#### The Gods 1361

Chapter 1361 - Wuxin Yuechan (1)

In comparison to the God Realm, Profound Sky Continent's aura was thin and dirty.

However, the Phoenix Clan's residence was undoubtedly a pure, utopia-like place in the Profound Sky Continent.

Time slowly passed by. After Yun Che had regained his ability to walk, he visited many places within the valley everyday. He was slowly recovering and getting closer the normal energy level of an average... mortal.

Summer passed, and autumn arrived. Yun Che's footsteps remained somewhat slow as the autumn leaves flew all over the place. No one tried to lend him a hand, although Feng Xian'er was following him every step of the way. They were at the Phoenix Ruins, and the Phoenix's barrier meant that neither outsiders nor profound beasts would be able to disturb their peace. However, Feng Xian'er just couldn't help but worry over Yun Che.

The path ahead of them was filled with stones. There wasn't any undergrowth anywhere to be seen. However, the path was covered in a thick layer of autumn leaves for some reason, and when Yun Che stepped on them he nearly lost his balance. Feng Xian'er hurriedly caught up to him and held him steady by the arm.

"It's okay," Yun Che smiled at her, "I can walk all the way back myself without problems if need be."

Right after he said this, he noticed that Feng Xian'er was staring towards the front with a bit of a distant look in her eyes.

"Do you remember, Big Brother Benefactor?" Feng Xian'er said softly, "This is where we first met each other."

Yun Che's mind went blank for a moment before he stared towards the front as well.

"Back then, Big Brother and I were captured by a group of bad people called the 'Black Demons'. It was here I encountered Big Sister Xueruo and you before Big Sister Xueruo sent those bad people packing and saved us..."

To Feng Xian'er, the memories of that day was something precious she would never forget for the rest of her life, not to mention that it was also the turning point of her fate, "Big Sister Xueruo is such a beautiful and kind person. Not only had she saved us from trouble, she promised to save our entire clan as well."

"At the time, you were unconscious, dirty and bleeding a lot, Big Brother Benefactor. However, Big Sister Xueruo didn't seem to mind it at all. She carried you all the way back to our home... You may have suffered some serious injuries back then, Big Brother Benefactor, but Big Brother and I thought that you were a very blessed person."

Yun Che, "..."

"I wonder how Big Sister Xueruo... oops, I mean Empress Sis is doing." Feng Xian'er said sincerely while looking towards the distance, "There's one thing I'm sure of though, and that is she... must be missing you a lot, Big Brother Benefactor."

Feng Xian'er's words brought Yun Che all the way back to thirteen years ago. The memories were incredibly clear in his mind, and yet they also felt like they were from another lifetime.

If he were to say that Jasmine was the first turning point of his fate...

Then his encounter with Cang Yue, the girl who had called herself Lan Xueruo at the time was without a doubt the second.

.....

"Junior Brother Yun, I'll leave with you the moment I've fulfilled royal father's wishes... princess... the royal family... I can give up everything..."

.....

"Senior Sister, your tears are too precious. So precious that... I have no choice but to exchange my life for them."

.....

"The reason why I said those words was because I was uneasy and afraid... I do not know if I had actually entered Senior Sister's heart because Senior Sister was so good to me and was also a princess. I, on the other hand, am powerless and of low birth. Other than my pride, hot-headedness, and my feelings for you, I have nothing else. Therefore, I was really uneasy and afraid... I selfishly wanted to see if you would shed tears for me..."

Although everything that had happened during those petty, uncertain days seemed somewhat childish to him right now, the fact that every word and promise had come from the heart remained true...

.....

Lan Xueruo... Cang Yue... The royal princess who had fallen in love with him during his lowliest, most uncertain days, the girl had been willing to give up everything just to be with him...

"Xian'er," Yun Che suddenly spoke up, "I wish ... to visit Blue Wind Imperial City."

Feng Xian'er's head turned around as fast as lightning as great joy bloomed between her brows and inside her heart like fireworks. She then nodded strongly, "Okay, let's go together... let's go there right now!"

Feng Xian'er didn't go away to make preparations or inform any clansmen. It was because she didn't want to give Yun Che any opportunity to hesitate or go back on his words. Feng Xian'er grabbed Yun Che with her bare hands and took to the skies, flying away from the Phoenix Clan.

For the past time, Yun Che had acted as if someone had sealed him inside the Phoenix Clan, as if he couldn't even take a single step beyond its boundaries. However, a small gap had finally opened in his closed heart.

When they left the center of the Ten Thousand Mountain Range, a pale-colored barrier soon entered their vision. When Feng Xian'er and Yun Che got close, a gap automatically appeared to admit the duo's exit. Soon, they were making way towards the north.

"When was this barrier erected?" Yun Che asked. His determination was starting to waver again when he looked towards the distant north and thought of all the people he was about to meet.

Feng Xian'er was in an excellent mood due to Yun Che's change of mind earlier. She replied, "Lord Phoenix God didn't just cure us of our bloodline curse back then, it also erected this Phoenix Barrier to protect us after the two of you had left the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range. It was so that we would have enough to time grow strong, and not suffer the same tragedies as we did many years ago."

"I see." Yun Che nodded slightly. So, the barrier had been erected after Cang Yue and him had left. It could be that the Phoenix Spirit had done it out of regret because it hadn't expected the bloodline curse to remain active for generations... Or maybe it was because it knew that it didn't have much time left after gifting Yun Che both its divine soul and Flame of Nirvana, so it converted the last bit of its strength into this power of protection.

"Back then, the Phoenix Barrier was the one thing that kept us safe when the Divine Phoenix Empire invaded Blue Wind Nation en masse. Also, there has been a lot of profound beast disturbances for the past few years, and they have even spread all the way to the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain not long ago. For whatever reason, the profound beasts nearby have become incredibly scary, although again, Lord Phoenix God's barrier has protected us from harm," Feng Xian'er said.

"Profound beast... disturbance?" Yun Che's gaze turned slightly, "Can you explain further?"

Suddenly, he sensed Feng Xian'er tensing up a little, and it was at this moment a sharp, clearly violent cry cut through the air before a gigantic blue figure burst out of the undergrowth below and flew towards them like a storm.

The blue creature's name immediately flashed across Yun Che's mind:

It was a Blue Scale Beast!

A Blue Scale Beast was a high level wind type Earth Profound creature. It mainly fed on grass and bamboo, and it was a gentle animal that seldomly attacked humans or other profound beasts unless someone or something had offended it first.

However, this Blue Scale Beast had appeared out of nowhere, and it was charging at them madly with a cry that bordered on insanity. It was almost as if they were its its sworn enemy.

She to the six stage World Ode of the Phoenix and Overlord Pellets Yun Che had left behind many years ago, Feng Xian'er and Feng Zu'er's cultivation had grown by leaps and bounds. Both of them were currently at the Emperor Profound Realm, and it was practically impossible for a single Earth Profound level beast to wound her even if she allowed it to attack her to its heart's content.

But Yun Che at his weakened state was a completely different story!

If he were to come into contact with the storm conjured by the Blue Scale Beast, he would instantly be crushed into dust!

"Watch out!" Feng Xiang'er subconsciously cried out in alarm. Yun Che's body couldn't withstand bumps and jolts, so she dared not move as quickly as she was able. Her first reaction was to apply most of her profound energy around Yun Che as a shield in haste before fueling the rest to her phoenix flames.

The scarlet flames ignited the wind, and the Blue Scale Beast was mercilessly caught in the blast. It let out a sharp cry before falling straight toward the ground... However, dozens more similar screeches immediately followed suit before an equal number of Blue Scale Beasts suddenly took to the air and rushed them in unison. The entire sky became filled with dangerous gusts in no time.

"..." Yun Che was stunned by what he was looking at. What was going on? Why did the Blue Scale Beasts suddenly turn so violent? Could he be mistaken about these creatures' identity?

"Ah!" Feng Xian'er let out a soft cry, but quickly regained her cool. She immediately ignited a ring of fire around her.

The phoenix divine flames normally put incredible spiritual pressure on the profound beasts. Their natural reaction was to run away in fear especially since Feng Xian'er was two great realms above the Blue Scale Beasts. However, not only were the Blue Scale Beasts not deterred in the slightest, they continued to rush them in a straight line while screeching harsh enough to pierce one's eardrums.

It was almost as if they had all gone insane.

Feng Xian'er altered her hand gestures slightly in an attempt to burn them all to crisp at once, but a sudden sword blast had preceded her thoughts.

哧!!

Rip!!

The sword blast tore apart the storms, space itself and three Blue Scale Beasts in an instant. Then, a white figure appeared from the distance and fired even more sword blasts at the rampaging Blue Scale Beasts, sending them all to the abyss of death.

"This person..." Feng Xian'er slowed down a little and parted her lips slightly, "He's so strong."

She didn't notice that Yun Che's gaze had frozen for a second before dissolving into unspeakable complications.

Yun Che might've lost his spiritual perception, but he still easily recognized the sword the man was wielding. It was the Heaven's Might Absolute Sword.

Although the man's figure and sword movements were too swift for him to capture, it didn't prevent Yun Che from guessing his true identity...

"Xian'er," Yun Che said quietly, "Don't let him see me."

"Ah?" Feng Xian'er looked surprised, but only for a moment. She quickly surrounded him in a layer of scarlet phoenix flames.

The sword continued to swing energetically, and it wasn't long before every Blue Scale Beast in the area and even the chaotic storms had been vanquished into nothingness. The man dressed in white clothes

that turned around and flew towards them. He had a handsome figure and a pair of eyes that looked like cold stars. Although the white sword in his hand looked incredibly bland, its light was unbearably sharp in the man's hand.

The man shot a glance at Feng Xian'er before a bit of surprise passed through his features, "Are you a member of the Divine Phoenix Sect? It looks like I have acted unnecessarily."

It was only now he realized that the girl wielding phoenix flames before him was at the Emperor Profound Realm. His intervention really had been unnecessary.

"Thank you for your help." Feng Xian'er said politely.

"You're welcome, although I'm sure that you'd be able to thwart even a thousand Blue Scale Beasts without any trouble." The young man nodded, "I am Ling Jie of Heavenly Sword Villa. If I may ask, why are you here?"

"Ah?" Feng Xian'er exclaimed, "You're the legendary Blue Wind Sword Saint? No wonder you're so strong."

Blue Wind Sword Saint?

Yun Che sighed inside his mind... Ling Jie was truly deserving of his reputation. It had only been a few years since they last met each other, but Ling Jie had already surpassed his grandfather Ling Tianni and took over his title.

Ling Jie hadn't gone back on his promise to him back then, and he definitely hadn't gone back against his own will and pursuit. In the future, Ling Jie would definitely rise to a higher place and become the eternal symbol of pride of Heavenly Sword Villa.

"It's just false reputation, miss. I don't deserve such praise from you," Ling Jie replied politely. As compared to before, Ling Jie had shed his youthfulness in exchange for an air of maturity and grace just like his older brother, Ling Yun.

Feng Xian'er looked like she was in her twenties at best, but her profound energy clearly marked her as an Emperor Profound Realm profound practitioner. It was no wonder that Ling Jie was caught by surprise. Then, his gaze shifted slightly to fall on Yun Che. Yun Che's appearance was blurred behind a veil of fire, but for some reason Ling Jie still felt a strange tug in his heart. He blurted, "Who is this?"

"He's..." Feng Xian'er started, but she wasn't sure how to reply to his question.

Yun Che looked away before lowering his voice, "Let's go."

"Mn." Feng Xian'er replied before lifting Yun Che into the air once more, but then Yun Che turned away and said, "I mean, let's head home."

"Ah? Head home?" Feng Xian'er looked slightly caught off guard.

"Mn. Let's head home." Yun Che closed his eyes.

At first, he thought that the period of calm and tranquility and his increasingly uncontrollable impulse to reach out meant that he was ready to face his family and friends already, but when Ling Jie was actually standing right in front of him, he finally realized that he still wasn't ready...

"...Alright." Feng Xian'er didn't try to force the issue. Instead, she nodded obediently and flew Yun Che back the way they came... In fact, she was so focused that she had even forgotten to bid Ling Jie goodbye.

Ling Jie didn't leave immediately. He watched the duo until they vanished beyond the horizon. The focus of his attention wasn't Feng Xian'er, but the figure who was shrouded in red. His heart hadn't stopped tugging at him even once throughout the meeting.

Who... is he?

That man was utterly void of profound energy, and it wouldn't be an exaggeration to call him a mortal among mortals. But why... had he given him such a subtle sense of familiarity?

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Chapter 1362 - Wuxin Yuechan (2)
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Feng Xian'er carried Yun Che as she once again flew back to the heart of the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range. It was only when Ling Jie's aura had completely vanished from her spiritual perception that she withdrew the firelight shrouding Yun Che's body.

Yun Che's expression was detached and indifferent.

"It doesn't matter," Feng Xian'er consoled Yun Che with a faint smile, "Father once said this to us privately. He said that Big Brother Benefactor might need many years before he is willing to leave this place. But it has just been slightly over a month. So Big Brother Benefactor is indeed Big Brother Benefactor, you're truly awesome."

Yun Che faintly raised his head, forcing out the turbid air within his chest with a long exhalation, "Was what just happened just now part of the 'profound beast disturbances' you were telling me about?"

"Mnn," Feng Xian'er said as she nodded her head, "the profound beast rampages appeared not too long ago. In fact, it has not even been a year since they first appeared. It first happened in the eastern-most parts of the realm, but after that, it gradually started to spread towards the west and it has been spreading at a faster and faster speed."

"I heard that this isn't only happening in Blue Wind Nation and that a similar situation is also occurring in the eastern part of the Illusory Demon Realm."

Yun Che, "..."

"However, you don't need to worry," Feng Xian'er said. "Blue Wind Nation is being protected by the Divine Phoenix Sect, so every single occurance of the profound beast rampages has been quickly suppressed. So it isn't really a big affair on the level of a calamity."

Profound beast rampages... which began in the east... and are spreading towards the west.

Feng Xian'er's words reverberated in his skull, but he was unable to focus his attention on them, and they very soon were relegated to the back of his mind.

If not for that, he would definitely have thought of something.

"You spoke of a 'Phoenix Goddess' previously, that was referring to Xue'er... correct?" Yun Che asked as the image of a woman of surpassing beauty, status, and talent floated up in his mind's eye. A woman whose beautiful countenance could topple eras, but whose attachment and love towards him surpassed everything else... The single fleeting glimpse he had caught of her before he fainted in Phoenix Perching Valley had engraved a mark on his soul that would never fade.

"Mn." Feng Xian'er nodded her head, a profound look of adoration, reverence, and admiration appearing in her phoenix eyes, "Goddess Sis stepped into the mythical Divine Profound Realm three years ago, and in the Profound Sky Continent, she is regarded as the other legendary figure besides yourself, Big Brother Benefactor."

"On that day, Big Brother and I saw Goddess Sis, she was very pretty, even prettier than all the stars in the sky. Furthermore, Big Brother and I also knew that she was Big Brother Benefactor's fiance... Am I right?"

"..." Yun Che's eyes misted over due to his sorrow. Xue'er had already successfully stepped into the divine way, and she had already done so three years ago... Xuanyuan Wentian's power at that time had indeed already reached the level of the divine way, but it was a distorted divine way that was accomplished by relying on heretical means. It was a method that rendered him unable to ever make any advancements in his power, one that would also continuously devour his lifespan. His own divine way, however, was only accomplished in the Snow Song Realm.

In the Profound Sky Continent, in the entire Blue Pole Star, Feng Xue'er was undoubtedly the first person to truly step into the Divine Profound Realm.

With her around, the profound beast disturbances, or even calamities even more serious than that were things that she could easily quash.

The Illusory Demon Realm has Caiyi, Father, Mother, and the rest of them to protect it...

But I...

Upon not receiving Yun Che's reply, Feng Xian'er looked ahead, her eyes misting over. Her lips parted as she seemed to mutter what was on her mind to herself, "It's also only a fairy like Goddess Sis who's worthy of Big Brother Benefactor..."

Yun Che felt as if his heart had been fiercely stabbed by something.

She was like an ancient legend come to life in the Profound Sky Continent, she was the Phoenix Goddess, and her beauty could be said to be number one in the entire Profound Sky Continent... Whereas the current him was merely a cripple. He no longer had the qualifications to stand side by side with her, much less protect her or even deserve her attachment and love.

Given his presently mortal body and his inability to cultivate any profound strength, even if they plied him with a mountain of elixirs and spirit herbs, he would not live longer than a hundred odd years...

For the first goddess in this entire continent to be married to a cripple...

Cold air washed over his body, causing Yun Che to erupt into a painful coughing fit.

"Ah?" Feng Xian'er anxiously turned around as she hurriedly slowed down, "Am I flying too fast... Let me slow down a little."

Yun Che shook his head.

In my lifetime, there were many times where I would assume a position of superiority to advise or mock many others. There were also countless times that I had coldly looked on in contempt upon witnessing another person's gloom and despair. At that time, I was very convinced that there would never be a day that I, who did not even fear death, would end up in the same condition... But I never imagined that I would end up realizing that sometimes living on was far harder than dying.

If I had been an ordinary person my entire life, then I would be used to this for my entire life, and perhaps I would even enjoy this ordinariness.

But to think that returning to being ordinary overnight, after having lived that grand dream for thirteen years, would actually be so unbearably cruel.

"Oh, that's right," Feng Xian'er's voice rang in his ears, "Right now Goddess Sis is the Divine Phoenix Sect's sect master. After the previous sect master Feng Hengkong passed on his position to her, he focused on governing the Divine Phoenix Empire. Because of this, the Divine Phoenix Sect has risen up to become one of the Four Great Sacred Grounds of the Profound Sky Continent, yet they are not the leader of the four. Does Big Brother Benefactor want to guess which Sacred Ground is standing at the head of the four?"

Yun Che, "…"

"It's Frozen Cloud Asgard," Feng Xian'er said with a faint smile. "Even though the consolidated strength of Frozen Cloud Asgard cannot be compared to the other three Sacred Grounds, Big Brother Benefactor was once the Asgard Master of Frozen Cloud Asgard. It is for that reason and that reason alone that no one will question their place at the head of the Four Sacred Grounds. That is the power of Big Brother Benefactor's influence."

"..." To think that Frozen Cloud Asgard had actually become a member of the Profound Sky Continent's new Four Sacred Grounds, and they were even at the head of them at that.

But if the people of the world knew that I had already become a cripple, then this special glory... would definitely disappear like smoke...

The thoughts of the current Yun Che were all focused on the negative.

He was very aware of his current gloomy mood and disposition and he truly desired to be rid of it... Yet he did not have the power to be free from it.

He had used a short thirteen years to reach a height that other people would not even dare dream of even if they had a hundred lifetimes to spare... Yet in the span of a day, he had fallen straight to the bottom.

No one could imagine or understand what kind of blow this was.

The Phoenix Barrier appeared in their vision and as Feng Xian'er approached, a gap once more automatically appeared in the barrier.

After passing through the gap, the duo had once again returned to the lands of the Phoenix Clan.

Once they entered the barrier, Yun Che felt as if the panic that had been brought about by the outside world had been completely blocked off from him and his chaotic heart regained much of its composure. Following that, the corners of his lips hooked up in a cold, self-deprecating smile.

Feng Xian'er had been covertly keeping an eye on Yun Che all this while and upon observing his expression, her heart felt sore. She said in a soft voice, "Big Brother Benefactor, I don't know what I can do to help you. But... but no matter what happens in the future, I will always... be by your side... until you don't want to see me anymore..."

"..." The warmth that had risen in his soul every now and then over this period of time had largely been due to Feng Xian'er.

In his lifetime, he had endured countless gazes of respect, admiration, adoration, and flattery, it had gotten to the point where he was numb to it all and his heart was not the least bit stirred by any of it since a long time ago.

However, he had fallen on hard times now and it would be this way forevermore. This was merely one of the countless girls whose lives had intersected with his in this life. Yet she still focused all of her attention and heart on him without any reservation whatsoever...

During this period of time, her existence and her company had wiped away an untold amount of gloomy haze in Yun Che's heart. If not for her, Yun Che might have sunk into an even deeper depression for an even longer amount of time...

It was just that the current him did not know how he could respond to or repay these far too precious feelings and intentions...

Feng Xian'er flew extremely slowly, afraid the cold wind would harm Yun Che. Or perhaps it was because she enjoyed this feeling of being able to protect him, this feeling of being able to be close to him.

The scenery below them slowly flowed by. Because they had met Blue Scale Beasts, the path they had taken to return was different from the path they had used to depart. The area below them was an area Yun Che had never come across before and as they flew past a tiny mountain forest that swirled with dry leaves, he spied a small bamboo forest that was still emerald green.

In the heart of that bamboo grove, he could faintly make out the shape of a small and delicate bamboo hut.

A bamboo hut...

Yun Che's eyes zoomed in on the hut and he was unable to look away for a very long time.

During his life in the Azure Cloud Continent, after he had watched Su Ling'er's beauty pass from life to death in his very arms, he would feel as if thousands of arrows had pierced his heart every time he looked at a bamboo hut.

Even though he had managed to find Su Ling'er once more, the bamboo hut remained an extremely special existence in his heart and every time he saw one, his heart would be profoundly touched.

Ling'er, are you doing well in the Illusory Demon Realm... You are so intelligent so you've definitely already become a very awesome divine doctor by now.

After all, that was your dream all those years ago.

"I want to see that bamboo hut," As thoughts of Su Ling'er surged into his heart, he could not help but speak those words.

"Bamboo... Hut?" Feng Xian'er was slightly stunned by those words but once she realized what Yun Che was saying, she immediately opened her mouth to say something. But upon witnessing Yun Che's clearly dazed expression, she swallowed the words she was about to say and gave a light nod of her delicate head instead, "Alright."

She lightly floated to the ground together with Yun Che. But she did not land in front of the bamboo hut. Instead she had landed in front of the bamboo grove the bamboo hut was located in.

Feng Xian'er's movements caused Yun Che's brows to twitch slightly as an expression of puzzlement appeared on his face.

As the blueish green bamboo swayed, cool breezes which smelled fresh and clean danced within it. Even though they stood in front of the bamboo forest, Feng Xian'er did not bring Yun Che into it. Instead, she simply stood there while supporting Yun Che's body and her grip seemed to have grown a lot tighter than before.

"What's wrong?" Yun Che asked, he could sense that Feng Xian'er had clearly grown somewhat tense.

Feng Xian'er replied, "There are people who live inside that bamboo hut, and they are not our clansmen."

"Oh?" Yun Che said as if deep in thought, "Have they been living there since a very long time ago? I don't recall any of you mentioning this before."

"No," Feng Xian'er said as she shook her head, "They were people that only came to this place after Big Brother Benefactor left all those years ago."

"After I left?" Yun Che said in astonishment, "But you said before that this Phoenix barrier was something that was only erected after I had left all those years ago, and only those who possessed the Phoenix bloodline could pass through it. Then how did they... Could it be people from the Divine Phoenix Empire's Divine Phoenix Sect?"

"That is... I don't know," Feng Xian'er still shook her head, "Because they have never once interacted with us. We had once tried to get closer to them and tried to help them all those years ago, but every attempt was rejected by them. So Father and Mother said that they were probably very hurt by something in the past, so now they are afraid of coming into contact with people. As a result, we also decided not to disturb them any further. Moreover, so many years have passed by, but they not only have not left this place, they have rarely even left this bamboo grove."

"However, since they were able to come to this place, they should also possess the Phoenix's bloodline," Feng Xian'er said somewhat speculatively. Yun Che's eyebrows furrowed: In this entire continent, besides the Phoenix Clan who lived in this place, the only other people who possessed the Phoenix's bloodline were the members of the Divine Phoenix Sect. But why would people from the Divine Phoenix Sect come to this place? Furthermore, upon hearing Feng Xian'er's recounting of their tale, it seemed as if they actually shunned any sort of contact in a rather extreme manner.

Yun Che seemed to be in deep thought as he said, "Since that is the case, let's not bother them then. Let's leave."

Upon saying those words, he glanced at the arm which Feng Xian'er was clearly gripping too tightly as he said in a half-joking manner, "Could it be that the women who secluded themselves in there look very scary? You seem to be really tense."

It was at this moment that Feng Xian'er seemed to notice something and her two hands which held Yun Che's arms hurriedly relaxed their grasp before she said, "That's not the case, it's just that... there is a very scary 'little monster' that lives inside there and I'm just afraid that she will hurt you by accident."

# "Little monster?"

Just as Yun Che voiced his suspicions, an exceptionally young and tender voice, a voice that was also exceptionally sharp and cutting, suddenly rang out from the bamboo forest, "Immediately leave this place! You're not allowed to approach this place!"

After that voice had rung out in the air, a little girl strode out of the gently-swaying bamboo forest.

That little girl only looked about ten years of age, she was wearing a simple dress that looked tidy and delicate. Even though she was young, her hair, hair that looked like a starry night sky, hung below her waist as it gently danced in the breeze. Her face was white as powder and carved like a jade statue, her features were extremely adorable, but those bright eyes of hers were vigorously flashing with a fierce light... a light filled with an unspoken threat and vigilance.

It was just that she was simply far too adorable as she stood there looking like a beautifully carved and sculpted jade porcelain doll. So even though Yun Che had already lost all of his cultivation, he still felt basically no threat from her at all, despite that fierce look in her eyes and the belligerent aura rolling off her body.

But the appearance of this little girl caused Feng Xian'er's hand, which she had just relaxed a little, to tighten again once more. Even her body had clearly gone rigid and she gripped Yun Che's so hard that he felt a deep ache.

Yun Che glanced to the side as he said in an astonished voice, "This can't be the little monster... that you've been talking about, right?"

Chapter 1363 - Wuxin Yuechan (3)

"Little monster!?"

Before Feng Xian'er could respond, the little girl reacted like a cat whose tail had been trod on as she immediately grew enraged, "Who are you calling a little monster!?"

"Eh..." Yun Che's gaze swiveled back towards the girl. He very sincerely measured the girl with his eyes before giving a faint laugh, "Of course I'm not talking about you. You look so adorable, so how could you be called a little monster?"

"Hmph!" The little girl turned up her nose and it seemed like she quite enjoyed being called adorable by Yun Che.

"Little girl, what's your name?" Yun Che asked... But he did not notice one thing; he, whose heart had been mired in gloom, who had been completely disinterested in everything, was actually taking the initiative right now... Furthermore, he had subconsciously started a conversation with her, and his tone and eyes were both strangely warm.

The little girl gave a straightforward reply in a stern and bossy voice, "I am Yun Wuxin, and who are you exactly? Why are you approaching this place!? Could it be that you don't know that this is the territory of my mother and I!?"

"Yun Wuxin?" Yun Che did not answer her question, instead he gave a faint smile as he said, "What a strange... uh, I mean what a nice-sounding name. Who is the one who gave it to you?"

"Of course, it was my mother who gave it to me!" the little girl said, her starry eyes still filled with vigilance. Her gaze continued to sweep across Yun Che and Feng Xian'er's feet as if she were using her eyes to warn them that they were absolutely not allowed to take a single step into the area around the bamboo grove.

"Wuxin... why did your mother give you such a name?" Yun Che asked yet again, he had also not noticed why he had taken such an interest in the name of this little girl that he had met for the first time.

It seemed as if there was some sort of inexplicable force, one that was both mysterious and inexorable, that stirred his desire to understand her more...

Feng Xian'er looked towards Yun Che and she was left dumbfounded for a little while... Because the Yun Che in front of her was actually giving a gentle smile that filled his face as he starred unblinkingly at the little girl in the bamboo forest in front of him.

It was not that Yun Che had never smiled over the last month or so, but his smiles had always looked very stiff and forced and they contained a gloominess and pained grief that anyone could sense. But at this moment, the smile that curved up from the corners of his mouth was actually incomparably natural and warm.

Feng Xian'er was completely stunned by what she was witnessing, and for a moment, she forgot to pull Yun Che away and leave... To depart from this "little monster" who looked adorable, but who in reality was extremely dangerous.

"My mother said this," the little girl's expression was stern and solemn as she strove to assume a powerful and threatening stance, "all things in this world are filled with bitterness and sorrow. If one does not want to descend into grief and sadness, then one must reach a state where one has no hope and no heart. One must possess no heart before one can have no hope, and one must have no hope before one can experience no sorrow, and it is only once one can experience no sorrow that one can have no regrets!"

"..." Yun Che was stunned by those words for a moments, but after that he broke out into great laughter, "Hahaha, little lady, do you understand what those words mean?"

# Feng Xian'er: ... (Eh?)

Yun Che's question stunned the girl as well but after that she roared out in anger, "I... I, I, of course I understand! You, you, you, you still haven't replied my question! Who exactly are you!? Why are you approaching this place!? Are you some sort of dangerous villain!?"

"Do I look like a villain to you?" Yun Che asked with a smile, but after that, the smile suddenly disappeared from his face... Wait a minute, her surname is Yun?

### It's not Feng?

Besides that... in the Illusory Demon Realm, the Yun Family was a Guardian Family that everyone knew of. But in the Profound Sky Continent, the surname Yun was actually a very rare and seldomly seen surname.

The little girl gave Yun Che a very serious stare but after that her eyebrows suddenly arced as she started laughing, "Wa! Uncle, you're really weak! Heeheehee..."

## Un... cle...

The corner of Yun Che's mouth fiercely twitched upon hearing that. As the number one pretty boy in the Profound Sky Continent, the Illusory Demon Realm, the Eastern Divine Region, and the Western Divine Region, this was the very first time someone had addressed him so. He immediately displayed an expression that was even more indignant and infuriated than the little girl's, and he nearly gnashed his teeth as he spoke, "Uncle? Have you ever seen an uncle as elegant and handsome as me!?"

As he said those words, he also casually brushed a hand across his cheeks... but what he touched was a whole lot of bristles and exceptionally coarse skin.

### He was immediately stunned by this.

Since he had the Rage God's divine art, his body was constantly being nourished by the spiritual energies of the heaven and earth. While every inch of his skin was as tough and durable as heavenly steel, it was also white, flawless, and tender to the touch and no matter how severe his wounds were, they would not leave a single mark on his skin.

So outwardly he had always appeared no more than twenty years of age, and it would be the same even if another thousand or ten thousand years passed.

But after he was resurrected, he no longer had his profound strength or divine body, and spiritual energy no longer washed over and tempered his body either. Furthermore, the muddy and turbid aura in the lower realms, the mountain winds which blew across his body every day, the weakening of said body... and especially the incomparably heavy knot of emotions in his heart. All of these things caused him to swiftly and unconsciously age.

Thus, during this short period of little over a month, it felt as if he had aged more than a decade.

Upon hearing Yun Che's words, the little girl's lips parted as she stuck out her tongue at him, "Your words are really shameless! Furthermore, to think that a big man like you is actually so weak, and you even need a woman to support you as you walk, that's even more shameless!"

If anyone else had said similar words, it would have undoubtedly dealt Yun Che a silent blow. But when he was faced with this little girl's disdain, Yun Che could only shake his head and laugh, "Fine, fine, fine. You're completely correct. I am indeed a very weak and also a very shameless uncle. You see, I am so weak that I definitely don't pose any danger to you, right? So could you let me take a look at what's inside the bamboo forest?"

## "No way!!"

Just as Yun Che's voice fell, Yun Wuxin's expression changed in an instant and those starry eyes that had previously grown somewhat gentle had also recovered some of their previous... fierceness? She pointed a finger of her white and tender hand at him as she warned him, "This is the territory of my mother and I, no one is allowed to approach it. If not... if not I'm not gonna play nice anymore! I'm warning you, don't think that you can bully me because I'm still young, I'll have you know that I'm really strong!"

"Big Brother Benefactor," Feng Xian'er pulled Yun Che along and if Yun Che still possessed his divine senses, he would have sensed that Feng Xian'er had already released her profound energy and used it to protect him from any oncoming attacks, "It's better if we return, otherwise... it will get dangerous."

"...?" Yun Che gave a faint smile as he gave the little girl, who was trying to assume a bossy and overbearing stance, a deep look as he voiced his doubt, "Surely she can't really be the little monster that you mentioned, right?"

Feng Xian'er, "..."

He did not listen to Feng Xian'er's words as his heart started to throb for no rhyme or reason. Instead, he took the smallest of steps forward as he stepped on the border of the bamboo grove.

"You're not allowed to come over here!!"

It was this one small step that seemed to trod right on that little girl's heart, she let out a shrill yell as her long hair suddenly danced. It was at this moment that the bamboo plants beside her started to sway violently... As if a strong wind had suddenly blown through them.

"Ah!" Fenng Xian'er let out a startled cry as she hurriedly flashed forward to stand in front of Yun Che. It was also this unwitting movement that caused a single foot of hers to step inside the bamboo grove.

Yun Wuxin's expression faintly changed. In this instant, her white and tender arm, which still had not fully matured, suddenly... thrust forward in what one could call a conditioned reflex.

# BZZZZ————

An incomparably deep and muffled explosion rang out in the still and quiet land.

Feng Xian'er did not step back at all as all of her profound energy was released in an instant as she fiercely blocked the attack in front of Yun Che... During the deep and muffled explosion, the space around them clearly distorted for a while and both she and Yun Che were instantly blasted backwards as they were pushed out of the bamboo forest.

"Oof..." Yun Che's entire body vibrated and he nearly vomited blood. Feng Xian'er had already hugged him to her body in a great fluster, "Are you alright? Did you get injured anywhere?"

At this moment, the girl who had reflexively made an attack had now withdrawn her hand in a somewhat rattled manner. As she looked at Yun Che, whose face had clearly gone a deathly pale, panic flashed in her eyes. She hurriedly took a few steps forward... then immediately retreated yet again as she spoke in a stammering voice, "Are you... you... alright? I, I... I didn't do it on purpose... Who... who... asked you not to listen to me..."

Yun Che's hand pressed against his chest as a burst of agonizing pain ran through his chest, but he did not pay any attention to that. His eyes were firmly fixed on this little girl and it was as if he was looking at a monster who should not exist.

Just now... there had clearly been a distortion in space!

Even though the spatial element in the Blue Pole Star could not be compared to the spatial element in the God Realm, it was also definitely not so easily distorted. To be able to create such a clear spatial distortion, at the very least, one needed to have cultivated until the Emperor Profound Realm.

However, this little girl in front of him was only ten years of age even by the most generous of estimates, yet she actually... already possessed a profound strength that was at the Emperor Profound Realm!?

In Blue Wind Nation, a power at the level of the Emperor Profound Realm was equivalent to the strength of a grand sect master of the four best sects in the realm! The number one person in Blue Wind all those years ago, Ling Tianni, was also merely a level six Throne.

Furthermore, in order to protect him, Feng Xian'er, in her desperation, had definitely not dared to hold back anything. Yet even though Feng Xian'er had brought her full power to bear to block that attack, she was still blasted back by the hand that this little girl had thrust out reflexively... That also meant that this little girl's cultivation was actually above that of Feng Xian'er's!?

She was not only a Throne, she was also possibly a mid-stage or even late-stage Throne!

"You... How old... are you... this year?" Yun Che asked and he stammered nearly as badly as that little girl as those words spilled from his mouth.

"Eleven," the little girl replied in a somewhat flustered manner, but her starry eyes were still vigilant and cautious.

Yun Che quietly sucked in a breath of cold air, an eleven year old late-stage Throne...In the entire Profound Sky Continent and even the Illusory Demon Realm, such a case had definitely never occurred before, let alone Blue Wind Nation!

At this age, the profound veins of the majority of profound practitioners had just formed and they had just barely managed to stumble into the starting point of the profound way... When he was eleven years old, he was hiding behind Xiao Lie's legs and he had not even truly understood what the profound way was.

But the little lady in front of him could warp space itself with a single palm!

Just when did such a little monster appear in the Profound Sky Continent!!?

#### Hmmm? Little monster?

No wonder Feng Xian'er called her a little monster? Just how was she only a little monster...

Upon realizing that Yun Che was probably alright, the little girl's heart finally managed to relax a little but her expression became very tense, "Uncle, you're really really weak! Hmph, now you know how powerful I am, right!? If you're afraid now, you should hurry up and go. If not... If not, I... I really am going to be angry."

"Big Brother Benefactor, let's go," Feng Xian'er said in an urgent voice. The sudden attack of the little girl had left her feeling anxious and afraid.

Great waves surged up in Yun Che's heart but he did not persist any further. Instead, he simply gave a faint nod of his head.

As he turned around, he gave that little girl another deep look... For some odd reason, an incomparably intense feeling of not wanting to be parted from her surged up in his heart.

Strange, why does my heart beat so wildly whenever I look at her?

Could it be that her mental strength is very strong while my mental strength is simply too weak?

As she witnessed the two people departing, Yun Wuxin gave a small sigh of relief, and it was only then that her small and delicate figure disappeared into the bamboo forest.

In an instant, the bamboo grove swayed and a light wind started blowing as it carried with it the coldly clear but gentle voice of a woman.

"Xin'er, were you cultivating just now?"

"No, Mother." This time, it was the girl's voice that rang out in the air, "There was a strange uncle that wanted to come inside the grove, but I chased him off already."

As they had already departed quite some distance from the forest, with his current hearing ability, Yun Che would not have been able to hear the voices of the mother and child.

But this gust of cool wind inadvertently blew in the direction that Yun Che had left, causing that billowy celestial voice to ring in his ears.

That celestial voice that had been carried along by the wind was as light and faint as mist, but it caused Yun Che to react as if heavenly lightning had suddenly struck his body, and he suddenly froze in place...

Chapter 1364 - Like Water from a Burst Dam

As the sound on the wind flew into the distance, Yun Che stood there in a daze and the world seemed to spin and whirl before his very eyes.

"Big Brother Benefactor, what's wrong?" Feng Xian'er hurriedly stopped in her tracks as well.

Yun Che stared at the empty air in front of him. His eyes were dazed and disoriented, as if all the blood in his body had completely stopped flowing, going limp and numb. He dazedly stammered out a few words, "Just now, did you... hear... a voice?"

"A voice? No I didn't," Feng Xian'er shook her head. Besides the soft whistling of the blowing wind, she had not heard any other sound.

Yun Che's current hearing ability was more than several levels worse than Feng Xian'er's right now. If even Feng Xian'er had not heard that voice, then it could only be an auditory hallucination.

But Yun Che shook his head, he shook his head so hard that he was practically trembling. He turned around but the weakness that overtook his body made him sink to his knees in the next instant...

"Ah! You... What happened to you?" Feng Xian'er hurriedly helped him to his feet, but she was completely bewildered by his actions as well.

"No... It's her voice... It's her voice..." Yun Che's vision gradually grew more and more blurry as blood chaotically surged and tossed throughout his entire body. Even though it had been more than a decade since they had been "separated forever by the heavens", her fairy-like figure and voice would always be deeply engraved into the deepest part of his heart and soul, a place that could never be touched, a place which contained his deepest pain and his guilt.

His memories of her would not dim even until the day he died.

"Bring me over there... Bring me over there!" Yun Che stretched out a clawed hand in the direction of the bamboo hut, yet the weakness and trembling that had overtaken his entire body made it so that he could hardly stand.

"Ah... alright. Let's... Let's go over there... We're going over there right now!"

Feng Xian'er could feel the trembling of Yun Che's body with an incomparable clarity. An abnormal shade of scarlet now stained his skin and his expression looked so disoriented and messy that it seemed as if his very soul had been punctured... She was completely frightened by this and she panickedly nodded her head in assent. She could not longer be bothered about warning Yun Che about the dangers of the bamboo grove as she once again carried him towards that place.

At the same time, she circulated profound energy and used it to protect Yun Che's body in her most careful and meticulous manner.

They flew toward the bamboo grove, and as their approaching auras neared the boundary of the forest, they caused the strangely vigilant Yun Wuxin to emerge from the forest with a "swoosh". Upon seeing the two people she had just frightened into leaving return, the expression on her small face turned extremely ferocious as she shouted in a voice much louder than before, "Hey! Why did you two come back!? Leave immediately, if not..."

She stretched her hand out, "If you really don't leave, then I'm really going to send the two of you flying this time.

Yun Che's gaze swivelled wildly as if it wanted to pierce through the layers of bamboo. At this time, a dreamy voice softly rang out from the depths of the bamboo grove, "Xin'er, who are you talking to?"

### ZZZZZNN———-

That fairy-like voice was carried on the wind, as light and diaphanous as mist. In that instant, Yun Che felt as though his soul had exploded all at once. The world in front of him turned pale white and all the

blood in his body crazily rushed to his head... He stood there stockstill. He had completely stopped breathing, unable to even feel his own heartbeat. In fact, he could not even feel the existence of his entire body, as if he had suddenly been plunged into an unreal and fantastical dream...

"Ah!" Feng Xian'er supported him once more. She felt Yun Che's body completely leaning on her own. His body was trembling and his eyes had lost their light... it was like he had suddenly lost his entire soul.

"Little... Fairy..." He muttered as if he was sleep talking before he went out of control and tried to lunge forward, "Little Fairy... Is it you... Is it you... Little Fairy!!"

The form of address that only he used, the fairy-like figure that he thought he would never be able to see again, the fairy-like figure that was the only thing that could cause him to feel a lifetime of guilt...

Yun Che's far too intense reaction and his out-of-control wailing had not only frightened Feng Xian'er, it had also frightened Yun Wuxing. Her eyes widened and her expression grew several degrees more anxious, "What... What's wrong with him? It... it has nothing to do with me, right?"

"..." Feng Xian'er dazedly stared at Yun Che. She was not able to answer that question either.

The bamboo grove slightly parted and a figure slowly emerged from the midst of the bamboo grove. Her footsteps were very light and gentle. It was as if she was stepping on clouds or as if she was walking in a dream, and she still wore those white robes that she loved the most, robes that looked as pure as driven snow, as flawless as pearly jade. Her aura and disposition were still like they were in the past, her presence seemed to be misty and light, as if she had transcended this mundane world, as if she was a celestial being or a dream, as if she was a bundle of fireworks that had never been stained by the mortal realm.

It was just that she had grown a lot thinner and frailer compared to before and it looked as if she could barely endure the cold wind that blew through the bamboo grove. Just like Yun Che, there was not a single trace of the aura of the profound way emanating from her body. But compared to Yun Che's swiftly aging looks, which were due to the gloom and depression that shrouded his heart and soul, it seemed as if the heavens favored her. Even if all of her profound strength was gone, time and a hard life had not left any marks on her face. She simply stood there quietly, yet all of the brilliant luster between heaven and earth was drawn to her.

Chu Yuechan.

She looked at Yun Che, Yun Che looked at her and the instant that their gazes met, it seemed as if the world had suddenly frozen in place. There was no color, no sound... There was only the reflected image of each other in their eyes, an image that was even more illusory than a dream.

"Mother!?" Yun Wuxin softly cried out. Her small and delicate body turned and she arrived at her side as a layer of warm and gentle profound energy urgently covered her body. She was only afraid that she would be injured by the cold wind, "The wind is very cold today, you can't come out."

"..." She did not respond to her daughter's anxious words. She simply stared at Yun Che in a stupor, all the light in her beautiful eyes turning into a misty haziness. Words spilled out from her lips in such a soft murmur that it seemed like she was talking in her sleep, "Is... it... you..."

"..." Yun Che nodded his head but he had no strength to nod it any more vigorously. He wanted to step forward but his body simply refused to listen to any of his instructions. He opened his mouth again and again, and it took a very long time before he spoke in a voice that trembled so much that even he could not hear himself clearly, "Yes... I... It is I..."

"..." Chu Yuechan's body lightly swayed in the wind and not another sound proceeded from her parted lips. The vicissitudes of life had left their mark on the looks of the man in front of her. Loss and despondency were writ large on his face, and those previously bright eyes had now also turned muddy and turbid, but... from the very first instant, she had known that it was him.

The man that had messed up the strings of her heart, had melted all her emotional defenses. The man who had cruelly left her forever after completely seizing body, heart, and soul...

Yet another gust of wind blew against her, causing her to slowly collapse in a daze...

"Ah! Mother... what's wrong with you? D-don't scare me," Yun Wuxin hurriedly supported her. She looked at her mother first, then at Yun Che, her heart filled with bewilderment and panic.

"..." This gust of cold wind had finally started to rouse Yun Che from his reverie. He stretched out his hand as he slowly walked forward. It was just that he could not feel his own footsteps and it felt as if his body was being propped up by invisible clouds. Bit by bit, he approached the figure that he thought would only ever appear again in his dreams.

"..." Yun Wuxin did not move to block him... Even she did not know why she did not do anything. Even when Yun Che stood right in front of her mother, she still stood there absent-mindedly as she was left at a complete loss.

Chu Yuechan slowly extended a hand and she touched Yun Che's face. The rough and coarse feeling of his skin was more real than anything else in the world, "You're... still... alive..."

"I'm... still alive..." Yun Che nodded and every word seemed as faint and indistinct as a light mist, "You're also... still... alive..."

The two people stood facing each other. He had thought he would never see her again and he would only be left with a lifetime of pain every time he thought of her. She had thought that she would never see him again, and that she would only be left with a lifetime of regret every time she thought of him... Destiny which always played cruel jokes on people could also be compassionate every once in a while. It was just that this act of compassion had come nearly twelve years late.

He held Chu Yuechan's hand, that gentle sensation spreading from his palm to every corner of his heart and soul, telling him that all of this was not a dream. He was once again holding Little Fairy's hand... and he never wanted to let it go again.

The amount of wild joy one would experience when finding something again corresponded directly to the amount of heartrending pain they experienced when losing that same thing. They had been "forever separated by heaven" for nearly twelve years and the thousand expressions and ten thousand words they wanted to say to each other all returned to silence. The face and figure of the person opposite them were sometimes clear and distinct and sometimes blurry, and the whole world seemed to be continuously revolving between reality and fantasy.

"Mother, what's going on with you? Have you... fallen ill?" Yun Wuxin asked timidly as she looked at the interlocking hands of Yun Che and her mother, her small hands lightly grasping the corners of her clothes.

Her voice caused Yun Che to involuntarily swivel. He looked toward Yun Wuxin and in that moment, he was unable to divert his gaze. His already unbearably disordered heart and soul started to shake with even more intensity...

Her surname was Yun...

Eleven years of age...

Could it be... that she ... that she was...

Chu Yuechan stretched out her other hand, grasping the girl's small, tender, and delicate hand as she softly said, "Xin'er, he's your daddy."

"..." Yun Che's body violently swayed and his vision had gone completely blurry once more.

Behind him, Feng Xian'er held both hands to her lips. Her beautiful eyes were opened wide and she had been shocked silly.

"..." Upon looking at her mother and then looking at Yun Che, Yun Wuxin's lips slightly parted as she said timidly, "But, isn't Daddy... supposed to be already... already gone from this world?"

Chu Yuechan shook her head, and the glimmering tears in the corners of her eyes were more flawless and sadly beautiful than the most resplendent starlight in the universe. "Mother tricked you. Not only is your daddy alive... he even managed to find us... Xin'er, from now onwards, you have a father... Are you happy?"

"...Dad...Daddy?" Yun Wuxin's lips remained parted as she stared at Yun Che dumbly, her eyes so hazy that it seemed as if they were covered by a layer of undispellable watery mist.

"Wuxin... my daughter..." As he gazed upon this girl who was right in front of him, this girl who was connected to him by blood, the chaos and disorder in Yun Che's heart had reached its limit. He stretched out a trembling hand to touch Yun Wuxin... His daughter, the continuation of his life...

Yun Wuxin did not dodge, but his hand stopped in midair before it was timidly retracted. He did not dare touch her, as if he was afraid that his rough and dirty fingers would sully her flawless and tender face. He was afraid that she would not be willing to accept the most useless father in this world. And he was even more afraid that all of this would suddenly shatter and pop like a bubble...

"Are.. you really my daddy?" A girlish voice rang in his ears. She was looking at him very seriously and he had never seen such a beautiful pair of eyes in his life. They surpassed all of the beautiful scenery he had seen in his life, surpassed all of the stars in the sky.

He nodded his head but he was too ashamed to admit it. This mother and daughter had been alone for twelve years... He had not witnessed her birth, had not accompanied her as she grew up. He had never done anything for her as her father, not for even a day, a moment, or even a single breath... So how could he be worthy of admitting that fact?

"Then..." the little girl said in a tremulous and insecure voice, "I was so fierce to Daddy just now, so will Daddy spank my butt because of that?"

Those soft words caused Yun Che to feel as if countless threads of warm air had exploded in every corner of his body and soul. His world had turned completely blurry and his body leaned forward while trembling as he hugged his own daughter. As he tightly hugged her, his tears instantly burst forth like water from a burst dam, drowning out all sound and thought, and in an instant, the little girl's frail and weak looking shoulder had become completely drenched.

"Daddy... is actually a crybaby," Yun Wuxin softly muttered to herself as she lay cradled in her father's embrace and before she knew it, sparkling and translucent tears had also started soundless flowing down on her face.

She did not know just how precious her father's tears truly were, because even when he was enduring the pain of his soul leaving his body, even when he struggled between the boundaries of life and death, he had never once shed a single tear.

But at this moment, his tears were crazily flooding out like water from a burst dam.

"Ssss... cough... cough..." He fiercely gritted his teeth as he desperately tried to stop his tears from flooding out, but he was simply unable to stop crying. In fact, he was not even able to say a complete sentence... a single word...

My Yuechan...

My daughter...

Our daughter...

He had been spending every single day in a depressing gloom ever since his revival, and he had asked himself time and again why he was still alive. He had even begun to hate and resent the fact that he was alive every now and then.

But at this moment, he felt incredibly fortunate and grateful to still be alive...

It was truly good to be alive...

Ah, yes. In this world, there's nothing better than being alive...

Chapter 1365 - Speaking One's Mind

The bamboo house was very small, and the decorations inside were extremely simplistic and tidy. However, they also gave off an indescribable sense of calm and warmth.

Chu Yuechan had built this delicate little bamboo hut with green bamboo by herself a long time ago, and no one had been allowed to get close to it, much less enter. Yun Che was the first "outsider" to break this rule.

Right now, Yun Che's eyes were red and swollen. Without any profound energy, he wasn't able to do even something as simple as reducing the swelling. If his current appearance were to be exposed to the

world, the sheer amount of eyeballs that clattered on the floor could probably fill up more than half of the Eastern Divine Region.

"How did you arrive at this place back then?" he asked while glancing back and forth between Chu Yuechan and Yun Wuxin from time to time. For the first time, he felt like having just two eyes wasn't enough at all.

Yun Wuxin was leaning on Chu Yuechan's knees and holding her cheeks with both arms, examining Yun Che in secret from time to time. As Chu Yuechan held her tiny hands, her eyes turned a little misty upon hearing Yun Che's question. She was clearly different from who she was before—Fairy of Frozen Beauty, head of the Frozen Cloud Seven Fairies—a woman who had been so cold that she could almost be described as heartless so many years ago. Although she still kept her cool temperament to this day, it was clear that her eyes and appearance had softened by a little—no, a lot.

It was because she was no longer the Fairy of Frozen Beauty. She was now just a woman who had given up everything in her past for the sake of a "dead" husband, and a girl's mother.

"Back then, everyone thought that you had died at Heavenly Sword Villa's Sword Management Terrace. It was also around that time that I realized I was pregnant, so in order to keep your bloodline alive I chose to leave Frozen Cloud Asgard..."

"..." Yun Che knew full well that her departure hadn't been a simple thing. She had had to abolish her own Frozen Cloud Arts, bear the shame and guilt of having let down her sect on her own, and even have her decision exposed as the biggest "scandal" to happen in Blue Wind Nation back then...

Thankfully, Yun Che later grew powerful enough both physically and politically to strong arm the "scandal" into a "romantic affair"... When power reached a certain level, it transforms not just the wielder, but also everyone's recognition.

"I was hoping to find a quiet place to give birth to our child, but... I was ambushed before I'd even left the Snow Region of Extreme Ice. Those people were extremely powerful, and I had just abolished my own profound arts and destabilized my own profound aura not long ago. As a result, I was wounded during the attack... luckily for me, a timely snowstorm shielded me from detection and gave me the opportunity to escape on the Snow Phoenix..."

"It was Xuanyuan Yufeng!" Yun Che said calmly, but his hands were clenched very tightly.

He hadn't taken Xuanyuan Yufeng's life because of Ling Jie, but he couldn't help but be filled with hatred every time he thought of her anyway... In fact, his hatred had only grown stronger after listening to Chu Yuechan's story.

"I realized that they were from Heavenly Sword Villa..." Chu Yuechan might've abolished her own profound art back then, but she still possessed the power at the Emperor Profound Realm. There were only a handful of powers that could have driven her to the grave situation she was in in the entire Blue Wind Nation, but Heavenly Sword Villa was definitely among those powers. "After I had escaped the Snow Region, I fainted for a long time inside a wild forest... It was only after I woke up that I realized that I wasn't the only one who was hurt. My child had taken damage during the ambush as well." "What!?" Yun Che shook violently upon hearing this. His eyes had become countless times murkier than before, but that didn't stop them from burning suddenly with terrible violence, "They... hurt Wuxin!?"

Yun Wuxin blinked and shot Yun Che a puzzled glance.

"Back then, all I could do was to protect Wuxin with whatever profound energy I had left... But I also had no idea where I should go from there..." Her voice sounded transient when she was recalling her situation back then.

"..." Holding tightly onto Chu Yuechan's hands, Yun Che felt a painful cramp twitching inside his heart. She had deserted her sect, bore shame on her back, and then been hunted by Heavenly Sword Villa before she had even left the Snow Region... What power had Heavenly Sword Villa been back then? They had been the number one force in Blue Wind Nation and an absolutely invincible existence!

The level of despair she must have faced back in those years must have been unimaginable...

"Do you remember?" Chu Yuechan's voice suddenly turned much gentler, "Back at the Dragon God's trial grounds, you told me a lot of stories in order to keep me awake after I had lost all my profound veins and became filled with the will to die. Most of them were clearly fake, but I had thought that some... might actually turn out to be true."

"..." It was as she said. Back at the Dragon God's trial grounds, more than ninety percent of the stories he had told Chu Yuechan were fake. They were jokes he forced himself to speak to make her laugh... even though he hadn't succeeded even once.

"At the time, I vaguely remembered you telling me that your phoenix flames didn't come from the Divine Phoenix Sect, but a place called the Ten Thousand Beasts Mountain Range. You had said that a decayed, lost phoenix clan had lived there, and that its descendents were extraordinarily kind and guileless. Even better, they were protected by the Phoenix God itself, and no beast dared to enter its territory..."

"..." In order to keep Chu Yuechan from losing heart, he had said many, many things to her for half a year straight. He literally couldn't remember everything that he had told her... which was why he couldn't remember ever telling her about the Phoenix Clan.

In fact, he was a little surprised by this revelation. It was true that Chu Yuechan was the first person to learn that he possessed the phoenix flames. On the first day they came to know each other, he had used the phoenix flames to force out the poison spirit lurking inside her body. However, the phoenix flames' origin wasn't only one of the greatest secrets he had to hide, but also a matter that related to the safety of the Phoenix Clan. It wasn't something that he had planned to tell any outsiders about...

However, Yun Che gradually came to accept his slipup after he recalled the situation back at the Dragon God's trial grounds. He had had to kill ninety nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety nine profound beasts in a cruel trial, and he had had to stay alert throughout the whole thing to defend both him and Chu Yuechan from dangers that could come from anywhere, anytime... He could accept that he was so mentally fatigued that he had revealed a secret he shouldn't have and not realized it throughout the years until just now.

"That was how I came to be here. However, when I first arrived at this place, I discovered a barrier that was so powerful that it was impossible to break through, even before I had abolished my own profound arts," Chu Yuechan said quietly.

Chu Yuechan was undoubtedly speaking of the protective barrier the Phoenix Spirit had created with its final strength after he and Cang Yue had left the mountain range back then.

"Disappointed, I was about to leave to search for another way, but suddenly, a hole appeared on the barrier on its own..."

"It was Wuxin." Yun Che couldn't help himself, "She inherited my phoenix bloodline, and my bloodline came from the Phoenix Spirit's origin blood itself, which makes Wuxin the second generation successor of the Phoenix's origin blood. That's why her phoenix aura was stronger than an adult phoenix descendant's even before she was born."

No one could've affected the phoenix barrier before they were born unless they were Yun Che or Feng Xue'er, people who had inherited the origin blood of a phoenix directly, not even the direct descendants of the Phoenix Clan or the Divine Phoenix Sect. But Wuxin could... because she was his daughter!

Back then, Chu Yuechan was hunted by Heavenly Sword Villa right after she had abolished her profound arts, getting injured as a result. Worse, the Divine Phoenix Sect started invading Blue Wind Nation not long after... If the unborn Yun Wuxin hadn't unconsciously opened the phoenix barrier for Chu Yuechan, he might not have seen either of them ever again in his life.

"This place is exactly what you told me before: it is a peaceful land that is hidden from the world. Their eyes hold no malice in them, and despite the initial surprise and wariness they held when they first saw me, they tried to help me after they learned that I was carrying a baby. They didn't try to disturb me after I showed them cool rejection either..." Chu Yuechan closed her eyes softly, "Since then, I spent almost all of my time inside this bamboo forest. I've not even interacted with them for the past few years because I was afraid of putting my trust in anyone anymore... and of course, leaving was out of the question..."

"...I understand." Yun Che nodded while replying feebly. The loving ache in his heart and his regret were so big that he felt like his innards were being carved alive.

"Your profound energy is... gone, right?" Yun Che asked softly. He might not have his spiritual perception any longer, but it was visibly evident even to his eyes.

Chu Yuechan nodded, but there wasn't any sorrow or desolation to be seen on her face. She said calmly, "Wuxin had been hurt by a sword aura while she was still in my belly. When I finally arrived here, her aura had become barely noticeable. To keep her alive, I had to force out my blood essence and origin power continuously..."

"!!!" Yun Che shook once again, and his face turned visibly pale.

"In the end, I used up all of my origin power, and my profound veins wilted away. However, I ultimately managed to save Wuxin and give birth to her..."

"..." Even Yun Che's lips were shaking at this point... She had lost most of her blood essence, and her profound veins had wilted away. Then, she had to give birth to Wuxin. To his knowledge, she shouldn't have survived the experience no matter what.

He wanted to ask how Chu Yuechan had managed to overcome this ordeal, but the answer came to him before he managed to ask the question... it was a miracle only a mother could achieve.

"At the time... I had wanted to entrust Wuxin to them and... fall asleep in peace. But... I just couldn't let go while staring at her eyes and listening to her cries..." Chu Yuechan stroked her daughter's hair gently while looking at her with eyes gentle and warm enough to melt anything, "I wanted to watch her grow... I had hoped that she would look... like you..."

"I look more like mother though. In fact, I don't look like father at all." Yun Wuxin stared at Chu Yuechan before sticking her tongue out slightly at Yun Che.

Chu Yuechan's smile... became captured in Yun Che's heart and soul in that instant.

This was the first time he had ever seen her smile...

In the past, this was something that he had only seen in his dreams. But now, it was happening right before his eyes.

The only reason he could witness this now, was because he was still alive.

Back then, he had used countless methods to seek out Chu Yuechan. He had asked Cang Yue to organize a search using the royal family's power, he had asked the Black Moon Merchant Guild to help him, and he had even asked Feng Xue'er to organize a search throughout the Profound Sky Continent using the Divine Phoenix Sect's power later on...

But his attempts had all ended in failure.

It was because he had never thought to search the "Phoenix Clan".

The Phoenix Clan lived in a peaceful land that wasn't known to the outside world. It was a secret place. Since his phoenix powers had originated from here, he had reason not to reveal it to the outside world. That was why he had subconsciously avoided them during his many search attempts, and why the thought that Chu Yuechan might've come here never entered his mind.

Five years ago, he and Feng Xue'er had come to visit the Phoenix Clan, but they had ultimately decided against disturbing their peace after discovering the phoenix barrier... He hadn't realized that they were so close to him until now.

Yun Che finally understood why even Jasmine hadn't been able to find Chu Yuechan.

After Jasmine had remade her body and regained some of her powers, she had spread out her spiritual perception twice and tried to search for Chu Yuechan's aura throughout the entire Profound Sky Continent... both times she had told him that her lack of strength was the reason she failed.

It was only after she had left that he learned the truth from the soul message she had left behind with Hong'er. It wasn't that she lacked the power to find Chu Yuechan, it was because she couldn't find her anywhere.

After Chu Yuechan had abolished her Frozen Cloud Arts, her aura no longer had the signature of a Frozen Cloud Asgard profound practitioner. That was why Jasmine had no choice but to search through every Emperor Profound Realm profound practitioner that existed on the Profound Sky Continent. Later on, she assumed that Chu Yuechan might've achieved a breakthrough and changed targets to Tyrant Profound Realm profound practitioners and even Sovereign Profound Realm profound practitioners. However, her efforts had still ended in failure.

Jasmine had even considered the possibility that Chu Yuechan's profound energy might've declined and tried searching for her among those in the Sky Profound Realm... the results were still the same.

There were over a hundred billion of living beings that exists on the Profound Sky Continent. No matter how powerful Jasmine was, there was no way she could've scanned everyone in detail, especially considering that a person's aura grew weaker the lower their profound energy was.

That was how the cruel truth in Jasmine's message came to be: Emperor Profound Realm, Tyrant Profound Realm, Sovereign Profound Realm, and even Sky Profound Realm... Chu Yuechan was none of them. This meant that there were only two possible outcomes left—Chu Yuechan was either dead, or crippled.

If it was the latter... Considering Chu Yuechan's beauty, her downfall would only be even more tragic, and considering her character she would rather die than suffer the humiliation...

That was the exact moment Yun Che was forced to accept the "fact" that Chu Yuechan truly had passed away.

Of course, that had all changed today. From her story, he learned that Chu Yuechan had lost her profound strength, but it wasn't because she was crippled by her enemies. It was because she had willingly used up all of her origin power and allowed her profound veins to wilt away to protect Yun Wuxin.

### Xuanyuan Yufeng...

Yun Che gritted his teeth in secret... You might be Ling Jie's birth mother, but I really should cut you into a million pieces all the same!

### Chapter 1366 - Hope

"These past few years have been hard on the two of you..." Yun Che said dispiritedly and absently. The only thing he could say were these incomparably shallow and pale words.

"It wasn't bitter at all," Chu Yuechan shook her head, "From when I was still in Frozen Cloud Asgard, I had already become accustomed to this kind of peace and quiet. What's more, I also had Wuxin by my side."

"Then have you... ever thought of leaving this place someday?" Yun Che asked.

Chu Yuechan still shook her head, but when she looked at her daughter, complex feelings faintly appeared in her eyes. "Xin'er is growing bigger by the day, and I can't keep her by my side forever. She has to go out to the outside world eventually and find the life that belongs to her. But... her growth is simply too fast, so fast that it left me terrified."

Yun Che, "..."

"When she was six, her body would naturally produce profound energy. As a result, I tried to guide her cultivation, and the result was that her profound strength grew at a terrifying speed. In a month, she reached the Nascent Profound Realm. In three months, she entered the True Profound Realm. In six months, she broke into the Spirit Profound Realm. By the time she was seven and a half, she had already reached the Earth Profound Realm, and at eight and a half, she had reached the Sky Profound Realm. Finally, before she reached her tenth year, she had already become a Throne... As of today, she is already at the ninth level of the Emperor Profound Realm, surpassing the founding ancestor of Frozen Cloud Asgard."

"Furthermore, every time she stepped into a new realm, there were no signs of her having to break any bottleneck."

Even though Yun Che had already seen Yun Wuxin in action, his heart still violently shook upon hearing those words... Moreover, if the words that Chu Yuechan had just said entered the ears of the profound practitioners of the Profound Sky Continent, they would definitely feel as if every single word had been spun out of fantasy.

Without the shadow of a doubt, Yun Wuxin's speed of growth in the profound way was absolutely not normal.

"This situation, conversely, caused me even more worry and I did not dare let her leave this place."

Chu Yuechan's worries were absolutely normal and understandable.

She did not know what the outside world had become, but she did not doubt in the least that the appearance of a Throne who was only eleven years of age, and a late stage Throne at that, would definitely cause tremors that would immensely shake the entire profound world. Since she was alone and unaffiliated with anybody, her life would definitely be a troubled one.

"As if I want to go to the outside world, Mother. I want to accompany Mom always," Yun Wuxin said cheerily as she snuggled against her mother. "Daddy, are you also going to accompany us from now on?"

Yun Che gave a faint smile, but he did not say anything.

Because he could see that when Yun Wuxin said these things, there was a light of yearning and longing in the depths of her eyes... She wanted to leave this place, she wanted to see the world outside, but even more than all of these things, she did not want to leave her mother all alone.

"How about you?" Chu Yuechan asked, "How did you end up surviving all those years ago? And why did you..."

The young man who had been so young and immature yet still shone with a light that was even more dazzling than the sun. When she finally saw him again, he had become so despondent and gloomy.

Yun Che faintly raised his head and his mind went back to the starting point of his life. As he quietly thought of everything, his heart suddenly became calm at this moment. "During the half year we spent in the Dragon God Trial Grounds, I spent every day saying countless things to you, telling countless

stories to you, but I never told you who I truly was and where I had truly come from. In fact, I told you many lies, many vain boasts, and many jokes..."

Chu Yuechan, "..."

"And who would have thought that in the twelve years before I found you again, I would go through so many things. Most of them would sound absolutely fantastical and absurd if you heard them, but... I won't deceive you again like I did all those years ago. This time, every single word I am about to say will be the unvarnished truth..."

He did not start his tale from the calamity that had struck him in Heavenly Sword Villa all those years ago. Instead he started from the point where his fate started to turn—he started from the point where he reincarnated back to the Profound Sky Continent from the Azure Cloud Continent.

He recounted his fated reincarnation, his meeting with Jasmine, and how he found out about his actual identity and origins underneath the Sword Management Terrace... he talked about his journey to the Illusory Demon Realm... and he also talked about how he destroyed Xuanyuan Wentian and saved the world... he recounted the drastic changes that happened to Frozen Cloud Asgard... and also told them about how he reached the God Realm, a place that was practically considered a myth and legend in the Profound Sky Continent...

He recounted his tale until the point where he had died in the Star God Realm slightly more than a month ago, before he came back to life in a most fantastical manner.

The sun had already almost set and stars filled the sky.

All of his experiences, all of his sorrows and joys, all of his secrets, he spoke about them all without reservation... To the Yuechan and Wuxin he had found after they had been lost, he hated that he could not give his whole world to them as recompense, so he did not hide anything from them nor did he hold anything back.

This was also the first time in his life that he had so openly and uninhibitedly shared whatever was on his mind.

Before he knew it, the stars had gone dim and the sun had started to rise in the east. Outside the bamboo forest, Feng Xian'er had not gone to disturb the reunion of this family, but she had not left either. Instead she quietly stood there, guarding that place.

Yun Wuxin had already fallen asleep at some point of time in Chu Yuechan's embrace. She slept soundly and securely, the corners of her lips hooked up in a shallow smile that was nearly imperceptible.

She had not known that her own father was such a legend in this entire continent and she also had not known what sort of power she had really possessed.

As he looked at her peaceful face, the corner of Yun Che's mouth unwittingly hooked up. He was unable to describe just what he was feeling at this moment... but the gloom that had shrouded him during this period of time, the deep abyss that his heart and mind had fallen into, an abyss he had perhaps thought would be hard to truly escape for his entire life, was actually so insignificant and weak in front of her smiling face. In fact, it had practically vanished without a trace.

He recalled the gaze which his mother always directed towards him, a gaze filled with a desire to love and pamper, a gaze that was so warm and gentle it could melt every and all things. He finally understood that feeling and he also understood the guilt she had endured for more than twenty years...

"No wonder Xin'er's growth has been so startling," Chu Yuechan said in a soft voice as she tightly hugged the daughter sleeping in her arms. Even though she no longer possessed any profound strength, to Yun Wuxin, she had always been the warmest and greatest pillar of support in the world. "As it turns out, she actually has a father who seemingly walked out of myth and legend."

"Well, it's too bad that her father's legend has already ended," Yun Che said with a faint smile and when he said those words, his heart, amazingly enough, did not feel even the slightest bit of loss. He had a faint inkling that Yun Wuxin's abnormal talent and aptitude probably had something to do with him, but it was not only because she had inherited his Phoenix bloodline and his Dragon God bloodline, the abnormality of her profound veins was very likely also due... to some influence from his Evil God's Profound Veins.

Even though he had lost all of his power, he was able to give his daughter an impressive and enviable natural aptitude, and as a result, the satisfaction in his heart surpassed everything else.

Chu Yuechan extended a hand and lightly brushed away some of the dirt on his forehead. "You haven't been willing to leave this place despite staying here for so long. Is it because you don't know how to face the rest of them?"

He had become so aged and despondent in such a short period of time, so one could well imagine what kind of abyss his heart and soul had fallen into.

Moreover, she had already been through the kind of abyss he had fallen into, so she understood what sort of despair he was going through. When she had exploded her own profound veins all those years ago, she only had death on her mind. It was Yun Che who had pulled her back from the depths of the abyss, and after that he had somehow miraculously saved her.

"..." Yun Che closed his eyes before giving a light nod of his head.

Chu Yuechan softly said, "Even though you dove through so many stormy waves and have seen countless worlds that others would not even be able to imagine, your nature remains completely unchanged. You've always been accustomed to protecting others, in fact, one could even call your drive to protect others overbearing. You always become other people's pillar of support, yet you are unwilling to accept support from others... this is especially true to the people who are important to you. You are unable to accept that you have become a burden to them."

### Yun Che, "..."

"Thinking back to what happened all those years ago, I had been pushed into a desperate situation by those two Flood Dragons, and in order to kill them, I had no choice but to detonate my own profound veins and become a cripple."

When she mentioned this event, her voice was calm and gentle, "At that time, I was unable to accept that I had become a cripple and I only wanted to die in order to end it all. Do you still remember how you dragged me out of that quagmire, pulled me away from my desire to die?"

"..." Yun Che's lips moved slightly.

"In order to protect me, and even more to prove your determination to me, you carried me along with you as you entered the Dragon God trial grounds... As such, not only did the trial get more difficult, you also had to devote some attention to protecting me. At that time, did you blame me for being a burden to you?" she asked.

It was also during that period of time that he had protected her so devotedly that it had melted all of the solid ice in her heart and her desire to live had also been reignited because of him... To the point where even after he had "died", she was willing to betray and leave her own sect in order to preserve his bloodline. She had never once regretted or resented that decision.

Yun Che shook his head with no hesitation at all, "How could I? How could you ever be a burden to me!?"

"Then, did you enjoy the feeling of protecting me and being relied upon by me? She asked him yet again.

Once again, Yun Che nodded his head without the slightest bit of hesitation.

"Since that is the case, then why are you not willing to rely on them?" Chu Yuechan said with a faint smile. "Your parents and your family, your friends, your wives... All of them love you, and they don't love you because you are strong, they don't love you because they can rely upon you. They love you because of who you are, and they will continue to love you because you're living a safe and happy life together with them. To be able to rely on you is naturally a sort of happiness. But if they were able to be relied upon by you, if they could use their own strength to protect you, then to all of the people who love you, how could that also not be a form of happiness?

"Just as how you protected them, just as how they relied upon you."

Yun Che was stunned by those words and it seemed as if something had soundlessly melted in his heart. He shook his head and gave a soft laugh, "I really am... a completely foolish person. To think that I could not even understand such a plain and obvious thing."

Actually, if it was yesterday, and it was someone else who had said the exact same things that Chu Yuechan had said, his heart would still not have been able to escape the gloom that enshrouded it. Chu Yuechan's words had only brushed aside the last barrier in his heart. What had truly changed was Yun Che's own mindset.

"There's also one more thing I have to say.... The words that you told me all those years ago, I still clearly remember them to this day, and I have not forgotten a single word of them," Chu Yuechan softly said as she looked at Yun Che. "No matter what I've lost, as long as I do not lose my life, as long as I am still alive, then I will definitely be able to recover the hope that I have lost. Being alive is the greatest hope of all, being alive means that everything is still possible!"

"...!" Yun Che's gaze went rigid... Those were the words that he had roared to Chu Yuechan all those years ago when she had detonated her own profound veins and became filled with the desire to die.

He tightly grasped Chu Yuechan's hand and smiled. Even though he had clearly cried all of his tears dry, for some odd reason, the rims of his eyes had grown wet once again... He understood the meaning

behind Chu Yuechan's words. Not only had she wanted to wipe away all of the dark haze inside his heart, she also wanted him to cling to hope.

"Little Fairy," he softly called out, "don't you worry, I will continue to live well. Because I have you, I have Wuxin, I have a father and mother who regard me more dearly than their own lives. My wife is the Blue Wind Empress, my fiance is the number one goddess in the continent... I have so many people who love me, so what reason do I have to not have a happier life than anyone else?"

"Even if I no longer have profound strength for the rest of my life, I need to strive to live for a very long time, one hundred years... One thousand years... I will accompany Wuxin as she grows up... I will pay back everything I owe to both of you, mother and daughter... thousands of times over..."

The hands which were holding Chu Yuechan's hand tightened bit by bit, and this time, he would never let this hand go.

"Fine." As she gazed at his eyes, Chu Yuechan's eyes also grew misty. "Remember what you just said. If you forget, I will repeat it to you word for word..."

Her voice suddenly stopped and her face grew extremely pale after that.

Yun Che suddenly felt a weird feeling wash over him, "Little Fairy, what's wrong with..."

Pfffft——

A scarlet jet of blood sprayed across Yun Che's body and it was as if millions of scarlet steel needles had been stabbed into Yun Che's eyes, heart and soul.

### Chapter 1367 - Choice?

Yun Wuxin opened her eyes immediately. She jumped out of Chu Yuechan's embrace and onto her feet in a jiffy. Without saying a single word, her small hand swiftly stretched out and pressed against her mother's chest. An extremely gentle current of profound energy wrapped around Chu Yuechan's life vein while it also strove to suppress her agitated energy and blood.

She became extremely focused but she had been so startled that her face had turned pale. "Mom, it will soon... will soon be just fine..."

The warm blood that had sprayed on Yun Che's hand contained faint traces of an abnormal cold intent. Amidst his horror and astonishment, Yun Che's body violently tottered forward as he knelt to the ground. He could not stand up in time, so he swiftly grasped Chu Yuechan's arm. He gritted his teeth as he tried extremely hard to calm himself down, but his hands still shook uncontrollably.

Chu Yuechan's complexion was a sickly white but her expression was far calmer than his own. She gently wiped the corner of her mouth as she said, "Don't worry, this is something that happens every now and then. I'm already fine."

"..." Yun Che did not say anything and the fingers which grasped Chu Yuechan's arm tightened and relaxed at varying intervals. Even though he had lost all of his profound strength, at the very least, he still had his excellent medical skills and his intimate knowledge of the human body.

Her blood and energy were extremely weak and also extremely cold!

He quickly figured out the situation... Chu Yuechan had cultivated an ice-based profound art her entire life, so cold energy filled her body. Even though she had destroyed her own profound art, the cold energy that had accumulated in her body for decades would not disperse in such a short amount of time. But given her profound strength that was at the level of the Emperor Profound Realm at that time, this cold energy would not harm her and if she simply guided it slightly, it would disperse before too long.

At that time, however, Chu Yuechan had been severely injured by others when she was pregnant and she had used all of her power to protect the still unborn Yun Wuxin, to the point where her profound veins had withered and died, and then she still had to go through the birth of Yun Wuxin...

As a result, she had lost all of her profound strength and her body had been weakened to an extreme degree. The cold energy in her body would undoubtedly become a dreadful curse that would chip away at her life.

The good thing was that even though Chu Yuechan did not have her profound strength any longer, there were still some traces of his Dragon God aura inside of her, which allowed her to endure this condition for many years. But even if that was the case...

His gaze shifted slightly as he looked at the little hand Yun Wuxin was pressing against Chu Yuechan's chest. At this juncture, he was extremely convinced that if it was not for the fact that Yun Wuxin had acquired profound strength at such a young age and had grown at such an abnormal speed, Chu Yuechan would definitely have long ago...

He let go of Chu Yuechan's arm as he gave a small sigh of relief in his heart. After that, he felt both elation and a lingering fear. His elation stemmed from the fact that the situation was not unsalvageable, and the lingering fear stemmed from the fact that he would have found a lonely and pitiful Yun Wuxin if he had found mother and child a few years later.

Chu Yuechan's complexion finally grew better and it was only then that Yun Wuxin very carefully withdrew her hand. After that, she said in a anxious voice, "Mom, are you feeling any better? Does it still hurt anywhere?"

Chu Yuechan shook her head as she softly brushed her daughter's long hair, her beautiful eyes filled with warmth and a ... reluctance to part. She was most clear on what state her own body was in. She knew that she did not have much time left and she was already extremely grateful that the heavens were merciful enough to allow her to accompany Wuxin until she was eleven and meet Yun Che again. The only thing left was a great reluctance to be seperated from them. She did not feel any resentment or sorrow.

"Wuxin, don't worry, your mother will be fine," Yun Che said.

Those words caused Yun Wuxin to immediately turn her face towards him. Chu Yuechan also lifted her beautiful eyes as she stared at him in astonishment.

"Daddy, is what you're saying... true?" the girl softly asked, her eyes filled with glimmering tears that had not fallen only because she had sought to hold them back.

"Of course," Yun Che said with a faint smile. "Didn't your mother ever tell you that your father is a genius doctor?"

"Genius... doctor?" Yun Wuxin softly chanted and he did not know whether it was because she found it hard to believe or if she was stunned by those two words.

"Is there really a way?" Chu Yuechan's beautiful eyes flashed with hope.

Yun Che nodded his head as he stared at both mother and daughter calmly. "You possess the Dragon God power that came from me so even if you don't have any profound strength anymore, the cold energy inside your body won't destroy your vitality so easily. I have a method to allow you to completely recover and even if I am not able to, there is still Ling'er and my master in the medical arts... My master is the greatest medical practitioner in the world and he is the only one worthy of the title 'Medical Saint'. Right now, he's in the Illusory Demon Realm and as long as he is around, not only will he be able to restore you back to perfect health, he will even be able to completely restore your withered and dead profound veins."

He was not exaggerating in the slightest when he said those words, because these were not words meant to comfort or console. Given Yun Gu's ability, he was definitely able to do it.

The Little Demon Empress' condition at that time was a hundred times worse than Chu Yuechan's current condition and it had rendered him completely helpless. But Yun Gu had only said a few words and with the help of Su Ling'er, he had rescued the Little Demon Empress from the condition that was threatening her life.

It was simply a pity that he could no longer use the Sky Poison Pearl. Otherwise, he could retrieve a drop of spiritual nectar that had been given to him by Shen Xi. Not only would that allow Chu Yuechan to completely recover in a short amount of time, it would also allow her profound strength to directly enter the divine way.

After all, this was a divine item that would cause even the king realms to water at the mouth. A divine item that realm kings of normal star realms did not have the qualifications to even sniff at, much less the rest of the profound practitioners in those realms. Yet Shen Xi had given several hundred thousand years worth of this resource to him.

Upon hearing Yun Che's words, Yun Wuxin's starry eyes flashed and the tears that she had held back finally started to drip to the ground like raindrops. "Is it really true... Is it really true..."

"A father won't trick his daughter," Yun Che lightly rubbed her head.

"...Your daddy is indeed a genius doctor and it was because of this that your mother and father even met in the first place," Chu Yuechan softly said. All those years ago, he had been able to sense the cold poison in her body with a single distant glance. It was just that she had never imagined that the brief instant where they had brushed shoulders with each other would completely change her entire life. "Since he said those words, it's definitely true."

"Mother will get better... and will always accompany... Wuxin?" To Yun Wuxin, the words that rang in her ears were undoubtedly the most beautiful sound in the world, it was so beautiful that she found that she did not dare to believe it for a moment... It was just as if she was in a dream.

Yun Che gave a faint smile but he felt a fierce stabbing pain in his heart... She was only eleven years old, but for all these years, she had undoubtedly been quietly enduring the pressure and pain of possibly losing her own mother at any moment. For a girl as small as Yun Wuxin, that was an indescribable cruelty.

As such, she had very carefully and meticulously barred anyone from taking a single step into this bamboo grove because she was not willing to let anyone harm even a single hair on her mother's head.

"Of course she will." Yun Che looked at her eyes before vigorously nodding his head. "Your mother will always be by your side, even if it's thousands of years later or tens of thousands of years later, she won't leave you."

"Then Daddy will... also always be with us, right?" Her voice had grown even more muffled and Yun Che's figure was reflected in her misty eyes... along with an incomparably billowy and dazzling light.

Daughters had always idolized their fathers. They did not need a reason to do so, it was a sort of natural tendency. In a daughter's heart, the small spots of light that radiated from their fathers would be enlarged by several times, and sometimes, even by ten or a hundred times... Even if the father in front of her would only be an eternal cripple, he had already become as tall as a mountain in her heart right now.

"Of course I will." He nodded his head once again, even though...

He held up Chu Yuechan and Yun Wuxin's hands while he looked into the distance, his heart no longer containing any dark haze or hesitation. "Yuechan, Wuxin, leave this place with me. The world outside is no longer dangerous anymore. It is filled with family members and people who would protect us. Master and Ling'er will help you completely recover, Xue'er and Caiyi will make sure that Wuxin will grow properly... Let's bring Wuxin home so she can recognize her ancestors and her family. Her grandfather and grandmother will definitely be overjoyed..."

"When my mother found out about your situation all those years ago, she wept as she implored me to find you at all costs... Even though it has been late by so many years, I can finally... allow her to put down that heavy burden in her heart..."

"The outside world, Grandfather... Grandmother..." the light in Yun Wuxin's solemn eyes grew even more dazzling, but after that, she quietly hid it away as she turned her head to look at her mother...

"Alright." Without any hesitation at all, Chu Yuechan gave a light nod of her head... which also caused the brightest light to shine in Yun Wuxin's starry eyes.

.....

The Phoenix Ruins, within the trial grounds.

The scarlet eyes of the Phoenix slowly opened in the black world in front of him. Yun Che had once again come to this place and upon seeing those eyes, he solemnly and respectfully bowed to them. "Phoenix Spirit, I thank you for giving me my second life. It is just that Yun Che is currently only an ordinary mortal. I don't know how I can repay you and the only thing I can do is to carve this into my memory."

Those scarlet eyes froze on his body in an instant and after that, the voice of the Phoenix reverberated in this dark space, "Your mindset and the state of your heart have already changed. It looks like you've already found them."

Yun Che lifted his head and said in a somewhat helpless fashion, "As expected, you knew long ago that she was my daughter."

"She did not only inherit a pure and unadulterated Phoenix aura from your origin blood, her body also contained the Dragon God's aura and... a faint and weak Evil God aura. The only possibility was that she was one of your progeny," the Phoenix Spirit said.

"Why didn't you tell me that from the very beginning?" Yun Che asked, even though... he had more or less thought of the answer.

"To fall from the highest of mountaintops into a deep abyss, this heavy and cruel blow is also something that will temper and steel your heart and mind. The heavier the gloom that wreathed your heart and mind previously, the more dazzlingly bright it would have been to you once you found them. In fact, if it was possible, I would have hoped that this process would have continued for an even longer period of time..."

Yun Che shook his head as he gave a bitter laugh, "If it went on for any longer, I'm afraid I would have been on the brink of collapse."

"Today, I've come to bid farewell to you," Yun Che's tone grew more solemn as he said this. "Even though my life has been a short one, I have been greatly favored by the Phoenix. Even though I will never again be able to ignite the Phoenix flames in this life, Wuxin has inherited my Phoenix bloodline. In the future, her body will definitely burn with a Phoenix flame even more dazzling than my own."

"Heh heh..." The Phoenix Spirit gave a light chuckle, it was just that compared to the warm and mighty laugh that it had let out all those years ago, the bland laugh that it had just let out was filled with a deep frailty. "My time is also about done, so I'm afraid that I won't be able to wait till that day. However..."

Its voice stopped for a brief moment before it continued in an incomparably slow and gentle fashion, "Are you... truly content to return to an ordinary life?"

"..." Yun Che's gaze went rigid and it was a full ten breaths later that he finally spoke with a faint smile on his face, "I will find hope, but even if I really can't find it, it will be fine as well. Because I have many things which are far more important than power by my side."

"..." at this moment, the Phoenix Spirit suddenly lapsed into silence but the light from its scarlet eyes continued to faintly flicker. It was as if... it was pondering something.

This heavy silence continued for a very long time

It was just when Yun Che was about to open his mouth that the voice of the Phoenix Spirit suddenly rang in the air, "There is a method that might perhaps be able to awaken your power once more."

Those words caused Yun Che's heart to stop in that instant... After that, his face, a face which had been completely calm and tranquil as he had said "it will be fine as well", started to tremble uncontrollably and it was trembling rather intensely at that as he said, "You... Is what you're saying... true?"

"What method... What method!?"

Yes, it was true that he had accepted his present condition.

But...was he content?

How could he be content!?

"I previously told you that the only thing that had been rebirthed by the Flames of Nirvana was basically just your life, and all of the power that you had previously possessed had died. In other words, they are all still within your body. It is just that they died together with you, but they did not revive together with you."

"What exactly is the method!!?" Yun Che directly yelled in a low voice as he itched to know. "Hurry up and tell me! No matter how hard it is, I will definitely think of a way to do it!"

"It isn't hard. On the contrary, one could say that... it is incredibly easy. It's just that to you... this would be an extremely cruel choice."

"...??" The words of the Phoenix Spirit caused bewilderment to fill Yun Che's face. He very clearly remembered the Phoenix Spirit telling him before this that there was no power in this universe that could awaken the dead Evil God power, unless one could find another drop of the Evil God's Indestructible Blood... Yet right now, it said it could be accomplished easily?

Chapter 1368 - Returning to the World

"Your Evil God profound veins were created from a drop of the Evil God's Indestructible Blood, and it was the blood that contained the last of his core origin power. That was why the Evil God profound veins were able to take form inside your body. Moreover, a second drop of Evil God's Indestructible Blood doesn't exist in this world."

"In other words, there will never be a second Evil God profound veins."

"On the other hand, you still have the Evil God profound veins. The problem here is that it is dead—or has gone completely still, if I were to describe it better. If there is one thing in the world that can reawaken your stilled Evil God profound veins, then it would be... the Evil God's origin power."

Yun Che had been listening to Phoenix Spirit's every word carefully, but its final line caused his brows to furrow all of a sudden, "You can't mean..."

"I'm sure you've noticed it already." The Phoenix Spirit continued, "Your daughter hasn't acquired any resources from this mediocre plane, and she definitely hasn't experienced any extraordinary encounters or luck of the profound way in her life. However, her profound energy has continued to grow at an unconventional rate until she reached a level where countless profound practitioners on this plane dare not even dream to reach in their whole lives. Her growth definitely isn't something that the Phoenix's bloodline and the Dragon God's bloodline alone can achieve."

"Therefore, the main reason she was able to grow at such a rate is because her profound veins have inherited the Evil God's divine aura from you."

Yun Che, "..."

"The only thing that could awaken the Evil God's profound veins was the living, fresh presence of the Evil God's divine aura. Not only that, the Evil God divine aura existing in your daughter's profound veins may be the very last of its kind... and your last chance to reawaken the Evil God profound veins inside your body."

"..." Yun Che didn't say anything. He didn't try to question the Phoenix Spirit more about the method either. In fact, his barely restrained excitement from earlier had completely vanished.

"In short, there is a chance that your dead Evil God profound veins would awaken if I were to extract the Evil God divine aura residing inside your daughter's profound veins and transfer it over to yours. From what I know of the Evil God's divine power, the chances that this operation would succeed are around twenty percent... if not higher."

Right now, Yun Che's Evil God profound veins were like an extinct volcano. The Evil God divine aura residing in Yun Wuxin's profound veins was his only chance to reignite their flames.

"The Evil God's divine power wasn't the only divine power you possess. To others, it would be a godsend if they managed to preserve even one of the many divine powers you were gifted. However, you were able to coexist with your divine powers perfectly, weren't you? I'm sure that you have guessed by now that the Evil God's divine power was 'probably' the reason why you were able to wield them all."

"The Evil God's divine power is the highest power you possess. If it can be resurrected successfully, the rest of your divine powers may awaken on their own and return you to your former height."

The Phoenix Spirit's assessment was correct. The Evil God's divine power was undoubtedly the most vital and highest of powers that Yun Che currently possessed, and the chances that the rest of his divine powers would awaken alongside his Evil God's divine power were extremely high.

Moreover, the Phoenix Spirit itself had said that the chance that he might be able to reawaken his Evil God divine power was over twenty percent!

However... Not only did Yun Che not look gladdened by the news in the slightest, his face was so void of emotion that it was scary. He asked, "What would happen to my daughter if the Evil God's divine aura was extracted from her profound veins?"

"...She would lose all the profound energy she has accumulated up to this point. Her profound veins would also return to mortal level. There is also the chance that she might..."

"...suffer an unpredictable amount of damage from the operation or even be crippled, am I right?" Yun Che replied coldly.

"That's right," the Phoenix Spirit said before narrowing its scarlet eyes. "I can tell from your heart and soul that you don't wish to see this happen, but I still must remind you that you don't have much time left to hesitate or choose. Your daughter is currently eleven years old, and her profound veins haven't fully matured yet. Once she reaches sixteen years of age, the Evil God's divine aura will merge with her fully matured profound veins. By then it'd be too late to extract the Evil God's divine aura from her, and..."

"And then what!?" The temperature in Yun Che's eyes went down by several degrees, but then he remembered that the being before him was a benefactor that he might not be able to repay for life, and

that all it was doing right now was informing him of a "possibility". His eyes immediately returned back to normal before he gave the Phoenix Spirit a smile, "Excuse me. I wasn't expecting the Phoenix God, the one who has inherited the will of the True Gods, to crack a joke with me."

Phoenix Spirit, "..."

"There is no way I could exchange my daughter's future for a shot at recovery. No father would be able to do this—" As he was saying this Xing Juekong's figure suddenly flashed across his mind and caused his eyebrows to sink a couple of centimeters downward, "—barring a certain animal who has lost all his humanity, that is."

Even if the method had a guaranteed chance of success, even if it turned out that his powers would be multiplied ten times or even a hundred of times over, he still would not be moved no matter what. It was a choice he would never make.

"I've never thought myself to be a good person, but I'm no animal who is lower than even a pig or a dog either." Yun Che's mortal eyes suddenly flashed with extraordinary chilliness, "I owe Wuxin eleven years of parenthood. I wasn't even by her side when she was born. Now that I've finally regained my daughter... I would exterminate anyone who dared to hurt her down to the last man!"

Yun Che expelled his murky feelings in a breath before turning halfway towards the exit, "Regardless, I must thank you for informing of this 'method'. I must also thank you for protecting my wife and daughter for twelve years straight with the Phoenix Barrier. I doubt I'll be able to repay this debt even in my next life."

"You don't need to mind it so deeply. Back then, you saved every Phoenix descendant in this place and gave me a reason to free them from their bloodline curse. This is the good karma you rightly deserve."

"This is fine too. Maybe it isn't all bad for you to return to mortality, and peace."

"I've impressed upon you a phoenix mark. This means that the Phoenix Barrier here will no longer bar your entry, and you may visit me anytime you wish... you may go."

Yun Che nodded gratefully at the Phoenix Spirit before bidding it goodbye.

Although the Phoenix Spirit had granted him the special privilege to pass through the Phoenix Barrier any time he wished, Yun Che doubted that he would be able to make use of it without someone to protect him. After all, the Phoenix Clan was situated at the center of the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range, and there were countless dangers lurking in its surroundings...

The Phoenix's scarlet eyes didn't disappear immediately despite Yun Che's departure. A long sigh resounded inside the black space after a moment.

"It is just like him to make such a choice... no, it didn't even count as a choice to him."

The memory from Flame God Realm's Phoenix Spirit... the crack that had appeared on the Wall of Primal Chaos... That terrifying aura that frightened even a Divine Soul...

If everything were to happen as predicted... had they truly lost their biggest hope before the battle had even begun...

.....

After Yun Che had walked out of the Phoenix's trial room, he discovered that Feng Baichuan, Feng Zu'er, Feng Xian'er, and over two hundred Phoenix clansmen were waiting for him.

It was because they knew that Yun Che was going to leave very soon.

Feng Baichuan looked as relieved as Yun Che after learning that Yun Che had finally escaped the oblivion in his mind. He sighed, "Fate is truly a wonderful thing. To think that the mother and daughter who have lived with us separately for twelve years would turn out to be your family. If we had known about this earlier..."

The old man shook his head. He wasn't quite sure how to describe his own feelings.

Yun Che smiled at him before giving him a solemn bow, "Senior Feng, thank you very much for your care. I doubt I would've made it this far without all of you."

Feng Baichuan shook his head, "Nonsense. What we did wasn't even worth a ten thousandth of the favor you did us back then."

As it turned out, karma did exist in this world after all. Not only was the kindness he sowed so many years ago reciprocated ten fold, it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that they had saved his life.

"Big Brother Benefactor," Feng Xian'er walked forwards with her head slightly bowed before asking disappointedly and timidly, "Will we... meet again?"

Yun Che smiled. "Of course we will. In the future, I should be staying at Demon Imperial City of the Illusory Demon Realm permanently, but I will also be visiting Blue Wind Nation frequently. Both you and Zu'er are already traveling the world anyway, so you may come find me anytime you wish."

"Rea... really?" Feng Xian'er looked up at Yun Che in excitement. Her eyes actually looked a little misty.

Feng Baichuan couldn't help but shake his head with a smile. The rest of the Phoenix clansmen were smiling meaningfully as well.

"Oh right, there is one thing I'd like your help with right away, Xian'er," Yun Che said. "I wish to return to Blue Wind Imperial City first when I leave, but the journey from here to there is quite far, and I don't have a profound ark. So, can you please escort us there?"

Feng Xian'er looked like she had just heard the word of the heavens. She nodded immediately and said, "I... I will protect Big Bro Benefactor will all my might, and... and..."

She was so excited she couldn't even speak coherently.

"Er... In that case allow me to accompany you as well," Feng Zu'er hurriedly said. "There has been a lot of profound beast attacks at Blue Wind Nation as of late, and it'll be safer if we can both escort you."

"Cough..." But Feng Baichuan immediately slapped Feng Zu'er back to his place and said, "Xian'er's cultivation is just a hair away from yours, so she alone is enough to protect our benefactor. However, you should stay at home and focus on your cultivation! You're the young clan chief, but Xian'er has almost surpassed you! Don't you find that embarrassing?"

"Huh?" Feng Zu'er wore a dumb look on his face... Big Brother Benefactor's safety was their first priority, so wouldn't it be better if they both escorted him back to Blue Wind Nation? How did his cultivation come into question all of a sudden?

"Yun Che, it is wonderful to hear that you've walked out of your shadow, so I shan't keep you here any longer. Whenever you find the time, feel free to visit us anytime you wish," Feng Baichuan said sincerely.

"I will," Yun Che nodded.

"Xian'er, you'll be escorting them back home, okay?" Feng Baichuan instructed before lowering his voice slightly, "Hmm... you haven't been to Blue Wind Nation for a long while, have you? In that case, you don't need to hurry back home. It's fine if you stay there and have fun for a little while."

"Yes," Feng Xian'er answered in a small voice.

"Ah!" Feng Zu'er piped up excitedly when he heard their conversation, "Father, I haven't been to the Imperial City for a long time too, can I..."

"Stay quiet, you!" Feng Baichuan pushed him back down a second time, "You will stay at home and focus on your cultivation! You're not allowed to go anywhere until you achieved a breakthrough!"

Feng Zu'er, "Eh ... "

"Big Brother Benefactor," Feng Xian'er arrived next to Yun Che before she held his arm softly... She had done the same thing countless times for the past month or so, but right now the gesture was filled with sorrow, "I'll take you to your destination right away..."

It was at this moment that the sealing formation of the trial rooms suddenly flashed red. A moment later, an identical red light shone on Feng Xian'er.

Everyone turned to stare at Feng Xian'er immediately after that. The girl herself was surprised as she murmured somewhat absentmindedly, "Lord Phoenix God is... summoning me?"

The summons of the Phoenix God was something that almost never happened in the clan's recognition, so the rare event had excited every Phoenix clansmen within the vicinity. Feng Baichuan urged her, "Quickly, go meet the Phoenix God."

"Be on your way," Yun Che said, "I'll wait for you outside."

Feng Xian'er nodded and released Yun Che. Then, she hurried her way into the trial room.

"Xian'er greets Lord Phoenix God."

Inside the Phoenix's trial room, Feng Xian'er stared at the Phoenix's divine pupils before kneeling on the floor. Her heart was filled with anxiety and trepidation. Although this wasn't the first time she had met the Phoenix Spirit, she had never been summoned personally before until now.

"Xian'er," the Phoenix's voice resounded beside her ears and deep inside her soul, "I've been watching your growth for the past few years. You and Zu'er are undoubtedly the brightest hope and pride of this declined Phoenix Clan."

"Thank you for your praise, Lord Phoenix God," Feng Xian'er said anxiously.

"I've summoned you today because I wish to make a request to you."

It was a simple line, but it had caused Feng Xian'er to look up in shock. Even the color in her face had drained away.

The Phoenix God wasn't making an order or an instruction. It was making a...

Request!?

Chapter 1369 - Scarlet Star

"Xian'er dares not disobey your order, Lord Phoenix God, but Xian'er cannot possibly bear a... 'request' from you." Feng Xian'er bowed down deeply before the Phoenix Soul in panic.

"Yes, you can," the Phoenix Soul said. The light in its pupils was growing weaker year by year, just like its voice was growing heavier and heavier, "My wish for you is to leave this place and stay by Yun Che's side for as long as you can."

"Ah?" Feng Xian'er was surprised at first, but then she recalled the Phoenix Soul's so-called "request" and panicked even more, "He's a great benefactor of Xian'er. Xian'er cannot harm him no matter what."

"This noble one is definitely not asking you to do him harm, much less conspire against him."

"Then... are you asking Xian'er to protect him, Lord Phoenix God?" She relaxed slightly when she heard its assurance.

The Phoenix Soul said, "He does not need your protection, for he's close with all the strongest profound practitioners on this continent. However, there's one thing that only you can do."

"Only... me?" Feng Xian'er repeated the word softly while feeling lost.

"You will do well to remember everything this noble one says starting now. You are not allowed to forget a even single word because it concerns Yun Che's life, fate... and even the life and death of this continent itself!"

Feng Xian'er stared towards the front while feeling confused...

.....

The world beyond the Phoenix Barrier was the "outside world" to Yun Wuxin. It was a world she had never set foot on until now.

Feng Xian'er carried Yun Che, while Yun Wuxin carried Chu Yuechan. Up in the sky where the horizon had no limit, and the air was completely different... Yun Wuxin looked as excited as a bird who had just exited her cage as she took in her surroundings and gulped down the different air greedily.

"We've finally left." Chu Yuechan stared into the distance with complicated eyes.

To another person, a life without desire at Frozen Cloud Asgard or years of isolation in the Phoenix Clan might've felt like a prison, but Chu Yuechan had gotten used to it since a long time ago. In fact, she was very afraid of what the future might have in store for them.

Ultimately, Yun Wuxin was the biggest reason why she had decided to leave with Yun Che.

"Little Fairy," Chu Yuechan couldn't hide her thoughts from Yun Che. He said softly, "I'll always be with you."

Suddenly, a dangerous presence approached them from the distance.

It was a giant eagle that was covered in green from head to toe. It had started a windstorm while it was flying in the sky, and the target of the windstorm was none other than them.

Feng Xian'er tensed up and moved in front of Yun Che right away. Unlike her, Yun Che didn't look worried in the slightest.

"Eh?" Yun Wuxin looked over and pointed a finger at the giant eagle.

The windstorm the giant eagle had created was instantly dispelled, and it was locked in mid dive by a power that it couldn't possibly resist even if it was ten times stronger.

Yun Wuxin examined the eagle very seriously before asking, "What's that? It's so pretty, but it's also very vicious."

Yun Che smiled, "That's the Fierce Storm Hawk. A long time ago, I fell here because it was chasing after me."

"Ai?" Yun Wuxin's lips parted a little when she heard this. Then she said somewhat angrily, "It chased after you before, daddy? It must be a bad bird!"

She pointed a finger at the Fierce Storm Hawk again, and the poor thing started spiraling downwards like a top until it flew out of Yun Che's vision.

"Hahahaha," Yun Che let out an unrestrained laugh, but frowned afterwards.

First, it was the Blue Scale Beast. Now, it was the Fierce Storm Hawk. For whatever reason, they had changed so violently and were so different from what he remembered that it was almost as if they were distorted by something.

Wait a second... distorted!?

If there was one thing Yun Che knew could distort a living being's nature, it could only be darkness profound energy!

However, this was the Profound Sky Continent, and no one besides him possessed darkness profound energy after Fen Juechen and Xuanyuan Wentian were gone. Moreover, the Moon Slaughter Devil Nest near the Supreme Ocean Palace was in constant lockdown, so no demonic energy should've leaked into its surroundings. Even if it wasn't sealed, this place was still too far away to succumb to its influence.

While Yun Che was thinking to himself, a red flash suddenly caught his attention.

He subconsciously looked towards the east, and was immediately greeted by the sight of a bright scarlet star.

Right now it was daytime, and the blazing white sunlight shining in the sky should have been more than enough to cover up any star or moon. However, the scarlet star remained visible to the naked eye, and its light seemed sharp enough to pierce anything. When Yun Che stared at the star directly, he felt like a pair of scarlet needles had pierced through his eyeballs. Even his heart and soul were writhing in indescribable pain.

That's...

"Eh? Mom, look! That red star has shown up again."

Yun Che was still wrestling with his bewilderment when Yun Wuxin's soft cry reached his ears. Then, the red star suddenly vanished into nothing and stayed that way for a very long time.

Red star... did she say "again" !?

"What's up with that red light? Does it appear frequently?" Yun Che turned around and asked.

Feng Xian'er answered him, "That's what we call the 'Scarlet Star'. It started showing up half a year ago, but it almost never hangs around for long before it vanishes again. However, its true identity remains unknown even to this day, although there are a lot of rumors that claim that it is a sign of good fortune."

Yun Che, "..."

"Actually, it isn't just showing up at the Profound Sky Continent. Big Brother and I once saw it while we were exploring the Illusory Demon Realm." Feng Xiang added before muttering to herself, "It seems to be showing up more and more frequently lately."

"Half a year ago..." Yun Che frowned before asking suddenly, "Isn't that about the time the profound beasts started growing restless?"

"Ah?" Feng Xian'er was caught off guard, "I... think so, yes. Are the two of them connected somehow?"

"..." Yun Che fell silent for a moment before he smiled at her and said, "It's just a harmless guess. Anyway, let's go."

"Oh right, why did the Phoenix God summon you, Xian'er?" Yun Che asked without thinking.

"About that..." Feng Xian'er bowed her head slightly before replying softly, "I don't want to hide this from you, but... Lord Phoenix God told me not to tell anyone about it, so... I'm sorry..."

Yun Che hurriedly waved his hands and said, "It's okay, it's okay. The Phoenix God must have summoned you for something important. It's my fault for asking about it without thinking."

Feng Xian'er opened her mouth as if she was about to speak, but she ultimately decided not to.

The Ten Thousand Beasts Mountain Range was home to many profound beasts, and most of them had turned violent for some reason. They had immediately attacked the group the moment they were within sight.

They had been attacked twelve times in total by the time they finally made it out of the mountain range.

Fortunately, most of the profound beasts living in this place were at the Spirit Profound Realm or Earth Profound Realm. Anything above that such as Sky Profound Beasts were extremely rare. Considering the caliber of Feng Xian'er and Yun Wuxin, it was impossible for these mindless profound beasts to threaten them no matter how many there were.

When the group had finally left the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range, Yun Che finally realized that the territorial profound beasts had largely left their own territories for some reason. Not only were the villages situated next to the mountain range destroyed, even the official roads were unusually empty. He couldn't find a single person even though it was broad daylight.

"Is it the same at other places?" Yun Che asked.

"Mm." Feng Xian'er nodded, "The worst affected area was the Wasteland of Death. The disaster zone spans hundreds of kilometers in diameter, and no one dares to get close to it these days. Although the agitated beasts have been suppressed multiple times already, it was rumored that the unrest has only been growing day after day. If this situation continues, it is likely that every profound beast in the Wasteland of Death will turn violent as well."

If this was true, then the only viable solution to quell this unrest might be to slaughter every profound beast that exists in the Wasteland of Death.

The Wasteland of Death was four hundred kilometers wide... It was the most dangerous place in Blue Wind Nation where countless dangerous profound beasts lived. The profound beasts of the Ten Thousand Beast Mountain Range had nothing on them. A long time ago, Chu Yuechan had nearly died to two Flood Dragons in that place.

If the Divine Phoenix Sect hadn't been lending their aid to Blue Wind Nation, this unrest would have eventually led to a great catastrophe.

What on earth is going on !?

While Yun Che was explaining the culture and people of Blue Wind Nation and Blue Wind Imperial City to Yun Wuxin, they suddenly heard the roars of several profound beasts and the sound of something cutting through the air so quickly that they were almost overlapping right ahead of them.

Yun Che easily figured out that it was the sound of sword blasts tearing through space.

Feng Xian'er came to a stop and explained to Yun Che, "It's that Ling Jie we ran into the day before yesterday."

"Ling Jie?" Chu Yuechan shot him a sideway glance, "The second young master of Heavenly Sword Villa?"

Back in those days, Ling Jie had fought Yun Che during Blue Wind Ranking Tournament. He had proven himself to be more talented than his older brother, Ling Yun in the sword when he was just sixteen years old, stunning everyone.

"It is him," Yun Che replied. "He has been roaming the world for the past few years to improve his cultivation, and help me find you. He wishes to atone for his mother's sins."

Chu Yuechan, "..."

"I owe him several favors myself. When I went to fight the Burning Heaven Clan, he had worried over my safety and traveled a long way just to aid me in battle... When his grandfather, Ling Tianni tried to kill me, he risked his own life by standing in his way... And when I had traveled to Divine Phoenix Nation to participate in the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament, he once again made a long trip just to cheer me on at risk of his own safety. Objectively speaking, they really can't be considered big favors, but they are still incredibly precious and pure to me."

Yun Che let out a soft sigh before continuing with complicated feelings, "He was why I ultimately decided against killing Xuanyuan Yufeng despite learning of her atrocities."

"Should we avoid him?" Feng Xian'er asked. It was clear that Yun Che hadn't been willing to see him the other day.

"No, it's fine." Yun Che smiled, "It's rare to meet up like this; we can't just leave without greeting him."

Ling Jie obviously wasn't here to cultivate since his current level far outmatched the creatures of this place. The real reason he had lingered around this area for the past couple of days was to save those people who had strayed into this area by accident, just like how he had appeared like thunder when Feng Xian'er and Yun Che were attacked by the Blue Scale Beasts that day.

## Crack!!

A glaring sword blast tore black marks across space itself, and clumps of rampaging profound beasts fell to the ground in pieces just like that. When the final profound beast had let out its death throe, Yun Che abruptly entered his vision.

Ling Jie's entire body froze as if he had fallen into a trance.

"Long time no see, Little Jie. Your looks haven't changed since we last met though." Yun Che smiled at him as Feng Xian'er carried him to the ground.

Ling Jie remained absent-minded for several breaths before he finally stuttered out in disbelief, "Yun... Yun... Ah, no... You... you're really..."

"It's only been five years since we last met, right? Have you forgotten about me already?" His reaction had amused Yun Che.

"N-no..." Ling Jie hastily shook his head. Finally believing that his own eyes weren't playing tricks on him, Ling Jie made his way towards Yun Che in unspeakable excitement, "Boss, it's... it's really you? I heard that you'd gone to a higher plane, and you... you... have you just returned from another world? But... but you look..."

Naturally, Ling Jie couldn't sense any profound aura from Yun Che at all... Although this could be explained away as the gap between him and Yun Che being so wide that the latter's aura was impossible to perceive, it wouldn't explain why Yun Che's skin looked as rough as it did, or his unusually murky pupils...

"Mn," Yun Che nodded, "I have gone to another world. In fact, I've just returned from there not too long ago. As for my current appearance... well, as you can see, I've lost all of my profound energy, and I'm basically a cripple from here on."

Shocked, Ling Jie couldn't find it in himself to believe Yun Che's words, much less accept them. He murmured, "How... How can that..."

Ling Jie's gaze strayed sideways unconsciously as he spoke, and Chu Yuechan abruptly entered his vision... In that moment, the Celestial Yang Sword fell out of his grasp, and he shuddered like he had just been struck by lightning. The sword that had never left his hands hit the rocky ground with a crisp clank.

"Fairy... Yuechan!?" Once again, he had become frozen on the spot. In fact, the turmoil in his eyes seemed to be bigger than when he had seen Yun Che just now.

Chu Yuechan was once the number one beauty in Blue Wind Nation. His father had obsessed over her like a madman, and his mother had been so jealous that it had driven her to madness... She was also the woman he had hoped even in his dreams to find all these years.

"Mn," Yun Che smiled, "I've finally found her."

Bang!!

Ling Jie's knees crashed heavily on the ground, and the tears in his eyes spilled out like a broken dam, "Fairy Yuechan, the sinner's son, Ling Jie... is here to apologize on his mother's behalf!"

Ling Jie slammed his head to the ground right after he said this. Since he hadn't protected his forehead with profound energy, blood spilled on the dusty ground the second the two made contact.

Chapter 1370 - A Conclusion

"..." Yun Che did not move to pull Ling Jie to his feet. In fact, he was not the least bit surprised by his actions.

Because he knew very well that the affair concerning Chu Yuechan had always weighed very heavily on Ling Jie's heart and head... Even though he had done nothing wrong, but this was simply a part of his temperament and it was also the part of Ling Jie that Yun Che admired the most.

"Mother?" Yun Wuxin, who was not accustomed to coming into contact with outsiders, hid behind Chu Yuechan unconsciously as she gazed at her in confusion.

Chu Yuechan's reaction was extremely calm and mild, "You do not need to do this. None of this has anything to do with you and it was not even your fault."

"No," Ling Jie shook his head, his voice hoarse and solemn, "As that person's son, I naturally must atone on for my mother's sins. All those years ago, because my mother's jealousy had turned to hatred, she did something to you that would be hard to ever forgive... But fortunately, the heavens took pity on you and you ended up safe and sound. If not..."

When he reached this point, he was so choked up with emotion that he found it hard to continue.

He was already no longer the Ling Jie of the past, the Ling Jie that was rather naive and immature. Now he was the renowned Blue Wind Sword Saint who was famed for his martial prowess. But at this moment, tears were pouring from his eyes like rain and he could not stop them from flowing.

After Yun Che had had defeated Xuanyuan Wentian all those years ago, he had slaughtered the two great Sacred Grounds, the Sun Moon Divine Hall and the Mighty Heavenly Sword Region and that could only be called a cruel and merciless move. Yet, he had let Xuanyuan Yufeng off the hook... A person that he had hated in the extreme.

Ling Jie understood why he had done so... Because she was his mother.

So to Ling Jie, Yun Che had done him an extremely large favor and had showed him an extreme amount of affection and comradeship. But at this some time, it had also become a heavy burden that he had found hard to put down. As a result, he left the Heavenly Sword Villa and travelled all across the land with just his sword as his companion in hopes that he could find Chu Yuechan, whose status was still unknown.

Even though he had not found Chu Yuechan himself, but upon seeing her safe and sound with his own eyes, upon seeing her with Yun Che, he could finally put down that heavy burden and that considerable amount of guilt.

"Xiao Jie," Yun Che said with furrowed brows, "Did you just say... your late mother?"

Ling Jie closed his eyes and spoke in a gentle voice, "All those years ago... after the Mighty Heavenly Sword Region was destroyed, my mother's temperament and personality underwent a great change and she was wracked by nightmares every night... On a night two years ago, she returned to the place where the Mighty Heavenly Sword Region used to be, the place where she had met my father, and there... she committed suicide..."

Ling Jie spoke these words with much difficulty.

"..." Yun Che's chest rose and fell and he let out a sigh.

"Even though my mother is gone, her sins remain. So as her son, I naturally need to atone for them."

When those words rang in Yun Che's ear, it made him feel a sudden sense of unease as he anxiously said, "Xiao Jie, you..."

But, how could the current him stop Ling Jie right now... The Celestial Yang Sword beneath his feet flew up as a beam of rainbow light flashed upwards.

As the sword beam sliced through the air, it cut off the middle and ring finger off of Ling Jie's left hand, sending them flying into the distance.

"AH!" Feng Xian'er and Yun Wuxin let out cries of alarm in unison.

Chu Yuechan turned her snowy mien away from the grisly scene as she let out a soft sigh, "The sin was not yours, why did you have to do this?"

"Xiao Jie, what you've..." As he saw the severed fingers fly far into the distance as they were carried along by the wind, Yun Che shook his head.

For a profound practitioner who has spent his entire life cultivating the way of the sword, what did the loss of two fingers represent... It was self-evident.

After severing two of his fingers, what appeared on Ling Jie's face was not pain but relief, it was as if he had been released from a heavy responsibility. What he had severed was not only been his two fingers, he had also severed the chains that he had wrapped around his heart and soul for all these years.

Ling Jie was undoubtedly someone who regarded friendship and brotherhood extremely seriously.

He thought back to when he and Yun Che had first met. At that time, he was the Second Young Master of the Heavenly Sword Villa and Yun Che was only some unknown disciple from the profound palace. But after the bet they made over three sword strikes in the Blue Wind Imperial Palace, he had lost to Yun Che and even though he had lost because of Yun Che's scheme, he still accepted his loss wholeheartedly, and he was willing to be Yun Che's little brother despite being the Second Young Master of the Heavenly Sword Villa.

From that day till this day, no matter how many great waves he had experienced in his life, he had never once changed.

Even though Xuanyuan Yufeng was a wicked woman, but in Ling Jie's world, she was his birth mother, the mother who had birthed him and raised him, who had loved and cherished him without limit. So he also wanted to use his own life to protect her and he would be willing to atone for her sins no matter the cost.

"Yuechan," Yun Che said," Concerning Xuanyuan Yufeng, you..."

"I don't hate her anymore," Without waiting for Yun Che to finish, Chu Yuechan spoke in a soft and distant voice, "I have even forgotten how she looks like since long ago."

Those soft words that came from her lips caused Ling Jie, who was doing his best to hold back his tears, to tremble all over as tears once more flowed from his eyes.

"Fine, then I'll forgive her as well." Yun Che said with a faint laugh. After that, he gave Ling Jie a sincere gaze as he said, "Even though she nearly cost me Little Fairy, but... in the end, they were both safe and sound. Besides, if not for your mother, I would be short one good brother in this lifetime, so let's... just call it even right here and now."

The words spoken by these two people, especially the words that had come from Chu Yuechan's own mouth, were undoubtedly the warmest and gentlest salvation for Ling Jie's heart and soul. His heart was filled with emotion and for a moment he found it hard to speak and he even attempted to kowtow once more...

"Alright, alright! What are you waiting for, hurry up and get up!" Yun Che moved forward and hauled him up with great force, "Right now, my Little Fairy is your sister-in-law, not your senior! Why do you keep on trying to kowtow!?"

Ling Jie, "..."

"Mom, what is a broom?" Yun Wuxin asked in a small voice.

Chu Yuechan, "..."

"Also!" Yun Che said with an indignant expression, "You happily severed your fingers in front of me but can you at least warn me beforehand next time! You scared my daughter, don't you know! What are you waiting for!? how come you haven't stood up yet!?"

".... Eh?" Ling Jie was instantly rendered dumbstruck by Yun Che's words, "Your... daughter?"

"Ke, Wuxin," Yun Che face grew stiff and he assumed the mighty and stern figure of a father, "This is your Uncle Ling Jie. His act of severing his own fingers was an extremely wrong one, you definitely mustn't learn it from him!"

"..." Yun Wuxin's lips parted and half of her body was still hidden behind Chu Yuchan. After that she softly called out, "Uncle... Ling Jie?"

As he looked at Yun Wuxin, Ling Jie's mouth gaped open, "She... She, she, she, she... she is your daughter?"

"That's right," Yun Che nodded his head.

As Ling Jie stammered badly, he hurriedly stood to his feet and at the same time, he swiftly used his profound energy to seal the blood flowing from his severed fingers... The entire Blue Wind had known about Chu Yuechan's pregnancy all those years ago, but that matter had already been more than a decade ago... Ling Jie had long ago noticed Yun Wuxin, but he basically had not even thought that this girl who looked just a little over ten years of age would actually be Yun Che's daughter.

He flustered patted his entire body and rummaged through his spatial ring but he could not find anything suitable or decent. But after that, he steeled his heart and took off the piece of precious jade that had always hung on his chest before he bent his waist towards Yun Wuxin and said, "I had never imagined that Boss would actually have a daughter and that she'd be this big already. You're called... Wuxin, right? What a lovely name. Uncle didn't bring anything decent for you, so I am giving you this... as my greeting gift to Wuxin."

As he glanced at the precious jade in Ling Jie's hand, the corner of Yun Che's mouth faintly twitched.

That was clearly the Young Villa Master's Medallion that belonged to the Heavenly Sword Villa!

With this medallion, Yun Wuxin could go wherever she pleased when she visited the Heavenly Sword Villa... Even though, she could already do whatever she wanted even without this medallion.

Yun Wuxin's body shrank back slightly before she asked in a soft voice, "Mom, can I keep this?"

Chu Yuechan gave a small smile as she nodded her head, "Since this is the greeting gift that Uncle Ling Jie gave to you, then you can keep it."

It was only after she heard this that Yun Wuxin extended her hand to take it. The precious jade in her hand radiated a strange light she had never seen before. Her eyebrows immediately arced up in delight as she let out a an elated laugh, "It's so beautiful. Thank you... Uncle Ling Jie?"

It was as if she was still not too sure about that form of address because her words had ended with a hint of doubt.

"There's no need to thank me, no need to thank me at all. It's what I should do," Ling Jie hurriedly waved his hands before speaking to Yun Che, "She is indeed the Boss's daughter, she truly is a charming and winsome child."

If he knew that this little girl who was only eleven years of age had an even higher level of cultivation in the profound way than he had, he would probably be so shocked that he'd sink to his knees again.

Yun Che grabbed Ling Jie's hand and looked at his severed fingers before giving a soft sigh, "Xiao Jie, from now on, you're not allowed to speak a single word regarding the subject of atonement or redemption ever again."

"Alright!" Ling Jie nodded cheerfully, as his eyes flashed with a bright and cheery light, his eyes were brighter than they had ever been at any point of time during the past few years.

"Boss, is your profound strength really..." He asked as he still could not quite believe it was true.

"Mhm," Yun Che nodded with a faint smile on his face, "But it doesn't matter anymore, at least I'm still alive and well. Moreover, even if I don't have my profound strength anymore, it'll still be fine. Have you never thought of who the women around me are..."

After he suddenly felt Chu Yuechan's gaze settle on him, Yun Che's voice suddenly halted as he swiftly changed the subject, "I have the most powerful people in this world at my side, so who can harm me!?"

Being completely crippled in the profound way was undoubtedly the most cruel blow to any profound practitioner. The stronger one was in the profound way, the more cruel a blow it would be. But upon seeing Yun Che's present state, Ling Jie sighed emotionally in his heart as he spoke with a heartfelt sincerity, "As expected of you, no matter whether it is my grandfather or Xuanyuan Wentian... In this world, there is truly nothing that can knock you down."

Yun Che laughed as he shook his head, "So have you been travelling the world all these years?"

"Mhm," Ling Jie's expression was resolute, "Now that we are no longer supported by the Mighty Heavenly Sword Region, the Heavenly Sword Villa has, on the contrary, attained true freedom. During those years, the Heavenly Sword Villa made one big mistake after the other and our name and prestige has fallen to the very bottom. Using my sword, I will rebuild the trust and former glory of the Heavenly Sword Villa."

Yun Che patted him on the shoulder, "If it's you, then you can definitely do it."

"From now on, I should be residing mainly in the Illusory Demon Realm's Demon Imperial City. If you ever pass by, don't forget to come and find me so that I can personally witness your growth."

"It's a deal!" Ling Jie said with a heavy nod of his head.

The two people said their goodbyes and Ling Jie left into the distance.

The Blue Wind Sword Saint who had severed two fingers but had also released the heavy burden in his heart. His future growth would undoubtedly be even more eye-catching than before.

Chu Yuechan said, "Ling Yun is a gentleman in the way of the sword, he has an elegant and graceful demeanor and he is mighty without being arrogant. Ling Jie's talent surpasses that of his older brother

and he is a man who values friendship so heavily. The Heavenly Sword Villa may have lost its great support but it has produced two outstanding successors."

Yun Che gave a deep and knowing nod of his head, "Even though their father, Ling Yuefeng, was selfish and biased and regarded the interests of the Heavenly Sword Villa above the danger that threatened the Blue Wind Nation, but other than that, everything he has done in his life is worthy of being called 'righteous' and 'gentlemanly'."

"As for their mother, Xuanyuan Yufeng... As the daughter of an elder of the Mighty Heavenly Sword Region, she did not hesitate to leave her father and her sect because she was smitten with Ling Yuefeng and even followed Ling Yuefeng back to that tiny Heavenly Sword Villa. Even though she was well aware that it was very likely that Ling Yuefeng wanted to use her to ascend to the higher branch that was the Mighty Heavenly Sword Region, she did not leave or abandon him for several decades and she had no resentment or regret in her heart for leaving with him."

"So it's really not strange at all that they have nurtured such outstanding successors. It's just that..." Yun Che shook his head, "The more smitten Ling Yuefeng was with you, the more Xuanyuan Yufeng would hate and envy you. No matter how good a woman is, once she falls into the abyss of jealousy and hatred, she will become a dreadful devil."

"..." Chu Yuechan turned her gaze towards him, "So what you're saying is that I was the one who forced Xuanyuan Yufeng to become a villain?"

"Errr..." Yun Che waved his hands the fastest he ever had in his entire life, "No, no, no, no, no, no, no, that's definitely not what I'm saying. I'm saying that... Er... Ah... Your charm is simply far too great, so any man... No, that's not right... Ah! Right, Wuxin!"

Yun Che grabbed his daughter's hand and pointed in front of him, "In front of us is a piece of stone that I, your father, personally touched all those years ago, let me bring you to go and see it."

## Yun Wuxin, "Ah?"

As she looked at Yun Che run as if he was fleeing while holding his daughter's hand, the corner of Chu Yuechan's lips moved slightly and a faint dreamy haziness appeared in her eyes.

She had originally thought that a cold life void of desire, the life all of all who were disciples of Frozen Cloud Asgard, would be her entire life.

But after she had spent those six months stuck together with Yun Che, upon returning, she discovered that she no longer had her "heart of ice" and that she now had desire in her heart. She did her best to suppress that desire but it was only upon receiving news of Yun Che's death that she truly discovered that the desires in her heart had already grown so strong that she was willing to desert her sect for his sake...

But today, she had him and their daughter at her side. This was truly life, a truly complete life... No matter where she ended up in the future.

Behind them, Feng Xian'er quietly looked at the family of three and she was not willing to make a single sound to disturb them.