see a pair of large wings flapping among the clouds. This particular bird circled in the sky with skepticism.

In another location, the head of a golden bird as big as a hill stretched out from the void and surveyed downward with eyes as bright as the stars. It illuminated an area with a radius of several hundred miles before disappearing into the void again.

This aura of a phoenix has alarmed the beast kings in Endless Land so they started investigating the area.

Tens of thousands of miles farther away inside Endless Land was a transcending woman in a white foxfur cloak holding a Pekingese. She stood inside a primitive forest with several monstrous spirit beasts around her.

She also sensed this aura. Her eyes gleamed with rumination as she stared towards the horizon then murmured: "That half demonic blood actually belongs to the noblest bloodline, a phoenix?"

### Chapter 653: Physique Refinement And Dantian Cultivation

The heretics searching for Feng Feiyun stopped after sensing the commotion. The birds in the wild started flying and screeching in the sky, full of unrest.

"Did a beast king from the outskirts of Endless Land come here?" One heretic wondered. Only a beast king would be able to cause this level of chaos.

The beast kings in that area have cultivated for two thousand years or longer. They rarely left their lair so their appearance would invoke a great reception from weaker beasts.

A different heretic said: "Let's not enter this area right now, too dangerous, we should wait until they calm down."

"I agree." The first heretic saw a claw flying above. Just the claw alone spanned more than thirty meters with thick, black scales. This was definitely a monstrous bird.

'These powerful creatures have been alarmed. It looks like this area is truly dangerous. No way Feng Feiyun could have come here.' The two heretics shared this thought and quickly retreated.

Feiyun was surrounded by a flame in the shape of a divine phoenix. The bright glow painted the lake red during the evening.

A bone located on top of his head shone like a lamp with numerous intricate runes.

The goddess watched with surprise and apprehension from the distance, wondering which merit law this was. It brought about so many powerful monsters nearby to this lake.

She stood up but didn't dare to move due to the spectating beasts. Above were gigantic shadows the size of mountains circling around. Thunderous cries could be heard at times.

'Just who is he? His aura is becoming stronger and stronger, reaching a quite frightening level. He said he can protect me... maybe he is actually capable of doing so.' She couldn't connect him to the evil and idiotic young master back then. The difference was immense.

She has been staying in Witch God Temple all these years and knew nothing of outside events, or that the rotten young master who almost slept with her has become the world-renowned Divine King.

She wanted to divine his identity but the moment she got a glimpse of the heavenly order, a different force severed her connection instantly.

"This person is incalculable, I can't figure out his name and background. A certain heavenly dao is shrouding everything relating to him." This only made her more curious. She watched him intensely with her big and bright eyes while occasionally furrowing her brows.

She forgot about her worries and sensed the massive force brewing in him. The divine tree within her grew a little bit. Its shiny leaves slowly stretched to absorb the heat in the air.

This tree was slowly maturing thanks to the temperature of the phoenix flame. Despite the limited growth far from maturation, she still became very excited and sat down to channel her witch technique in accordance with her master's teachings. She controlled the tree to absorb more of the rays and heat. The leaves were taking in the various powers. In order to get more, she quietly inched closer to him.

After an unknown period of time, the energy in the beast core has depleted. It entered the wisdom bone that was more dazzling than before with numerous phoenix runes. It started issuing small popping sounds, serving as a cauldron for physical refinement.

"Boom!" A shockwave emanated from Feiyun and blew the goddess nearby flying. She glided for more than one thousand feet before landing. This force was strangely gentle and didn't harm her.

Next, the worldly energy in the area crazily surged towards his bone then spread across his body, washing away his impurities.

It eventually condensed back to the bone. Feiyun became normal again and eventually opened his eyes. They were as bright as the stars now as he murmured: "Consolidation of the second bone is a success."

He stood up and touched his dantian area with both hands. The Violet Central Palace shot out ten purple rays with a draconic shape; each more than three meters long. This was a symbol of his current cultivation.

"Peak fifth-level Heaven's Mandate. Just a little bit more until the sixth level. What a shame." The formation of the second bone earlier took in extra worldly energy. It polished his body and even boosted his cultivation. If he had absorbed a bit more, he might have been able to break through to the next level.

Alas this was heaven's will, no need to force it. He was only one step away. Just any little factor from now on could allow him to become a half-step Giant.

"Physique refinement" and "dantian" - one focused on the physical aspect while the other was all about cultivation.

They were two different paths for training.

Humans's primary method is the dantian while demons and beasts preferred physique refinement.

The cultivation realms of Jin included Spirit Realm, Immortal Foundation, God Base, Heaven's Mandate, Nirvana...

They represented the power in one's dantian and had nothing to do with one's physical potential.

There were different levels for physique users as well. For example, to be able to attack with the force of 10,000 pounds was considered "one bull".

20,000 pounds - two bulls.

40,000 pounds - three bulls.

80,00 pounds - four bulls.

This doubling ratio continued onward...

Then, the force of ten bulls was equal to the force of one tiger.

The tiger mentioned here was a dragon-tiger with enough mighty to lift a mountain.

Feiyun's current physical prowess allowed him to unleash nine tigers. One palm was enough to destroy a small city or fight against an early Giant.

In fact, he could even win against one with a first-level spirit treasure capable of an eightfold attack.

As for one without a spirit treasure or a top technique capable of boosting power? He could easily defeat or even kill him.

He was far inferior cultivation-wise but his physique is the key in defeating them. Both training methods were viable.

"These two methods actually complement one another. A boost in cultivation can help polish the physique and vice versa."

"Not focusing on one over the other will yield the best result."

A dantian-only cultivator's body would still grow stronger. For example, a seventh-level Heaven's Mandate Giant could still unleash a seven-tiger attack only using their body.

As for Feiyun, he cultivated a physique merit law but could still open his dantian enough to reach peak fifth-level Heaven's Mandate.

"I need to find a scripture to cultivate the dantian too so that my cultivation will be proportional to my physique. This type of dual cultivation will accelerate my Immortal Phoenix Physique." He understood something.

He used to think that just cultivating this physique art was the best choice. However, he had a different idea now - dual cultivation.

He had plenty of cultivation scriptures in his memories but most were physique arts for demons. The dantian ones weren't the best ones because his tribe didn't cultivate this path and didn't collect enough scrolls.

Feiyun didn't want to take out a random one. In his opinion, he needed a scripture with a merit law comparable to the Immortal Phoenix Physique or he rather not do it at all.

"The Grave Palace Treasure-seeking Record is profound, definitely on the same level as the phoenix physique. Then there are the Dao Scripture and Golden Silk Scripture. These are the ultimate merit laws for humans. If I can have these two merit laws, my cultivation will rise even faster."

Feiyun had the Eight Arts Volume of the grave record but it only contained techniques and arts, no merit laws for cultivation.

He didn't know why this tiny dynasty would have these top sacred scriptures. Alas, Jin really did have many secrets and wasn't as simple as it seems. Perhaps it played a pivotal role among the many kingdoms of humans, unknown to others.

Too many strange things happened here - such as Feiyun's reincarnation, Shui Yueting's presence, the Evil Woman came back to life here too and started again on the heavenly dao path, then the existence of a top demon master like Feiyun's mother? Why did she appear in Jin and married Feiyun's father?

Also, the unbelievable teleportation altar at the earth-level in a Heaven's Ascension grave, or the Immeasurable Tower, a broken saint vessel. Perhaps there were more mysteries inside the eight ancient ruins of Jin?

Feiyun slowly came to find that this land called Jin was special in some ways.

### Chapter 654: Giant Slaying

The faint aura of a phoenix disappeared after the successful formation of the second bone. The massive beasts in the sky also left. The ones near the lake had stares of confusion and hesitation but they chose to leave too.

The area found peace again. Of course, a few powerful divine intents still swept through Feiyun. They were extremely strong and didn't seem to be from humans.

The group of peacocks returned to the shallow water and quickly held their eggs with their beak then flew away. They didn't want to linger in this problematic location.

Fireflies started coming out from the water plants, looking as bright as the stars in the sky.

Only the Heavenly Witch Goddess stayed behind.

Feiyun gazed at the horizon with a serious expression before asking: "Are you following me or going back to Witch God by yourself?"

"I'll follow you." She would have hesitated in the past but not anymore after finding out that his aura could nourish the divine tree.

Feiyun nodded and decided to leave. The big commotion would surely attract those heretics. They worried about the angry beasts earlier but with them gone, they would certainly come running.

Sure enough, a lightning bolt descended from the sky. A man in a black cloak looking like a phantom landed on the center of the lake. He spoke with an old voice: "You're not going anywhere, Feng Feiyun."

Eight more figures rode the wind here and sealed the sky.

The goddess' expression changed after hearing the fifty-first protector. She turned towards Feiyun and took a good look at him. Her eyes moved up and down as she found him to be very familiar.

'No wonder... no, no, it can't be him. Young Master Feng always travels with two hounds and he's not this strong either... but what if it's really him?'

'Is he here... to do terrible things to me again...?'

She was on the verge of tears due to an instinctive fear towards him, akin to a mouse meeting a cat or a rabbit seeing a hawk.

Feiyun didn't notice her strange expression since he was staring at the old man: "Haha, fifty-first protector, you got here fast."

The old man snorted: "Can't let you get away now, Feng Feiyun, give up. You can't win against our temple."

Feiyun knew that the old man was buying time. He must have sent messages to the other protectors. Numerous masters were heading here.

He must break away from this group with haste.

He summoned the weapon essence and turned into a ray circling in the air.

Three heretics who were sealing the sky died instantly; all got cut into two halves despite being fourth-level Heaven's Mandate.

The seal in the sky broke to the horror of the heretics. Feiyun was too strong. Fourth-level Heaven's Mandate cultivators were helpless before him.

Feiyun was simply too fast. Even the protector couldn't see his figure too well.

'The boy has gotten even stronger!' He thought.

"Let's go!" Feiyun grabbed the goddess' hand and lifted her up.

"Stop it right there!" The protector didn't like Feiyun and thought that the Heretical King's invitation was only inviting trouble, almost like raising a tiger. Killing the guy right away was the better choice.

Feiyun had killed too many elite heretics. Each required numerous resources to groom. Thus, he wanted to teach the brat a lesson.

"Boom!" He unleashed a massive palm of energy at the sixfold level straight for Feiyun's head.

Feiyun stopped with a cold glare. He released a palm strike as well with the image of nine gigantic dragon-tigers.

It brought through the energy palm and headed straight for the protector.

"What?! Nine tiger force?!" The protector's eyes almost left their sockets. He could only release seven tigers when he was a half-step but Feiyun could release nine tigers at the fifth-level?

Even the most devilish genius couldn't be this strong!

Of course, he didn't know that Feiyun focused on physique cultivation. They were on two different paths.

"Boom!" He took out a black sail towering at 120 feet with a star engraved on the surface. The star became bright and shot right out.

This was a first-level spirit treasure named Star Sail, capable of unleashing an eightfold attack.

It successfully stopped the nine tiger strike but he was still blown flying and smashed into a peak. His hands were bloodied while he coughed out blood.

'An eightfold spirit treasure attack got beaten? How is he so strong, is he a reincarnated divine beast?' He thought that Feiyun would only be unbeatable among his own generation and that he could easily suppress the guy. However, he got grievously wounded after the first exchange.

The biggest reason for Feiyun's victory was the protector's carelessness and overconfidence. If he had taken Feiyun seriously from the start, he wouldn't have lost in this pitiful manner.

'Cut grass by the roots, kill all the way.' Feiyun wanted to kill this injured protector to avoid further pursuit.

"Such impudence, you dare to kill a protector?!" Another heretic attacked from behind with a fireball with a diameter of five meters. It looked like a sun with powerful destructive capability.

Feiyun turned his hand back for a palm strike. The air shuddered as a massive energy shattered the fireball.

The poor heretic got pulverized. Only several bones fell down to the ground. Such ferocity and mercilessness.

The other three heretics were intimidated and started running towards the night.

However, Feiyun unleashed three finger-strikes and killed them from dozens of miles away.

"You may be able to kill me but you still can't beat the young lord. He is here now." The protector gritted his teeth.

Feiyun was weaker than him yesterday but so much has changed. They couldn't view him as part of the young generation any longer since he had enough power to fight against Giants at only twenty years of age or so!

No one would believe this. Only their young heretical lord could take him on because he could still Giants back at the same age too.

The fight ended quickly. The protector used everything in his arsenal to no avail and got crucified to a hill by Feiyun. His blood started burning the area, wanting to turn the hill into a grave.

The Star Sail's weapon soul and energy got devoured by Feiyun's weapon essence too and became a useless piece of cloth.

The goddess shuddered with fear. Nine people have died tonight, one Giant among them.

The final move of the protector was a tenfold strike that manages to slightly wound Feiyun. Blood dripped out of his left sleeve and painted his fingers red before touching the ground.

"Are, are you all right?" She asked.

"We have to leave this place. More masters from Senluo are coming right now." Feiyun smiled. Injuries were as common as meals nowaday. He didn't care for this little wound.

"Where are we heading to?"

"They have too many masters. The only way to win is to get external help or take a great risk. We're going to Bronze Cauldron Mountain." Feiyun pondered for a moment, deciding to take the young lord on in this contest.

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A while later, three protectors from Senluo arrived from different directions. Their aura was strong enough to intimidate the beasts nearby.

They were shaken by this scene. A battle happened recently - three big mountains were severed, a great lake has been flattened, and smoke was everywhere. The stench of blood and aggression assailed the nostrils.

The members of Senluo were dead, even the fifty-first protector whose corpse was burning.

It has only been one minute since they received the message from him.

"Feng Feiyun did this?" The nineteenth protector couldn't believe his own eyes.

These other two begrudgingly nodded, accepting this reality.

"We need to reassess his power level. I heard the court has sent several supreme masters to Ancient Jiang. Looks like this match between the young lord and the Divine King has upgraded to a match between Jin and Senluo."

"It's inevitable. The winner of this chess match is very important for morale and momentum. I'm sure the Jin Empress is aware of this."

The three protectors left in a hurry in order to report this situation to their superiors. Feng Feiyun had the ability to kill a Glant now.

Many people would lose sleep if this news were to spread.

## Chapter 655: Important Match

Ancient Jiang was located outside of Endless Land. Heading deeper would lead one to its outskirts which were three times bigger than the prefecture.

This external area was still extremely dangerous with several beast kings around. These creatures have cultivated for more than two thousand years with a battle prowess comparable to Enlightened Beings. The other spirit beasts in this area were quite tough as well.

Thus, this outer area was virtually forbidden for humans. The Jiang didn't dare to intrude.

Bronze Cauldron Mountain resided there.

Guo Dahai was an intermediate Giant who once tried to find this area. However, he didn't make it one-tenth of the way before nearly dying and needed to run away.

The terror of this place was as clear as day.

Feiyun had two goals in coming here. First, Senluo Temple was quite strong and he needed a rough area like this in order to stop or even make them suffer heavy losses.

Second, he was quite curious about one of the eight mythical ruins and the demon's treasury.

From risk comes wealth. The heavenly treasures and artifacts inside could help him reach a higher cultivation level.

He sped forward and purposely showed himself whenever he saw some tribes. Among them were certainly Senluo spies who would report his location to their superiors.

He wanted to see if their experts would give chase. If yes, then he would use the countless beasts in the outer area to destroy them. If they didn't dare to do so, they would suffer the wrath of their young lord.

Everyone knew about the contest between the young lord and the government right now happening in Ancient Jiang.

If Feiyun dared to enter Endless Land and the other side didn't? They would suffer derision and disdain.

The world paid attention to this particular chess match. News and messages traveled to the capital and other prefectures on a daily basis.

"The Heretical Young Lord represents Senluo Temple and Feng Feiyun represents the court, but Ancient Jiang is the young lord's home court. I'm sure Feiyun will lose right away." Several old men wearing violet and golden embroidered robe had a discussion in a palace within the capital. They have just received a message talisman.

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"What?! Feng Feiyun wounded the shaman ancestor named Gu Lida and took down the fifty-first protector of Senluo?! This shows that he has entered the realm of Giants at the age of twenty! This brilliant talent is enough to shock the ages. Beiming Potian and Dongfang Jingshui will want to enter isolated cultivation, not wanting to be left far behind." Old voices accompanied by astonishment sounded inside an ancient sect in Earthchild Prefecture after receiving the newest report from a beautiful girl in white.

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"What the hell?! Is Feiyun crazy, what is he doing in the outer area of Endless Land?!" Bi Ningshuai was having a drink in a pub located in Heavenly Cloud Prefecture, enjoying a thousand-year wine he stole from the Nalan Residence last night.

He heard this from the storyteller and slammed the table.

This storyteller was scared out of his mind; his hands trembled so he dropped his teacup, getting his pants all wet.

Nevertheless, this professional calmed down and slowly wiped his pants dry before speaking again: "I believe he's using an ancient path to find the mythical Bronze Cauldron Mountain."

"Wait a minute, what did you say earlier? Feng Feiyun took the Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess from the clutch of the fifth protector from Senluo?" Ningshuai was slightly drunk by this point.

"Yes."

"That animal!" Ningshuai stomped his foot.

Suddenly, a cacophony came from below. A proud and imposing middle-aged man walked up the stairs with a group of armored men. One of the troops pointed at Ningshuai standing by the window: "Sixth Lord, he's the one who snuck in last night and stole all the serums and medicines from the cellar."

Bi Ningshuai saw the group and instantly wrapped his wine jar with the table cloth and threw it over his shoulder. He then jumped out of the windows to run away, embarrassingly leaving behind one shoe from being too anxious.

"Chase after that thief! I heard several other clans got things stolen too. One has their ancestral graves excavated, even the spirit ice robe from their ancestor's corpse was taken, it is just laying naked right now in the coffin. Capture him and cut off his dirty hands!"

The furious experts from the Nalan quickly pursued after him.

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Feiyun and the goddess crossed through Ancient Jiang and made it to the outer region of Endless Land after two days of rushing. The goddess didn't say a thing, seemingly bullied by Feiyun. She would only occasionally steal glances at him.

Feiyun knew that she was thinking about his origin. Though many people shared the same name in this world, she definitely felt something amiss about Feng Feiyun due to her being a wisdom master who had inherited the arts of Jing Feng. She couldn't divine anything about him but could still sense something being amiss.

Appearance could change but not the temperament and general spirit.

She wanted to speak several times but hesitated, clearly still very afraid of the young master who cast a shadow on her. After all, a sleeping young girl got her door kicked open by a young master with a perverted grimace. Behind him were two evil-looking servants. Next, he jumped on her and pushed her down, tearing off her clothes before nearly raping her.

No girl would ever forget a traumatic event like this. Moreover, the young master had a notorious record. All the girls there feared him more than the devil.

The two have arrived at the outer region so Feiyun stopped rushing. He took a look at her and said with a bashful voice: "Luo Yu'er."

"Ye-" She almost instinctively responded but got jolted instead.

It has been a long time since someone last called her by her real name. Everyone referred to her as the Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess or Your Highness right now. This sudden development scared her just as much as when he kicked down her door back then.

She confirmed that this man was indeed the young master.

They were no longer the same as before. The tea girl has turned into a swan and the young master... seemed to have become even eviler.

Feiyun became amused while looking at her expression. 'Does she need to be this afraid of me? Turning all white now.'

"Young... Young Master Feng." She lowered her head and whispered, no longer looking like a supreme goddess wielding her silver staff but more like a little neighbor girl getting bullied by an older child.

She would already be running if it wasn't for his high cultivation.

Yu'er was no longer a girl as well since she has developed fully - thin and tall. Of course, she matured before her age back then. Now, it was even more tempting; all the things that need to stick out did. The loose silver robe couldn't hide them.

She was around 175 centimeters tall. Her white neck was quite long as well, covered by her black hair draping down to the waist. Her goose-egg-shaped face had a mix of embarrassment, fear, purity, and elegance.

Feiyun stared like an old farmer looking at his trapped goat, waiting for them to grow up before the butchering.

She didn't dare to look back at him. Her heart was jumping like a calf. It has been many years since someone dared to look at her in this manner. Everyone else kneeled before her presence.

Right when she was around to beg for mercy, Feiyun finally spoke with curiosity: "What have you learned from Wisdom Master Jing Feng in the last few years? Why do you feel even clumsier than before?"

"No! I've obtained Master's lifelong legacy and am now a ninth-ranked wisdom master, versed in astronomy and divination, able to set up grand momentums and observe qi images... and I've memorized all the witch scriptures too..." Despite being afraid of him, she still retorted out of vexation.

"Stop it right there, a ninth-ranked wisdom master? You? Hahaha..." Feiyun laughed his heart out, looking more like a young man than a seasoned expert.

Perhaps only Feng Feiyun would be able to joke around with a girl while being pursued by Senluo Temple.

Yu'er almost had tears coming out while stomping her foot: "I'm really a ninth-ranked wisdom master, why don't you believe me..."

"I do... it's just that I haven't seen such a clumsy wisdom master before!" Feiyun found her anxious appearance amusing. His tense nerves could finally be relaxed.

Evil he was, just not emotionless. He didn't mind messing around with the pretty girls.

'This young master is still the same as before, only good at teasing young girls. His servants aren't here but he is even stronger than them now... it's over...' She bit her glistening lip and saw his evil smile.

She completely forgot about using spirit energy to fly and started running away while begging: "Young Master Feng, please, my master and grandfather are dead, Yu'er has nothing left. I don't want to be the goddess nor do I want to be bullied..."

She wanted to win his pity. That's the only way to get out.

Feiyun watched her running towards Endless Land and was quite shocked. 'Am I really that ugly? Hahaha...'

# Chapter 656: Ancient Tribe in Endless Land

Luo Yu'er only wanted to escape Feng Feiyun but accidentally ran towards the direction of Endless Land, stepping into a primal forest. When she calmed down and realized something was amiss, she has already been several hundred miles in.

'This is bad, why did I run into this dangerous area? That young master scared me foolish.'

One could clearly hear the roars of beasts in the mountain range even when they were a hundred miles away.

Fear appeared on her peerless face as she recalled the perilous legends about these parts. She wanted to fly and get out since she was still close to the border.

However, a hand pressed down on her shoulder. Feiyun was behind her and said: "Don't fly, you'll die right away."

She couldn't move at all. Suddenly, a nine-meter-long bird flew out of a black mountain but a gigantic golden ape dozens of miles away threw out a huge boulder.

The bird's head got crushed and blood splattered everywhere. The golden ape leaped over and dragged the bird's corpse away.

This scared the crap of Yu'er. She could be the one dead right now if Feiyun didn't stop her.

"There are beasts everywhere here. Only the top ones will fly in the sky or they'll become a living target." Feiyun said.

"Young Master Feng... please spare me..." Yu'er looked pitifully at him. This was actual begging, not a case of coquettishness.

"Be a good girl and stay right behind me or else... Hehehe..." Feiyun smiled deviously before heading deeper into the forest.

Yu'er knew that she couldn't escape with her current cultivation and would only risk being bullied by disobeying. She frowned and hesitated before deciding to follow him.

According to the Jiang legends, Bronze Cauldron Mountain was where the Witch God slew numerous demons. It was a sacred place but its actual location remained a mystery.

Feiyun took his time reading the stone tablets and bone writings back at the tribe and had a general idea of its location. He followed the path erected by treasure-masters along remote marshes.

Because they couldn't fly and needed to avoid powerful spirit beasts, their speed was quite slow. They have only traveled ten thousand miles after five days and didn't see a single living person.

Yu'er eventually stopped being afraid. The young master seemingly changed. Though he still looked quite evil, the guy didn't touch a single finger of hers or had any intention of sleeping together.

Images of the past surfaced in her mind. She remembered that Feng Feiyun had changed back then too. He helped her and cut off Boss Wu's arm on top of eliminating the villainous San Ye.

He gave her fifteen gold coins too only to drink a cup of tea. She knew that she wasn't good at it; the tea was only worth several bronze coins at best. The young master simply wanted to help her. Plus, he didn't even drink her tea after paying. She still owed him fifteen cups.

'Why is he evil again now? What happened to him in the last several years?' She wondered.

Her eyes brimmed with curiosity while following him. She opened her mouth several times and almost had enough courage to ask. Alas, she ended up closing it each time.

"How did your grandpa pass away?" Feiyun cut his way through thistles and thorns along a mountain gorge.

"Grandpa... passed away from illness." Her eyes turned slightly red.

"Do I look like a child to you? How can Wisdom Master Jing Feng let him die from an illness? Just one random grass can let him live for more than a hundred years without getting sick." Feiyun turned around, easily knew that she was lying.

Feiyun didn't like prying but the old man was an old acquaintance so he made casual conversation. However, the girl chose to lie. There must be something else going on.

She looked down at the stream and said: "During my third year at Heaven Worship, one night, the Third Tribe Lord of Heaven Witchcraft broke into our place, wanting to find me but I was training with Master at the temple so he took grandpa instead. Big Brother Chang Datou and Gou Dadan gave chase right away but during the pursuit... that third lord... crushed grandpa to death then escaped... hoo hoo."

She started sobbing because the two of them relied on each other for survival since forever. She thought that her grandpa would have a good life after she became the goddess. Who would have thought that his death was because of her?

"Why did you lie to me?" Feiyun didn't know what to say.

"Hoo hoo... because if I told you that grandpa was killed, you would call me a useless idiot and say that I can't even avenge him despite being the goddess... but maybe it's true. I'm really useless for not being able to wake the divine tree, many died because of this..." She bawled her eyes out, wanting to make up for the last several years.

"I won't make fun of you anymore, just stop crying, okay? What kind of goddess cries like this? Have you no shame?" Feng Feiyun said.

"Really?" She guestioned his trustworthiness.

"The third lord of Heaven Witchcraft is Shi Zhenxiang? I will help you kill him." He nodded in response.

"Ah? Why are you helping me when it's not any of your business. Plus, this guy is very strong, he can destroy a mountain with a single punch." She thought she was hearing things.

"Because I'm Young Master Feng, the only person who can bully you. Little Yu'er, you still owe me fifteen cups of tea, gotta pay me back! Haha!" Feiyun walked up to her and said.

Feiyun moved forward, not knowing why he could relax with Yu'er. Perhaps it was because he didn't need to worry about her scheming for her own gains. She was similar to Nalan Xuejian in this regard.

However, he knew that Xuejian had feelings for him so he tried his best not to mingle with her or she would fall deeper in love. This wasn't the case for Yu'er. She had nothing but fear so it was fine to tease her to relax. No need to worry about her falling in love either because that's impossible. The only thing in her head was probably how to get away from Young Master Feng.

She stood there in a daze and watched him leave in a lazy manner. Alas, when facing his enemies, he would become ruthless and cold like a completely different person.

'Does he only act like this in front of me? Why does he want to help and protect me so much? Even going as far as avenging grandpa, I'm not his sister nor his lover, why is he so good to me?' Waves rippled in her eyes while her eyebrows fluttered, feeling slightly confused about Feiyun's intent.

She shook his head and dispelled these crazy thoughts before catching up. It looked like she was following him on her own volition now instead of being forced to do so.

Later that same day, they actually met a smaller tribe.

It was old and rarely interacted with outsiders. They haven't seen a visitor in several decades. Feiyun and Yu'er were met with enthusiasm instead of apprehension.

Feiyun became curious. A tribe with several hundred people could survive in this dangerous area?

He looked around and saw an old well and a stone tablet that clearly have been around for a millennium now. The tribe certainly had older items too. This indicated the existence of the tribe since long ago.

Remember, a Giant would have a hard time surviving for more than three days in the outer area but the villagers here have been around for much longer. There was more than meets the eyes here.

A group of young children surrounded the two of them. One of the girls had a melodious voice: "You're really pretty, Big Sister, just as pretty as the Big Sister from yesterday."

"Someone else visited your tribe yesterday?" Feiyun's expression changed.

A group of old men came forward too and looked quite friendly. One of them wore beast hide while holding a tobacco pipe made of bamboo: "A monk in white and a beautiful girl wearing Buddhist robe visited us yesterday. They also came from outside."

The only reason Feiyun managed to survive so far was due to his keen awareness allowing him to dodge danger. Moreover, he could control the beasts nearby to scout for him. That's how he managed to make it this far.

In other words, one needed supreme cultivation to reach this remote tribe.

'A monk and a girl in Buddhist attire?' He became curious.

### Chapter 657: Ancient Inscription; Primeval Disaster

Feiyun channeled his phoenix gaze clandestinely, wanting to see if these tribe members were actually hidden masters. However, he found that the young and old of this village were all regular Jiangs.

Of course, a few middle-aged men here could punch with the force of tens of thousands of pounds. This was rather normal for the Jiang due to their innate physical prowess. Just a bit of training would have this result.

But if they were normal people, then how did they survive in this area for generations?

Feiyun curiously asked the old men here to see if they have ever been attacked by the beasts.

"Of course not, we haven't seen a powerful beast within a hundred miles of our village." One old man said.

A different one added: "Our men just need to hunt within this radius and they won't meet the big ones. None have attacked our village either."

His curiosity increased. He released his divine intents and covered an area of several hundred miles radius. Sure enough, the strongest ones around have only cultivated for a hundred years or so. Not a single three-hundred-year and up beast could be found.

Meanwhile, beasts continued to travel the long way around the village, even the ones towering at more than ten meters.

This was a very strange phenomenon. Was there something or someone monstrous in this place? The beasts could sense them and didn't dare to get close.

This had to be it.

"Seniors, may I ask for your village's background or was any of your ancestors an amazing master? Of course, no need to tell me if you don't want to." Feiyun asked again.

The villagers were very simple and weren't suspicious on top of being hospitable. One of the old men smiled and said: "It's been too many generations so we have no idea. According to our ancestral list, my family has been around for more than 300 generations."

"Mine has been around for 403 generations." An old man smoking a tobacco pipe sat on a stone stool and let out a puff of smoke, taking pride in having an older lineage.

'Damn! That's older than the four great clans of Jin. People from Jiang live for a long time... let's say twenty years for each generation, that's six thousand years already. If twenty-five years, that's ten thousand years or even older... What the hell kind of tribe is this?'

Luo Yu'er covered her mouth in shock, able to notice the peculiarities here.

The two old men worried about Feiyun's skepticism. They loudly cried out for their wives to bring their ancestral lists here.

The lists were carved on tough pieces of bones connected by tenders and leather, spanning for more than ten meters long after unrolling.

One recorded 394 generations while the other had 403.

"People say that this tablet has been around at the start of our village, but none of us can understand it." An old man brought Feng Feiyun in front of a tablet.

The four-meter-tall tablet was black from top to bottom. The writings became faint due to the years, requiring good vision to read.

Feiyun channeled his heavenly gaze and only saw one-tenth of the words clearly. These others have been weathered down and removed completely.

He frowned from not being able to recognize the language. Perhaps they looked like witch runes more.

"This is the language from the Witchcraft Scripture." Yu'er quietly said.

He turned around hastily and asked: "You know about this?"

All the villagers came around with eager eyes. They have been wanting to know the content of the scripture.

Though many masters have visited, none understood the content and left in disappointment. However, this beautiful girl seemed to have recognized it so they became quite excited.

With sparkling lips, rippling eyes, and delicate eyelashes, Yu'er said: "Only the leader of each generation from Witch God Temple can read these runes. There are too many broken spots that can't be read though, so I can't make heads or tails out of this."

Only one-tenth of the texts remained undamaged; the rest wasn't salvageable.

According to her - a monstrous existence appeared a very long time ago. But as for what and from where? Those facts were missing.

During that period, massacres happened and the people wailed in agony. It didn't say what happens next with this monster, only the words "depth of Endless Land", "Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess", "the destruction of the Buddhist faction".

Feiyun's frown intensified. He performed his Minor Change Art on the ground with the information given to him from Yu'er.

Sure enough, this land had suffered a calamity before, resulting in the near-destruction of the most prosperous culture at that time - Buddhism. This was very similar to the disaster written in Buddhist texts.

Before the founding of Jin was an even longer period of prosperity. Everyone ranging from mortals to cultivators worshipped Buddhism. Pagodas and temples were everywhere - the golden age of Buddhism.

However, a disaster virtually destroyed every single sect and ended this period.

Beastmaster Camp was the only Buddhist sect managing to survive the ordeal. However, their Golden Silkworm Scripture was lost.

So this place had records of it too, but why was it written using this special text? Could it be that the master of the Witch God Temple during that generation saw something important then?

Feiyun began to calculate. If this disaster was indeed the same one, then it should be around ten thousand years ago, several years earlier than the start of Jin. That was when the previous-generation Witchcraft Goddess came out, could she be the one who had carved this?

Yu'er looked silly but she was indeed a ninth-ranked wisdom master. The two of them glanced at each other at the same time, knowing that they came up with the same conclusion. His stare made her blush with awkwardness.

"What?! The Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess engraved this text?" The old men instantly kneeled and started kowtowing towards the tablet after finding out.

The rest of the tribe did the same thing with nothing but reverence in their heart. The goddess was viewed as a deity so this item was also sacred.

Feiyun checked the tabler again. It had no augmentation and special aura, meaning that it had nothing to do with the beast repellent.

'Why do the beasts avoid this place then?' Feiyun wanted to ask about other ancient items but was interrupted.

A quiet and elegant zither sounded in a pleasant manner, attuned with nature. People couldn't help but take a deep breath in enjoyment.

The melody had no impurities. How could someone have a pure enough mind to play this tune? There was really a hidden master here?

Feiyun didn't bother the villagers in worship and followed the melody deeper into the village. He made it to a creek surrounded by peach blossom trees and saw a monk in white immersed in playing his zither.

Yu'er walked behind him while carefully appreciating the song.

Numerous golden fish came to the water surface, seemingly wanting to listen. The butterflies and birds landed on the tree branches, causing pink petals to flutter down.

Just one song and the monk stopped.

"Clap!" Feiyun applauded and walked forward with a smile: "Haha! No place is too far for fate. We meet again, Master Formless. I didn't expect to see such mastery of the zither. Your zither's profundity and musical prowess... only one person in the world can match you."

Formless sat cross-legged with his zithers on top of his thighs, looking as gallant and handsome as ever.

He placed his palms together and smiled with a profound glare: "There's someone like that?"

"A friend." Feiyun said: "But we're focusing on you today. I thought you were heading east after we left Beastmaster Camp, why are you here now in Ancient Jiang and even the Endless Land. Haha, don't tell me you got lost."

"Amitabha, of course not. I'm here specifically to find you."

"Why?"

"Someone is forcing me to do so or she will commit suicide in front of me." Formless said.

Feiyun naturally knew who he was referring to. He got a strange expression on his face: "So you sold out a friend and brought her here?"

"Amitabha, Buddhists must be benevolent and save lives." Formless closed his eyes. A white glow existed around him in a holy manner, making him look like a bodhi tree.

# Chapter 658: Luo Yu'er And Nalan Xuejian

"Feng Feiyun you liar, didn't you say your cultivation was gone and didn't have much time left. Well, you look perfectly fine right now." Nalan Xuejian appeared in the village, wearing a green Buddhist dress that was quite elegant just like a flower. She was furious, having nearly cried her eyes out from being tricked.

Feiyun thought that he had successfully made her give up. Who would have thought that she remained so stubborn and kept on searching for him?

'Looks like I have underestimated her.' Feiyun thought.

He smiled and said: "I met an incredible doctor who restored my cultivation. Xuejian, aren't you cultivating Buddhism with Monk Jiu Rou? Why did you run off to this place?"

"The monk got something important to do at the capital so I snuck out." She actually believed the whole doctor saving him. Her eyes rolled around and noticed Yu'er standing next to Feiyun and they started glaring like an angry little hen.

She angrily said with animosity: "Feiyun, get over here."

"Coming." Feiyun strolled over leisurely with both hands behind his back.

"Who is that?" Xuejian hugged his arm with both hands before looking at Yu'er, seemingly declaring her ownership over Feiyun.

Luo Yu'er also stared at Xuejian in surprise, thinking that the girl was too beautiful.

The two looked like a match made in heaven. However, she couldn't help touching her face in comparison, thinking that she wasn't inferior in any way.

Feiyun ignored the girl grabbing his arm and smiled: "Let me introduce you two, this is the lord of WItch God Temple, Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess, Luo Yu'er. And over there, Yu'er, is Master Formless. And... this here is Nalan Xuejian, my younger sister..."

"Not blood-related." Nalan Xuejian emphasized since she was cautious of Yu'er. The girl was very beautiful on top of having high status so she felt pressured. [1]

Meanwhile, Formless sat by the creek and showed no emotion, seemingly meditating.

"Nice to meet you, Master Nalan." Yu'er politely performed a courteous gesture.

Feiyun's brows slightly furrowed. It was fine for Yu'er to call Xuejian "Master" because the latter was wearing a Buddhist robe. However, it sounded as if Yu'er had some playful animosity behind her words too, as if reminding Xuejian that she was a Buddhist and shouldn't be too close with Feiyun.

But why? This was their first meeting and Yu'er always had a friendly temper and should get along with Xuejian. Maybe Xuejian gave her a bad impression earlier?

Xuejian was a carefree girl but womanly intuition told her that Yu'er definitely had some ideas towards Feng Feiyun or Feiyun had some feelings for Yu'er. She specifically searched for Feiyun in order to stop him from mingling with other girls, so how could she be happy right now?

"I heard the Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess is extremely pure and will never like men, isn't that true?" Xuejian smiled deviously.

"Yes." Yu'er nodded and responded quietly while gritting her teeth.

"I feel familiarity at first sight and want to be your friend. Can we talk in private?" Xuejian heaved a sigh of relief but her hostility didn't stop there.

Feng Feiyun knew that this girl was up to no good and wanted to say something but Yu'er had already agreed.

This surprised him. He started thinking that Yu'er isn't that timid either and is taking Nalan Xuejian on, albeit in a low-key manner.

Nalan Xuejian and Luo Yu'er walked to the other side of the village and disappeared from sight. Feng Feiyun and Formless found a stone table and sat down.

Formless told him the current situation right now. It turned out that everyone knows about the match between him and the young lord. That's the reason why he and Xuejian came here to find him.

"The girl must be giving you quite a headache and halting your cultivation." Feng Feiyun said.

Formless, pure as a lotus, smiled and said: "Miss Nalan is vivacious, innocent, kind-hearted, on top of being deeply in love with you. Do you know what she kept repeating along the way?"

Feiyun smiled and didn't answer.

Formless copied Xuejian's tone: "Feng Feiyun must be flirting everywhere, that guy won't change even if someone puts a blade on his neck, leaving romantic debts everywhere, and that's why I need to put a leash on him."

Feiyun laughed loudly at her cute naiveness.

"Thank you for escorting her through the long journey so I must show my gratitude. However, giving you spirit stones or things of that nature is too vulgar. If only we have wine here..." Feiyun smiled.

Formless' expression actually changed after hearing this due to his low alcohol tolerance. He placed his palms together and chanted: "Amitabha."

A young boy nearby heard Feiyun and came over, whispering mysteriously: "Big Bro, if you want to drink, you can go to the chief's cellar, it's really big and has been around even before our tribe. I went in there with my two friends, so dark inside but it was huge with a bunch of fruit wines. We didn't get that far though because it's too cold and scary. Matches wouldn't even light."

Feiyun and Formless exchanged glances before following the boy.

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Nalan Xuejian walked towards a remote spot in the forest with Yu'er behind her. This place was filled with tall trees filled with luxuriant leaves. Vines as thick as water bucket coiled around them, looking just like flood dragons.

Xuejian stopped and turned back to look at Yu'er. This was an extremely beautiful girl dressed in a silver robe. Tall and slender with two towering peaks. She had a good aura too but most importantly, she was half-a-head taller than Xuejian.

Yu'er stared at her too. This girl was very close to Feiyun. She had a great figure and a style straight out of a painting. Her eyes were especially bright but most importantly, the girl had whiter and seemingly softer skin.

The two carefully compared each other.

"What's your relation with Feiyun?" Xuejian was the first to break the silence.

"Mmm... he's very kind towards me, protecting me and even wanting to avenge my grandpa." Yu'er didn't know why she was telling Xuejian this. However, speaking these words made her feel quite good and happy.

"He's lying to you, that's who he is, a swindler specializing in tricking innocent girls like you. You don't know his past, he's a spoiled young master who harassed girls in broad daylight, so don't fall for his lies. He's only nice to you because you're pretty and gullible." Xuejian's fire intensified after hearing this.

"Why are you so rude? You are beautiful but very hypocritical. How can you talk behind his back like this? He'll be so sad if he were to find out." Yu'er slightly grimaced.

"..." Xuejian had no response and almost fainted from anger.

"And as for his past, I know him even more than you. He did bad things back then but he's different now, having done plenty of good deeds and helping me several times. He'll definitely stay true to his words and help me get revenge." Yu'er went on.

'She knows more about Feiyun?' Xuejian wanted to pull her own hair out while thinking: 'It's over for this girl, Feiyun got her good now so it's useless trying to persuade her. I must save her from the tiger's den, I can't allow that liar to destroy her purity.'

Nalan Xuejian didn't know that she herself had fallen for Feiyun the most out of anyone. She wanted to save others from the tiger while wanting to be eaten by it.

"Fine! I have a different method since you're so stubborn." Xuejian held her buddhist beads and emitted a pure Buddhist aura.

A bright lotus appeared beneath her; chants could faintly be heard. Behind her was a bright expanse of Buddhist light. She challenged: "You're the Heavenly Witchcraft Goddess, right?! I'm sure you're strong then, why don't we have a match?"

"I see no reason to." Yu'er had a strong cultivation along while being skilled in witchcraft. Alas, she has never been in a fight before.

"The winner will get Feiyun and get to make rice with him, the loser will leave and never show up again!" Nalan Xuejian's hair fluttered as she stood on the lotus with her chest arched forward while staring straight at Yu'er. [2]

"..." Yu'er blushed after hearing that phrase.

"Do you dare?" Xuejian didn't really know the meaning of the phrase. However, she had a general idea - after she finished cooking the rice, Feng Feiyun will be hers. She must win this match at all cost to chase Luo Yu'er away.

# Chapter 659: Buddhist Artifact

The child led Feng Feiyun and Formless to their chief's residence.

The chief was a gray-haired old man who used to be the strongest warrior in the tribe. Alas, he had trouble walking right now but this didn't diminish his enthusiastic hospitality: "The cellar has the finest fruit wines, dozens of jars too, drink as much as you want."

He told someone to open the stone door, letting a cold wind out.

The cellar was actually a cave by a cliff with two stone slabs added as the entrance. This cooled the wine and made it even better.

Feiyun and Formless' expression changed after entering. They noticed that this cellar was special.

Their goal wasn't to drink but rather to find the mysteries hidden in this tribe.

"Oh? There are runes carved on the walls here." Feiyun noticed faint runes of witchcraft inside the dark cellar, the same type as the ones on the tablet.

"The runes have always been here but none of us can read them. Later on, we made this place a cellar for wine and dried meats for the winter." The chief said.

These runes contained a faint power. Ordinary people couldn't read and distinguish them, only powerful cultivators.

Formless slowly walked over and his eyes started glowing. Alas, he couldn't read them.

"Witchcraft runes... Yu'er should know the content." Feiyun channeled his divine intents to gaze deeper into the dark cave.

His divine intents could travel a thousand miles now but he only got several hundred meters deeper before being stopped, unable to reach the end.

This cave was quite unfathomable.

"We can't go farther inside due to the bone-biting chill. Several young warriors of ours tried before but they only made it several hundred meters inside before retreating. They said that even blood will freeze in that area." The chief seemingly read Feiyun's intent.

He was too old to hang around in the cellar so he left early. Of course, he reminded them not to stay for long before leaving.

Feiyun wanted to bring Yu'er here so that she could read the walls. However, his curiosity got the best of him after listening to the chief. He wanted to see the secret deeper inside.

Formless was normally indifferent to everything but he also became curious and decided to follow Feng Feiyun.

When the two of them got 100 meters inside, they saw a layer of blue frost forming on the walls. Their clothes had a layer of frost as well now.

The temperature dropped even more 50 meters deeper. Ordinary people would freeze to death at this point.

The two of them were strong enough to not be afraid of this temperature. They didn't even need to use spirit energy as a barrier.

At 300 meters, the temperature became extremely low. The ice on the walls was one-meter thick now. Even a half-step Giant would turn into an ice sculpture at this point.

Formless channeled Buddhist energy and covered himself in a pure, white barrier. He looked even more transcending than before.

However, he looked over and saw Feiyun not activating any energy. The guy simply used his body to withstand the cold. 'Even I need to use spirit energy now. His body is too strong.'

Because of his phoenix physique, his blood was as hot as fire. Just the blood flow alone negated the coldness on his skin. If one looked closely enough, they would notice the cold energy dissipating half an inch before actually touching him.

"This is not any ordinary cold energy, maybe there are items like Profound Ice Essence or Heavenly Ice Beast in there?" Another 50 meters made it too hard for Feiyun. He summoned his violet energy and turned it into a basket-like barrier on top of using the Infinite Spirit Ring.

Formless also took out a golden bead the size of a fist. It floated on top of him and poured down a golden barrier around him.

"If we can't reach the end in another 100 meters, we should just go back." Formless hesitated.

Feiyun nodded, aware of the danger coming from the depth. This place was insanely cold; perhaps a monstrous thing was being sealed here.

As they were walking, they found some shiny white dots on the ice layers by the walls. These dots swam around quickly almost like fireflies.

They were Profound Ice Essences, born in extremely cold areas and very hard to find. They were also used as materials for fifth-ranked spirit treasures.

He would be injured instantly if he were to touch them right now. He really wanted to take a few but he didn't have the right containers for them.

"Whoosh!" One speck around the size of a rice grain flew out of the ice, accompanied by a chilling touch.

Feiyun used his ring and sent out an explosion to stop it.

"Poof!" The essence broke through the ring's defense and continued forward.

He became frozen instantly with a thick layer of frost. The coldness began to invade his flesh and blood.

Feiyun tore through the frost and took out his Heaven-raising Truncheon to smack the essence, blowing it back into the ice wall.

The truncheon became frozen too. He activated the 100 formations within to release 100 golden halos, successfully breaking the ice.

On the other side, Formless got attacked by three ice essences at the same time.

His Buddhist arts were profound on top of having an amazing cultivation. His golden bead full of spirituality sent the three essences flying. Of course, it was covered in a layer of ice now too.

The number of ice essences only increased as they moved deeper inside. They flew out of the ice walls like flying daggers, only a thousand times more dangerous.

"We can't go further given with our cultivation or it'll be fatal." Formless could handle the essences. He only made this suggestion for Feiyun's sake.

"It's fine, I can handle this." Flames exploded from his head and heart in a blinding manner.

Two heat waves rushed out and protected him. These were the powers of the heart and wisdom bone.

He led the way and saw more runes through the thick layers of ice before suddenly stopping. He saw a particular vessel - a strange golden stick pinned to the ground. It glowed with ancient runes carved on the surface.

The chilling energy and ice essences here could freeze regular spirit treasures but this stick remained untouched.

Feiyun felt his scalp tingling after noticing a blood drop that has yet to dry after ten thousand years on the stick. Just one drop contained an insane amount of pressure.

The owner of this blood must have been an extremely powerful master or creature.

"That's a Vajra, a Buddhist artifact." The emotionless Formless was moved after recognizing the stick. He felt the power within this fifth-ranked spirit treasure, truly a priceless item.

A fourth-ranked treasure was considered a Dominating Armament. There were less than twenty of them in Jin, so just imagine the might of a fifth-ranked one.

If this thing were to show up in Jin, even Enlightened Beings would come fighting for it.

Feiyun calmed down and saw four golden vines coiling together to form a circle at the bottom of the Vajra. Inside the circle was a golden avatar around the size of a walnut, looking like a Buddha meditating in a steel cage with a holy and peaceful aura.

The end was still nowhere in sight yet they have already seen such an incredible artifact and that everlasting drop of blood. Who left this Vajra here? Whose blood was it on the weapon?

If it wasn't for the thick layers of ice on top of the Buddhist force on the weapon, that drop of blood could grievously injure a Giant with its energy.

#### Chapter 660: The Ender of Buddhism's Golden Age

The ice inside the cave was extremely tough and filled with Profound Ice Essences. Even a full-force attack from a Giant couldn't break it.

Formless placed his finger on the ice layer and released a pulsing white light, causing the entire cave to shake as a result.

Alas, a powerful chilling force made him stagger one step backward. The layer remained intact.

Feiyun knew just how strong this monk is. His Buddhist affinity was boundless and could create incredible resonation. He fought against the Death Walker alone, meaning that he was on the same level as a leader from a great sect. Alas, this still wasn't enough to break the ice layer.

"My turn." Feiyun took out his weapon essence and turned it into a sword with an extremely sharp tip. He cut the ice and left a finger-deep mark on it without using too much force.

His weapon essence could sever spirit treasures so this effectiveness wasn't surprising.

The Vajra was three meters deeper into the ice. Feiyun carefully drilled slowly with his essence while Formless protected him from behind, chasing away all the ice essences.

"Boom!" The moment he got one-third of a meter in, a massive power from below rushed forward.

The weapon essence trembled violently in his hand, forcing him to tighten his grip. His fingers ruptured from the impact with blood everywhere.

He gritted his teeth and tried again. Now, a Buddhist sound came from the Vajra and blew the two flying for one hundred meters.

The two only suffered minor wounds. Someone weaker would have had their souls exploded.

"We can't be so reckless doing this. The Vajra has turned evil by that drop of blood, it's too violent and powerful. It would have escaped long ago if not for the ice and turn into a devil artifact massacring everyone." Formless wiped the blood off his lip. His white robe had mud all over as he stared anxiously at the evil Buddhist affinity deep in the cave.

Chaotic energy ravaged the cave now. Feiyun took out his ring for protection and could sense the might of that Vajra.

That was only thirty percent of its power, the rest was still sealed within the ice.

They couldn't take a single step forward because of this chaotic energy. Feiyun with his physical constitution and Formless with his amazing cultivation could die by marching forward.

"I believe that this Vajra might be one of the three ancient temples from ten thousand years ago, Heartlost." Formless' expression changed.

"Heartlost Temple? I've never heard of it before." Feiyun said.

"A disaster happened on this land ten thousand years ago and virtually all the Buddhist sacred grounds were annihilated. Buddhism used to be the defining cultivation method, a hundred times more prosperous than it currently is now. Three ancient temples existed back then to lead the world. Each had a fifth-ranked spirit treasure of the Buddhist affinity, completely unstoppable. Heartlost Temple was one of them."

At this moment, even fourth-ranked treasures were rare in Jin, let alone a fifth-ranked one. Its full power could kill several million people in one go, turning a thousand miles radius into scorched earth.

These treasures were a reason why Buddhism ruled this land. Even the heretical sects submitted to them.

"According to old scrolls, the three strongest monks from these temples brought their Buddhist treasures to take on this disaster one final time. Unfortunately, they never returned and the treasures disappeared as well. Now, one of them, Vajra, is right here in this cave." Formless went on.

It must have been a monstrous existence who did this back then. Even three great monks with fifth-ranked spirit treasure lost. These treasures disappeared along with the Golden Silkworm Scripture.

But where did this monstrous existence go after ending the golden age of Buddhism? Could that one drop of blood on the Vajra belong to the monster? It defeated the three monks but was still wounded in the process.

Ten thousand years have passed since - too long to verify and research. These were mere speculations from Feiyun. Maybe the truth was completely different.

It took a long while before the cave calmed down. The two were brave and went to the Vajra's location again.

The hole made by Feiyun was nowhere to be found, clearly filled up by ice once more.

"Oh? That blood drop is gone now." Feiyun keenly noticed that the blood has fused into the weapon, leaving behind a conspicuous red dot.

"The Vajra has been fully infected by evil affinity now. It is an evil artifact that will cause a disaster if it ever gets out." Formless became serious.

Feiyun knew that if it wasn't for the ice layer, that weapon would fly out and devour his blood right away. He wasn't strong enough to suppress the weapon at this moment.

The two gave up, unlike their curiosity. They moved deeper into the cave and saw a corpse in the ice a few steps later.

It seemed to be made from gold due to its glow. The bones had three areas that shine like the stars, almost like three divine jades carved into them. They emitted a pleasant and thick Buddhist aura.

Formless immediately tidied up his robe before getting on his knees for three kowtows. He placed his palms together and chanted for an hour before standing back up. [1]

"This is a senior with three condensed sarira, his cultivation must be immense. I'm sure he is one of the three monks from the ancient temples." Formless had nothing but reverence towards the corpse. He chanted a crossing scripture to send this senior away.

He might be the master of the Vajra since the two were so close together. His bones remained after ten thousand years - evident of his incredible cultivation.

Feiyun took a careful look and saw two fatal wounds. One to the back of the head that eventually shattered the skull. The other was down at the spine; it got crushed in half.

This corpse was a treasure along with the three sarira so Feiyun wanted to get it out. However, Formless stopped him.

"Buddhist cultivators' lifelong pursuit is peace. He didn't have it during his era so let him rest now after death. I plead you to leave him here and I'll compensate you with another Buddhist treasure." Formless took out a fist-sized golden bead.

He used it earlier for self-protection. It was full of spirituality, clearly on the same level as any of the three sarira.

Feiyun already had the weapon essence out and ready to go but he couldn't continue after hearing this. He smiled and said: "Fine, fine, so unlucky. I'll never go treasure hunting with a monk again. You killed my vibe."

"Take this Buddhist bead, Brother Feng." Formless insisted.

"How can I take your treasure when you call me a brother? Plus, I don't lack treasures either and only wanted the three sarira for Nalan. Oh well, it's fine, she doesn't like Buddhist cultivation anyway, forget it." Feiyun said.

The two moved on and saw two more treasures - a bronze drum the size of a stone grinder and a large hell

They were also stained with blood that has seeped deep into the core. This evil affinity far exceeded the one in the Vajra earlier. It looked like two devils were sealed inside.

Feiyun's demonic blood was being affected and started churning, especially the spine on his back. It oozed out squirming dark energy and nearly turned into a black dragon, wanting to tear apart his body to get out.

A deafening blast exploded in his mind and nearly ruptured his eardrums. A nefarious and overwhelming voice from deep within the spine spoke: "I want the sky to have nothing but darkness, I want this land to stain with blood, I want the Buddhists to fall into the evil oblivion..."