The Gods 1021

Chapter 1021 - The Emperor's Birthday Feast

As the Ice Wind Empire carried the title of "empire", it naturally possessed considerable national power. Its territory was even larger than the entire Profound Sky Continent itself, and it was publicly acknowledged as the second strongest country in northern Snow Song Realm, next to the Sacred Amethyst Empire that was at the northern border.

Furthermore, because the two countries were at the borders, they would occasionally have friction between them, but the Scared Amethyst Empire was definitely the stronger party.

However, Mu Hanyi appeared in the Ice Wind Empire, and when the rumours circulated that Mu Hanyi was the most likely candidate to become the next direct disciple of the Realm King, the Sacred Amethyst Empire no longer dared to act arrogantly in front of the Ice Wind Empire. Furthermore, every year of their own accord, they would even dispatch an envoy to cross over millions of kilometers in order to offer Ice Wind Empire a gift.

Because of this, though the Ice Wind Empire's national power was weaker than the Sacred Amethyst Empire's, in recent years, there was a faint trend that it would soon become the strongest country in the north. And, if Mu Hanyi was truly going to become the Realm King's direct disciple, then becoming the number one country in the Snow Song Realm due to their country's fame was but something natural.

The great hall was crowded. The first thousand years of the Ice Wind Emperor was a considerably huge matter. The people who were seated in the hall were all authoritative figures of Ice Wind, powerful figures following on the profound way, along with envoys from the various countries.

The moment one entered the great hall, the most eye-catching person was a youth dressed entirely in purple clothes. He was seated at the high seats with a vague smile, carrying an extravagant demeanor which he seemed to be born with. Seeing Feng Huita and Feng Hange, who left their seats earlier, return with the Situ Family, Mu Hanyi, and Yun Che, his gaze quickly and meticulously swept across every single one of them. Following after, he slowly stood up with a face revealing a playful and faint smile.

"Oh? Isn't this Region Lord Situ? I have long heard that your daughter possessed outstanding talent, and was admitted into Ice Phoenix Palace when she was just a young teen, and had been taken in as Fairy Bingyun's disciple. An achievement truly worthy of congratulations."

The moment he saw this purple-clothed youth, Situ Xiongying was clearly stunned, as he cried out involuntarily. "T-the Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince!"

This purple-clothed youth was actually the current crown prince of the Sacred Amethyst Empire!

The first thousand years of the Ice Wind Emperor was not a small matter in the Ice Wind Empire, but when it came to other countries, dispatching an envoy to pay tribute was all that was necessary. However, from the Sacred Amethyst Empire, the country with the most national power north of Snow Song Realm, the crown prince himself had actually personally made a visit. His arrival was truly an exaggerated matter, and it was no wonder Situ Xiongying would be this dumbfounded.

The Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince slightly smiled, his gaze shifted towards Mu Hanyi. "Thirteenth Prince, it's been a long time. It's been seven years since we last met, and as expected, your present

demeanor has far surpassed the past's. Just by looking at you, I can see that your title of being number one in the younger generation of Snow Song isn't just an empty rumor. However, it's truly a little unfortunate that you were unable to become the direct disciple of the Realm King."

"Other than Prince Hanyi, two other esteemed guests from Divine Ice Phoenix Sect are actually here as well. It's no wonder Ice Wind Emperor would personally give his welcome. My apologies! It seems the divine sect truly values your esteemed country really heavily."

The Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince carried a smile and his words were filled with courtesy as he exuded the demeanor of the crown prince of a country. However, not a single person present was a simple figure, so how could they not possibly understand the meaning behind his words? Every single one of his words contained mockery and heart-piercing sarcasm.

He was ridiculing the Ice Phoenix Emperor for often saying that Mu Hanyi would soon become the direct disciple of the Realm King. However, in the end, everything came to nothing. As such, the deterrence towards the Sacred Amethyst Empire that had lasted for many years had naturally disappeared without a trace from that moment.

Not to mention, the sentence, "it seems the divine sect truly values your esteemed country really heavily," was even more so absolutely clear sarcasm.

Furthermore, earlier, when Ice Wind Emperor Feng Huita received Mu Hanyi's voice transmission which stated that he was "coming with two esteemed guests from Divine Ice Phoenix Empire", it was if he had heard a celestial melody and had announced it on-site out of excitement, before bringing along a few people and personally charging out of the great hall to welcome them. This event had even aroused the anxiety, eagerness, and envy of the guests in the great hall... After all, receiving personal congratulations from important figures of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect for a birthday was definitely a great honor.

However, the two people dressed in the snow robes of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect next to Mu Hanyi were not only extremely young, their profound strengths were both merely at the Divine Origin Realm as well. How could they possibly be important figures? They were just two disciples, and furthermore, disciples of a low rank.

Dispatching disciples that were far from being comparable to Mu Hanyi to participate in the birthday feast... This was simply carefree to the point of being beyond carefree itself. It was akin to not dispatching them in the first place.

The people in the great hall personally witnessed these two "esteemed Ice Phoenix guests", and their eagerness and envy instantly turned into shock and disappointment. Furthermore, a few of the envoys and lords from other countries were sighing inwardly, and even secretly laughing to themselves.

When the news of Mu Hanyi failing to become the direct disciple of the Realm King spread, the national might of the Ice Wind Empire had already worsened greatly. Additionally, in this Thousandth Birthday Celebration, Divine Ice Phoenix Sect actually dispatched two low ranking disciples ... If this piece of news were to spread as well, the national might of the Ice Wind Empire would undoubtedly fall once more. There was even a possibility that they would become a laughing stock.

In the past few years, because of Mu Hanyi, the Sacred Amethyst Empire had significantly shrunk back in the face of the Ice Wind Empire. But now, the Sacred Amethyst Empire dispatching the crown prince

himself, was most likely in order to bear witness to the laughable state of the Ice Wind Empire. In the eyes of the crowd, the ridiculing he did earlier was more than just plain unscrupulousness.

Mu Hanyi returned a courteous bow as he carried an elegant smile, as though he was completely unaware of the ridicule behind those words. "Many thanks to the Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince for your praise, Hanyi is humbled by them. The immense love the sect master has towards our Ice Wind Empire is something we cannot hope to repay. To have the Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince personally make a visit today, Hanyi is truly pleasantly surprised beyond words. After this feast, we must have a small chat for old times sake."

"Hahahahaha." The Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince laughed out loud. He slowly returned to his seat and no longer spoke a word. However, he continued to carry that seemingly meaningful smile on his face.

Though Feng Huita was angered in his heart, he kept his feelings in check on the surface and raised his hand. "Hange, bring Region Lord Situ's family to their seats, this..."

Facing Yun Che, Feng Huita's voice stopped. Earlier, because he was overwhelmed with disappointment, so he did not exactly pay attention to Yun Che's name. At this moment, he was actually having trouble remembering it, but fortunately, he quickly changed his way of addressing him. "This esteemed Ice Phoenix guest, why don't you have a seat with Region Lord Situ and his family?"

Before Feng Huita's voice completely fell, Situ Xiongying had already turned around, seated himself at the seat motioned to by Feng Hange, picked up a cup, and drank the contents entirely... Clearly, he was rejecting being seated with Yun Che.

Due to the awkwardness, for a moment, Feng Hange did not know if he should call out to Yun Che to take up his seat. Then, he heard Mu Hanyi's voice. "Royal Father, it is slightly inappropriate for Senior Brother Yun Che to be seated with Region Lord Situ."

As he spoke, he reached out his hand. "Senior Brother Yun Che, please take the high seats. If you have any requests, simply let Hanyi know."

The direction Mu Hanyi's hand was facing was actually next to the throne—the seat next to Ice Wind Emperor Feng Huita!!

His action and words stunned everyone present. Feng Huita was immensely shocked, and then, he alarmingly said, "Hanyi, you... earlier, you addressed him as... senior brother?"

It was unclear if there were any intentions behind it, but Mu Hanyi displayed a look of sudden realization right at this moment. "T-this... It's been a long while since this son has returned to the country, and was too overwhelmed with joy when seeing Royal Father. I have actually forgotten about such a huge matter."

He stood next to Yun Che and said with an incomparably stern look, "Royal Father, Senior Brother Yun Che isn't just my senior brother. Royal Father must be aware that the Realm King has just taken in a new direct disciple half a month ago, and this direct disciple is precisely Senior Brother Yun Che."

Mu Hanyi's words instantly silenced the entire great hall. The words "Realm King" and "direct disciple" had especially shocked everyone as if lightning had suddenly struck down from clear skies, their faces paling.

As the emperor of a country, even Feng Huita was stunned for a long while before regaining his senses. The face that was filled with valiance and might earlier was instantly covered with fear. Even his body, which carried the prestige of an emperor, hurriedly bent down, as he spoke with sincerity and fear. "Y-young Yun... So you're actually... We... Ah, no, this little king did not have the eyes to recognize Mount Tai. Not only was I unable to welcome you from afar, I have several times displayed such misconduct. I hope Young Yun can forgive... forgive my sins..."

Feng Huita was a little incoherent with his words due to fear. Before he had even finished speaking, the back of his head was already drenched in cold sweat. His gaze shifted away, and with a blaming tone, he said, "Hanyi, Young Yun is an esteemed guest of heavenly capacity, h-how... how can you not inform us of this matter at all?"

If he had known that the Realm King's direct disciple would visit, not only would he have personally welcomed him, welcoming him from ten thousand kilometers out was the least he would do.

Mu Hanyi smiled and said, "Royal Father, it is not this son that's unsensible. Though Senior Brother Yun Che has an esteemed status, he is modest and kind, and he has never bullied others with his status. In fact, he has always thought of others. He was afraid informing you prematurely would overwhelm and influence Royal Father's birthday celebration so did not want me to inform you beforehand. Senior Brother's order is something this son can't disobey... However, due to excitement, I was unable to inform Royal Father quickly about Senior Brother Yun Che's status. This is indeed my mistake, and I am willing to be punished by Royal Father."

Yun Che courteously said, "Ice Wind Emperor, there's no need for such formalities. This junior is here to congratulate you in my Master's name. Behaving in such a manner would instead make this junior uncomfortable."

Though Yun Che was simply doing a junior's courtesy bow, it had stunned Feng Huita to take a step back as he returned the bow in a fluster. "Y-young Yun, how can that be? It was this little king... who did not provide a good reception, come quickly... please take the high seats, take the high seats."

Feng Huita's head was still sweating. His voice and body were still trembling as before. It was not because his mental fortitude was weak, rather... the person in front of him was the direct disciple of the Realm King! The lord of a country was indeed a respectable status, but compared to the direct disciple of the Realm King, that was simply an existence of another plane. In front of the direct disciple, he could merely be addressed as a "little country lord".

Forget about the first thousand years, even the celebration of his first ten thousand years was not an event someone would dare think of having a person of such status to attend. If a hall master were to visit, it could already be considered to be a heavenly gift. Agitation, shock and fear were but a small part of what he was feeling, as he was mostly overwhelmed by a sense of loss and utter disbelief.

Feng Huita was not the only one who was shocked and at a loss. Crown Prince Feng Hange looked as if he had been petrified, as he stood there, not daring to move nor speak. The guests in the great hall had all long since stood up, their eyes towards Yun Che all carried deep fear and respect.

The news of the Snow Song Realm King taking in a new direct disciple had long spread throughout the entire Snow Song Realm. They did not know his name, but they were aware that he came from the

lower realm and that though his profound strength was merely at the entrance of the divine way, he possessed talent that could be said to be unprecedented. He completely defeated Mu Hanyi and Mu Feixue in the test, and his future was limitless... However, never ever did they expect, nor did they dare to believe, that he would actually attend an emperor's birthday feast. Furthermore, he was even standing before their eyes.

The Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince had also stood up as well, but his face no longer even carried the slightest bit of his delighted smile from before. His face with handsome features had turned deathly pale, and under immense fear, he had completely lost the might and demeanor of a crown prince. Every single hair of his body was covered in a bone-piercing chill.

No one could possibly forget the arrogant ridiculing remarks he made right in front of Yun Che earlier.

"He's... actually... the direct disciple of the Realm King from the rumors." Madam Situ's mouth was agape, and she finally managed to close it after a long while. "We actually made him walk behind us earlier, that's truly... an immense misconduct. Eh? Xiongying? What's wrong?"

Situ Xiongying's body was straight and stiffened, yet his face was as pale as paper. The pupils in his eyes enlarged and then contracted the next moment. His entire body trembled like a sieve, and the wine cup his hand had unconsciously held tightly onto had long drenched his body with wine from the trembling, but he had yet to realize this matter.

Chapter 1022 - Fangs in the Night

Situ Xiongying's condition was a huge fright to Madam Situ and Mu Xiaolan. Mu Xiaolan hastily asked in a soft voice, "Father, what's wrong? Are you feeling unwell?"

"..." Situ Xiongying's lips opened and closed several times but he was unable to speak a single word. It was only after his throat violently hacked for moment, with a "gulp", that he regained a little of his breath. However, his face remained deathly pale, "Noth... it's nothing, he... he... is really..."

In all her life, this was the first time she had seen such an exaggerated reaction from her father. Mu Xiaolan burst out into giggles, "Hehe, so even father is so afraid of his identity. It's actually alright, even though Yun Che is the sect master's direct disciple, he's just how Senior Brother Hanyi described. He will never rely on his identity to bully others. Just like... how he still calls me senior sister even after becoming the sect master's direct disciple and does not have the arrogant mannerisms of someone who places himself above everyone else. I used to feel that there were so many loathsome points about him but now, I feel that he has many favorable qualities."

"Oh that's right father, back then on the profound ark, what did you say when you pulled him over? It shouldn't... be anything rude right?" Mu Xiaolan asked.

It would have been better if Mu Xiaolan had not mentioned this. Once he recalled how he had coldly threatened and showed his contempt for Yun Che previously, Situ Xiongying's body shook as he fell to the ground on his butt, causing the chair to break in the process.

No one doubted Yun Che's identity. In the Snow Song Realm, besides those that were tired of living, no one would dare to masquerade as the Realm King's direct disciple. Moreover, the one who had revealed his identity was Mu Hanyi.

Under the shock and tremendous intimidation brought by the "the Realm King's direct disciple", the hall was so silent that even the drop of a pin could be heard. Nobody dared to even breathe too loudly. Feng Huita and Feng Hange stood on both sides with their bodies bowed. They did not dare to move before Yun Che was seated.

Yun Che did not walk forward but instead took out a flawless snow white jade case. He opened it in front of everyone and a nine leaved grass, surrounded by a hazy icy blue brilliance, appeared. In an instant, an utmost pure chill filled the entire hall, causing everyone's minds to clear as their gazes were firmly drawn to it, unable to detach themselves.

"Ice Wind Emperor, this grass is known as the 'Nine Leaf Frost Glaze' and is one of the unique grasses found in the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake. It can temper one's body and clear one's heart. I hope that you will accept this humble gift of mine for your thousand year birthday."

Although his target was the Qilin horn, since he had come to give his birthday wishes, it was only natural that he did not arrive empty handed. This nine leaf frost glaze was a congratulatory gift that he had come up with at the last moment while on the way here. It was indeed one of the unique grasses that grew in the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake and should be a fine gift for the ruler of a country.

Mu Xuanyin had confined him in the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake over this period of time. Hence, he had certainly collected as many of the unique flowers and grasses within as possible. However, he had still far underestimated the weight the three words, "Heavenly Netherfrost Lake", had in the Snow Song Realm. Upon hearing that it grew in the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake, everyone in the hall... including Mu Hanyi and Mu Xiaolan, had their mouths wide open and their eyeballs almost popping from their sockets.

Feng Huita slowly extended both of his hands but did not dare to move forward for a long long time. His voice trembled as he spoke, "Such a sacred item, how can this little king... possibly accept such a thing..."

"Since it is a fine gesture from Senior Brother Yun Che, Royal Father should accept it," Mu Hanyi said with a smile.

Only then did Feng Huita reach out with his hand and receive the nine leaf frost glaze. His movements were extremely careful as he cupped it to his bosom, his voice still trembling as he said, "This little king never imagined that he would actually obtain a sacred item from the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake in this lifetime. With regards to the great kindness of the Great Realm King and her honored disciple, this little king truly... truly does not know how he can repay such a gesture."

Anything that originated from the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake, even a grain of sand, could be said to be a sacred item in the people's eyes.

"Young Yun," Even in his emotional state, Feng Huita spoke in a solemn manner, "Since you have visited Ice Wind this time, you must stay for a few more days and give this little king a chance express his gratitude... oh, if Young Yun has any requests or instructions from now on, feel free to tell this little king. This little king will do everything in his power comply and even ten thousand deaths will not be able to stop me."

This was flattery and fawning from the emperor of a country. However, Yun Che's response exceeded everyone's expectations. With calmness that did not belong to someone of his age, he casually waved his hand, "Ice Wind Emperor, your words are too heavy. This junior has come to pay his respects on Master's behalf and is only an ordinary guest."

In the hall, flattery was given from far away, "Young Yun does not only possess venerable status and talent unmatched since the dawn of time, but is also so modest and courteous. Truly admirable!"

After this first piece of flattery was given, the people in the hall immediately regained their senses as if they had been awoken from sleep. As such, even more flattery began to be sent in waves.

"This is the first time I have seen such an outstanding individual!"

"Young Yun is after all the chosen disciple of our Great Realm King, how can he not be a man amongst men."

"Choosing such a successor is not only the good fortune of our Great Realm King but also the good fortune of our Snow Song Realm."

The Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince's expression remained stiff for a long time before it finally eased a little. He took a few steps forward as he bowed and said, "To be have been blessed to personally witness Brother Yun's elegance, this little prince's trip to Ice Wind this time has not been in vain... no! Not this trip, but this prince's entire life... this prince also wants to congratulate the Ice Wind Emperor for receiving such generosity from Great Realm King and Brother Yun."

When facing Feng Huita once again, the Sacred Amethyst Crown Prince's attitude was completely different than before. He was no longer the least bit excited or arrogant. Every word he spoke contained deep anxiety.

"Hahahaha," Feng Huita heartily laughed. After the initial fright, the next thing to rise to the highest point was naturally his spirits. The Realm King's direct disciple had personally come to his birthday celebration... and it was even under the Realm King's personal orders. This was something that had absolutely never happened in all of the Snow Song countries, let alone the fact that he had received a valuable gift that came from the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake.

The glory he felt at this moment was a hundred times greater than when he first ascended the throne back then.

"Young Yun, quickly come and be seated! My esteemed guests, today has been the best surprise we have ever been given. We will have no regrets even if our life ends today. Everyone, come drink with us under the honor and glory personally gifted upon Young Yun and the Realm King. No one shall leave until they are drunk! Hahahahaha..."

In his spirited state, Feng Huita did not forget an "important matter". He was practically shouting as he sent a concentrated sound transmission: Quick! Quickly prepare the Ice Maiden Palace anew. Take out the ice lamps, frost spirit rugs... my hidden stash of ten thousand year spirit liquor and those rare fruits! Get Palace Master Feng Xue to go to the city to select ten.. no! Select twenty first class virgins... make haste! If all of this not prepared in six hours, we will personally behead all of you—wait! Ensure that Hanjin is dolled up and ready to serve in the Ice Maiden Palace!

Feng Huita had clearly lost the majesty of an emperor as he loudly shouted while everyone quickly responded. Thus started the birthday of the Ice Wind emperor in a way that no one would have ever expected...

Only after the sky darkened was it finally over.

The lead actor of the emperor's birthday had unquestionably changed from Feng Huita to Yun Che. When they saw how unpretentious Yun Che was, those of the Snow Song Realm with extremely high status and positions swiftly swarmed forward in succession. The praise, flattery, boot-licking and gasps of admiration never stopped.

The treatment Yun Che received after his identity was known had changed completely, thoroughly revealing what was known as human nature. This fact was unrelated to whether one was in the Profound Sky Continent or the God Realm... it remained unchanged no matter where one went.

Night descended.

Mu Hanyi stood alone under an ice tree. His expression was serene as he quietly played with the ice flower in his hand. His gaze calmly looked to the front while the light in his eyes remained focused, as if he was thinking extremely hard about something.

"Thirteenth Brother, why are you here?"

A luxuriously dressed figure swiftly arrived at his side. It was the Ice Wind Crown Prince, Feng Hange. He spoke with a blaming tone, "Didn't Royal Father ask you to accompany Yun Che? When I saw that you were not around just now, I was under the impression that Royal Father and you had gone to send off the guests. What are you daydreaming about here alone? It will be a disaster if we do not properly entertain Yun Che."

Ding!

The ice flower in Mu Hanyi's hand was crushed, turning into ice dust as he clenched his hand. He gently smiled and said, "Worry not Royal Brother, he does not need my company. Likewise, there is something that I am extremely puzzled by. Since you are here, you may perhaps be able to dispel my doubts."

"What is it?" Feng Hange frowned.

Mu Hanyi turned around. Under the darkening sky, his eyes had a gloomy feeling that made one's heart palpitate. "Why do you think sect master allowed Yun Che to participate in Royal Father's birthday?"

Feng Hange was a little taken aback. Soon after, he replied, "This... this favor is indeed a little too big and Royal Father was completely caught off guard. However, my guess is that because Thirteenth Brother had always been seen as the person who was most likely to become the Realm King's direct personal disciple for the last several years but the Realm King still chose someone else even in the face of this. She perhaps felt that this would surely affect the Ice Wind's prestige and has disappointed our Ice Wind Empre. Thus she commanded Yun Che to come as a form of compensation and to somewhat restore our Ice Wind Empire's prestige."

"Hahahaha," Mu Hanyi laughed loudly. "Royal Brother, do you really believe the words that you have just said?"

Mu Hange, "..."

"If it was another sect or another country, for such a situation, a similar method would indeed be used to console the hearts of the people. But, who do you think the sect master is? In her eyes, our enormous Ice Wind Empire is merely a country of ants. She would not even feel the tiniest bit of guilt if she casually wiped out our entire country."

"No one has the right to make her compensate for anything!"

"In the ten thousand years that the sect master has remained in her position, countless old countries have fallen, empires changed, and new emperors ascended the throne. Yet, she has never cared for any of this and they are also not worthy of her attention. However, she sent her recently recruited direct disciple to Royal Father's meager Thousandth Year Celebration. No matter how I think about it, this is not normal at all. At the very least, it is impossible for Yun Che to have come solely for offering birthday congratulations."

"..." Mu Hanyi's words caused Feng Hange to be stunned for a while. Soon after, he shook his head and said, "Although your words make sense, these are merely wild guesses. Who do you think the Great Realm King is? Her thoughts are not for the likes of us to guess. Moreover, you said earlier that our Ice Wind Empire is merely a land of ants in the Realm King's eyes. What can there be in a land of ants that can catch the Realm King's eyes? Do not let your imagination run wild, properly entertain our valued guest. No matter what intentions he has, Yun Che's arrival can only bring endless benefits to our Ice Wind Empire and we cannot be the slightest bit negligent in receiving him."

"Something that can catch her eye?" These words made Mu Hanyi frown as his eyes slowly narrowed, becoming incomparably deep.

"What did you say?" Mu Hange was not able to clearly catch his mumbling.

"Nothing." Mu Hanyi lifted his head, "Becoming the sect master's direct disciple is truly wonderful. All must obediently bend their heads whether they are royalty or an overlord. Even Royal Father cannot help but fawn over him."

"Naturally." Feng Hange continued, "Who would dare to provoke the Realm King's direct disciple? Who would dare to be disrespectful to him? Thirteenth Brother, why do you suddenly have such sorrows?"

"I am only somewhat unresigned." Mu Hanyi softly sighed, "Royal Brother might not know this but victory was already in my grasp in the previous direct disciple competition. However, in the end... it was those short few seconds... or else, all of this... would have been mine!"

The Mu Hanyi who had "calmly accepted" Yun Che gnashed his teeth at this moment as the fingers of his tightly clenched fists turned white.

Feng Hange walked forward and reached out his hand to pat Mu Hanyi's shoulder, "Royal Father and I were also extremely frustrated and depressed when we knew that you were unable to become the direct disciple. Royal Father and I best understand your efforts and hopes over the years and we know that it was not easy for you. However, this is fate and we can only accept it. The Great Realm King's direct disciple selection has always been incomparably harsh. Since she chose Yun Che, there must be something about him that surpasses everyone else... so don't dwell too much on this."

"I cannot deny that he does have his extraordinary points. He was in the limelight in the Great Sect Assembly half a month ago while I was reduced to a laughable stumbling rock." Mu Hanyi deeply breathed in before he looked to the sky. His voice suddenly relaxed. "Royal Brother, if Yun Che suddenly disappears from this world, will the things that belong to me return?"

These incomparably slow words instantly frightened Feng Hange until his face turned ashen, "You... what are you saying?"

He looked about in panic and only after he made certain that no one was nearby, did he tightly grab Mu Hanyi's arm and say in alarm, "Are you crazy!? Do you... really plan on..."

"Hehehe." Mu Hanyi merely softly chuckled, "No need to be so tense Royal Brother, I merely spoke without thinking."

"Spoke without thinking!" Feng Hange's eyes were wide open while cold sweat emerged all over his body. He clenched his teeth and said, "Are these words that can be spoken so casually!? The Great Realm King's abilities are exceptional, you..."

"Of course I know." Mu Hanyi unhurriedly pulled off Feng Hange's arms from his body while he smiled in an incomparably ordinary manner. "Even if I had courage that was as enormous as the heavens, I would not possibly dare to think about the disgraceful thing that Royal Brother is imagining in his heart. What's more, Yun Che is currently in our Ice Wind Empire. If anyone dares to harm him, even if I have such thoughts, I can only desperately protect him with my life. Or else, if something bad happens, under the rage of the sect master, not only you, me, and Royal Father, even our entire Ice Wind will be done for."

Feng Hange firmly stared at Mu Hanyi. It was a long while later before his throbbing heart and breathing finally returned to normal. He said in a serious voice, "I know that you do not have such courage but you must surely have had such thoughts... after today, you cannot ever have such thoughts again. No matter how unwilling, you must be as respectful and obedient as Royal Father to Yun Che! Is this clear!?"

"I know. Royal Brother is the one who understands me the most in this world. You must know that I am not someone who would do such things. Don't worry." Mu Hanyi's expression was calm as he replied.

"..." Feng Hange nodded his head. Only then did he truly put down his anxiety.

"Just take it that I never said those words. I am going to accompany Yun Che. You stay here and first clear your mind before joining us later."

Feng Hange used profound energy to remove all the cold sweat on his body. With a sigh of relief, he quickly left.

His footsteps swiftly disappeared into the distance. Only then did Mu Hanyi turn around and watch as Mu Hange's figure disappeared from his sight. His eyes slightly narrowed as the light in his eyes became increasingly dark and sinister while ice-cold mockery emerged from his mouth,

"This is why you will always be trash that will never accomplish great things."

Chapter 1023 - A Sense of Danger

After the banquet, Yun Che took advantage of Feng Huita sending guests away to find a moment to slip away to the back of the palace. There, he casually strolled for a while, before he finally stopped in front

of a pond which strangely had not frozen over. As Yun Che observed the green leaves floating on the water, he sighed.

His ears were still buzzing even now as a result of the several raucous days but he still didn't have even the slightest clue as to how he could obtain the Ice Qilin's horn.

"It's much more difficult than expected," Yun Che dispiritedly thought to himself

For Mu Xuanyin, it was only a matter of speaking but for Yun Che, he had no clue how he should make his request. After all, he had no enmity with the Ice Wind Emperor. Moreover, the Ice Wind Emperor had treated him with great respect and even stated that he was willing to die ten thousand times for him. How could he directly open his mouth and ask for the Qilin horn...

After all, in the Ice Wind Emperor's heart, that halidom was the embodiment of his country's fortune!

It truly seemed that within the Snow Song Realm, no one could make such a request outside of Mu Xuanyin.

But if he didn't just go and make his request, how else could he achieve his goal? Would he actually have to go steal it? But since it was a halidom, it had to be hidden in a secret place and heavily guarded. Even if he confirmed its existence, just how was he going to be able to steal it?

Mu Xuanyin had specifically emphasized the point that he should be doing this alone, yet with his current profound strength, any of the higher level guards of the palace could kill him. Moreover, Mu Xiaolan, who had ended up coming along... was weaker than him, yet another factor which held him back.

"Eh? Yun Che, so this is where you ran off to."

While Yun Che dispiritedly thought to himself, Mu Xiaolan's gentle footsteps approached him as she cutely skipped over to in front of Yun Che. She joyfully smiled as she asked, "Hehe, did you feel powerful and great today?"

"..." Yun Che just sighed. He had no reply.

"Eh? How come you seem to be unhappy?" Mu Xiaolan asked as she stretched her head out and observed Yun Che's completely expressionless face.

"What is there to be happy about?" Yun Che pursed his lips.

"Mmm... All of those people praised you and fawned over you, they were all competing with each other to offer you drinks. Even Senior Brother Hanyi's royal father, the emperor, had to bend his back while talking to you. I don't believe that you do not feel the slightest bit of pride in your heart." Mu Xiaolan comforted as her cheeks puffed up.

Yun Che sighed again as he said, "Do you think that the person they truly respect and fear is me?"

"Ah?" Mu Xiaolan became dazed.

"No," Yun Che shook his head, "The person they truly respect and fear is my master."

"Before my status as direct disciple was revealed, not a single person in the great hall cared to even look at me. In fact, the Ice Wind Emperor didn't even remember my name, which I had just given him. It wasn't just them either, on the profound ark, your father ridiculed my birth and status without a second thought and sternly told me to stay away from you."

"Ah!" Mu Xiaolan became extremely surprised, her little face become pale as she stuttered, "Father, he..."

"It's alright, you don't need to be nervous. After all, I never said I blame your father for his actions." Yun Che reached out his hand and gently patted Mu Xiaolan's head. "When you return to your mother and father's place later, you must remember to tell your father that there is no need to be stuck over that matter and that there is no need for him to personally approach me just to apologize as I do not care at all. Keep him from being unable to sleep at night."

Mu Xiaolan's hand hit her forehead as she finally understood why her father had been so soulless and silent today. She anxiously asked, "Father, he actually... you, you... you truly don't blame him, right?"

"What is there to blame him for?" Yun Che shrugged his shoulders, "Isn't this normal? With my profound strength and background, any powerful figure would treat me this way."

"Moreover, the only reason his attitude changed was because of my status as Sect Master's direct disciple."

"For Master, even if she wasn't the Snow Song Realm King and Ice Phoenix Sect Master, the people of the Snow Song Realm would still naturally respect and fear her. As for me, I'm afraid that if I didn't have the status which has been bestowed on me by Master, the people here today wouldn't even look at me, let alone praise and respect me. Thus, there is nothing for me to be happy about. Instead, today has allowed me to further understand that power is the only thing which is respected in the world."

Mu Xiaolan blankly stood there for a while and then shook her head as she refuted, "What you are saying is not completely correct. Although your current profound strength is not too special, your innate talent with ice is really really high and you are the direct disciple of a Great Realm King. In the near future, you will definitely be able to become a figure whose strength is far greater than everyone else. There is no doubt that this will happen. That's why they are all currently treating you so well right now."

"Forget it." Yun Che indifferently stated, "Anyway, in another two to three years... in at most three years, I will be leaving this place. In my Blue Pole Star, I am basically a great realm king, and I can impose myself however I want!"

"Tch" Mu Xiaolan rolled her eyes as she quietly said to herself in a voice which only she could hear, "You are already Sect Master's direct disciple, it would be strange if she let you go home."

Nonetheless, for her father to have said such things to Yun Che on the profound atk... ah ah ah! It was too embarrassing. What to do...

"You... truly don't blame my father?" Mu Xiaolan anxiously asked again as she hung her head down. Her voice was very quiet and contained traces of guilt and nervousness.

"If it were someone else, with my original temper, then they would long be... cough cough cough. But since it is the father of Senior Sister Xiaolan, I naturally will not blame him at all." Yun Che's

expression was extremely sincere as he continued, "Moreover, I know your father is not a bad person. The reason he reprimanded me was because he truly cares for you."

Yun Che turned his gaze as he looked at Mu Xiaolin's bright, smooth, and slightly blushing face from the side. "It's very clear that your father's character is extremely direct and straightforward. He's not kind but he's also not someone who hides himself. Right from when he met me, he directly expressed his disdain for me. Although at the time, he seemed extremely fierce, he was not terrifying at all... Senior Sister Xiaolan, do you know who the most terrifying kind of people in the world are?"

"Ah?" Mu Xiaolan's mouth opened and closed but she didn't respond.

"The most terrifying kind of people in the world are those who never show others their true emotions. The most terrifying are those who are always pleasant and calm regardless of if they are facing a weak, ant-like cultivator or someone they hate!"

As he spoke, a serious look appeared on Yun Che face and in his eyes.

"..." A look of confusion emerged on Mu Xiaolan's face, as if she couldn't understand why Yun Che had suddenly said such words.

"This kind of person, they patiently bear everything and shrewdly make plans. Their minds are truly extremely terrifying... and it's not terrifying in the normal sense. At the very least, I am completely unable to fully contain myself perfectly in the face of someone who I greatly resent. Naturally, I am even less able to talk cheerfully and humorously in such circumstances. These people normally don't hurt others and are generally admired, praised, revered, and adored by others like a saint. However, once they make a decision to kill someone... they will be extremely careful and thorough. They will make a single death blow with absolute certainty and not leave any traces behind. They are like a dormant snake which suddenly shoots venom at the darkest moment of the night for the kill. Just thinking about it gives me the chills."

Yun Che then put his hands on his neck behind his head as he silently looked up at the night sky.

Mu Xiaolan's eyes continued to express confusion as she asked, "Yun Che, you... what are you saying? I don't seem to understand."

"Do you not understand or do you not dare to trust your understanding?" Yun Che glanced at her from the side and then calmly said, "Do not doubt yourself, it is exactly the person whose image has emerged in your mind... Forget about it, I predict there is no way for you to accept it. All you have to do is listen a little deeper and keep an eye out for me."

Mu Xiaolan, "..."

At this time, the sound of hurried footsteps resonated over from behind the as Feng Hange arrived with a group of guards. Upon seeing Yun Che, his eyes brightened as his footsteps sped up even more. "So you were here, Brother Yun. Because of personal matters, Hanyi left and has neglected looking after Brother Yun. I hope you are willing to forgive us over this matter."

Yun Che turned around and chuckled as he said, "There is no need for your highness to be so polite. Ice Wind Imperial Palace is truly quite beautiful at night and extremely pleasant to look at. I couldn't help but subconsciously walk over here."

Seeing how not a trace of dissatisfaction was present on Yun Che's face, Feng Hange relaxed slightly as he straightened himself and said, "We are fortunate and honored to be able to gain Brother Yun's praise and appreciation of the beautiful scenery here. Ah, that's right, a palace has been prepared. Considering how Brother Yun has come here through all of the wind and snow, I presume Brother Yun is somewhat tired? Would you like for me to show you to your quarters?"

Yun Che thought for a moment, then nodded, "Alright then."

"Please. Ah, Sister Situ, your palace quarters have also been prepared. It is quite close to Brother Yun's, let's go and see them together."

"Ah... okay." Mu Xiaolan was a little dazed. It was clear that she was still thinking about what Yun Che had just said.

Under the personal guidance of Feng Hange, Yun Che and Mu Xiaolan arrived in front of Ice Maiden Palace which had been meticulously crafted during the day. Flowers of ice swayed as ice spirits slowly danced around and various colored coral illuminated the insides with a brilliant, resplendent glow. Even the carpet spread outside of the room was woven from the best quality ice threads.

In front of Ice Maiden Palace, twenty or so young girls wearing snow white clothes stood waiting. All of them seemed to be younger than twenty. They were all as beautiful as flowers and moons and an extraordinarily extravagant scent emanated from their bodies. Upon seeing Yun Che arrive, they all slowly walked forward and greeted him as they all said, "We pay our respects to Sir Yun."

"..." Mu Xiaolan gaped.

"Brother Yun, this here is our Ice Maiden Palace. It is the palace my Ice Wind Empire uses to entertain and treat our most important guests. Within a thousand steps in all directions, there are hundreds of the most talented guards defending, so you will not have to worry for your safety at all." Feng Hange then lowered his voice as he continued, "These twenty girls were all specially and carefully selected for you from the imperial city by people my Royal Father personally commands. Although they absolutely cannot be compared with Fairy Feixue, they were all born into large, rich families and are all still virgins. Brother Yun, please... enjoy."

Mu Xiaolan, "(-\`'--)#"

"Oh! Very good!" Yun Che's eyes brightened as he happily nodded, "Your highness is really nice! Please thank your royal father for me!"

"As long as Brother Yun is happy." Upon seeing Yun Che smile, Feng Hange's heart relaxed.

"Senior Sister Xiaolan, do you want to go in and take a look?" Yun Che asked as he smiled.

This question... clearly had an intent of driving someone away behind it.

Mu Xiaolan became furious as she forcefully stomped on the ground and indignantly shouted, "How could I dare disturb the enjoyment of my sect's dignified direct disciple!? Hmph!"

Finished speaking, Mu Xiaolan turned around and began walking away.

Yun Che slowly nodded, "So its like this. Then alright, I shall trouble your highness to send Senior Sister Mu Xiaolan home."

"Ah... Alright. If Brother Yun has any other instructions, please do let me know. There is absolutely no need to be courteous."

"You'd better not let Senior Sister Feixue know about this!" Mu Xiaolan shouted in anger as she suddenly turned around after walking far into the distance.

"Uh... then this little prince shall withdraw." Feng Hange awkwardly saluted as he hurriedly backed out.

"Ah, women are truly troublesome." Yun Che sighed as he raised his head and looked at the night sky which was far darker than the one above the Ice Phoenix Realm. He whispered to himself, "I keep feeling like something big is going to happen tonight."

Chapter 1024 - Luring out the Snake

The interior of the Ice Maiden Palace was decorated in a beautiful and imposing fashion; it was evident that the best of efforts had been put into making it appear extravagant. Even Feng Huita's imperial chamber might not seem so exaggeratedly decorated.

"Ruling such a vast nation still pales in comparison to having a good master."

Yun Che sighed with emotion.

There were twenty women behind him with their heads lowered, nervously waiting upon him. Seeing him coming before a low bed, they thought that he was intending to sleep a bit earlier than expected. The woman leading the others secretly bit on her lip before taking a step forward and saying in a low voice, "Sir Yun, do you want to rest now?"

"Mm." Yun Che made a sound in response. Then, he casually turned around to look at the woman who had spoken the words.

The woman had caught his attention from the very beginning due to her attire being different from other nineteen women. She was clad in a snow-white dress with the hem dragging on the ground. It was simple yet elegant, exuding a sense of luxuriousness that would make people turn their eyes to her.

"What's your name?" Yun Che asked abruptly as he looked at her.

"This prin... ah!" Immediately, she jumped in fright at the way she referred to her. She lowered her head in a flurry and said nervously, "This... this servant goes by the name of Hanjin. Sir Yun can order about this Jin'er as he wishes."

This prin? Hanjin?

"You're... a princess of the Ice Wind Empire?" Yun Che sized her up. No wonder the temperament of this woman was so extraordinary. Feng Huita actually sent his own daughter to him...? Hmm, very good, it's so thoughtful of him.

"Yes." Feng Hanjin further lowered her head.

She was the Ice Wind Empire's youngest princess, and she had just turned fifteen this year. She came here following Feng Huita's order, to personally wait upon the honored guest. He had also told her that if the other party took a fancy to her, it would be her good fortune of a lifetime, even if he took her in as a concubine or just a servant to warm his bed.

"So it's true," Yun Che nodded slowly. "Your royal father made even a princess like you wait upon me, huh. I really don't know how I should express myself to his show of hospitality. Does he not care about causing grievance to you?"

Feng Hanjin said in a low voice, "In Royal Father's words, it is Hanjin's good fortune to be able to serve Sir Yun."

"Hahaha." Yun Che laughed aloud. "Your royal father is really too courteous. Looks like I'll have to properly say my thanks to him tomorrow. Speaking of which, on my way here, I heard that your Ice Wind Empire has a history of close to a hundred thousand years. That's truly admirable."

"It has been eighty seven thousand six hundred twenty-two years since the establishment of the Ice Wind Empire."

Feng Hanjin's voice was very low, which sounded nervous and weak, but the figures she mentioned were incomparably precise.

"...In the history of the Snow Song Realm, it should be considered very long regime, right?" Yun Che asked.

"Reporting to Sir Yun," Feng Hanjin answered obediently, "Although the Ice Wind Empire isn't the strongest nation in the Snow Song Realm, it has existed for the longest period of time. The history of the Snow Song Realm has seen the rise and fall of countless dynasties, and it's only my Ice Wind Empire that has stood towering for at least fifty thousand years. Moreover, we're already not far from accomplishing the feat of maintaining our regime for 'two' fifty thousand years."

"Oh?" Yun Che looked surprised. Then he said in admiration, "In the world I come from, it was extremely rare for dynasties to be able to maintain their regimes for several thousand years. So it's really too astonishing to know that a dynasty could exist for over eighty thousand years. It seems like the Ice Wind Empire is indeed a nation with an enormously great fortune."

"There must be some reason behind it having such a strong and prosperous destiny. As a princess of Ice Wind Empire, you should know what exactly it is, right? For instance... connections with other nations or some halidom safeguarding the empire. I'd like to hear about it." Yun Che appeared extremely curious.

"About that..." Feng Hanjin said nervously, "This servant usually stays in her chambers, and has never been involved in national affairs. As such, it's impossible to give an answer to Sir Yun's question. This servant asks for Sir Yun's forgiveness."

"Oh... no problem. It was just a casual question." Yun Che waved his hand. Then, he sat on the low bed and stretched out his hand to feel its ice silk cover. "What a comfortable bed. It seems I'll be able to have a good night's sleep."

"If Sir Yun is going to take a rest..." Feng Hanjin's fingers were tightly entangled with each other, and her face was flushed deep red. She lowered her head, not daring to look at Yun Che. "Allow this servant to... help you... b-bathe."

"Oh, that's unnecessary." Yun Che lay down. "I don't have such a habit."

"Then... allow this servant to help you take off your robe."

"That's also unnecessary. I never take off my clothes before going to bed." Yun Che was lying with his face upward and eyes closed. He casually waved off his hand. "There's nothing left here for you to do. All of you leave now."

Feng Hanjin had a complicated expression. It was hard to tell whether she was disappointed or feeling relaxed at his attitude. She bent to bow. "Okay... this servant will be outside, waiting for Sir Yun's instructions at all times."

"Oh, wait a moment!" Suddenly, Yun Che got up from the bed. He took a glance outside through the window and muttered, "This trip to the Ice Wind Empire is a rare opportunity, so it doesn't feel right to go to bed so early. Princess Hanjin, could you call over your Royal Brother Hanyi? Have him take me on a tour around the imperial palace."

"Understood, this servant will pass on your words right away."

Feng Hanjin came out of the Ice Maiden Palace. Just as she was about to transmit her voice to Mu Hanyi, she found him unexpectedly coming right in her direction.

She promptly went over to him. "Thirteenth Brother."

"Hanjin?" Mu Hanyi was a bit surprised. "Shouldn't you be serving Senior Brother Yun Che, as per the order of Royal Father? What're you doing outside? Is Senior Brother Yun not present in the Ice Maiden Palace?"

"Sir Yun is in the Ice Maiden Palace at the moment, but he wanted me to call Thirteenth Brother over here. He was hoping to have Thirteenth Brother take him on a tour around the imperial palace," Feng Hanjin replied.

"Oh, so that's how it is." Mu Hanyi nodded lightly. "Then let's quickly go over to him."

"Hanjin, what do you think about Yun Che?" he asked unconcernedly.

Feng Hanjin thought for a bit before she said in a light voice, "Actually... we didn't talk that much, but I feel that he is a very gentle person. Despite having such an honorable identity, he isn't overbearing in the least."

"Haha, that's natural. If there was some problem with his behavior, there's no way Sect Master would've chosen him as her direct disciple." Mu Hanyi smiled and continued in a very natural manner, "Since you've already exchanged words with him, did he ask you about anything?"

Then, he spoke again to supplement his words, "If he asks for anything, make sure to satisfy him no matter what."

"He didn't ask for anything either... AH! He casually talked a little about the history of our Ice Wind Empire, and asked a question regarding the destiny of a nation," Feng Hanjin replied truthfully. Even though she had the noble status of a princess, she had been brought up strictly in the imperial family, and was used to be behave obediently.

"Destiny of nation?" Mu Hanyi's eyebrows shot up.

Feng Hanjin turned her gaze to him upon listening to the abrupt change in his tone. "Thirteenth Brother, is something wrong?"

"Oh." Mu Hanyi smiled. "I truly didn't think that even Senior Brother Yun Che would believe in such an imaginary thing, so I was really taken aback, haha."

He came with Feng Hanjin to the Ice Maiden Palace. He apologized immediately as soon as he caught sight of Yun Che, "Senior Brother Yun Che, it is Hanyi's return to this place after a period of several years, so there were a lot of trivial matters that I had to deal with. Hanyi is so utterly ashamed to be absent from your side for such a long time."

"I've said it many times before that Junior Brother Hanyi doesn't need to be so polite." Yun Che smiled unconcernedly. "Earlier when I nonchalantly took a walk outside for a short while, I was seriously awed by the unimaginable beauty of Ice Wind Imperial Palace. It can't be mentioned in the same breath as the imperial palaces in our lower realms. So when I thought of it a while ago, I was unable to contain my desire to continue the sightseeing. Could I trouble Junior Brother Hanyi to take me on a stroll around the palace?"

"It's no trouble at all, but an extreme honor to me."

Walking abreast, Yun Che and Mu Hanyi left the Ice Maiden Palace. They both enjoyed the sights of Ice Wind Imperial Palace in the dark of the night as they strolled around.

There was a plane of difference between the God Realm and a lower realm. The grandeur of an imperial palace in the God Realm was far greater than the Blue Wind Imperial Palace or Divine Phoenix Imperial Palace Yun Che was familiar with.

On the way, Yun Che listened to Mu Hanyi's detailed introduction to the many places of the imperial palace and would also occasionally talk about some matters of Blue Pole Star. Their laughing sounds could be heard continuously, having extreme fun discussing various topics. Unknowingly, they had already gone through most of the imperial palace.

"It's nothing short of astonishing and admirable for the Ice Wind Empire to exist for as long as over eighty thousand years, being the empire with the longest regime in the history of the Snow Song Realm."

Yun Che sincerely sighed in admiration. "It seems the huge Ice Wind Empire is certainly favored by the heavens to have been blessed with a formidable destiny."

"Oh?" Mu Hanyi smiled slightly. "Senior Brother Yun Che also believes in something like destiny?"

"The issue with destiny is, whether it's the destiny of a person or a nation's, perhaps no one truly believe in it with all their heart, nor anyone finds it completely unbelievable. Similar to how there isn't a single

person who has the ability to really clarify whether our fates are decided by the heavens, or our own actions." Yun Che said in an unhurried manner.

"Hahaha." Mu Hanyi laughed for a while. He nodded in full consent. "Senior Brother Yun Che said it right. In Hanyi's opinion, a thing like destiny couldn't be completely trusted, and we can't totally ignore its effect in our life, either. The main reasons behind my Ice Wind Empire being able to remain standing firmly in this realm are: First of all, our ancestral emperors were accomplished in governing the empire in a rightful and lawful way. The first instruction for someone ascending on the throne of this empire is, to be close to the masses and be popular amongst them. If the ruler isn't liked by the masses, then even a powerful and prosperous nation would crumble to extinction. 'The one to obtain people's love, grasps the whole world' isn't just an empty phrase. Our ancestral emperors have tried their best to obey the instruction, and as such, the virtuous cycle of the ruler caring for the masses, and masses caring for the ruler in return came into existence. Therefore, it's no surprise that Ice Wind maintained its stability all the while."

Yun Che gave a deep glance at Mu Hanyi before saying, "Could it be there's still something else?"

"That other thing." A pretty mysterious, faint smile surfaced on Mu Hanyi's face. "Is possibly the one with a considerably great protecting effect on what Senior Brother Yun Che calls as the destiny of a nation."

"Oh?" Surprise was written all over Yun Che's face. "Don't tell me there's a spirit vein underneath the imperial city?"

"That's not it." Mu Hanyi shook his head. "It's actually a heaven-bestowed halidom safeguarding the empire that my Ice Wind Empire obtained in the early days of its establishment. This halidom has been with us for over eighty thousand years. The Ice Wind Empire is still present, and the halidom that has experienced a great number of things over a period of more than eighty thousand years, hasn't shown even the slightest change in its appearance. If such a thing as destiny exists in this world, then this halidom is the one protecting the destiny of my Ice Wind Empire up to now."

"Halidom safeguarding the empire... your imperial family is in possession of such an extraordinary thing?" Yun Che said in amazement. "What exactly is this halidom? It has to be quite a miraculous thing to be able to remain unchanged even after existing for eighty thousand years."

"..." Mu Hanyi opened his mouth to speak but didn't say a word for a brief moment. It was evident that he was hesitant to answer him. Shortly after, he regained his calm and said, "The existence of this halidom isn't a secret either, but common people only know that Ice Wind Imperial Family has a halidom, and practically everyone is unaware of its real identity. This is considered one of the greatest secret of my Ice Wind Imperial Family after all. However, it's completely fine to tell Senior Brother Yun Che about it. It's just that Hanyi asks for it be kept secret."

"Of course." Yun Che nodded in agreement.

"The halidom is in fact a Qilin horn." Mu Hanyi said with a solemn expression. "Our great ancestor found it coincidentally underneath the myriad firn. Back then, Qilins have already gone extinct for many years. So it was truly an inconceivable good luck and miracle for him to be able to find a Qilin horn... and an extremely intact one at that."

"A Qilin... horn?" Yun Che stopped in his tracks. A deep surprise could be seen in his face once again. "Isn't Qilin a legendary beast that is used as an auspicious sign? Are you telling me that it isn't just a made-up beast, but something that truly exists?"

"Of course." Mu Hanyi nodded. "It has been quite long since Qilins have gone extinct in the Eastern Divine Region, and in the lower realms it would've naturally happened at an even earlier time. Consequently, only several legends of them are left now that are hard to distinguish as true or false. It's no wonder that Senior Brother Yun Che would think of Qilin as a fabricated beast. But Qilins truly exist, and rumor has it that there's a family of Qilins in the distant Western Divine Region that has managed to survive to this day because they obtained an ancient divine blood. Therefore, if fate allows it, Senior Brother Yun Che might be able to personally see a true Qilin someday."

Yun Che remained in a daze for a good long while before he slowly nodded with a pretty surprised face. "There is no shortage of extraordinary things under the vast heavens. I never expected the auspicious legendary beast to be a true entity. It seems I'm still quite ignorant and narrow-minded, having lived in the lower realm for over twenty years."

"By the way, where is this Qilin horn right now? I'd like to have a look at it myself."

Yun Che's tone and expression revealed a deep curiosity and excitement.

Chapter 1025 - Ice Wind Treasury

"About that..." Mu Hanyi seemed hesitant. An awkwardly troubled look could be seen on his face.

Yun Che reacted at once upon seeing the other party's response, "That was impudent of me. Since it's considered to be a halidom safeguarding the empire, there's no way it could be easily shown to others. Junior Brother Hanyi, ignore what I just said."

"No, no," Mu Hanyi revealed a terrified expression at Yun Che's words. "How could Hanyi dare to disobey an order from Senior Brother Yun Che? Besides, anyone would want to personally look at an extraordinary thing like a Qilin horn, as long as they heard of its existence. It is just that... because the Qilin horn is a halidom of our Ice Wind Empire, Hanyi doesn't have the right to make a decision on matters related to it. Even Hanyi needs to take direct permission from Royal Father to be able to get a glimpse of the halidom. Otherwise, it's impossible to even get closer to it."

Having finished his words, he took out a Sound Transmission Jade. But he didn't utter a word for long, as his expression changed continuously. It was only after some time passed that he sighed indistinctly and put away the Sound Transmission Jade.

"Junior Brother Hanyi, are you afraid of your Royal Father's refusal?" Yun Che asked, observing his look.

Mu Hanyi was startled when he heard him. Then, he smiled wryly, "Senior Brother Yun Che does indeed possess a great sense of discernment. At the birthday feast today, Royal Father said in presence of everyone that any request from Senior Brother Yun Che would be certainly fulfilled at all costs. Hanyi believes that Royal Father said it from the bottom of his heart. However... although Hanyi doesn't completely believe something like the destiny of a nation, Royal Father has an extremely deep faith in it. Therefore, anything involving the halidom is a great taboo to Royal Father. As such... Hanyi is worried about the possibility of Royal Father tactfully turning down Senior Brother Yun Che's request, or

harboring grudge after giving his consent. It would be too awful if Royal Father and Senior Brother Yun Che ended up feeling displeased with each other due to such a thing."

After explaining himself, Mu Hanyi shook his head heavily.

Yun Che appeared calm, with no signs of displeasure. "I'm thankful to Junior Brother Hanyi for being so honest with me. It's only natural for something possibly related with the destiny of a nation to be taken care of with utmost severity. It would be nothing but reasonable if your royal father refuses my request. It's all right, let's drop the matter now."

"No," But Mu Hanyi faintly smiled at this time, "Senior Brother Yun Che is misunderstanding me. Hanyi has decided not to report this matter to Royal Father, but that doesn't mean Hanyi won't take you over to have a look at the Qilin horn."

"Oh?" A look of surprise was visible in Yun Che's eyes.

"Do you see that, Senior Brother Yun Che?" Mu Hanyi turned round and pointed at the ice-covered mountain forest in the north of the imperial palace. "It's brightly lit all around the imperial palace, except for that one side where it remains dusky. That's because it's the largest forbidden area in the entire imperial city. Underneath that area, lies the treasury, the most important place of our Ice Wind Imperial Family. The halidom, the Qilin horn is rightly kept in there."

"Oh!" Yun Che nodded, showing his understanding.

"Obviously, the place is also guarded in the most strict manner. There's a large number of experts stationed outside the treasury day and night. No one could even get closer to it. In addition, the treasury is also full of various mechanisms and profound formations. Even if an expert in the Divine King Realm were to come, it would be almost impossible to forcibly storm in there. Of course, all of it would be simply decoration if it were a peerless expert, like the sect master and Palace Master Bingyun."

"However," Mu Hanyi stretched out his hands to partially cover his face, and said a bit embarrassedly, "Hanyi is a prince of the Ice Wind Imperial Family, after all, and is considerably doted on by Royal Father. So, Hanyi in fact knows about a secret path, only known to Royal Father and the crown prince, which makes it possible to bypass the perception zone of the guards, and directly enter inside the treasury. Moreover, Hanyi is quite familiar with the mechanisms and profound formations in there, so it's definitely possible to deal with them easily, without having to face any risk."

"Though I feel somewhat sorry to Royal Father, but as its the only option left not to let Royal Father feel any sort of unnecessary grudge, as well as fulfill Senior Brother Yun Che's wish, it could be considered an option that can satisfy both sides. It's just that I feel bad to have Senior Brother Yun Che go out of his way and walk along such a secret path. What opinion do you have Senior Brother Yun Che?"

"I'm naturally fine with it. It's a matter of great fortune to be able to see the legendary thing with my own eyes. But I think... I'd be making things too difficult for you in the process." Yun Che said with a slight hesitation.

"It's no problem at all." Mu Hanyi smiled faintly. "Senior Brother Yun Che has brought utmost glory to our Ice Wind Empire by taking the trouble to come here. Just one thing has been asked by Senior

Brother Yun Che after coming here. If Mu Hanyi couldn't help even with this, how would it be possible for me to return back to sect together with Senior Brother Yun Che?"

"So, I'd ask Senior Brother Yun Che to return to the Ice Maiden Palace for now."

"Hmm?" Yun Che said in confusion, "Why? We can't go over right away?"

Mu Hanyi shook his head as he said with a slightly bitter smile, "Despite the fact that there's no one in the Snow Song Realm who would dare to bring any harm to Senior Brother Yun Che, it's not possible for Royal Father to outright ignore your protection. Senior Brother Yun Che might not have sensed it but a good number of experts of the palace who are guarding you from the shadows at all times a thousand steps away. If they were come any closer, they might be able to even clearly hear our conversation. Besides, it's still early at present. Royal Father must be still awake, and there's the possibility of him going to the Ice Maiden Palace to greet Senior Brother Yun Che. If it was discovered that Senior Brother Yun Che is absent, he would surely feel deeply concerned and send people to look around. If by any chance, our plan were to be found out, we would be in an even worse situation."

"I see." Yun Che nodded in realization. "As expected of Junior Brother Hanyi to have thought it through. Speaking of which, although I'd be sneaking through the imperial palace with Junior Brother Hanyi, not only does it not feel wrong to me, it's also making me look forward to it a lot, hahahaha!"

"Hahahaha." Mu Hanyi also laughed aloud. "It's an inherent nature of humans to seek stimulation. How can doing a thing following the norms be compared to the stimulation of doing the same sneakily? Tonight, Hanyi will take Senior Brother Yun Che on a fun tour."

"Well then, I'll return to the Ice Maiden Palace. Four hours later, I'll shake off the guards and come here again." His excitement could be made out amidst his expectant look.

"Alright! I believe that Senior Brother Yun Che would feel that the journey has been worthwhile upon seeing our prided Qilin horn!"

Yun Che left, leaving behind Mu Hanyi watching his back for a moment before slowly raising his head. There was still a faint smile on his face, but his eyes reflected an unusual gleam that no one had noticed before.

More than an hour after midnight, in the dead of night.

Yun Che had been resting with closed eyes for a long time, but at this moment, he opened them all of a sudden. Afterwards, he jumped out of the bed and made his way outside.

"Ah... Sir Yun." Feng Hanjin, who had been waiting outside all the while, performed a salutation in a flurry. "Sir Yun is going out?"

"Mn. I'm going out for a walk, so don't bother about me." Yun Che waved his hand.

"Understood." Feng Hanjin bent over to respectfully see him off, not daring to ask anything further.

The Ice Wind Imperial Palace was especially silent in the midnight. Yun Che walked out of the Ice Maiden Palace before abruptly stopping after a short while. He used a pretty low voice to say, "I'm going out to relieve boredom. No one is allowed to follow me!"

The deterrent power of a direct disciple of the Realm King far surpassed that of a monarch. Receiving his order, the people guarding him from the shadows naturally wouldn't dare disobey him.

Furthermore, even they felt that it was quite unnecessary to mobilize so many people just to secretly guard someone as great as a direct disciple of the Great Realm King.

Following the earlier route, Yun Che soon arrived at the place from before. Mu Hanyi was also already waiting for him.

Mu Hanyi released his spiritual sense to perceive the surroundings. Then, he sighed with a smile, "I'd not expect anything less from Senior Brother Yun Che. Your words carry even more weight than Royal Father's. There's really no one who dared to follow you."

"Hehe, Junior Brother Hanyi, you're praising too much. Well, let's go over to that place now. Even if it's just looking from afar, it'd make this journey worthwhile if I could feel the aura of the legendary auspicious beast."

Yun Che might look calm, but he couldn't conceal the urgency in his tone.

"If the halidom has a spirit, it would be certainly overjoyed upon finding out how much someone of Senior Brother Yun Che's identity was yearning for it."

Mu Hanyi took Yun Che to the east of imperial palace. The place they had arrived seemed to be the medicine garden of imperial palace. Various rare and strange herbs were growing all over, and the whole place was completely dark. It was unclear whether Mu Hanyi was deliberately avoiding the places with people, or it had always been the case around here, as they didn't come across a single person ever after walking for a long time.

"This is the imperial palace's medicine garden. Although there's many kinds of herbs here, the standard of the garden is far inferior to the one in sect. I hope Senior Brother Yun Che doesn't laugh at it." Mu Hanyi said. "Normally, this place is guarded by a profound beasts, which would roar as soon as they notice something wrong. But Senior Brother Yun Che, you don't have to worry at all. With my aura here, they wouldn't show any alarming reaction."

Yun Che released his spirit perception. He truly caught the auras of several profound beasts in different places... And, all of them were quite powerful profound beasts in the divine way.

Upon reaching the end of the medicine garden, Mu Hanyi finally stopped in his tracks. There was an over ten meters high, oddly-shaped boulder before their eyes. It appeared to have experienced the passage of a long time, as it was fully covered with green and black creepers. Yun Che's gaze scanned all over it for a brief moment, then he said frowning, "Are you telling me this is the entrance? But..."

Mu Hanyi smiled lightly in response. The creepers on the boulder got brushed away with a sweep of his palm. Soon after, he pointed out his finger as a bead of blood flew out of the tip and fell right on the boulder.

Like mercury flowing down the ground, the scarlet bead slowly permeated it, and disappeared without a trace.

CLANG!

A light sound reverberated, following which, a small-sized profound formation suddenly glimmered on the boulder that seemed completely ordinary a moment ago.

"Oh!" Yun Che's jaw dropped a bit in a totally surprised expression, "What elaborate planning."

"Usually, this profound formation wouldn't show any signs of its presence, making it impossible to be detected. It could be only opened by the ones bearing the direct bloodline of our Ice Wind Imperial Family. However, this is still my first time opening up the passage, besides that one time when Royal Father told me about the existence of this passage."

"Let me speak the truth, even if it makes Senior Brother Yun Che laugh. This passage was made in preparation of escaping with our life, in case we ever confront a desperate situation. Bringing Yun Che along into the passage, Mu Hanyi slowly explained, "The exit and entrance to this passage use an identical profound formation, extremely well-hidden and difficult to perceive by an outsider. Nothing else other than the blood of Ice Wind Imperial Family members could activate the formations, making it relatively safe to use this place to hide or escape from the enemy."

"I only hope that the day we're truly forced to use this never comes in the future." Mu Hanyi sighed deeply.

In the Illusory Demon Realm, Yun Che had seen such a profound formation which used the bloodline imprint for activation.

"Is the imperial treasury you spoke of at the end of this passage?" Yun Che asked. They had walked within for a long time, but the way ahead was still narrow as before.

"Correct. There's a large number of trap mechanisms and profound formations lying hidden in the treasury. Triggering any one of them would land us in quite a grave situation."

As they were talking, Mu Hanyi abruptly came to a halt. There was a pitch-black wall in the front, without the slightest gap anywhere in between to pass through; they seemed to have reached a dead end. He said with a very cautious look, "Senior Brother Yun Che, the treasury is right before us. You need to make sure to follow closely behind me when we enter inside. No matter what, do not walk around casually. Triggering a profound formation would've been still fine, at worst Royal Father would sense our presence and Hanyi would be punished for letting you in. But if Hanyi let Senior Brother Yun Che be hurt by some mechanism, it'd be difficult to atone for my sin even after dying ten thousand times."

Yun Che nodded to make him feel at ease.

Mu Hanyi stretched out his hand. A blood bead flew out again, and fell on the pitch-black wall in the front.

The wall shone with a faint profound light as a profound formation, exactly similar to the one before, instantly appeared in their line of sight. Then, the pitch-black wall opened into two halves. They saw a spacious place before them, as they felt the extremely dense aura of several things.

It was the aura of spirit medicine, spirit crystal, spirit weapon... the aura of each and every thing in the place was extremely strong. In other words, none of these things emitting such an aura was an ordinary entity of low level!

It was after all, the treasury of the Ice Wind Imperial Family which governed the vast Ice Wind Empire!

Kept in here were the collection and accumulation of the Ice Wind Empire, over the immensely long period of more than eighty thousand years!

Chapter 1026 - Insane

The stone door didn't close even after they entered the treasury. Mu Hanyi, who was leading the way, said with a quite serious look, "Senior Brother Yun Che, follow along my steps, and restrain your aura as much as possible. Make sure not to trigger any mechanism or profound formation. The Qilin horn is at the central area, so we should be able to see it soon."

Yun Che restrained his aura as he followed behind Mu Hanyi. Although he was mentally prepared to see a lot of rare things, he was still pretty shocked at the sight before him. The treasury was so huge that one couldn't even see the end. High level purple crystals and purple jades were piled up into a mountain, the purple light emitting from them was practically blinding. There was a dazzling lineup of all kinds of profound armors and weapons in there, and innumerable auras of spirit medicine could be sensed. Despite the fact that treasures that easily leak their auras were sealed properly in ice-jade boxes, the entire treasury was emanating such a strong aura that it felt almost sticky to the touch.

"It's really worthy of being the longest standing empire in the history of the Snow Song Realm. Taking a look at the treasury is enough in itself to make out the amazing prosperity of the Ice Wind Empire." Yun Che said with emotion.

"Hehe, Senior Brother Yun Che is overpraising us." Mu Hanyi chuckled. "No matter how strong Ice Wind Empire is, it's no more than an insignificant country. Even if our strength and prosperity were to increase ten times more, we would still remain a petty and low existence in contrast to Divine Ice Phoenix Sect. What is the sovereign of a nation considered when compared to Senior Brother Yun Che's identity?"

"Oh?" Yun Che revealed surprise, "I believe that Junior Brother Hanyi's words were a bit extreme. I can't fully approve of them."

"Haha." Mu Hanyi let out a meaningful and light laugh, but didn't say anything. He continued to walk further as he led Yun Che in for a good while, before he finally came to halt. Yun Che also stopped at almost the same time, as he looked fixedly in the front.

Before their eyes was a huge sealing profound formation. Within it was a giant horn that was as long as ten meters. Half of its shape was similar to a deer's, and the other half a dragon's. It was entirely azure blue in color and was giving off a crystalline glow. However, it didn't have the slightest glitter and translucency of a crystal. Even though it was sealed by the profound formation, Yun Che could still feel its boundless and dense aura.

"Could this be... the Qilin horn?" Yun Che asked, raising his head.

"Correct." Mu Hanyi turned around to look indifferently at Yun Che. "This Qilin horn is from an Ice Qilin. It's far bigger than the size mentioned in the available records on Qilin. Therefore, this horn most likely doesn't belong to an ordinary Ice Qilin, but some high level species of Qilin, like King Qilin."

"There's an extremely strong power contained in this Qilin horn. It's just that even after using countless ways, our ancestral emperors were never able to draw it out. Later, it was sealed over here, treating it as the halidom safeguarding the empire."

"..." Yun Che nodded, keeping his gaze on the Qilin horn within the profound formation.

Before his eyes was the thing Mu Xuanyin had sent him here for. But, he had no idea what to do about the profound formation the Qilin horn was sealed in.

As Yun Che was looking at the Qilin horn, Mu Hanyi was actually looking at him. His lips unconsciously curved in a strange way, "Speaking of which, once in the past, I proposed to Royal Father that if I could fortunately become a direct disciple of the Sect Master, then we must present this Qilin horn to her."

"Oh?" Surprise emerged in Yun Che's eyes. "But isn't it the halidom of your Ice Wind Empire? Your royal father shouldn't have agreed, right?"

"No," Mu Hanyi smiled calmly. "Royal Father immediately gave his consent. If I could become a direct disciple of the Sect Master, no one in the Snow Song Realm would dare to go against our Ice Wind Empire. Its standing would reach the zenith of the world. Why would we still need some halidom to safeguard the empire by then? In fact, I never believed in something like the destiny of a nation. We might call it a halidom that's safeguarding our empire, but speaking bluntly, it's just a useless, worthless thing, whose sole purpose is to comfort our hearts. Ultimately, we have no means to draw out the power contained within it, but Sect Master is certainly capable of doing that. Having the sect master regard me highly by exchanging such a useless, worthless thing, is it possible for a deal to be any greater than this?! How could Royal Father disagree to such a proposal?!"

"..." Yun Che furrowed his eyebrows. He could clearly sense the change in Mu Hanyi's tone and expression.

"I intentionally disclosed this matter to Master, thinking that the information might be able to reach the ears of Sect Master, and let her know about my sincerity. However, it was you whom the sect master chose in the end, so nothing I do would make a difference." Mu Hanyi slightly raised his head. "It seems this Qilin horn is going to simply lie here as ever. Oh! No, no, no, it'd be still comparatively better to present it to the sect master, just that..."

"You'd not be the one doing so, but I, Mu Hanyi!"

Mu Hanyi raised a corner of his mouth. His eyes suddenly started to emit a gloomy and bizarre light.

"..." Yun Che's eyes jerked up. He started moving backwards without making any sound. "Junior Brother Hanyi, what do you mean by that?"

"What meaning? Heh!" His eternally gentle smile, which looked like a steadily flowing water, had abruptly changed into a particularly eerie one. His eyes looking at Yun Che didn't held the deep respect from before, visibly replaced by blatant ridicule and hatred. "It's not like you don't have the choice to present it to the sect master yourself. As long as you kill me, and then use my blood to deactivate that profound formation, you can fulfill your wish."

He stretched out his finger to slowly beckon to Yun Che, "Come, kill me now. Then, you can bring this Qilin horn back to sect, which would cause the sect master to think more highly of you than before. Come on, hurry up!"

Yun Che's pupils shrank a bit, and continued quietly moving backwards. "Junior Brother Hanyi, are you... joking around with me?"

"What do you think?" The corners of Mu Hanyi's mouth lifted into a smile, revealing his white and dazzling teeth that he would keep hidden, even at the moments of smiling faintly. He flung his arm all of a sudden, as he took out a thing flashing blue light before pinching it into pieces. Subsequently, a profound formation was unleashed, glimmering with blue light.

CLANG!!

Instantly, a blue barrier was formed around Yun Che before he could even react. By the time he realized his current situation, he was already trapped within together with Mu Hanyi.

The barrier was only thirty-three meters wide, a distance profound practitioners of divine way could cover in no time. The aura emanating from the barrier brought an abrupt change in Yun Che's expression.

Not only the barrier was extremely resilient, so much so that he was absolutely incapable of tearing it open, it also cut off everything besides light... space, sound, and even sound transmission!

"One needs to be at least at the peak of the Divine Tribulation Realm to be able to forcefully break through this barrier. Even if it's me, it's impossible to force my way out of here." Mu Hanyi lowered his arm as he said in a gloomy mocking tone. Being held within the barrier, Yun Che's present circumstances were no different from a turtle in a jar.

Yun Che kept on retreating with quick steps, till he arrived at the edge of the barrier. "Mu Hanyi, what... are you planning to do?"

"Didn't you say earlier that you've come to the Ice Wind Empire to do something?" Mu Hanyi smiled faintly. If an Ice Phoenix disciple were to see his appearance this time, they would definitely not dare believe that he was the same Senior Brother Hanyi who was revered by everyone. "To offer birthday congratulations? Hah, do you take me for a fool?!"

"..." The look in Yun Che's eyes changed again.

"On my way here, I was always wondering why Sect Master had you come to the Ice Wind Empire. Given the ability of Sect Master, there's no value in conspiring against our empire. Then, at some point in time, I suddenly recalled that I've told Master about the Qilin horn, and immediately realized why you'd be sent here... Right, there can be no other reason other than to get the Qilin horn!"

"A major event will be happening in the God Realm. So to prepare herself, the Sect Master is anxious to have some breakthrough. Her asking Huo Rulie to hand over the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World during the Great Sect Assembly, is a sufficient proof to support my understanding of the situation. There's no doubt that the Sect Master found out about the Qilin horn from Master, and is thinking that the power contained in it might assist her to breakthrough. However, since she didn't choose me as her direct disciple, and also knows that the Qilin horn is a halidom of our Ice Wind Empire,

she didn't feel it right to make a demand for it... Sect Master has to take care of her reputation, after all! Therefore, she sent you over to discreetly inquire the related information! As long as the location of Qilin horn has been searched out, Sect Master can take it away at any time, without letting anyone else know of her presence!"

"Later, when I heard from Royal Sister Hanjin that you asked her a question related to the destiny of our nation, the last bit of doubt in my heart got dispelled right away."

"You..." The surprised look on Yun Che's face grew deeper with every word said by Mu Hanyi. "Why do you know about everythi...?

However, he at once realized something, following which, the surprise and fear on his face disappeared without a trace. This time he actually took a step forward, as the expression in his eyes turned dark and stern, "Since you know it already, that makes things a lot easier. Hand over the Qilin horn obediently to me, got it? Or what... do you want to defy Master's will?"

"Hehe, there's no way I, Mu Hanyi would have the guts to defy Sect Master's will. Didn't I say just now? I'll personally offer the Qilin horn to Master. But you wouldn't be there to see that moment, because you..." Mu Hanyi's tone changed all of a sudden, "Will be dying here very soon!"

Yun Che's pupils shrank, "What did you say? You... you want to kill me? You dare kill me!?"

"No, no, no, how could I dare do such a thing?! Senior Brother Yun Che is a direct disciple of the sect master after all. I wouldn't dare harm a hair of you, even if I had guts big as heaven." Mu Hanyi's eyes narrowed into slits. "Naturally, you wouldn't be killed by me, but... due to unfortunately triggering a mechanism here while vainly attempting to steal the Qilin horn!"

Yun Che was slightly dumbfounded, but it didn't take him long to understand his intention. He looked panicked all of a sudden, "You..."

"Don't be nervous, Senior Brother Yun Che." Enjoying Yun Che's panicked look, an incomparably eerie and elated smile appeared on Mu Hanyi's face. "I'll cover up the whole incident very well. Even if the sect master were to personally come here, it'd be definitely impossible to figure out anything wrong with my story. You can wholeheartedly trust me on that."

"After all, this place you've stepped into yourself... is perfect as your graveyard!!"

"You... have you gone crazy?!" Yun Che yelled. "I-I'm in your Ice Wind Empire at present. Even if Master truly believed that I was killed by some mechanism, given her temper... she will put an end to the lives of you all in anger."

"Oh! You're right, extremely right." Mu Hanyi didn't show any fear in response, and instead nodded in deep agreement. "Even if you died in the process of trying to steal the halidom of our Ice Wind Empire, it'd be completely normal if Sect Master razed the entire imperial city to the ground in anger... But even if Ice Wind Empire were to be eradicated, Sect Master wouldn't kill me for sure!!"

Yun Che, "???"

"Because you would be dead, and Feixue..." Mu Hanyi's body uncontrollably trembled for a good while when he mentioned the name of Mu Feixue. His voice was suddenly filled with hatred, as he said

gnashing his teeth, "She has lost her former talent after having her vital yin sullied by you! Hence, Sect Master will certainly select a new direct disciple... which could only be me!"

"There would be no one qualified other than me! So if I were to be killed, Sect Master wouldn't be able to find another suitable direct disciple!!"

"When the time comes, I'll beg Sect Master to forgive me, for being unable to keep safe our respected and loved Senior Brother Yun Che. And, the Sect Master would be most clear about the reason behind you getting killed by the mechanism set up around the Qilin horn. She would know that our Ice Wind Empire is innocent. In addition, if the empire were to be exterminated, she'd have a guilty conscience towards me. Afterwards, I'll personally offer up the Qilin horn to appease her... Every part of my plan is logical and well-reasoned! The things I lost or were snatched away from me, will all return back to my hands one more time!"

"To achieve this aim... you not only want to kill me, but are also willing to put Ice Wind Empire in a greatly perilous situation?" Yun Che said as he panted heavily.

Mu Hanyi opened his arms, saying leisurely, "So long as I can succeed, what does it matter even if the entire Ice Wind Empire is drowned in the flames of wrath and exterminated?"

"..." A deep frown surfaced on Yun Che's face. "You sure are insane."

Chapter 1027 - Killing with Poison

"Me, insane?" Mu Hanyi indifferently cackled, "You are even more naive than I had thought. All I am doing is something which a truly able person needs to do. Even if my royal father or royal brothers were to die under the fury of the sect master, they would definitely understand me as they traveled along the path of the Yellow Springs. After all, this was all taught to me by my royal father."

"At the same time... I was forced to do all of this by you!!!"

Mu Hanyi's originally calm and indifferent voice abruptly turned sharp at this moment as a terrifyingly hideous and fierce expression emerged on his face. At this place and time, he was finally able to completely strip himself of all of his miens without any qualms. "Do you know just how much I've given up to be able to become Sect Master's direct disciple?!"

"I have an innate talent which causes all to envy me, yet I have never dared to be the slightest bit lazy because of it. In fact, while others would cultivate for six to eight hours a day, I would cultivate for at least eighteen hours a day! And I started this when I was five years old! Every day, I would train until I became battered black and blue to temper my body as well. I have already lost count of how many times I have nearly frozen to death in the Wintry Spring!"

"After entering Divine Ice Phoenix Sect later on, I became even less daring to slack off! Even though I was a prince, I kneeled thousands upon ten thousands of times in front of others within the sect to ask for teachings. To gain a spot in the hearts of people, I showed favor countless times to those untouchables who could be of use to me! Then, in order to gain more blood essence from Mu Yunzhi to thicken my bloodline, I even... I was even willing to humiliate myself and become a plaything for her in bed!"

"# \pm %..." As Yun Che thought about the robust Mu Yunzhi and her masculine face, his eyes opened wide and his mouth dropped as an overwhelmingly uncomfortable feeling emerged in his stomach.

The route that Mu Hanyi had taken to become the number one disciple of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect was truly not an easy one!

Mu Hanyi's breathing became increasingly heavy as his expression became increasingly grim and hideous. His pupils, full of rage and fury, moved erratically as he said, "I had already succeeded... my success was nigh! I was about to become Sect Master's direct disciple, gaining a most distinguished status and a future which everyone would be envious of! Sect Master would pass Feixue to me, and my homeland would once again rise to the pinnacle. Because of my talent, my wisdom, my effort, and also my prestige, I could have also possibly become the successor of a Great Realm King, ruling over the entire Snow Song Realm and becoming a person who all had to bow down to. My name would have forever been recorded in the history of the Snow Song Realm, and I would have achieved a state of omnipotence within it. I would have been able to kill that old bitch Mu Yunzhi using the most wicked methods without any care..."

Yun Che, "..."

"Everything had already appeared right in front of my eyes. As long as I continued working hard, everything would have become mine. You wouldn't need to die, nor anyone else! But you... it was you... who ruined all of it!"

Waves of grief, resentment, and madness emanated from Mu Hanyi as his voice became hoarse and twisted. Like an evil beast, he roared, "You have robbed me of the rewards for my lifetime of effort. You have taken away Feixue, you have taken away everything!"

"But thankfully, this entire matter is but just a test given to me by the heavens. Not long has passed, yet an opportunity for me to snatch everything back has been delivered straight to me... and it is an incredibly perfect opportunity!"

Mu Hanyi's breaths were ragged as he slowly raised his closed palm towards Yun Che, "Do you know just how perfect this is? You, yourself, threw off your guards, and no one knows where you have gone or who are with. As for me, I exited through a secret passage within the palace. This means that no one knows I have left the palace. Thus, everyone will believe that during the critical moments of your death after 'breaking into' the treasury, I was sleeping calmly in the palace."

"I have even helped you think of how you entered. Only... I will need to sacrifice my poor royal sister."

"You!" Yun Che fiercely gnashed his teeth. From Mu Hanyi's words, it was clear that after killing Yun Che and leaving, he would send a sound transmission to Feng Hanjin and call her over, before then killing her too!

Because the blood of a Ice Wind Imperial Family member was needed to unlock the profound formation of the secret passageway, Mu Hanyi wanted to make it seem like Yun Che had killed Feng Hanjin and then used her blood to enter the treasure warehouse!

"If I become a Great Realm King in the future, what's wrong with this bit of a sacrifice?"

Mu Hanyi slowly walked forward as an icy blue light surrounded his hand. "Ask me how much I hate you. These last couple days, I have dreamed about cutting into you with thousands of blades. But now... I feel like you are so pitiful. You got everything I dreamed about, but just a short half month later, you are about to lose everything, including your life. Heh, your losses outweigh your gains."

More blue light quickly converged over Mu Hanyi's hand and rapidly reached a level where it would be able to take Yun Che's life in one blow. Mu Hanyi was only ten steps away from him, "Truth be told, you are still quite an intelligent fellow. I constantly thought about killing you to snatch everything back, but there were several times where I wondered if it was possible that I would never find an opportunity to kill you in my entire life. I never expected that the heaven's would pity me and bestow such a perfect opportunity upon me so quickly."

"Since arriving in the Ice Wind Empire, you must have been bitterly thinking about how to find the whereabouts of the Qilin horn, right? At a time like this, I just had to slightly lead and you would naturally become euphoric. After all, how could you let such an opportunity go? And thus, you obediently brought yourself in here."

"In your next life, you would do well to remember one thing. Do not be too impatient when doing things. You should use your brain a bit more!"

Yun Che, "..."

"Alright, everything which needs to be said has been said. You can peacefully go die now." Mu Hanyi's five fingers slowly opened as his facial features became extremely twisted, "Don't feel anxious, I won't let you die too horribly. Otherwise, you may not look perfect enough for my plans after you die!"

Mu Hanyi's words hadn't fallen as he abruptly shot forward, his five fingers with blue light flickering between them aimed straight for Yun Che's throat.

The power of a middle stage Divine Tribulation Realm cultivator, one which surpassed Yun Che by a full two and a half realms, was undoubtedly enough to kill him, even if it were to just barely hit him.

As Yun Che watched Mu Hanyi approach, he felt the cold aura of death. However, a glint of light abruptly flashed through his eyes as they became incredibly dark and cold.

Star God's Broken Shadow!

Bang!!!

Mu Hanyi's palm and fingers instantly tore through Yun Che's afterimage and heavily collided with the barrier. The barrier slightly trembled from the blue light, but showed absolutely no signs of collapsing. In fact, not a single crack appeared on top.

Having never considered that Yun Che would be able to dodge his attack, Mu Hanyi became clearly dazed for a moment. It was at this moment that a dark blue image of a dragon flashed within the barrier, followed by a heaven shocking earth shattering roar which caused the entire area to tremble.

Roar!!!!!!!

Dragon God Domain!!

The Dragon God Domain. It was a terrifying domain which was Yun Che's only method to suppress enemies who were three or more great realms higher than him. Forget Divine Tribulation Realm cultivators, even Divine Spirit Realm profound cultivators would not be able to completely resist it.

An unmatched power which originated from the Dragon God's true soul caused Mu Hanyi to feel as if his soul had been hit by a heavy hammer. His vision suddenly turned white as an unprecedented sense of weakness and fear quickly emerged in his heart...

And at this moment, Yun Che charged forward like a bolt of lighting, his left hand reaching out as a green glow flashed out from the Sky Poison Pearl in his palm. A seemingly cottony and fibrous, yet also liquid, red dot flew out from the Sky Poison Pearl and onto Mu Hanyi's face. As soon as the red dot collided with Mu Hanyi, it immediately entered through his skin and seven orifices in a frenzy, as if it had suddenly gained consciousness. In the blink of an eye, it had already disappeared.

Removing the Dragon God Domain, Yun Che flipped backwards and then landed on the other side of the barrier. As he landed, his body slightly swayed as his vision became blurry—In order to ensure success, he had unreservedly used his soul energy. Although the Dragon God Domain had only been sustained for several breaths, it had consumed a great amount of his soul energy.

However, a dark, indifferent smile was present on his face.

Both of Mu Hanyi's pupils quickly contracted in fear and shock. He had just turned around when he suddenly fell to his knees, expressions of extreme pain and panic abruptly emerging on his face. Then, his entire body collapsed onto the ground as he began to wildly roll around and convulse. He began to scream, his voice hoarse and shrill as he continuously cried out as if he were bearing the greatest pains in the world.

"Ah... ah... ah ah... you... you... what have... you done... ah ah..."

"It's the horned dragon's breath," Yun Che coldly responded.

"...Uuugh!" These two ice cold words caused Mu Hanyi's pupils to suddenly expand several times larger as traces of scarlet blood abruptly spread across the whites of his eyes. Everyone in Divine Ice Phoenix Sect knew that what had nearly caused Mu Bingyun to lose her life was the horned dragon's breath. Its toxicity was so terrifying that even a Divine Sovereign Realm powerhouse like Mu Bingyun had nearly died. How could it be something that Mu Hanyi could endure?

"It... it's not possible... you're lying to me... YOU'RE LYING!!!"

As if countless demons were rampaging through Mu Hanyi's soul, he felt extreme pain and fear. He let out another hoarse roar and then pounced towards Yun Che, but right when he tried to circulate his profound energy, the toxicity of the horned dragon's breath abruptly flared and became more intense. As if he had suddenly been shot in the heart, he fell to the ground whilst miserably roaring. His entire body contracted as he rolled on the ground in extreme pain.

His originally white skin quickly became a dull red as the aura of profound energy and vitality on his body rapidly dispersed from his body like running water.

The horrific toxicity of horned dragon's breath was being clearly demonstrated in front of Yun Che's eyes.

Under the immense toxicity of the horned dragon's breath, a profound cultivator of the Divine Tribulation Realm who had once been the number one amongst the peers of his generation in the Snow Song Realm, had been reduced to a completely powerless state as if he were a helpless larvae.

"It seems like the situation did not develop as you had expected."

Yun Che calmly and slowly walked over, his eyes indifferent and devoid of a trace of mercy as he said, "Mu Hanyi, I must confess that you acted quite well. I only ever felt regret and self-depreciation from you, and never once felt any hatred and unacceptance towards me. Especially on the road to the Ice Wind Empire, when you 'bared your heart and soul to me', there were several moments when I nearly believed that you were broadminded and able to calmly accept everything."

"Your ability to hide your emotions is perfect and unmatched. Even I cannot achieve it."

"However, regardless of how perfectly you behaved, there's no way that I would be innocent and naive to believe that you held no hate towards me. It's even more unlikely that I would be foolish enough to come to such an isolated place by myself without guards when invited by someone who hates me so."

Yun Che stopped in front of Mu Hanyi and bent down slightly as he mockingly said, "It seems that the impatient person was not me, but you."

"In your next life, you would do well to remember one thing. Do not be too impatient when doing things. You should use your brain a bit more!"

The words with which Mu Hanyi had used to mock Yun Che earlier had been delivered back to him in full.

"You... ah..." Mu Hanyi's eyes had become bloodshot to the point of seemingly exploding. His struggles had also become increasingly fainter and weaker. He was in such great pain that he couldn't even say anything anymore.

"This place is indeed incredibly perfect for killing someone, regardless of it is you kill me or me killing you." Yun Che coldly said, "Mu Hanyi, you truly picked a perfect place to use as your grave. Otherwise, I would have had to use more of my brain and energy just to find an opportunity and reason to get rid of you, a snake which could bite me at any moment!"

Chapter 1028 - The First Gain in the God Realm

"You... ugh, aghhh..." Mu Hanyi's struggling fingers had deformed by now. His voice had become so hoarse and weak that it was impossible to hear him clearly. Although even ten breaths hadn't passed since he was poisoned, his complexion of his body had entirely changed. The pupils of his eyes, in particular, had turned into the color of thick blood.

"I thank you to bring me here, as well as giving me the opportunity and reason to kill you. Now I can take away this Qilin horn with a clear conscience. Hmph! As thanks, I'll be generous and tell you about two things."

"First," Yun Che narrowed his eyes, "There's a special reason behind Master giving Mu Feixue to me. So, even if you truly became Master's direct disciple, she would still not give you Feixue. Your claim that I snatched your Feixue is completely ridiculous and baseless."

"Ugh... ah!" Mu Hanyi opened his mouth wide, as scarlet foam of blood overflowed out. All of his teeth had melted away due to the highly toxic poison.

"Second..." Yun Che squatted down, and let out a low sneer, "The horned dragon poison in your body was personally given to me by Master when I was leaving for here. Try to guess, why Master specially had me come here to the Ice Wind Empire, and also handed over such a highly toxic poison to me?"

"..." Mu Hanyi's curled-up body suddenly went stiff. In his lusterless eyes surfaced the most terrified and desperate look he had ever shown in his life.

"Hmph! You might have thought that your performance was flawless, but Master is a Great Realm King who has lived for ten thousand years. Even someone as clever as me would act docile before her, without harboring the slightest thoughts of tricking her. Do you really think that she wouldn't be able to see through your thoughts and schemes?"

"Today, if I had truly died that at this place, Master would have absolutely not accepted you as her direct disciple, as you seem to be deluding. On the contrary, there would be an even tragic end waiting for you."

Mu Hanyi's mouth trembled as it opened, but no sound escaped from it. His curled-up body didn't seem to be able to struggle any further as it only convulsed from time to time.

"The plan proposed by you to shift the blame to mistakenly triggering a mechanism is indeed pretty good. And I also have to thank you for telling me that it's possible to deactivate the profound formation sealing the Qilin horn by making use of your blood. Otherwise, I'd have to put in a lot of time and energy for sure." Yun Che gave him a cold and indifferent smile.

"..." The highly toxic breath quickly spread inside the barrier, and Mu Hanyi had already lost his five senses. He had no way to clearly hear the last words said by Yun Che. With the toxic poison contaminating his entire body, it twitched intensely for a short while before going completely still.

He had finally died a miserable death due to the horned dragon's breath.

Yun Che stretched out his left hand as the Sky Poison Pearl released its power and fully purified the toxic poison present on Mu Hanyi's corpse. Afterwards, he also purified the poisonous breath that had dispersed inside the barrier, leaving behind no signs of the horned dragon poison.

He stood to his feet, and took a last look at Mu Hanyi's corpse lying silently. He let out a heavy breath of relaxation before saying in a low voice, "He was truly a terrifying person."

He recalled Xuanyuan Wentian.

It was an indubitable fact that Xuanyuan Wentian was an extremely terrifying person, and also the only one who brought him close to losing his life several times. But Mu Hanyi wasn't even thirty and his shrewdness and scheming ability had reached such an extent. If he were living in a lower realm and had lived as long as Xuanyuan Wentian, he would have certainly become a person even more fearful than the latter.

It was a pity that he didn't have the opportunity.

Yun Che fully understood why Mu Xuanyin had initially decided to accept Mu Hanyi as her direct disciple. With his scheming mind and means, he was definitely far more suitable than the pure-hearted Mu Feixue to be someone standing above others.

But, now that she had selected Yun Che, Mu Hanyi's extremely scheming nature would have naturally become a threatening factor to him.

She wanted Yun Che to go to the Ice Wind Empire not only to get the Qilin horn, but also to let him take care of Mu Hanyi, a potential danger.

He had no idea how long it would take for the sealing barrier around him to disappear. Earlier, Mu Hanyi had attacked it with all his power, but even a single crack didn't appear on it. So it was completely unnecessary for Yun Che to waste his energy on trying to forcefully break out. He came right before the barrier, and took a deep breath before stretching out his both hands.

Ice glowed on his left hand, and flames shone on his right.

Yun Che closed his eyes and fully concentrated his mind. After a long period of calm, a berserk airstream suddenly generated within the barrier, causing the glow of the ice and shine of the flames to become even stronger. The chilly and burning energy that should should have engulfed and cancelled out each other, went against the norms and entwined together. Subsequently, they merged and an aura deviating from the laws and rules of the heavens came into existence little by little.

A good while passed before Yun Che opened his eyes again. A ice-blue blaze was calmly burning at the center of his palm.

His attainments in the use and control of flames had always increased at an extremely fast rate. As he had also obtained the Ice Phoenix bloodline at present, the might of the ice flame, that was produced by the fusion of flames and ice, would naturally experience a great increase. Yun Che slowly lifted the ice flame as he spoke in a low voice, "I guess this is my limit... It should be enough to deal with this."

He pushed forward the ice flame, bringing it into contact with the barrier.

Without making any sound, a big gaping hole immediately appeared in the isolating barrier that even Mu Hanyi wasn't able to forcefully break out of; it was quite similar to a fragment of ice coming in contact with flames.

Instantly, the entire barrier swayed intensely as its energy began to dissipate from the opened hole. Soon after, it broke along with a cracking sound, and the fragmented pieces of energy flew away in all directions.

Yun Che looked around, considering which mechanism he should throw Mu Hanyi's corpse to. But after pondering for a short while, he gave up on the thought. It was possible to Mu Hanyi to use such a method for faking the reason behind Yun Che's death, but it was quite unsuitable for Yun Che to try the same. Putting aside the fact that Mu Hanyi was particularly familiar with the mechanisms in the treasury, his body was greatly corroded by the highly toxic poison. As such, it was out of question to make it seem as if was killed by a mechanism.

"Oh well, I should just take away his corpse with me. Otherwise, if they were to find him dead as well as the Qilin horn disappeared, there's a big possibility that they would suspect my involvement. After all, I'm surely the only one Mu Hanyi would willingly bring to this place."

It might be a rather nice idea to make both of them disappear together, making it seem as though Mu Hanyi had left the imperial palace with the Qilin horn... As for the reason, they could think whatever they want.

He didn't immediately store Mu Hanyi's corpse, and instead walked ahead, towards the huge pile of Purple Veined Divine Crystals that were shining with profound light.

Purple stone, purple crystal, and purple jade were currencies in the God Realm. As it had been quite a short time since Yun Che had come to this realm, so it was only natural that he was pitifully lacking in wealth. In Ice Phoenix Palace, he still received five thousand purple stones every month, but after becoming a direct disciple of Mu Xuanyin, he was in actuality, flat broke.

Since he was certain that the area was free from the existence of mechanisms and profound formations, Yun Che continued to walk with large strides, feeling no worries or fear. He didn't show any reservation, and at once stored the mountain-sized pile of purple crystals and the carefully sealed purple jade in his Sky Poison Pearl. Although he didn't know the exact number of the items he had stored, it was certain to be an extremely great wealth as this place was the treasury of a nation's imperial family.

Then, Yun Che changed his direction and stored all the jade boxes containing various kinds of precious pellets and spirit medicine in his Sky Poison Pearl.

It was only a corner of the treasury, but he didn't act greedily and stopped looking for more after storing everything in the area. There were mechanisms and profound formations concealed all around the place, so if he were to carelessly trigger any one of them while trying to get as much treasures as possible, he would meet an unimaginably horrible end.

With such a large amount of purple crystals and purple jade in his possession, Yun Che instantly felt a sense of assurance in his heart. He returned before Mu Hanyi's corpse and flicked his finger towards it. Immediately, a tear opened up in the corpse. A few dark red blood beads flew out, and floated over Yun Che's fingertip.

He slowly walked up to the profound formation that had sealed the Qilin horn.

As the profound formation sealing the halidom within, it was obvious for it to be extremely tenacious. It was unclear whether even the ice flame could break it apart. Yun Che sized up the huge, ice-blue Qilin horn one more time. He jerked his finger, causing the few blood beads he obtained from Mu Hanyi to fall lightly on the sealing profound formation.

When the blood beads came into contact with the profound formation, a faint red light flashed for a moment, after which they completely permeated the formation. At the same time, a muffled metallic sound came from the profound formation as a red mark appeared out of the blue. With the red mark as the center, the whole formation split into two halves, gradually opening sideways.

After the formation was completely opened, he could directly see the Qilin horn that had existed in Ice Wind Empire for over eighty thousand years.

"It seems that Ice Wind Empire has quite a high level profound formation master."

Yun Che sighed with emotion. His body floated up as he made his way ahead with light movements. He approached the Qilin horn at a rather slow pace and finally felt the thing with his own palm.

It was extremely hard to the touch, but devoid of temperature. It didn't even feel chilly as he was expecting. However, he could faintly sense an unprecedented, bizarre feeling that seemed to have come from ancient times.

It was obviously not the right time to investigate the Qilin horn. With a slight pulling gesture of Yun Che's palm, the ten meter long Qilin horn was sucked and brought into the Sky Poison Pearl.

The moment it entered the Sky Poison Pearl, a wisp of profound energy was unleashed from down below. Yun Che's eyebrows shot up, "Oh shoot!"

From beneath the place where the Qilin horn was kept earlier, a profound light shot up to the sky along with a deafening metallic sound. At almost the same moment, profound light flashed crazily in the treasury, activating the all the warning profound formations that issued dazzling light and siren so loud that it could be heard from a few thousand kilometers away.

"Dammit!" Yun Che furrowed his brows... Not only was the Qilin horn sealed in a profound formation, there was also a different profound formation hidden beneath it! So long as the Qilin horn was moved away from its place, the other profound formation would be activated, as well as all the formations in the treasury would be triggered straightaway.

Yun Che gritted his teeth... The Ice Wind Imperial Family was much more careful with the protection of the Qilin horn than he had thought!

Undoubtedly, not only the imperial palace, but also the entire Ice Wind Imperial City must have been alarmed at the moment. The guards outside, a large number of imperial palace experts, and even Feng Huita himself would be arriving at any moment.

"I should have enough time to leave before they arrive!"

Mu Hanyi had said before that only he, Feng Huita, and Feng Hange knew about the secret path to the treasury. Even the guards keeping a watch outside, who were closest to the place, would have to come from the main entrance. Hence, there was enough time to leave from the secret path.

Yun Che quickly calmed down. Then, he turned around to take away Mu Hanyi's corpse.

But the next instant, his movements abruptly stagnated as his hair stood on end.

There was nothing in his line of sight, except for some dark-red bloodstains.

Mu Hanyi's corpse had... disappeared!

It was so startling that Yun Che felt a cold chill run down his spine.

"Who is it!? Who's there!?"

If his corpse was totally eradicated by the toxic poison of the horned dragon, Yun Che could still somehow accept the fact. However, he had just used the Sky Poison Pearl to purify all the toxic poison

present on his corpse in order to avoid leaving any traces of the horned dragon's breath... So, how was it possible for the copse to disappear into thin air!?

Furthermore, he had not discovered the aura of any other person until now.

No one replied to his questions. With the warning sound issuing from the treasury, he couldn't hear even the echo of his own voice.

The guards outside could charge in at any time. Yun Che suddenly grit his teeth as he initiated Extreme Mirage Lightning. Following the route in his memory, he dashed to the entrance with his fastest speed.

The door to the secret path was still open. Yun Che rushed into the secret path without slowing down a bit, but he firmly gnashed his teeth as he ran along the way.

There was someone in the treasury other than the two of them! Moreover, it was such a terrifying person that he was simply unable to sense their presence!

If they were present here all along, wouldn't that mean that... they saw everything he did, including the purification of the Sky Poison Pearl and the ice flame?!

Why were they inside the treasury... And for what reason did they take away Mu Hanyi's corpse!?

Who did it!?

Chapter 1029 - Something Strange

Yun Che swiftly moved through the darkness. Upon approaching the exit, however, he slowed down, using Hidden Flowing Lightning to rapidly retract his aura.

Various noises resonated over from afar, but the medicine garden area outside of the entrance did not seem to have any abnormalities. Upon deciding it was safe, Yun Che slowly and silently exited while maintaining Hidden Flowing Lightning. He carefully moved through the darkness until he confirmed that he was outside of the perception range of the profound beast guarding the medicine garden. Then, he abrupted accelerated and raced straight back towards Ice Maiden Palace.

The originally calm and silent Ice Wind Imperial Palace had already become noisy and clamorous as groups of figures flocked towards the treasury like large flocks of birds. The originally dark area around the treasury was now brightened by various profound lights... Someone had broken into the treasury. This was the only time it had ever happened in the tens of thousands of years long history of the Ice Wind Empire, and thus had caused the entire city to be shocked as over half of the peak practitioners within the palace went towards it.

Yun Che's brows were tightly furrowed as he avoided the moving figures to the best of his abilities and slowly approached the boundaries of the imperial palace. He had not expected that taking away the Qilin horn would trigger the profound formation below it, but it was not enough to cause him to panic... what caused him to worry was Mu Hanyi's corpse, which had disappeared.

As the lights of Ice Maiden Palace entered his sights, Yun Che's footsteps abruptly slowed as he directly stopped in place and turned around to look in the direction of the treasury.

Not too long after, the sound of many hurried footsteps approached him from behind. The people leading the group were none other than Feng Huita and Feng Hange. As for the group following them, it consisted of twenty or so people. Although their numbers were small and they were all armorless, the aura of each person was incredibly thick and their eyes all seemed sharp enough to penetrate into one's heart.

Upon seeing Yun Che, Feng Huita and Feng Hange quickly made to greet him as Feng Huita hurried shouted from far away, "Young Yun!"

Yun Che turned around as he asked, "Ice Wind Emperor, what is with this great commotion? Could it be that some enemy has broken in?"

Feng Huita walked closer, then slightly bent at the waist as he replied, "My imperial treasury is located over there. It is guarded extremely strictly, so I never thought that someone would actually try to break in. To have disturbed Young Yun's sleep as well, this little king is truly ashamed. When this little king captures the intruder, they will have their body cut to thousands of pieces!"

"Royal Father!" Feng Hange anxiously interrupted, "As the thief was able to activate that profound formation, it means that they have already entered the treasury. For them to enter whilst avoiding the many layers of guards means that their skills are no small matter. It is still best if royal father doesn't take any risks."

"As of right now, a hundred thousand guards have already encircled the treasury area. Even if the thief grew wings, it would be hard for them to escape. Moreover, with all of the high level experts over there, this will definitely be able to apprehend the thief and bring them before you," Feng Hange vowed.

Feng Huita thought for a while, then ordered, "Alright then, but you must be careful."

"Elder Yan, I'll be putting my royal father and Brother Yun in your care."

"Rest assured, crown prince." Behind Feng Huita, a sage like old man slowly nodded his head.

Finished speaking, Feng Hange took his group of men and swiftly moved towards the treasury.

"Young Yun, I'm afraid it may not be too safe here. Why don't you let this little king accompany you back to the Ice Wind Main Hall?" Feng Huita said.

With the escort of Elder Yan, Yun Che followed Feng Huita back to the Ice Wind Main Hall. The front of the hall was already full of people, a large portion of which being guests who were staying in the various palaces that night. They had all been shocked silly and were afraid, and had been escorted there by their own guards.

There were three layers of experts surrounding the great palace, and another three layers within the palace itself. The defense was indeed without a hole.

Upon seeing Yun Che, Mu Xiaolan walked up and greeted him as she anxiously asked, "Yun Che, are... are you alright?"

"What could possibly happen to me?" Yun Che casually replied.

Situ Xiongyang also hurriedly stepped forward and asked, "Ice Wind Emperor, this... what has happened? Could it be that enemies have intruded?"

"A thief has broken into my treasury and activated a profound formation." Feng Huita frowned, "However, do not worry. There is no way the thief will escape. Only, the disturbances that they have wrought upon you all, I'm afraid that even if they are cut up into tens of thousands of pieces, it will not relieve you all of your anger!"

"..." Yun Che didn't look away as he knew that it was impossible for Feng Huita to suspect that the person who had activated the profound formation within the treasury had entered and exited through a secret passage which was openable only with royal blood. It was impossible for Feng Huita to know that the thief had long since escaped.

Sounds of chaos constantly emanated over from the north without a break as the people in front of the palace conversed amongst themselves. All of the palace guards were extremely tense, as if they were about to face an enemy at any time. As time flowed on, Feng Huita would glance over and then send a sound transmission through the Sound Transmission Jade in his hand. He did this countless times, and with each time, an increasing amount of anxiety and doubt emerged between his brows.

In the end, he finally couldn't take it any longer as he decisively said, "Quickly send someone to the thirteenth prince's palace! If he isn't in his palace, then send people looking for him. Upon finding him, let him immediately come over and see me."

The brows of Elder Yan, who was always right behind Feng Huita, furrowed as he said, "With the thirteenth prince's temperament, he would definitely be the first person to react if something like this were to happen, yet he has yet to appear tonight. Moreover, he cannot even be contacted by sound transmission... it is indeed strange."

"..." Feng Huita didn't respond, but his expression became extremely solemn at this point.

At this point, a creeping suspicion emerged in Mu Xiaolan's heart. During this entire time, she had been stealing glances at Yun Che, and at this time, she realized that ever since Yun Che had arrived, his brows had been furrowed as if locked. Moreover, the look in his eyes was also abnormal and unfocused. Thus, Mu Xiaolan reached out with her hand and waved it in front of Yun Che's eyes. "Hm? what's wrong with you?"

Yun Che slightly leaned to the side as he responded, "It's nothing. I'm only thinking about a strange matter."

"A strange matter?"

It was at this time that the atmosphere in front of them became chaotic as tens of figures with incredibly disturbed and abnormal auras quickly approached.

"R-royal Father!!"

Feng Hange jumped over through the sky and then immediately kneeled in front of Feng Huita. Although dark, it was clear that his face had turned completely pale as if he had just become incredibly sickly. Looking more carefully, one would see that his entire body was shivering. As for the tens of experts who had come with him, their faces were all clearly covered in extreme panic.

Feng Huita's heart sunk as he shouted, "What's happened? Could it be that the thief has escaped?"

"Royal Father..." Feng Hange's voice abruptly cowered as he half-cryingly said, "The hal... the halidom has been stolen, and the thief is nowhere to be found. Moreover... moreover..."

"What... what?" As the profound formation had been activated, it was clear that the Qilin horn had been taken. Thus, Feng Huita had already prepared himself for this news. However, it was a great shock for him to hear that the thief had disappeared without a trace, meaning that they were unable to capture them. He took a step forward and grabbed Feng Hange's shoulder, his pupils expanding to their maximum as he asked, "What else is there?!"

"..." Feng Hange's expression twisted in grief as he finally forced several painful words out of his throat, "In the medicine garden... in the medicine garden, we discovered... a corpse... it was..."

"It was Hanyi..."

As Feng Hange said his teary words, the expressions of everyone present dramatically changed as if they had all been struck by a thunderbolt from the sky. Yun Che was no exception as he fiercely turned his head around...

Mu Hanyi's corpse...

Medicine garden!?

How could this have happened?

Feng Huita's entire body trembled, his feet staggering as he abruptly let out a strange scream and began to grab at Feng Hange like a madman, his fingers nearly penetrating into Feng Hange's flesh. "What did you say? What did you just say!?"

The group of people divided as an old practitioner carrying a silent, auraless body walked forward and then carefully placed it on the ground.

WAHHH--

This body which was completely devoid of vitality and aura caused the entire great hall to become dazed.

Although the body had become twisted out of shape and the face was completely lacking any humanity, it was still enough to clearly distinguish that this corpse was none other than the thirteenth prince of the Ice Wind Empire, the person who used to be the number one of the young generation of the Snow Song Realm—Mu Hanyi!

"AHHH—S-senior Brother Hanyi!" Mu Xiaolan's hands covered her lips as a long cry escaped her mouth. Her pupils intensely trembled as she could not believe her eyes.

"Ah... ah..." Feng Huita's face instantly became white as a sheet, as if he had been struck by heavenly lightning. His mouth opened and his lips quivered as an incredibly hoarse scream escaped his throat. Afterwards, he trembled as he landed heavily onto his knees before Mu Hanyi's corpse.

"Your majesty!" Elder Yan hurriedly walked forward, but did not attempt to pick Feng Huita up, his face full of confusion. This was because he knew that Mu Hanyi was not only the son Feng Huita was most proud of, but also the biggest source of pride in Feng Huita's life. Towards Feng Huita, the sudden death of Mu Hanyi was without a doubt a heaven breaking earth shattering occurrence.

"Royal Father, the secret passage... the secret passage was opened. The thief must have... must have taken Hanyi and entered and exited the treasury through the secret passage... then, after using Hanyi, they..." As Feng Hange spoke, he fiercely grit his teeth to try and stop the tears pouring down his face.

All of the nearby members of the imperial family were weeping while the invited guests all sighed while observing what occurred. With Mu Hanyi's fame within the Snow Song Realm, his sudden death was absolutely not only a great matter for the Ice Wind Empire, but also one which would stir the entire Snow Song Realm.

After all, Mu Hanyi wasn't just simply an Ice Wind Prince, he was also the number one disciple of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect! Just who would have the courage to dare and kill the number one disciple of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect?!

"..." Feng Huita began to tremble so harshly that it became startling. It was as if he had entered the coldest hell in the world. Elder Yan could only grip Feng Huita's shoulders as he helplessly tried to comfort him, "Your majesty, please do not grieve too much right now. This old one will definitely find the thief so that you can take vengeance for the thirteenth prince."

Feng Huita abruptly slowly raised his head at this moment as he quietly said, "Elder Yan, could you go and check Hanyi? Can you determine just what killed him?"

Feng Huita's voice was astonishingly calm. Elder Yan slightly nodded as he stuck out his palm and placed it onto Mu Hanyi's chest... only, upon touching Mu Hanyi's chest, his palm quickly retracted like lighting as an expression of shock covered his face.

Everyone's gazes abruptly landed on Elder Yan while Yun Che's brows became even more furrowed... just what kind of reaction was this?

"Speak!" Feng Huita eyes were dark as he spoke a single, hate filled word which caused chills to emerge in everyone's hearts.

The person called "Elder Yan" had already been within the Ice Wind Imperial Palace for thousands of years, and was the number one expert within the palace. No one within the entire Ice Wind Empire was his opponent. However, his face was currently full of shock and fear. It was clear that he didn't dare speak as his mouth opened and closed several times. Only, in the end, did he speak with great difficulty, "The thirteenth prince was killed by an extremely strong cold energy. Considering how strong the cold energy remaining on his body is, the level used must have been extremely high. However, this would require an extremely high level of cold energy. The only..."

Elder Yan did not continue speaking, but his gaze quickly shifted through the crowd and landed on Yun Che.

Although he had not finished speaking, everyone in the courtyard simultaneously understood what he wanted to say at that instant...

All profound practitioners within the Snow Song Realm cultivated ice related profound arts, but the highest ranking one was undeniably the—Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon!

Mu Hanyi... had been killed by the power of the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon!

"~! @#\\"..." Yun Che's mind went blank. Mu Hanyi had clearly died due to the toxicity of the horned dragon's breath. Moreover, he had been sure to go and remove any traces of the poison afterwards... so how could it be due to the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon?!

Moreover, within the entire imperial palace, the only two people who could use the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon were the two Ice Phoenix disciples—Mu Xiaolan and Yun Che!

However, both of them were extremely lacking in terms of power when compared to Mu Hanyi. It was impossible for them to have killed Mu Hanyi.

"This... this... it can't be..." Feng Hange was stunned in place, as was everyone else.

It was at this time that Feng Huita slowly stood up and turned to look at Yun Che, his eyes muddy. He spoke in a suffocatingly calm voice, "My Hanyi is smarter and more cautious than anyone else here. Moreover, this is his home, how could he have silently been kidnapped so easily?"

Yun Che, " ... "

"As for the matter of the secret passage, it is impossible for outsiders to know of it, so why would they take a member of the imperial family? The only possibility for the secret passage being open is that Hanyi opened it himself and brought someone in. His reason, perhaps it was just to bring that person in to look at the halidom. Nonetheless, in this entire palace, there is only one person who could make Hanyi be willing to do so... Young Yun, what this little king is saying makes sense, right?"

In the end, Feng Huita was emperor of an nation. Thus, even after the enormous loss of one of his sons, his mind was still terrifyingly clear and awake.

The moment his words left his mouth, the entire great hall instantly turned silent as if time had become frozen. The meaning within his words were so clear that even a fool could understand it. Immediately, everyone froze, not daring to make the slightest noise. As for the guests, they all held their breaths as they slowly and quietly tried to withdraw.

"Does the Ice Wind Emperor believe that I killed Mu Hanyi?" Yun Che's expression abruptly turned cold.

"This little king doesn't dare." Feng Huita let out a sad laugh, one which was incredibly tragic, as he moved his gaze onto a girl with a pale expression. "Jin'er, you have been waiting on Young Yun within the Ice Maiden Palace this entire night. Tell me, did Young Yun... sleep well tonight?"

Feng Hanjin's slender body shrank back as she lowered her head and then said in a voice trembling with fear, "S-sir Yun he... just an hour ago, he... was already not in the Ice Maiden Palace..."

Feng Hanjin's words caused everyone's hearts to tighten even further.

An hour ago... what occurred at this time, was just too delicate.

Mu Hanyi was the number one Ice Phoenix disciple whereas Yun Che was the recently accepted direct disciple of the Great Realm King...

In the end, this matter was just too large. It was nearly impossible for them to imagine the significance of this matter, and what the end would be.

"Ha, haha," Feng Huita laughed again. This time, his laughter was even sadder than before, "Are the guards of Ice Maiden Palace here?"

Fifteen people with thick auras walked forward. Each of their expressions were filled with shock, terror, and anxiety.

"You all were ordered to protect Young Yun at all times. Did you all do as ordered?"

All fifteen of the guards simultaneously shuddered and then knelt down as they said in panic, "An hour ago, Sir Yun said he wished to go out to relax, and ordered us for us to not accompany him. We... we... we didn't dare not... Your majesty, please forgive us!"

Chapter 1030 - Framed?

The responses from the guards caused the atmosphere to stagnate yet again as Feng Huita sorrowfully said, "Young Yun, this little king's trash guards were unable to protect you well, this little king is truly incapable... only, I wonder where Young Yun went during this hour? You didn't encounter any danger, did you?"

Feng Huita's voice was quite polite. However, everyone could hear the grief and hatred mixed within. It was clear that Feng Huita had already come to the conclusion that the person who had killed Mu Hanyi was Yun Che. As he had said earlier, the only person who could possibly cause Mu Hanyi to open the secret passage without telling anyone else was Yun Che. Moreover, Yun Che had mysteriously disappeared just an hour before all of this occurred.

Yun Che's brows furrowed, but just as he was about to speak, Mu Xiaolan flusteredly said, "No... there's no way. The relationship between Yun Che and Senior Brother Hanyi was so good. Moreover, Yun Che's profound strength has only just reached the first level of the Divine Origin Realm. There's no way that he would have been able to kill senior brother Hanyi. You all... have truly criminalized the wrong person."

"Furthermore... furthermore..." Mu Xiaolan's voice abruptly quieted down, "Furthermore, an hour ago, Yun Che... he... he was actually... he was with me in my quarters..."

As Mu Xiaolan got towards the end of her statement, her voice became weak like a mosquito as she deeply hung her head, not daring to make eye contact with anyone else. From everyone else's point of view, it was just the shame of a girl... but Yun Che knew that it was because she had just told such a great lie even though she was not good at lying.

Nonetheless, the innocent Mu Xiaolan had actually stood up for him at such a critical moment. She had not hesitated to tell a lie which threw away her purity to protect him... his "fond" treatment of her this entire time had indeed not been wasted!

Mu Xiaolan's words caused everyone to suddenly become dazed. As for Situ Xiongying, he was stunned at first, but then, traces of extreme joy emerged in his eyes as he almost wasn't able to prevent himself from jumping up with joy. He hurriedly walked forwards as he said with some abashedness, "This... Ice Wind Emperor, esteemed guests, in all honesty, Young Yun and my daughter, since long ago... Ah, both of them are extremely passionate for each other, and that is why the two of them have decided to join together. Only, my daughter is merely a Ice Phoenix Palace disciple. Her status cannot compare at all with Young Yun. Moreover, after the Great Realm King betrothed Fairy Feixue to Young Yun, it became even harder for them to speak of this matter. Thus... but now it is like this, everything which could not be said has been said. Earlier, Young Yun was indeed in my daughter's quarters. This... I hope everyone here will take it seriously."

With his status as an independent region lord, Situ Xiongyang naturally wasn't as innocent and shy as Mu Xiaolan. The tone of his voice, his expression, and even the look in his eyes were extremely natural as he used flawlessly used words in the right order with the right logic. It was indeed perfect.

As these words ended, everyone's expressions became ambiguous. After all, Yun Che's profound strength was indeed at the first levee of the Divine Origin Realm. This was something that they all knew. As for Mu Hanyi, he had been at the fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm. Although Yun Che had become the direct disciple, it was only because of his incredible innate talent which surpassed Mu Hanyi. If the two were to actually fight, even if there were a hundred of him, he still wouldn't be a match for Mu Hanyi. Thus, how could Yun Che possibly have killed Mu Hanyi... and based on the circumstances, it would have had to be by himself.

As such, it was hard for them to believe Feng Huita's claim that Yun Che was the one who killed Mu Hanyi. To them, it was no more than wild speculation. In contrast, Situ Xiongying's explanation was much more reasonable. To begin with, many of them had been wondering why Yun Che, with his incredibly high status of direct disciple, would bring a girl with him when visiting the Ice Wind Empire. For the two to be in a relationship would make very much sense.

It now also made much more sense why Yun Che wouldn't let others follow him when leaving Ice Maiden Palace an hour earlier. If this was the case, his action was indeed reasonable.

"So it was like this. Region Lord Situ... congratulations!" A middle aged person, who was closest to Situ Xiongyang, exclaimed, their face full of envy. One's daughter being able to reel in the Great Realm King's direct disciple was indeed extraordinary... it was as if the virtue accumulated over eighteen generations of ancestors had come to fruition!

"Ah, it's nothing, it's nothing." Situ Xiongyang hurriedly waved his arms, but the expression on his face had already bloomed into one full of joy.

"They are both young after all, they are right in their prime. Thus... it's only natural, its only natural." The person who spoke this time had spoken extremely sternly with Situ Xiongyang earlier in the day, but now, their voice contained some fawning.

"Ah, it's not my place to direct my daughter, it's not my place. In the end, although I raised her, she will always be someone else's. Forget it, let them do as they please." An expression of helplessness appeared on Situ Xiongyang's face.

"See, as I was saying, how could someone like Sir Yun possibly do such an evil thing? So it was like this... Ice Wind Emperor, I believe that the thief has still yet to escape the imperial city. We should immediately lockdown the city and search it."

Mu Xiaolan's head was still hanging low at this time as she tore and twisted at her clothes with her fingers.

"Eh? There is something in the thirteenth prince's hand!"

Elder Yan, who was still observing Mu Hanyi's corpse, suddenly creased his brows as he quickly picked up Mu Hanyi's left hand. Grasped amidst the five completely deformed fingers was a short piece of white silk.

Elder Yan carefully retrieved the short piece of silk from within Mu Hanyi's fingers.

It was about three inches, and was embroidered with an exquisite image of an Ice Phoenix. From the tear at the bottom fringe, it was clear that it had been forcefully torn off, and from the color, it had not been torn off for long.

Upon seeing this piece of silk, Yun Che's gaze moved as he quickly glanced at his right hand.

"This is... part of the sleeve of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect's uniform. Moreover, it is clear that it has just been ripped off!"

When Elder Yan finished speaking, his gaze turned, as did everyone else's, and subconsciously looked at Yun Che... Moments later, the pupils of everyone there simultaneously contracted as if they had been pierced by thin needles.

The snow colored silk sleeve covering his left arm was fine, but over his right arm... there wasn't a sleeve present. Indeed, there was only a fresh tear.

"!@#\\"..." Countless curses ran through Yun Che's mind.

As soon as he saw the sleeve, he had realized that it was indeed his... however, it had absolutely not been torn off by Mu Hanyi. It became clear that someone else had managed to tear it off from his body... and they had done it whilst remaining completely undetected!

This was hundreds of times harder than silently killing him!

Yun Che's heartbeat began to beat faster as he sucked in a breath of cold air through his teeth.

It was clear that the person who had managed to silently whisk away Mu Hanyi's corpse from right beneath his nose was the same person who tore off the silk sleeve over his right arm... who was this terrifying person who was hiding within the shadows, and why were they doing what they were doing?

To have Mu Hanyi's corpse be discovered so quickly so that everyone's suspicion was directed towards him, and to then use the sleeve as irrefutable evidence, it was clear that the person wished to "frame" him. However, if the person had truly wanted to harm him, then they would have already taken his life with their terrifying power which caused him to shudder. He would have been deader than dead without the slightest trace left behind... so why would they go to so much trouble!?

The sleeve held within Mu Hanyi's hand and the tear on Yun Che's snow colored clothes caused the entire courtyard to abruptly become silent as everyone made the clear connection. No one dared to speak. As for Situ Xiongyang, who had been so full of joy, his face immediately stiffened. Mu Xiaolan's pupils expanded as she stared onwards and fell into shock and panic.

"Young Yun..." Feng Huita retrieved the piece of cloth from Elder Yan, his hands and voice both violently trembling as he said, "You are the direct disciple of a Great Realm King. Your status is extremely revered and unparalleled. My Ice Wind views you as a guest of honor, and didn't dare to even slightly neglect you in your treatment. Hanyi treated you even more respectfully, and when spoke of you, it was always full of praise...

"Where did my Ice Wind offend you!! What kind of unforgivable mistake did my Hanyi make!? For you to kill him so decisively!!"

At first, Feng Huita's voice was still quite restrained, but towards the end, he couldn't help as he began to hoarsely scream.

When he was calm, he naturally didn't dare act so disrespectfully towards Yun Che... but faced with the death of his most cherished son and the disappearance of his country's halidom from right under his nose, he had completely lost his reason.

In fact, it was not completely impossible that he, in his current state of fury, grief, and depression, would directly attempt to kill Yun Che. Although the consequences of such an action would be incredibly tragic and likely to result in the complete destruction of the Ice Wind Empire, he would still be able to die a happy father.

If Feng Huita were to truly lose control out of anger and choose the latter option, then it was likely that the guests present in the courtyard would also be implicated. This caused many of the people present to feel fear. Situ Xiongyang hurriedly stepped forward as he said, "Ice Wind Emperor, please calm down first! There are a lot of flaws in this storyline. Don't forget that it is impossible of Young Yun to kill Prince Hanyi with his current strength. As for the sleeve, if it was torn off, how could Young Yun himself not be aware of it? Furthermore, if Prince Hanyi had the strength to tear off the sleeve, why didn't he try and shout for help? Also, it is only the sleeve of the right arm, and..."

"Shut up!!"

Situ Xiongyang's voice was interrupted by an extremely hoarse roar as an incredibly terrifying and fierce-looking expression emerged on Feng Huita face. "Just because he is the Great Realm King's direct disciple, he can kill whoever he wants!? Just because of his status, you all are willing to forgo the most basic morals and laws!?"

Feng Huita's current terrifying state caused Situ Xiongyang to quickly withdraw and not dare to speak another word.

"It's ok, you need not defend me anymore." Now that the matter had reached this point, Yun Che had actually calmed down as he indifferently said, "I shall generously confess. Mu Hanyi was indeed killed by me!"

His words shocked everyone as stunned expressions emerged on everyone's faces. Even with the irrefutable evidence, it was still a completely different matter for him to personally confess by himself.

"Yun Che..." Feng Huita took a step forward as he reached out with shaking fingers, "We are no fool. From the very start, we felt like something was wrong... it was only a minor matter of this one's birthday, how could it qualify to have the Great Realm King send her congratulations. So... so originally... so originally it was to take my Ice Wind's halidom!"

"Ha, hahahaha..." Feng Huita cackled manically, but his laughs were not ones of joy, but ones of misery. "If the Great Realm King had just said it, or if even you had just said it, then, even though it is our halidom, our country would not dare to not give it to you. We wouldn't have the qualification to deny the request. Hanyi secretly brought you into the treasury because he knew that we would have the same thoughts and was afraid of us being embarrassed. That is why he did it himself... but you! You received the halidom, but why did you have to go and kill Hanyi! Why!"

"Give this one a reason!"

"A reason!"

"Royal Father!" Feng Hange hurriedly moved to hold up his father. Feng Huita was currently breathing extremely heavily, his body on the brink of collapsing, The aura surrounding his body had become unbelievably chaotic. If he suddenly attacked Yun Che, no one would have been surprised.

"Yun Che... wha... what's going on?" Mu Xiaolan terrifiedly stood next to Yun Che. With Yun Che's status, he was indeed able to go wherever he wanted in the Snow Song Realm. But right now, they were isolated and powerless in the home base of the enemy. Moreover, Feng Huita had already completely lost control of his emotions.

In comparison to the completely crazed Feng Huita, Yun Che was calm as he sneered, "Since you want to know so badly, then I shall tell you! I just hope that once you know... you won't regret it!"