

The Gods 1631

[Chapter 1631 - Qianying, Yao Die](#)

The atmosphere in the Imperial Heaven Tower was already unusual in the first place. Everyone was still shocked at how cordial Witch Yao Die was being toward Yun Che and her offer. But if Yao Die's attitude had caused shock, Yun Che's reply caused the very air to freeze into ice.

Yao Die's face darkened abruptly. What had been a gentle and friendly expression instantly turned chilly.

Chi Wuyao... There was no one in the Northern Divine Region who wasn't aware of the Devil Queen's name.

However, no one had ever dared to call her that.

The Witches especially viewed the Devil Queen as the highest, most untouchable existence of their lives, and Yun Che just touched Yao Die's reverse scale!

"How... dare you!?" Tian Muhe had just stabilized his own wounds, but he turned around angrily and roared at Yun Che. "How dare you address the Devil Queen directly. I will—"

A terrible power abruptly dropped down from above and forcibly cut him off. Tian Muhe turned around to look at Tian Muye, and the latter shook his head with a serious expression on his face.

Tian Muhe immediately withdrew his voice, but his eyes were clearly trembling with emotion when he looked at Yun Che.

Although Yao Die was the one who hurt him, all of his anger was directed at Yun Che. After all, he was the one who hurt Tian Guhu in his home territory, and the damage he inflicted upon Tian Guhu's reputation and spirit was far worse than the body... No one who called themselves a denizen of the Imperial Heaven Realm wanted Yun Che to leave this place alive.

When Yun Che clearly had the Witch's protection, no one dared to move against him. But now? To describe his reply as arrogant would be a massive understatement—he was practically digging his own grave!

The Witch wasn't qualified to invite him? Not even the most supreme beings in the world, the god emperors had the gall to say that!

As for his offense of addressing the Devil Queen by her name... If that wasn't suicide, then what was?

At first, the people thought Yun Che mysterious after he defeated Tian Guhu in an overwhelming fashion. But that impression was changed to the highest degree of shamelessness and suicidal desire in just the blink of an eye.

"Heh, interesting." Fen Jieran pinched his chin once while smiling. He was going to order a background check on these two mysterious people, but it seemed like it was no longer necessary.

Yun Che was dead the moment he addressed the Devil Queen by her name.

Although Yao Die's expression didn't change much, everyone could sense a piercing chill in their souls. Even the gentleness in her voice earlier was all gone. "If my master hadn't given me an order, ten thousand deaths wouldn't be enough to absolve you of your sins!"

"Very well." Yao Die raised her palm slowly and summoned dancing light between her fingers. "I'd rather drag your limp bodies back home than escort you anyway."

The corner of Yun Che's lips curled upwards, but bizarrely it didn't look like a smile at all. "It isn't yet too late for you to change your mind. If you don't... you will regret this."

"I'm pretty sure you don't have the right to say that," Yao Die replied indifferently.

It wasn't just Yao Die, everyone thought that Yun Che's threat was a joke as well.

Yao Die was one of the nine Witches who served the Devil Queen. She was a level nine Divine Master and a terrifying being that stood above all higher realm kings.

Her sisters were as powerful as her, and her master was the Northern Region Devil Queen, a monster whose very name could strike fear in people's hearts.

Yun Che's threat was so stupid that it spanned the horizon.

Yun Che glanced sideways at Qianye Ying'er before saying, "Don't say I didn't warn you, but there is nothing more the woman beside me hates than a woman of great power and beauty... are you absolutely sure you want to fight us?"

"Can you cut the nonsense already?" Qianye Ying'er said while wrapping her hair around her finger.

"Hmph." Yao Die was a Witch, so she rarely got angry. But his words, his indifferent tone, stoked the fury inside her again and again. She replied coldly, "I have never questioned my master's will before, but it looks like she has made an error this time. In the end, a rumor is just a rumor!"

Buzz

Space expanded and expelled all the air within fifty kilometers of the Imperial Heaven Tower in an instant. The entire place was filled up by the auric pressure of a Divine Master.

From the moment they met, Yao Die already knew who Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er were due to a certain "special aura". Everything that happened afterwards also proved her suspicion that Yun Che was not trying to hide his identity at all.

As a Witch, she of course knew that Yun Che was the one who stole the Untamed Divine Marrow the Burning Moon God Realm had hidden from the Devil Queen for tens of thousands of years. The only reason she didn't expose his crimes and question him on the spot; the reason she went so far as to express goodwill toward him as a Witch... was because it was her master's order.

She knew that her master had never met Yun Che. She also learned from Witch Chanyi that Yun Che was supposedly a Divine King. That was why she couldn't understand why her master regarded him so highly.

Today, she became certain that her master had made an error in judgment. No matter how amazing Yun Che's potential was, there was no changing the fact that he had pissed on the olive branch the Soul

Stealing Realm had extended to him. Not even a million stupidity points was enough to describe these fools, these dogs who had fled from the Eastern Divine Region!

If her master hadn't given her a command, she wouldn't even deign to capture them herself.

A Witch's forcefield was nothing to be scoffed at. The Imperial Heaven Tower's battlefield was devastated instantly, and the young Heavenly Sovereigns were blown far, far away without being able to struggle at all.

Yun Che himself was shaking like a leaf. His clothes were flapping wildly, and he looked like he was being sat on by a thousand mountains. But to Yao Die's surprise, Yun Che showed no pain whatsoever despite being blasted by her aura at this range. In fact, he looked so calm that she couldn't help but frown slightly.

"Qianying," Yun Che whispered. "Our very first fight is against a Witch. This is a good beginning. Now... you won't let down your half of the Untamed World Pellet, will you?"

Qianye Ying'er smiled slightly and replied, "You did say to make her regret this. I would be slapping your face if I failed to carry out your wish, wouldn't I?... I couldn't bear to do such a thing."

The light of the Ni Yuan Stone vanished, and black light erupted into a gigantic domain of darkness around her. It tore apart Yao Die's forcefield and instantly caused a storm in the Imperial Heaven Tower.

Yun Che backed off thirty meters from the epicenter of the storm before coming to a stop. Then, he waited for the battle to happen with a cold and stiff expression on his face.

"Ugh!?"

"Aaaaaah..."

The storm was terrible, but the screams of the people it was suppressing were louder. Everyone's face looked like it had been smashed in by a hammer.

Tian Muyi, Yan Sangeng, Huo Tianxing... They were all powerful Divine Masters in their own right, but their hair was standing on end, and their shock was palpable. No matter how long and hard they stared at the woman blocking Yao Die's way, they just couldn't believe their spiritual perception.

"A... A level eight Divine Master!" Tian Muyi cried unconsciously. It was almost enough to shatter the hearts of the people who heard it.

A level eight Divine Master was a late stage Divine Master, meaning that the woman was at the same level as the Witches, the Yama Devils, and the Moon Eaters!

The strongest realm king beneath the king realms, Tian Muyi himself was a level eight Divine Master!

No matter how unbelievable it sounded, they had to believe it since it came from Tian Muyi's own mouth.

"Who... who is she?" Huo Tianxing said with a trembling voice. "Since when did we have someone like her in the Northern Divine Region!?"

Here in the Northern Divine Region, anonymity didn't exist for anyone who was at level eight Divine Master Realm and above. They were practically worshipped like gods.

However, not a single person here had any knowledge of this masked, golden-haired woman at all. Not even her aura was familiar to them.

The combined auras of two late stage Divine Masters were practically as strong as a natural disaster. Pitch black light illuminated everyone's face, and it was clear that everyone still present was shaking like a leaf, sweating like it was raining, and looking as pale as death. This was especially true for those from the Heavenly Net Realm; from the bottom rung all the way up to the top.

Were they seriously thinking about attacking a level eight Divine Master just now!?

When the Eternal Heaven Great Ancestor had consumed the Untamed World Pellet, he had skipped three small realms in one go and left behind an unforgettable miracle in the history of the profound way.

But his achievement was inferior to Qianye Ying'er, who skipped four small realms in one go and reached level eight Divine Master in just half a year!

As He Ling had mentioned earlier, the Untamed World Pellet she refined using her wood spirit powers and the Sky Poison Pearl was far superior to the one the Eternal Heaven Great Ancestor had consumed.

Yao Die frowned deeply at the sight.

Just like Yun Che, Qianye Ying'er was a fugitive who escaped to the Northern Divine Region. She had heard that the Lady Goddess's power was destroyed a long time ago, and Chanyi herself had confirmed it several years ago... According to her sister, the Brahma Monarch Goddess was only in the Divine Sovereign Realm at the time.

So how did she grow so quickly in such a short time?

But maybe she was overthinking this. It was clear that the woman had a profound artifact that could conceal her aura perfectly. If it could fool her, then it could definitely fool Chanyi as well.

Black butterflies started appearing in Yao Die's eyes. "I see. No wonder she dares to act so arrogantly. Unfortunately for her..."

When a profound practitioner reaches the Divine Master Realm, every small realm was as wide as the distance between heaven and earth. Only those who had reached the Divine Master Realm could understand this.

That was why a level eight Divine Master could never beat a level nine Divine Master.

Without a word, Yao Die reached out and made a grabbing motion toward Qianye Ying'er.

The latter also swung her hand in retaliation.

"Shi... retreat!!" Tian Muhe turned pale and shouted. There was no way a Divine Sovereign could withstand even the shockwave of the clash of domains between two late stage Divine Masters.

It was one thing to lose the Imperial Heaven Tower and another to lose their best juniors. It would be an unimaginable loss to the Imperial Heaven Sect if they were to all die here.

“It’s too late.” Tian Muyi forced himself to calm down before shouting, “Raise the barrier!”

As a late stage Divine Master himself and the strongest realm king beneath the king realms... Tian Muyi felt like swearing at the women duking it out in his home.

Tian Muyi, Huo Tianxing, and the Great Viper Sage immediately worked together to create an isolation barrier.

Boom!

Darkness completely devoured the light, and nearly half of the Imperial Heaven Tower was destroyed in the blink of an eye. Still, a couple of huge dents aside, the barrier managed to protect one half of the Imperial Heaven Tower and all the stunned crowd inside it.

The rest of the higher realm kings also came back to their senses and poured their powers into the barrier as well. However, everyone’s gaze was really focused on the battle happening above them.

It was a battle between Witch Yao Die and a level eight Divine Master. It was a natural disaster that was happening right above their heads. They would probably never get a chance to see a battle at this level ever again.

To everyone’s surprise, the clash of domains ended in a perfect stalemate. Yao Die’s expression changed slightly again.

Although Qianye Ying’er’s cultivation level was clearly inferior to hers, she sensed something that should be absolutely impossible...

She sensed that the quality of her power was actually inferior to Qianye Ying’er’s!

As the subordinate of the Devil Queen, the darkness profound art she inherited was without a doubt the strongest darkness profound art in the current world. Naturally, no one’s level should even come close to her own, much less be stronger than hers. At the very least, the only person she knew whose dark powers were truly beyond her was the Devil Queen, who was special in her own right.

But not only did she feel inferior to Qianye Ying’er, it was an unquestionable divide that she couldn’t even hope to close!

The realization was further reinforced by the fact that Qianye Ying’er was able to defend herself perfectly despite being a small realm behind her.

Yao Die whispered something and waved her hands. Her aura changed suddenly, and black butterflies suddenly appeared all around Qianye Ying’er. Every single one contained an aura of abyssal darkness and death.

Qianye Ying’er twirled slightly and split the air with a golden light. Gripping the Divine Oracle in her hand, she easily slashed holes in the black world that sustained the black butterflies, killing them as if their bodies were made of smoke. Not a single one of the butterflies was able to get close to her.

“!?” Yao Die’s dance stopped for a second before she clenched her hands into fists and withdrew the butterflies. They gathered behind her to form a pair of butterfly wings that were three hundred meter long. She then appeared next to Qianye Ying’er like a ghost and folded her wings, threatening to turn Qianye Ying’er and the space around her into a black abyss that devoured everything.

Boom

In the Northern Divine Region, there was no one who doubted the strength of a Witch. Every time Witch Yao Die made a move and covered the world in darkness, she was indirectly showing off her true power to the crowd.

A rumor and a first-hand experience were two completely different things. Every time they felt the waves of Witch’s power through the barrier, every time their eyesight and their souls came under assault, the higher realm kings couldn’t help but fear and respect the Witch even more than they already did.

However, what shocked them even more was the fact that the Witch, for all her power, couldn’t keep the golden-haired woman down in the slightest!

Qianye Ying’er had inherited all her darkness profound arts from Yun Che, or more accurately the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor.

Her profound talent and comprehension were incredibly high in the first place, and her knowledge was at least equal to the best of the best. After absorbing the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor’s own blood into her body, her mastery over darkness profound energy was only second to Yun Che.

After dual cultivating with Yun Che for several years, her compatibility with the devil emperor’s blood was growing steadily. Moreover, her mastery and understanding of the darkness profound arts became greater as well. After she had fully cultivated the Illusory Devil Tome of Eternal Night Yun Che had tossed her in passing, she handpicked a couple more darkness profound arts the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor left behind and fully cultivated them in just a couple of years as well.

Although they couldn’t compare to the Eternal Calamity of Darkness at all, they were at least as good as the Brahma Monarch Divine Art she spent several centuries cultivating to completion, if not better.

Nearly three-fifths of the Imperial Heaven Tower had turned to dust in the darkness. Yao Die’s attacks grew more and more violent, and the mere flap of her butterfly wings caused a dark storm that mercilessly ravaged the world. However, not only did she fail to gain the upper hand, the immovable pressure Qianye Ying’er’s power was putting on her was slowly but surely disturbing the calmness of her mind.

Rumble!

Black light erupted again in midair, and this time it turned into a huge, undying vortex of darkness.

The duo broke off from the vortex and stared at each other from afar. Yao Die asked in a dark tone, “Where did your profound arts come from!?”

Qianye Ying'er eyes narrowed slightly, her mask hiding a beautiful but clearly distorted gleam in them. She said sweetly, "You should reserve this question for your future master... preferably while you are in his bed."

"...?" Confused by her reply, Yao Die exhaled slightly before whispering, "Master forbade me from killing him, but not you."

[Chapter 1632 - Who is the King of Hell](#)

"Kill me?" Qianye Ying'er answered with a shallow smile. A million tiny black rays of light twined around her dancing fingers. "If it's just you alone, that's something you won't be able to accomplish in your lifetime."

Rumble!

Darkness filled the sky once more and the space around them suddenly started to collapse. Everyone could clearly make out the image of a fluttering black butterfly in this lightless pitch-black world. It was an image that was seared into their eyes and their souls.

"This... This is..." Shocked gasps rang out in the darkness.

"The Eternal Butterfly Abyss." Yan Sangeng's gaze pierced the darkness. He stared at the sky as he spoke in a slow and measured voice, "To think that a level eight Divine Master would be able to push her to such an extent..."

Nearby, Fen Jieren's expression continuously changed. He seemed to have realized something and he unconsciously muttered something, "Could they be..."

Yang Sangeng turned his head towards Fen Jieran. "Prince Jieran, do you know who these people are?"

"No, it's not them." Fen Jieran shook his head. It was unclear if he was answering Yan Sangeng's question or talking to himself. "It can't be them."

Yan Sangeng's brow furrowed, "Who exactly are you referring to..."

Bang!

A very soft sound rang in the air but it swallowed up all other sounds. Witch Yao Die had not only been shocked by her opponent's power, she had also finally gotten angry, so she was releasing all of her profound strength without holding back. The Witch Domain that was known as the "Eternal Butterfly Abyss" was something that belonged to the Fourth Witch of the Soul Stealing Realm alone. Now, it was displaying its terrifying true appearance in the skies above the Imperial Heaven Realm.

The image of a fluttering butterfly had also appeared in Qianye Ying'er's golden eyes. She felt her five senses swiftly disappearing and she started to feel as if she was being devoured by something. This sensation started to swiftly spread through her entire body.

The existence of the Devil Emperor blood within her body meant that Qianye Ying'er would not be defeated by Yao Die's power.

However, it could only make up for the gap in profound strength, not a gap in soul power!

Yet the greatest strength of the Fourth Witch Yao Die was her darkness soul power!

The soul suppressing power that assaulted Qianye Ying'er within the Butterfly Abyss had far exceeded even her own expectations. She was a person who had been able to master the "Brahma Soul Death-Wishing Mark", so one could well imagine how strong her soul power was. However, the instant she faced Yao Die's fully unleashed soul power, she realized that she could not defend against it.

She could also tell that if she was swallowed up by this butterfly illusion, she might be "eternally" trapped inside.

However, Qianye Ying'er did not try to use all her strength to escape from the very moment she was caught in the illusion. In fact, she had not even tried to defend against it. She welcomed Yao Die's attack, darkness profound light shining at the tip of Divine Oracle.

"Hmph, how foolish," Yao Die muttered to herself, her hand gestures and the look in her eyes changed at the same time...

Just as the Eternal Butterfly Abyss was about to fully open and swallow up Qianye Ying'er, Yun Che, who was very far behind her, suddenly thrust out a hand and casually made a grabbing motion.

Yao Die felt as if an invisible force was violently tugging at her. Her narrowed eyes snapped open as she felt the profound energy and soul energy she released going out of control. Thus, the Eternal Butterfly Abyss that had spread open was an extremely distorted one. Not only had her perfect Witch Domain lost a lot of power, but dozens of flaws had formed in it.

The bizarre feeling that had assaulted her for an instant and this unbelievably distorted Witch Domain were things that Yao Die had never experienced before. In the same instant, Qianye Ying'er, who had been biding her time, exploded into action. Her power erupted and a golden shadow which trailed black light shot into Yao Die's domain. She nearly effortlessly pierced through the Witch Domain, a domain that was supposed to be incredibly terrifying, and started tearing it apart.

Bzz!

The wings of the butterfly were ripped apart and the domain started to shake. The sudden backlash from her collapsing domain caused Yao Die's body to shake violently. An odd sense of shock and alarm flashed through her heart, but the willpower of a Witch allowed her to remain unflustered. Her hand gestures suddenly changed as she forcefully withdrew her domain. She chose not to retreat. Instead, her body suddenly shot forward as she tried to grab Divine Oracle, the sword which had ripped her domain apart.

Yao Die firmly caught Divine Oracle in her hand, causing a muffled sound to ring out in the air. The seven inch sword reacted as if it were a golden snake that had been caught and its divine light suddenly dimmed.

In the distance, Yun Che gently made a grasping action with his fingers once again.

In the next instant, that incredibly strange tearing energy assaulted her once again. The energy that she had forcefully gathered suddenly escaped her control and practically thirty percent of it dissipated in an instant... She had lost control of her energy without reason and it had now been dispersed without reason. It was as if it had been soundlessly swallowed up by some strange invisible creature.

Crack!

Yao Die's strange loss of control over her power meant that she could no longer bind Divine Oracle. It immediately escaped her grasp and flicked toward her face.

Rip!

Space was violently torn apart as it distorted around Yao Die's waist. She had escaped backwards using a strange and fantastic movement technique. Only a few dozen strands of her black hair were left fluttering in the darkness.

Yao Die reappeared five kilometers away. The moment her body came to a stop, a soft ringing sound reverberated in the air. A diagonal crack appeared at the top of her mask and a small rivulet of blood slowly flowed out from the crack.

Space completely froze and the hearts of everyone present were so tightly clenched it felt like they had stopped beating.

They had seen a Witch Domain that had just been opened get shredded apart in an instant. They saw the rivulet of glaring, bright red Witch blood trickle down Yao Die's face.

Even Yao Die could not remember how many years it had been since she had suffered an injury.

"Just who exactly... Just who exactly are they?" Tian Muyi muttered to himself as he stared at the sky. He had actually personally witnessed the Witch Yao Die getting hurt. This was an utterly unfathomable scene, a scene that would shock the world.

Yao Die did not touch her own wound. Instead, her gaze pierced through the darkness to fix itself on Yun Che.

Rather than Qianye Ying'er, it was Yun Che who Yao Die was paying the most attention to. Even when she was exchanging blows with Qianye Ying'er, she still kept an eye out for Yun Che.

The last two times that bizarre phenomenon occurred, she noticed that Yun Che was moving his hands.

However, was he merely making gestures in the air!? There was no bizarre energy leaking out from him.

So what exactly was the sensation... she had felt just now?

However, Qianye Ying'er did not even give her a chance to catch her breath. A golden figure tore through the air as it rushed toward her.

The two of them started their battle once again and a calamity of darkness once again descended upon the Imperial Heaven Realm.

When they had clashed previously, both of them were evenly matched. But Yao Die was starting to feel a little flustered right now. After she had suffered a backlash from the collapse of her Witch Domain, she was gradually being cornered and suppressed by Qianye Ying'er.

Yun Che silently watched the proceedings. His emotionless gaze fixed on Yao Die and at a certain moment, his left index finger tilted downward.

Bang!

Yao Die's fingers, which were wrapped in devilish light, clashed against Qianye Ying'er's Divine Oracle, causing dozens of domains of darkness to instantly erupt all around them. This dreadful deadlock that could only occur when two late stage Divine Masters clashed only lasted for less than half a breath. After that, Yao Die's fingers suddenly spasmed and a gap abruptly appeared in the energy she was releasing.

It was not a big gap, but it caused her to lose control of the circulation of her energy for a split-second.

This sort of change was undoubtedly fatal during a fight when both opponents were equally matched. Furthermore, this was a vicious battle taking place at the Divine Master level. Before Yao Die's expression could even change, Divine Oracle was already violently tearing apart her power. It shot toward her like a venomous golden snake that dove straight at her heart.

BOOOOM— — — —

It was as if a pitch-black star had erupted on Yao Die's chest and she was carried away by the storm of darkness like a butterfly whose wings had been clipped, leaving a shocking trail of darkness in her wake.

This time she had noticed something with incredible clarity. Yun Che's fingers had made a tiny movement the very instant that bizarre phenomenon happened.

Once... Twice... Thrice... Could it truly be a coincidence?

Just what exactly was it? Was it one of those auraless profound artifacts left behind by the gods?

Or perhaps it was a demonic art!?

But she was not the only person to notice this. There was also someone else.

Whoosh!

Yan Sangeng suddenly took to the skies, causing everyone to stare at him in shock. He faced Qianye Ying'er and spoke in an incredibly gloomy voice, "Let me help you."

Yao Die's body froze in midair. She pressed a hand against her chest, causing blood to flow out from between her fingers.

"Divine Oracle", this was one of the divine artifacts that the gods had left to the Eastern Divine Region's Brahma Monarch God Realm. Yao Die had long heard of it, but she had now personally experienced just how terrifying it could be.

However, she did not bother with the wounds that Divine Oracle had inflicted on her. She turned back and shot towards Qianye Ying'er at full speed. The butterfly images trailing behind her seemed to turn real for a moment. The divine might of a Witch started to radiate from her body once more and it did not seem any weaker than before.

Yan Sangeng suddenly pressed in. Now, a level nine and seven Divine Master were attacking Qianye Ying'er together!

Qianye Ying'er did not retreat a single step. In fact, her snowy face remained completely unmoved.

When it came to cultivation, Yan Sangeng was weaker than Qianye Ying'er by a small realm. But now that he was personally facing off against her, the pressure she was emitting was so heavy that it was suffocating. At the very least, this was not the sort of pressure that could be exerted by the difference of a single small realm.

His eyebrows twitched and he swiftly exchanged a look with Yao Die. The moment he neared Qianye Ying'er, his stance suddenly changed and he swept past Qianye Ying'er instead. He was shooting straight toward Yun Che.

At this moment, Yao Die unleashed all of her power, firmly restricting Qianye Ying'er's movements and locking her down. She did not give Qianye Ying'er a single chance to escape or block Yan Sangeng.

As a level seven Divine Master and the leader of the thirty-six Yama Ghosts of the Yama Realm, Yan Sangeng definitely would not have believed that he would actually condescend to personally take action against a level seven Divine Sovereign. At least, that was the case before today.

But today, he had not only taken action, he had even launched such a quick and deadly attack.

He traversed dozens of kilometers of space in a single instant and Yun Che was now right in front of him. Yan Sangeng shot out a clawed hand, ripping open a pitch-black scar in the air in front of him.

The sound of space being torn apart was so shrill that it made everyone feel as if their eardrums were being torn apart over and over again. However, Yan Sangeng's expression stiffened for an instant. Because his fingers had only hit empty air. Only the afterimage he had ripped apart was hanging in the air behind him.

After a brief shock that lasted such an infinitesimally short time that it was inconsequential, Yan Sangeng reacted as quick as heavenly lightning. He abruptly turned around and struck at the spot where Yun Che had reappeared in an exquisitely accurate fashion.

Rip!

His speed was several times more terrifying than it had been in that previous attack. The sound of space being torn apart was also several times more dreadful. But Yan Sangeng had once again only torn apart an afterimage.

His expression subtly changed and grayish-white death energy flashed through his eyes.

"A first-rate movement technique that may have been trained to the highest level. How admirable." Yan Sangeng stared at the empty air in front of him as he praised Yun Che. He slowly turned around, his gaze falling on the spot where Yun Che had reappeared. After that, he lifted his arm before pressing his hand down.

Shrill and miserable wails of resentment and despair suddenly rang out from an unknown space. It was as if a hundred thousand ghosts were wailing at the same time. The grayish-white image of a skeleton slowly coalesced into existence behind Yan Sangeng. At this moment, his skin and muscles turned a startling dusky gray and he seemed to be transforming into a dessicated corpse before their very eyes. Only his eyes glowed with a strange light that should not belong to a living person.

Those dreadful eyes locked onto Yun Che's location and when he spoke, his voice was so raspy and hoarse that it was nearly unintelligible. "Come, let me see how you're going to escape my grasp this time."

As his words slowly fell, he was already rushing toward Yun Che. Even though his speed was still peerlessly fast and ruthless, it was a lot slower than it had been before.

However, thousands of ghosts seemed to be wailing every time he moved. It seemed as if the entire world had been transformed into a frightening ghostly realm.

Furthermore, Yun Che was right in the center of this ghostly domain. He felt as if innumerable ghosts were clinging to his body and he could not even move a muscle.

Yun Che dominating Tian Guhu with the cultivation of a level seven= Divine Sovereign was already an event that had shocked the world. But no matter what, there was no way he could resist a level seven Divine Master like Yan Sangeng. In front of the oppression created by absolute power, even the strongest movement techniques would be nothing more than a limp and powerless joke.

A long trail of gray energy stretched behind Yan Sangeng as his fingers shot towards Yun Che's throat. Even when he was only several meters away, Yun Che still had not escaped yet... But it was obvious that he had been rendered completely immobile.

Just as Yan Sangeng was certain that Yun Che would fall into his hands, the Yun Che in his eyes suddenly enlarged.

The aura of a level seven Divine Sovereign erupted. However, it erupted in such an outrageously terrifying fashion that it was practically incomprehensible to Yan Sangeng. Before he even had time to feel any shock, a figure had already flitted by him. However, a flash of vermillion light remained imprinted in the depths of his eyes. It did not fade even after a long time had passed.

Yan Sangeng's body froze in place and it seemed like the entire world had gone utterly silent.

He stood there like a stone statue before he slowly started to look down... A huge sword that shone with a muted vermillion light had pierced into his chest and exited his back. His entire body had been transfixed by this gigantic sword

His Divine Master body, a body that was even tougher than Stellar Divine Stones, a body that was being protected by a Divine Master's profound energy, had put up no resistance whatsoever. The attack had slid through his protections as if they had not existed.

"What a fool."

The coldest and most contemptuous voice Yan Sangeng had ever heard in his life rang out from behind him.

Yun Che thrust out his arm and the Heaven Smiting Devil Slaying Sword immediately shot through Yan Sangeng's body and flew back into his hand. The body of the sword was not stained with a single drop of blood.

After that, the vermillion sword vanished into thin air. His back was still facing Yan Sangeng and he had not even looked at him once.

For a person whose cultivation had reached the Divine Master Realm, being run through by a sword definitely was not any sort of fatal injury. In fact, it could not even be called a serious injury.

However, Yan Sangeng simply stood there, as still as a statue. No blood ran from the hole that had been opened up in his body. Only a cluster of vermilion light silently shone from that wound and it did not look like it was going to disperse or fade away.

[Chapter 1633 - Fleeing in Defeat](#)

Without Yun Che's "help", Yao Die and Qianye Ying'er once again became locked in a stalemate. Their eruptions of power splashed against the barrier erected by the gathered realm kings, causing it to shrink continuously.

However, even if everyone present had nostrils for brains, they still realized that a disaster even more catastrophic than a heavenly calamity was about to befall the Imperial Heaven Realm.

Yao Die's target was Yun Che and she originally would never have allowed anyone else to interfere with her fight. However, due to Qianye Ying'er's completely unexpected strength, and bizarre interference that was very likely coming from Yun Che, she did not stop Yan Sangeng from joining. But she still yet again bore witness to a scene that far exceeded her imagination.

Yun Che dodged Yan Sangeng's attacks twice, but now it was clear that those first two moves had been feints to set up that lightning-quick attack with his sword. This was also the way Yun Che usually fought.

This definitely was not some genius strategy or tactic. It would practically be considered a joke to those powerhouses who had survived many battles. But Yun Che had never failed to pull it off. Even someone like Yan Sangeng, a level seven Divine Master who had tens of thousands of years of experience in the profound way, had fallen for this trick.

This tactic of his did not keep succeeding because of his sublime mastery of this technique. Instead, it was because the nature of his profound energy aura was simply far too deceptive and tricky. In fact, it was something that could be said to have exceeded the knowledge of any profound practitioner countless times over. To put it bluntly, no matter how strong an ant became, it would never be able to arouse the wariness of a towering beast, much less cause that beast to use all of its power.

Moreover, this ant had been completely restrained and immobilized.

Conversely, no matter how unprepared or careless Yan Sangeng was in approaching Yun Che, he was still a level seven Divine Master in the end! Once a person reached this level, the strength of their body and protective profound energy far exceeded the imagination of any ordinary person.

Yet he had been... run through by Yun Che's sword!? After a single attack!?

RUMBLE!

A huge explosion rang out in the air and the black mist and black clouds ruptured simultaneously. It was as if a peerlessly dreadful crack had split open in the sky. Qianye Ying'er whirled around, her body flashing, and she appeared at Yun Che's side. Witch Yao Die did not continue to attack her either. Instead, she stared at Yun Che and Yan Sangeng, an extremely rare look of shock forming in her eyes.

When Yun Che's profound energy had exploded for an instant, it had still exuded the aura of a level seven Divine Sovereign. However, when his aura had gone berserk, it was as if the power of countless level seven Divine Sovereigns had erupted simultaneously. It was so strong and vigorous that it did not feel any weaker than Yan Sangeng's power, the power of a level seven Divine Master!

What was even more unbelievable than that... was that even if Yun Che could truly raise his power to a level that neared Yan Sangeng's, there was no way that the unprepared Yan Sangeng should have been so easily run through by Yun Che's sword.

Yao Die's eyes fell on the gaping wound in Yan Sangeng's body. The vermilion light twinkling from the wound was so glaring that it stung her eyes. The image of the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword floated up in her mind and refused to go away.

This mind-blowing scene had caused the Imperial Heaven Tower to descend into a dreadful silence. Everyone was staring so hard at Yan Sangeng that their eyes were on the verge of rupturing. They could scarcely believe what they were seeing.

Furthermore, Yan Sangeng himself seemed to have been completely shocked by this turn of events. One breath... two breaths... three breaths... He still stood there, rooted to the spot, as he dazedly stared at the hole in his chest.

Finally, his lips trembled and he barely managed to whisper a single word. "You..."

After he uttered the word, his body shuddered slightly before he started descending to the ground. He landed inside the barrier below him, his feet sinking deeply into the ground. After that, he went back to being completely motionless.

"Sen... Senior Ghost King?"

The realm kings that were closest to him moved forward as they all took out the best elixirs they had on their person without even looking at each other. Even though he was the Yama Ghost King, someone who would not even deign to look at their elixirs on a normal day, if they could garner even the teensiest bit of favor from him, it would be something that would have infinite uses in the future.

However, they had only taken a few steps before all of them suddenly froze in place.

Tian Muye, Huo Tianxing, and the rest of their entourage were rushing toward Yan Sangeng, but they suddenly froze in place as well. They wore frightened and dazed expressions on their faces and it was as if they had seen a god or a ghost.

Yan Sangeng's profound energy and life force were disappearing. Furthermore, his energy was not dissipating because his body had been weakened by injury. Rather, it felt like his energy was draining away... like air gushing out of a popped balloon, it was disappearing at frighteningly fast speed.

In just a few short breaths, his aura had become unspeakably weak. After that, Yan Sangeng's crouched figure slowly slumped to the ground like soft mud.

The moment his head struck the ground, his widened pupils slowly shrank back down to normal and never moved again.

Yan Sangeng's life force had been completely extinguished. Even someone as strong as Yao Die could not sense a shred of life left in him.

Silence, an incomparably dreadful silence.

In the skies far above them, Yao Die's pupils were trembling.

As a Witch, as someone who cultivated darkness profound energy, she had long ago forgotten what the word "cold" was. But at this moment, she felt as if countless streams of cold air were crazily surging through her entire body. Every single strand of hair on her body was trembling as they stood on end.

Yan Sangeng...

Had... died...

As a level nine Divine Master, Yao Die naturally completely outstripped Yan Sangeng, a level seven Divine Master, in every way. However, killing him would be an exceedingly difficult thing for her to do.

Once a person entered the realm of the late stage Divine Masters, it would be extremely difficult for them to die.

In the Yama Realm, the ones who were directly below the Yama Emperor were the Yama Devils, and the ones below the Yama Devils were the Yama Ghosts. Yan Sangeng was the chief of the Yama Ghosts and in the entire Yama Realm, he was a transcendent existence who possessed a power and prestige that was inferior only to the Yama Emperor and the Yama Devils.

As a result, even if Yao Die had the ability to kill him effortlessly, she would still never dare to do such a thing.

In fact, she could not believe that someone in the Northern Divine Region had been able to... had actually dared to kill the Ghost King of the Yama Realm!

However, there was something even more inexplicable than this! How had he even died!?

A Divine Master was so strong that their vitality and healing ability far transcended the domain of mortal beings. They could even perfectly regenerate lost limbs. Getting run through by a sword was not even considered a serious injury to a Divine Master. So there was no way it could be a fatal blow.

But a single blow from Yun Che had actually killed Yan Sangeng!

Those grayish-white orbs were completely devoid of life, proving that this impossible thing had actually come to pass... After all, the proof of it was lying right before their eyes.

The vermilion light shining from his wound finally started to slowly fade away. At the same moment it disappeared completely, threads of pitch-black mist started to slowly rise out of his wounds.

Everyone here today had been cultivating darkness profound energy their entire lives. Furthermore, there were many Divine Masters and Divine Sovereigns present, yet none of them had been able to sense any profound energy emanating from this black smoke. It was as if these threads of black mist were merely ordinary wisps of black ash and smoke.

"This... This is..."

Tian Muyi's outstretched hand froze in midair. He was unable to retract it or lower it. As the strongest realm king in the Northern Divine Region, a level eight Divine Master, he was extremely aware of what being a level seven Divine Master meant. So the shock and disbelief in his heart far exceeded the other people around him.

The Yama Ghost King had died. This was the most unbelievable event that had happened in ten thousand years... since the Clear Sky God Emperor had died.

"He could have left it well enough alone, but he just had to seek out his own death."

A cold and disinterested voice rang out in the desolate world. It sounded exactly the same as it did before, but when everyone heard it this time, they felt as if icy needles were being stabbed into their bones, causing them to shiver all over.

"There really are many idiots in the Northern Divine Region," Yun Che scoffed coldly. "No wonder all of you have been trapped in here forever like a bunch of caged beasts."

"..." Witch Yao Die slowly turned her eyes toward Yun Che. She said in a deep voice, "Do you know... who he was?"

It was only when she spoke that she discovered, to her shock, that her voice was actually shaking involuntarily.

"Yan Sangeng, the chief of the Yama Realm's thirty-six Yama Ghosts," Qianye Yin'er said in a languid voice. "He was really famous but it's too bad that his brain didn't work too well. He would still be alive right now and not a single hair on his head would have been touched, but he just had to choose death."

Yao Die's gaze remained fixed on Yun Che. The eyes of the person who had killed the Yama Ghost King were still as calm and serene as they had been before. She could not see any excitement, smugness, arrogance, or apprehension in those eyes... They were just as calm as they had been when he had defeated Tian Guhu. It was as if he had simply reached out to crush an insect!

This was the Yama Realm's Ghost King!

Did he really have no emotions at all?

"How... did he... die?" Yao Die spoke through gritted teeth. It sounded as if she had to grind out each word.

Neither Yun Che or Qianye Ying'er deigned to give her a reply. A look of contempt flashed through their eyes, as if they were saying:

"Are you blind? He obviously died from a single stab."

For the Yama Ghost King to die from a single thrust of a sword... Hehe, what a ridiculous joke.

Yao Die did not pursue this matter any further. She cast a final look at the body of the Yama Ghost King and muttered softly, "No wonder..."

She turned around and black butterflies appeared and started to flutter around her. Her body shot far into the distance, and she disappeared into the dusky horizon in the blink of an eye.

“We aren’t going to detain her?” Qianye Ying’er asked. “You did say that you would make her regret it.”

“There’s no need,” Yun Che said. “Allowing her to leave now has given us one additional ‘bargaining chip’.”

Qianye Ying’er paused for a moment before finally understanding what Yun Che meant.

Yun Che raised his hand and a tiny whirlwind of black energy was slowly swirling in the middle of his palm. The instant the Heaven Smiting Devil Slaying Sword had pierced Yan Sangeng’s body, Yun Che had violently poured the power from the Eternal Calamity of Darkness into his body through his sword.

The darkness profound art that came from a Devil Emperor violently raged inside Yan Sangeng’s body like a primordial devil god, destroying all the darkness in his body.

As he slowly closed his fingers, Yun Che exhaled softly. The Eternal Calamity of Darkness could crush all kinds of darkness, but this was strictly limited to darkness alone. It would have been wonderful if it could have the same effect on the profound practitioners of the other divine regions.

Yao Die had left. In fact, one could even say that she had fled in defeat. The only person under the heavens who could so thoroughly bewilder and shock a Witch was this monster, Yun Che.

The battle had come to a halt, but the barrier that protected a significant portion of the Imperial Heaven Tower had not been lowered. Many pairs of eyes were trembling incessantly as they looked at Yun Che. Their conception of how things worked had been completely and utterly shattered by Yun Che today.

“Just who exactly are you people?” Tian Muyi said. His hands were tightly clenched and his entire body was as tense as a coiled spring.

A person that would even dare to kill the Yama Ghost King. Even the word “lunatic” would not be enough to describe him anymore.

He had killed a level seven Divine Master with a single strike of his sword, causing Tian Muyi to be filled with utter horror for the first time in his life.

“Let’s go.” Yun Che did not spare anyone else a single glance. He simply turned around and prepared to leave. He had come here because he had wanted to intentionally stir up a commotion in the Heavenly Sovereign Assembly. The arrival of a Witch was something outside of his calculations, and a pleasant surprise.

At this moment, Yun Che repeated those two words again. Everyone suddenly felt as if a load had been taken off their back as they all let out sighs of relief. Tian Muyi’s rigidly tensed body started to relax as well. However, he did not dare to utter a single sound as he was afraid that any unnecessary movements would draw Yun Che’s attention to him.

Previously, he would never have allowed these two people to leave with their lives. But right now, he could only pray that they would leave immediately and never appear before him again. He did not even dare to inquire about their true identities.

Furthermore, the act of killing Yan Sangeng had guaranteed that the Yama Realm would launch an all-out hunt for him after this. Because his sword had not only pierced Yan Sangeng’s body, it had also struck at the pride and dignity of the Yama Realm.

“Please wait a moment!”

This sudden outburst caused everyone’s heart to violently thump. They wanted to kill the person who had spoken with a single slap, but the moment they saw who it was, they could only grit their teeth and bear it.

Shockingly enough, the person who had spoken was Fen Jieran. As he stared at Yun Che’s back, he said, “Is your surname Yun?”

Yun Che did not respond to his question. Instead, he swiftly flew into the distance. He had clearly ignored Fen Jieran’s existence.

Fen Jieran silently clenched his teeth, but he did not dare to ask that question a second time.

However, Yun Che suddenly came to an abrupt halt. Just when everyone thought he was going to speak to Fen Jieran, he said in a slow and deliberate manner, “Tian Guhu, I bestowed death on this so-called Ghost King for going against me. Yet you still live. Do you know why that is the case?”

Tian Guhu’s injuries were quite severe, but everything that had happened had been burned into his eyes. After he heard Yun Che’s words, he raised his head with some difficulty. As he looked up at the back of that already distant figure, he could only feel shame and inferiority in his heart.

How ridiculous and comical his previous behavior was... It had simply been far too ridiculous.

“Senior... disdained to kill me,” Tian Guhu said. Even though his voice was weak and dull, it still possessed a modicum of clarity.

He had addressed Yun Che as his senior, but he would never have dreamed that Yun Che’s actual age was not even one-tenth of his own.

“Heh!” Yun Che let out a small laugh before saying, “Many people want to escape from this cage called the Northern Divine Region. Because it is simply far too difficult for them to survive in this cage. However, there are also many people who have never thought of leaving this cage. Because they are strong and hold positions of power. They are the rulers of this Northern Divine Region, so they need never be concerned about the word, ‘survival’. Instead they have exclusive access to things that others would not even dare dream of in ten lifetimes.”

“Change? Escape? Those words are simply a ludicrous joke to them. They have exclusive access to everything they desire, so why would they take the risk and change anything? Why would they brave such danger? The Northern Divine Region isn’t going to completely vanish during their lifetimes, and as for their descendants... Heh, what has that got to do with them?”

“!!” Tian Guhu’s head jerked up and his originally dull and dim eyes started to tremble crazily.

“The ones who have the most power, the ones who should have been at the forefront of this fight against their fates, have never once thought of fighting. It is rare for such people to produce such an eccentric person like you. But it’s simply a pity...” Yun Che said as he gave a cold laugh, “that your actions are so very childish and ridiculous! It’s practically... even more ridiculous than my actions were back then!”

He turned around, his gaze falling on Tian Guhu. "Compassion? Righteousness? Hahaha... what are those things? If you want to change everything, you need to possess a desperate viciousness and there needs to be enough blood to cover the entire Northern Divine Region. Do you understand!?"

Tian Guhu's body violently shuddered, as if he had been struck by a bolt of lightning. He stared at Yun Che's eyes, as his own eyes started to tremble more and more intensely... He suddenly started to struggle to his feet. He endured the pain of his wounds splitting open as he fell heavily to his knees.

"Guhu, you?" Tian Muye was stunned. In fact, everyone present had been stunned by Tian Guhu's actions.

Bang!

His head heavily smacked against the ground as he kowtowed to Yun Che. He had kowtowed with all of his might without protecting himself with profound energy. So his wounds that had just been sealed had been reopened. Blood freely streamed down his forehead and when he raised his head, his face was not only stained by blood, it was also stained by tears. "I beg Senior... to take me as your disciple. Guhu... is willing to follow after Senior and be your servant. I'll do whatever you ask of me... I just beg that Senior fulfill my wish!"

Tian Guhu's words greatly shocked Tian Muye and the others present. Tian Muye practically lunged forward as he grabbed up Tian Guhu's shoulder and said, "Guhu, what are you even saying!?"

He immediately turned around and said to Yun Che. "Se... Senior Ling Yun, my disgraceful son's injuries are far too heavy. His mind is clearly addled, so he is spouting nonsense right now. I hope that you won't take offense."

Yun Che's origins were unknown, and his personality was eccentric and vicious. Even if they did not take these things into account, he had just killed the Yama Ghost King, so he would be hotly pursued by the Yama Realm after this. How could he allow Tian Guhu to get involved with him at this juncture?

Tian Guhu would normally never go against his father's words, but this time, his eyes remained fixed on Yun Che as he spoke in a hoarse but resolute voice, "Royal Father, your son sees more clearly now than I ever have in my life."

Tian Muye was completely stunned.

He had never seen the look that Tian Guhu had in his eyes before. At this moment, cold sorrow flashed in his heart as an incomparably clear and distinct notion sprang up in his head... At this moment, he felt as if he had never truly understood the son he was most proud of.

Guhu... had truly been alone. He was a solitary existence that had excluded even him, his own royal father.

"Take you as my disciple?" Yun Che turned his back towards him. "Right now, you are still far from qualified. However, I still might have some use for your life. And that day... won't be far off."

His voice lingered in their ears, but Yun Che had long since flown into the distance. Only Tian Guhu was left staring up into the sky in a completely befuddled manner.

[Chapter 1634 - A Devilish Voice and Figure](#)

Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er did not immediately depart from the Imperial Heaven Realm after they flew away from the Imperial Heaven Tower. Instead, they lingered at its borders.

"The entire Yama Realm will definitely be enraged by your forceful killing of Yan Sangeng. I'm afraid that their hunt has already begun."

Qianye Ying'er said those words in a languid and relaxed voice. Even though she had already finished refining her half of the Untamed World Pellet, her cultivation was still far from what it was in her heyday. However, she did not ever dare to even hope that she would have recovered her power to such an extent when she had been in the depths of despair.

"I wouldn't want it any other way," Yun Che said.

"The Yama Realm has been stirred up like a hornet's nest, and the Burning Moon Realm has definitely heard about what just happened as well. After adding an absolutely terrified Witch on top of this pile of things, it practically guarantees that the Devil Queen will make a move." Qianye Ying'er looked at Yun Che. "This is indeed the best method to move forward, but it also comes with the most risk."

"There's no risk," Yun Che said. "After all, she's the person who can locate us the 'fastest'."

"Aiya." Qianye Ying'er let out a soft sigh. "If you had possessed this sort of decisiveness and viciousness in the past, you would never have ended up in such a state."

Yun Che glared at her coldly as his voice deepened. "Don't keep trying to provoke the fires of my wrath."

"Hah, I actually hope to see you enraged from time to time." A light smile appeared on Qianye Ying'er's face in spite of Yun Che's cold glare. "If there comes a day when you don't even have anger left, then that will be..."

She let her words trail off as she chose not to finish what she was saying. At the same time, she very naturally avoided Yun Che's gaze as she stared into the distance.

"I am very curious." Qianye Ying'er continued, "How exactly do you want to use Tian Guhu?"

"If someone has a use, why not use him?" Yun Che said.

"...Very good," Qianye Ying'er replied. She did not pursue the matter any further.

It seemed like Yun Che had thought about a lot of things in the half a year she had spent refining the Untamed World Pellet.

The Imperial Heaven Realm and most of the Northern Divine Region were currently in an uproar, one that was only growing more and more intense.

The Heavenly Sovereign Assembly, an event that drew the rapt attention of all the profound practitioners in the Northern Divine Region, had been interrupted in an incredibly dramatic fashion. In fact, that incident had been like a bolt out of the blue. Tian Guhu had suffered a miserable defeat at the hands of someone who was in the same realm of power as him. The Yama Ghost King had been killed, and the Fourth Witch had fled in defeat.

Even though the Northern Divine Region was in constant turmoil, it had been far too long since such a momentous and shocking event had occurred.

Many people from the three king realms rushed towards the Imperial Heaven Realm as fast as they could. Even as the star realm ranked first after the king realms, this was the first time the king realms had shown so much “concern” for the Imperial Heaven Realm. Even the lowest-ranked profound practitioner in the Imperial Heaven Realm could sense that something was afoot.

However, the ones who had instigated this entire mess were the calmest people in the metaphorical room. The two of them flew at a leisurely pace, the scenery below them constantly changing. Before they knew it, a rather large bamboo forest had appeared beneath them.

The aura of the spirit bamboo caused Yun Che to unwittingly glance downward and the sight of the bamboo forest caused his eyes to become transfixed for a long while.

Ling'er...

In the past, he would think of Su Ling'er every time he saw a bamboo forest. Because of this, it had been the most painful scar in his heart.

It was only when he had reunited with the person that he had lost that this scar had finally faded.

But to lose something that one had regained was so painful that it pierced one's heart.

Qianye Ying'er's phoenix eyes slanted slightly as she said, “To think that such green bamboo could be found growing in the Northern Divine Region. This is very rare indeed.”

She casually snagged a corner of Yun Che's sleeve with her slender fingers. “Let's go down and take a look.”

Both of them descended into the heart of the bamboo forest.

The darkness aura was far weaker at the borders of the Imperial Heaven Realm. Even though the spirit bamboo in this place had a duskier coloration, the aura it exuded still retained some of its freshness and purity, a rarity in these parts.

This was the first time Yun Che had seen a bamboo forest in the Northern Divine Region.

Perhaps it was because the aura in this area was “far too pure” compared to the rest of its surroundings, but they could not sense the existence of any darkness profound beasts here. In fact, it seemed like a pure land that had been momentarily forgotten by this world of darkness.

“When my mother died all those years ago, I buried her inside a bamboo forest,” Qianye Ying'er said in a gentle voice. “Even though she was an imperial concubine, she had never enjoyed the palace intrigue. Perhaps, even her status had been forced upon her.”

As the mother of the Brahma Monarch Goddess, one could well imagine that she herself had been a country-topping beauty when she was still alive.

“By letting her rest in a bamboo grove, I hoped that she would be forever bathed in the pure and clean breeze that ran through the forest, that she would never have to be dirtied by this filthy world again.”

Qianye Ying'er eyes grew unfocused for a short moment and her voice also grew more withdrawn. "Every time I returned to the realm, I would go visit her and pay my respects to her. But it has been a while since the last time."

Yun Che silently surveyed the scenery in front of him.

During his life in the Azure Cloud Continent, it was only when Su Ling'er had died in his arms that he realized that his heart had been swallowed up by vengeance and hatred. However, no matter how much he regretted his actions or hated himself, there was no way for him to turn back time.

This was also the reason that he swore that he would protect his loved ones with all of his strength when he woke up in the Profound Sky Continent. So that he would never repeat his mistakes.

"Vengeance is like a demon, it will blind your eyes, devour your mind and soul, burn away all of the hope and light in your life."

He had admonished Fen Juechen with such words all those years ago.

However, he had now fallen into the abyss of hatred and vengeance once more. And this time, he had allowed his vengeance and hatred to completely overtake him and swallow him up. In order to achieve it, he would not hesitate to do anything, he would not hesitate to sacrifice everything.

It was a dismal and cruel way to come full circle. A cycle of tragedy in his lives that seemed destined to repeat itself.

He started walking forward slowly. After a few steps, the mistiness in his eyes had dispersed and they grew cold and indifferent once more.

This bamboo forest was very big and as the two people slowly wandered within it, a small and delicate figure appeared before their eyes.

It was a girl that looked to be only thirteen or fourteen years of age and she was leaning against one of the dark green spirit bamboo trees. Her body was sickly thin and covered in filth. Her hair was wild and tangled and they could see faint wounds on her face.

She was hugging her thighs with her arms as her slouched body leaned against a bamboo tree. Her body radiated a frailty that would cause one's heart to ache. Her half-opened eyes stared dazedly into the distance. Those eyes which should have been full of life and energy were instead dull and dim.

It was only when Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er were ten steps away from her that she noticed their presence. She reacted like a startled bird and she tried to run away in panic. But it seemed like her body was far too weak. Before she could even stand up, her legs violently wobbled and she fell heavily to the ground.

The girl's entire body was trembling as she curled up into a fetal position. It was only when she saw Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er clearly that the terror in her eyes finally dissipated. However, the exhaustion that one felt after a great fright had caused her entire body to go limp and she was unable to stand up for a long period of time.

This was a scene that had played out in front of them far too many times.

No matter how talented a child was, if their period of training had been too short or if they did not have an elder or a power to protect them, it was all too common for them to die young due to the Northern Divine Region's environment.

This girl in front of them was all alone, so it was clear that she had lost all of her protection. Furthermore, she was living in the Imperial Heaven Realm, a land which contained countless experts, so if she could not find a suitably powerful backer, it would be far too hard for her to survive in the future.

"These two... Seniors." As she looked at Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er, her eyes grew watery and she scrounged up the courage to beg. "Could... Could you please spare me a Profound Recovering Pellet... even food would be good. I beg you, please. In the future, I will definitely repay your kindness."

Yun Che's face remained expressionless but he started walking toward the girl. He came to a stop in front of her and stretched out his hand. A snow-white pellet that radiated an icy-cold aura lay in the center of his palm.

"?" Qianye Ying'er was puzzled by his actions, but she did not express it outwardly.

This was a Snow-colored Pellet that came from Frozen Cloud Immortal Palace. Given this girl's age, her cultivation was clearly far from reaching the divine way so this Snow-colored Pellet would be of great help to her.

"It will allow you to quickly recover your profound strength and it will also aid your cultivation greatly. Eat it."

After Yun Che placed the pellet in the girl's hand, he simply turned around.

"Ah..." The girl was stunned by his actions at first, but after that she swallowed the Snow-colored Pellet like a starving cat. She had even cared whether it was a poison or a strong medicine that her body would not be able to refine.

When she raised her head once more, hot tears were now flowing down her face. "I thank the two Seniors for their kindness, the both of you are... the both of you are truly good people. I will definitely repay you in the future."

"I'll remember the words you just said," Yun Che said with a dry chuckle.

"Heeheeheehee..."

A woman's tender and coquettish laugh suddenly rang out in the quiet bamboo forest. They could hear wantonness in this languid laughter and it sounded like it came from both a distant place and right next to them.

The instant that laughter rang in his ears, Yun Che's entire body suddenly went limp. Even after the laughter had died down, that feeling of numbness, a sensation that was hard to put into words, still had not vanished. Instead, it spread throughout his entire body and he felt like even his bones had gone soft and limp.

"What a kind-hearted child. It's so moving that tears are about to fall from this slave's eyes."

Yun Che had heard a countless number of celestial voices in his lifetime. Feng Xue'er's light and airy voice, the Little Demon Empress' cold and imperious voice, Shen Xi's ethereal voice, Mu Xuanyin's cold and indifferent voice... Even in the Northern Divine Region, he had heard Nanhuang Chanyi's exceptionally soft and gentle voice.

But his heart had fallen into an abyss and the sea of his soul only contained hatred. Furthermore, he had Qianye Ying'er beside him, so he had long ago reached the point where he could no longer be moved by beautiful sights or sounds.

However, this voice that had rung in his ears had just given a small laugh, had just said a few words, but it caused every nerve in Yun Che's body to relax, and caused every strand of hair on his body to gently tremble.

Moreover, this voice... did not contain any profound energy or soul power!

Yun Che's brows sank slightly. Beside him, Qianye Ying'er's expression had also undergone a clear change.

Back then, she had heard Qianye Fantian tell her that a very terrifying voice existed in the Northern Divine Region. It could easily penetrate one's bones and steal one's soul. At that time, she, who still greatly revered her father, did not doubt Qianye Fantian's words. And after she had returned to the Northern Divine Region, she had recalled these words many times.

However, the voice that rang in her ears still greatly shocked her, even though she had already been prepared for it.

Seductiveness... It contained an incredibly soft and delicate seductiveness, a seductiveness that was also incomparably terrifying. Even the words "devour your soul and penetrate your bones" could not describe it.

Qianye Ying'er had studied a countless number of those bewitching arts and sounds which were supposed to ensnare a person's heart and soul. She had seen these techniques performed countless times. But she had always ended up scoffing at these techniques in disdain.

However the voice that rang in her ears far transcended the level of any old "bewitching sound" and there were no traces of a bewitching art being used. A few simple words had completely ignored the defenses erected around Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er's souls, pulling on every single fiber of their souls.

This was a devilish voice that far exceeded my understanding, a voice that could bewitch the world, a voice that should not even exist in this universe.

Yun Che's chest swelled up and it only sank back down after a few breaths had passed. He looked at the dazed girl before saying, "You should leave. The further, the better."

His words snapped the girl out of her daze. She hurriedly got up and fled into the distance. She did not even dare breathe another word.

Right after the girl left, a black figure started to slowly coalesce into existence in front of them.

This black figure had appeared without any warning, yet it did not seem as if she had made a sudden appearance. Instead, it seemed as if she had been there all along.

Her entire body was encased in a layer of flowing black mist that seemed to be alive. She moved in a slow and relaxed manner and it was as if she was strolling out of some unknown abyss of darkness. Her every step caused the light around them to dim, and caused the spirit bamboo to dissolve into swirling black dust.

The black smoke hid her figure and her features, but anyone could tell that the person who had appeared was a woman. Because even though she was cloaked in black mist, it was obvious that she was wearing a loose black robe and every step she took naturally showed off the curves of that voluptuous body. Every entrancing curve and contour that was revealed numbed their hearts and soul.

Yun Che's gaze had turned rigid and even Qianye Ying'er's eyes had frozen in place. They remained transfixed for a long period of time.

Just a single blurry glimpse of what she looked like had put them in such a state. If this black mist were dispersed, what sort of devilish figure would appear in front of them?

No matter whether it was Yun Che or Qianye Ying'er, they had never met a person whose voice and figure could give them such an incredibly clear feeling of "dread".

"I suspected that we would meet very soon," Qianye Ying'er said as she quietly laced her fingers together. The woman who was shrouded in black mist had not released any profound energy or displayed any sort of might, yet she had caused Qianye Ying'er to feel an unprecedented wariness. "But I had never expected it to be so fast. It looks like your patience is far thinner than I thought."

Qianye Ying'er slowly stepped forward, her jade lips parting slightly as she slowly pronounced this woman's name. "The Northern Region's Devil Queen, Chi Wuyao!"

[Chapter 1635 - The Goddess and The Devil Queen](#)

The Devil Queen of the Northern Region, a title that resounded in the upper echelons of the Eastern, Western, and Southern God Regions. However, very few people actually knew her true name. In fact, no one in the Northern Divine Region would even dare to utter her name, not even in private.

Chi Wuyao!

Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er had never seen her or had any contact with her before. However, the moment her smoke-wreathed figure appeared... No, the moment her voice rang in their ears, whether it was Yun Che or Qianye Ying'er, even if it was any other person in the Northern Divine Region, the one who heard it would be utterly convinced that the Devil Queen of the Northern Region had appeared in person!

One step, two steps, three steps... Yun Che's eyes were fixed on the woman who was slowly approaching them.

She did not exude any oppressive might, he could not even feel the slightest hint of pressure coming from her.

Once someone had reached her level of cultivation, even the invisible field of energy around them would disappear. They would simply exist and the entire world around them would treat them as its ruler, the core of its existence. A sense of abject inferiority and servility would swiftly grow in the

deepest part of the souls of all who gazed upon such a being. It was not a feeling that could be controlled. In fact, it was something that completely ignored one's willpower or conviction.

If not for the fact that the blood of a Devil Emperor flowed in Qianye Ying'er's veins, even she, who had regained the strength of a level eight Divine Master, would have been noticeably affected in this manner.

"To think you would dare to address this queen by name. How bold of you."

Her voice rang out once more. Even though she had only said a few words, it caused Yun Che's blood, the blood that he had forcefully stilled, to start churning again.

He had imagined that the most frightening female voice in the Northern Divine Region would be accompanied by a soul-freezing oppressiveness. Instead, it sounded like the soft lament of a young wife in the privacy of her bedroom, like the playful whisper of a young girl that lingered in one's ears. Yun Che clenched his hands tightly and when she looked into his eyes, they still remained dark and gloomy. "You can also call me by my name."

"Oh?" When the black-clothed woman finally stopped moving, she was only three steps away from Yun Che. It seemed as if Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er's responses had intrigued her. After that, she let out a soft laugh and said, "Yun Che. This queen has actually known your name for quite a while. You truly are a charming child, aren't you?"

Yun Che, "...?"

"Ah, but you on the other hand, Qianye Ying'er." Underneath that black mist, a pair of dusky eyes slowly and wantonly caressed every part of Qianye Ying'er's body. Chi Wuyao's already seductive and bewitching voice turned even more cottony and languid. "You are indeed worthy of being called the Brahma Monarch Goddess, the woman that all the men in the universe lust after. Your looks and figure stir feelings of jealousy even in myself."

Chi Wuyao's gaze actually made Qianye Ying'er feel as if she was being undressed and caressed wantonly. Furthermore, this sensation was frighteningly vivid.

She was clearly wearing a mask but she felt as if it did not even exist as Chi Wuyao looked at her.

"My name is Yun Qianying." Qianye Ying'er's voice was cold and imperious and she did not avoid Chi Wuyao's gaze. "Chi Wuyao, we finally meet. I've been waiting for this day for a long time."

Chi Wuyao let out a soft gasp of surprise. After that, she took a graceful step forward and let out a soft complaint. "You stole my Untamed Divine Marrow and bullied my Witch. You even keep on disrespecting me. Do you really desire to be killed by me that much?"

She was only two steps away from her, a distance that no one else would even dare imagine. Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er could even feel her warm and gentle breath on their skin.

She did not make either of them feel any sense of danger. In fact, she did not even exude the slightest bit of pressure or aggression. Her devilish voice was so bewitching that it sounded like a celestial fantasy. It could obliterate the senses of any man in a single instant...

However, Qianye Ying'er would never be able to forget that the Chi Wuyao in front of her was the woman who had left a dark shadow in the hearts of two of the strongest god emperors in the Eastern Divine Region all those years ago. She was also the person that Qianye Fantian regarded as the most dreadful person in the universe.

When she had taken that gentle step forward, the very first thing that Qianye Ying'er had wanted to do was to take a step back. However, she fiercely smothered that instinctive movement in the very next instant. She said, "Given your abilities, Chi Wuyao, it would be easy for you to kill us. But all of us are well aware about the reason you chose to suddenly appear before us in such a hasty manner. Why waste our time with all of this nonsense?"

Chi Wuyao gave a smile that was not a smile before she suddenly stretched out an arm and gently hooked a finger toward Yun Che.

A soft sound rang in the air without any warning or profound energy rippling the air. After that, the spatial ring that Yun Che was wearing actually instantly appeared between Chi Wuyao's fingers.

Yun Che had not even been able to react.

Chi Wuyao glanced at it indifferently as she stretched her hand wide open.

Bang!

The spatial ring instantly blew apart and an extremely tiny spatial vortex appeared amidst the debris. Meanwhile, a dim but oddly pure glimmer of starlight had appeared in the middle of Chi Wuyao's palm.

At the same time, an unfathomably dense and pure aura swiftly spread through the air, cleansing everything in the surrounding area.

It was the aura belonging to the Untamed Divine Marrow!

It was a very tiny bit of Untamed Divine Marrow that was about as small as half a pinky nail. Chi Wuyao's eyes narrowed as she said, "You used this petty trick to lure this queen here. The two of you truly are very naughty indeed."

When he had refined the Untamed World Pellet, Yun Che had deliberately instructed He Ling to save a very tiny piece of the Untamed Divine Marrow.

The Cleansing Sky God Emperor had left a unique soul imprint on this piece of Untamed Divine Marrow all those years ago. This aura of this soul imprint could be obstructed by the Immaculate Barrier, but it clearly could not be obstructed by a spatial storage tools. Otherwise, the Burning Moon God Emperor, who was clearly afraid of the Devil Queen, would not have been so thorough in hiding it.

Given the Sky Poison Pearl's level, it probably could perfectly obstruct the aura of the soul imprint if he had stored the Untamed Divine Marrow inside of it. This would stop the Devil Queen from being able to trace it. However, Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er could not be completely sure of this.

Furthermore, given their strength and circumstances at that time, they definitely did not have the qualifications to face the Devil Queen as equals and not lessers so they could not overlook even the smallest possibility. As a result, they immediately chose to leave the Northern Divine Region temporarily and take refuge in the God Realm of Absolute Beginning.

However, Yun Che was now making deliberate use of this unique characteristic as he intentionally stored that tiny bit of Untamed Divine Marrow inside an ordinary spatial ring. Doing this would conceal its aura but it would not conceal the unique soul imprint. The purpose of this action was to allow Devil Queen Chi Wuyao to find them as soon as possible and entice her into appearing in front of them.

Once the Devil Queen had detected them, she still would not personally appear due to her status. However, any matters concerning the Untamed Divine Marrow could not be left to any ordinary person, so it was most likely that she would send one of her Witches.

They would borrow this opportunity to defeat the Witch that she had sent, and in doing so, send the Devil Queen a message of their own. They were ready to cooperate with her as peers.

However, this Heavenly Sovereign Assembly and the presence of Fourth Witch Yao Die was a happy coincidence for them. It had allowed them to greatly simplify this process.

“But you still took the bait.” Yun Che’s gaze penetrated that wispy black smoke and he could just barely confirm that she had a pair of dusky eyes.

For them to actively search for Chi Wuyao and for Chi Wuyao to take the initiative to appear before them were two entirely different notions altogether.

“Aiyah.” Chi Wuyao grumbled, “Child, you truly do say some disagreeable things.”

She crooked her finger gently as she played with the remaining bit of the Untamed Divine Marrow. “What about the rest of the Untamed Divine Marrow?”

“We already used it,” Yun Che said.

Chi Wuyao curled her fingers. “So you stole and secretly used this queen’s Untamed Divine Marrow and you actually still dare to speak to me in such a bold and self-righteous manner. Are you really so sure... that I won’t kill the two of you?”

Her words still sounded annoyed but jovial and they could not even hear the slightest hint of anger in them. But the space around them, the aura of darkness, and all of the elements in the area completely froze in that instant.

“Go ahead and try it.” No matter whether it was Yun Che’s expression or his voice, they were both stiff and icy.

And the person who was standing in front of him right now was no other than the Devil Queen of the Northern Region, an existence that every living being in the Northern Divine Region feared!

Qianye Ying’er thrust out an arm and pushed Yun Che aside. She chose to stand face to face with Chi Wuyao as she said, “Why don’t we leave things like negotiations to me. This is especially true when it comes to Chi Wuyao. I’ve long been interested in matching wits with her.”

“Negotiations?” Chi Wuyao’s lips curved into a small smile, her bewitching voice as alluring as a dream. “But this queen far prefers having a match in the bedroom.”

“Cooperate with us.” Qianye Ying’er stared straight at her, ignoring her devilish voice and seductive words. “Nanhuang Chanyi said that to us a few years ago, and it had come from you. I also think that it’s the reason that you’ve appeared before us today.”

“That was back then,” Chi Wuyao said in a lazy and languid voice. “Although you didn’t exactly reject me back then, you’ve bullied one of my Witches and stolen my Untamed Divine Marrow. Even now, you are still showing such disrespect to me. Every single one of these things are considered unforgivable sins, crimes that demand your deaths.”

Qianye Ying’er replied, “We did Nanhuang Chanyi a huge favor in the Central Ruins Realm and it was just to get some compensation and a bargaining chip to protect ourselves. It was entirely reasonable.”

“As for the Untamed Divine Marrow, we obtained it from the Thousand Desolation Divine Sect. And it seems like this Thousand Desolation Divine Sect shares a most unusual connection with the Burning Moon Realm. So if you were to get down to the nitty-gritty, we stole it from the Burning Moon Realm, not your Soul Stealing Realm. So if you want to pursue this matter, you should take it up with the Burning Moon Realm.”

“As for our disrespect towards you...” Qianye Ying’er gave a dispassionate laugh. “Chi Wuyao, even though you are the famed Devil Queen, you still don’t possess the qualifications to make us lower our heads towards you in deference or tremble in fear. I believe that you also would not think highly of any associate who would behave in such a manner. In fact, I believe you would not even want to cooperate with such people.”

“Heeheeheehee...” Qianye Ying’er’s words caused Chi Wuyao to let out an unrestrained laugh. That coquettish and seductive laughter rang out in the air once more before she replied, “This queen has seen many people who talk big. However, this is the first time this queen has seen anything like the two of you. To think that two defeated dogs who fled the Eastern Divine Region would still dare to speak in such a frightfully proud and boastful manner. This has truly been an eye-opening experience.”

“Heh.” Qianye Ying’er also let out a cold chuckle, her voice as deep and low as any abyss. “Even a defeated dog can still bite. Moreover, its bite will be far more vicious, far more frenzied.”

Chi Wuyao’s laughter stilled and her eyes narrowed into two long slits. “As expected of the Brahma Monarch Goddess. Your words are far more pleasing to the ears than the words of this boorish child.”

“Chi Wuyao.” Qianye Ying’er’s eyes narrowed as well as she silently resisted the effect that Chi Wuyao’s devilish voice had on her soul. “Perhaps you desire to escape the cage that is the Northern Divine Region. Or perhaps you want to change the fate of the entire Northern Divine Region. However, what Yun Che and I want is to plunge those three divine regions... into an abyss for the rest of eternity!”

“We have different goals, but we share the same enemies. Our partnership will be completely complimentary. This means that you won’t have to worry about how to divide the spoils of war or coming into conflict with us regarding this. What’s there to lose?”

“Well said. Very well said.” Chi Wuyao seemed to be praising Qianye Ying’er. But in the next instant, her voice subtly changed. “Yun Qianying, you and I have always lived in two separate worlds. We have never once met. But you sound as if you understand this queen very well and this truly piques my curiosity.”

“Understand you? Heh, what a joke.” Qianye Ying’er’s gaze grew cold and desolate. “The hardest, most impossible, and most ridiculous thing to try to do is to understand someone else. I don’t understand you at all. However, there is one thing about you that I am absolutely sure of.”

“Oh?” It seemed as if Chi Wuyao had blinked.

“You have a huge amount of ambition. Perhaps it’s for yourself, or perhaps it’s for the Northern Divine Region, your actions in probing the Eastern Divine Region all those years ago proved that,” Qianye Ying’er said in an unhurried voice. “However, even though the strength of the other three divine regions and the current state of the Northern Divine Regions forced you to bide your time for the last ten millennia, your ambition definitely hasn’t dulled or decreased in the slightest.”

Chi Wuyao raised a hand and tapped a finger against her chin. “Where does this confidence come from?”

“Hmph, the woman that old dog Qianye Fantian spoke about the most to me was you. When that old dog talked about you, it also unconsciously influenced my temperament.” Qianye Ying’er said something that would stun anyone who heard it. “You are the same as me. We are both extreme people and you chase after things that other people would not even dare to dream of.”

“Moreover, you would be willing to do anything to achieve and sacrifice everything to achieve this goal. And we are the people who can help you achieve this goal... In fact, we are the only ones who can make your dream a reality.”

“The only reason you appeared before us so soon is because you were afraid that the Yama Realm or the Burning Moon Realm would find us first. Since that is the case, why is there a need to act so coy?”

Yun Che had kept his mouth shut as the two women “negotiated” beside him. He gazed towards the west and his lips seemed to be curving up... into what looked like a mocking smile.

“This queen has the Nine Witches, twenty seven Devil Spirits and three hundred and sixty Soul Attendants under my command. A trillion beings of darkness are at my every beck and call. With a single flick of my finger, I can turn this entire Northern Divine Region upside down. So what benefits can the two of you provide to me? You think that defeating Yao Die was enough?”

“Of course, the two of us won’t be able to create much of a ripple in this vast universe. However...” Qianye Ying’er started to speak in a slow and measured manner and each and every one of the words that she was about to say would shock the heavens. “With the two of us by your side, if you, Chi Wuyao, desired to swallow the other two king realms, accomplishing that would be ...”

“AS EASY—AS—STEALING CANDY—FROM A BABY!”

To say that the act of “swallowing two other king realms” would be “as easy as stealing candy from a baby”. Nobody would even think of uttering such words. In fact, anyone who said these words would only be met by mockery, disdain, and uproarious laughter.

However, Chi Wuyao neither mocked or laughed at them. She simply said two words. Two words which stunned even Qianye Ying’er for a moment.

“Very good.”

It seemed like she had been waiting for them to say such a thing... Words that anyone would find absolutely ridiculous.

"If this is the bargaining chip that you have laid on the table, then it is indeed enough," Chi Quyao said in a slow and languid voice. However, her voice underwent a slight change in the very next instant. "Since you want to 'cooperate' with me as equals, then shouldn't you first settle the debt that you owe me? If you still owe me something, then how can we work together as peers?"

"Debt?" Qianye Ying'er's gaze grew intense.

"The Untamed... Divine... Marrow." Chi Wuyao drawled in a soft and languid voice, her voice chiming like a mournful knell. "Brahma Monarch Goddess, surely you can't be so naive as to believe that this queen will go extract that debt from the Burning Moon God Emperor just because of what you told me, right?"

Qianye Ying'er, "..."

"When you met Chanyi back then, your cultivation was only at the Divine Sovereign Realm. But in the short span of two years, you've actually reached the late stages of the Divine Master Realm. It looks like this queen's Untamed Divine Marrow had ended up being used by you. However, the Untamed World Pellet refined by the Sky Poison Pearl truly does live up to its reputation. It truly arouses my jealousy."

"And once a woman's jealousy is aroused..." Chi Wuyao said as her lips curved up slightly, "now that's a very scary thing."

Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er furrowed their brows at the same time.

The Untamed World Pellet did not only require a piece of Untamed Divine Marrow, it also needed a Divine Fruit of Absolute Beginning. The latter item could only be obtained if one was truly lucky, yet Chi Wuyao sounded absolutely convinced that they had obtained an Untamed World Pellet.

Also, even though it was not strange that she knew that Yun Che had the Sky Poison Pearl, how did she know about its ability to refine medicine?

"Fine," Qianye Ying'er said coldly. "The Untamed Divine Marrow was indeed used to refine the Untamed World Pellet. There's no way to get it back. It would truly be a waste to allow such a thing, an item that cannot even be recovered, to destroy the harmony between us. So, we can take this Untamed Divine Marrow as a great gift that you, Chi Wuyao, have magnanimously bestowed upon us as a token of your sincerity."

"It is only natural that we return a suitably important gift to you. As for what this gift will be... I think that you've actually already received it."

"...?" Even Yun Che was stunned by those words.

"Oh?" Chi Wuyao calmly waited for her to finish speaking.

"What?" Qianye Ying'er said with an enigmatic smile, "Could it be that Zhou Xuizi still hasn't sent a sound transmission to you?"

[Chapter 1636 - A Reason](#)

“Zhou Xuzi?” Chi Wuyao glanced to the side, noticing the weird light that flashed through Yun Che’s eyes in that instant. “He did indeed send this queen a sound transmission. He wanted to make a special deal with me. However, I do not quite understand what you mean by ‘a gift’.”

Chi Wuyao looked at Qianye Ying’er expectantly. She did not seem to be the least bit contemptuous or angry about this mysterious gift that Qianye Ying’er had said was as weighty as the Untamed Divine Marrow. Instead, she seemed to be eagerly waiting for Qianye Ying’er to give her a wonderful explanation.

Before Qianye Ying’er could even reply, a cold and stiff voice rang in their ears.

“How did you know that Zhou Xuzi would send her a sound transmission?”

The person who had asked this question was Yun Che.

It was not strange for Qianye Ying’er to realize some things that he would not. This was because her insight into the workings of the Eastern Divine Region far exceeded his own. However, he was very clearly miffed by the fact that Qianye Ying’er had never mentioned this to him before.

Qianye Ying’er said, “Yun Che, one of the biggest reasons for your downfall was that you thought you understood Zhou Xuzi.”

Yun Che’s gaze seemed to transform into cold swords, but he did not refute her words.

Chi Wuyao pursed her lips and she seemed to take joy in observing the interactions between Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er.

“You, and most of the people in the universe, know Zhou Xuzi as the person who inherited the will of Eternal Heaven. A man who lives by the creed of justice and righteousness, a man who stuck to his principles no matter what. All of these things aren’t wrong. However, human nature has always been the most complicated thing in the universe. Furthermore, it’s not like his principles are unbreakable. If that were the case, Xia Qingyue would never have specially invited him to witness you planting the slave imprint on me.”

“It was also because of his so-called righteousness that he personally broke the promise that he made to you.”

“Moreover, there is one other thing that can make him betray his principles other than righteousness, and that is Zhou Qingchen!” Qianye Ying’er said languidly as a strange and demonic golden light flashed in her eyes. “You only know Zhou Qingchen as the only son borne by his first wife and the successor that he personally chose. However, you do not know just how important that useless piece of trash is to that old man.”

“If it’s something involving Zhou Qingchen, and he will only ever make this exception for Zhou Qingchen, not only will he be willing to break his principles, he is even willing to deviate from his path of ‘righteousness’ to a certain degree.”

“Hah. Righteousness huh,” Yun Che said with a cold laugh.

“Half a year ago, you transformed Zhou Qingchen into a devil and this action definitely cracked that old man and pushed him to the very brink. But after that, I suddenly recalled a very interesting thing.” She

turned her gaze towards Chi Wuyao. “Qianye Fantian told me this back then. After they had exchanged blows ten thousand years ago, Chi Wuyao deliberately left behind a devil jade that was engraved with a sound transmission profound formation. And this piece of devil jade was sealed in the Eternal Heaven Realm.”

“The entire universe knows that the Eternal Heaven God Realm hates devils the most. In fact, the Eternal Heaven God Realm was at the forefront of the hunt for Yun Che. So for their young lord to be transformed into a devil is such a delightfully ironic twist of fate. If this had happened to any other realm, they would most likely have just gotten rid of the victim. However, Zhou Xuzi definitely won’t do such a thing. He’ll hide Zhou Qingchen and he’ll do everything he can to find a solution to his problem, and I do mean everything.”

“But when all of his efforts do not bear fruit, what do you think he’ll think of in the end?”

“If it’s possible to forcibly inject darkness profound energy into someone’s body, then there should be a way to rid the body of this energy as well,” Chi Wuyao said in an unhurried manner. “So, he sent a sound transmission to this queen and even offered something that this queen found extremely tempting.”

Yun Che, “...”

Chi Wuyao’s words had just definitively proven that everything had gone according to Qianye Ying’er’s expectations.

Zhou Xuzi’s greatest desire was to capture Yun Che, no matter whether it was because of the “Devil God Prophecy” or Zhou Qingchen. However, Yun Che was hiding in the Northern Divine Region, a world that he could not enter.

And the ones who controlled the Northern Divine Region were the three great king realms, the Yama Realm, the Burning Moon Realm, and the Soul Stealing Realm.

As a result, the piece of devil jade that Chi Wuyao left behind all those years ago became a way for the Eternal Heaven God Emperor to grasp at the last “life saving” straw left to him.

This gave Chi Wuyao an enormous bargaining chip. Given her personal strength and the authority she commanded in the Northern Divine Region, as long as she so desired, Yun Che would not be able to slip through her fingers even if he had ten thousand lives. At that time, the devilish malediction he had become and Zhou Qingchen’s devilized body would be solved in one fell swoop.

However, this was making a deal with a devil. Before the events of that day, Zhou Xuzi would never even have dreamed or believed that he was capable of such a choice or action.

And this matter could never ever be disclosed to the public either.

However, to his misfortune, the Eternal Heaven God Emperor would never even dream that Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er had already grown to this extent in such an infinitesimal amount of time. The Devil Queen of the Northern Region, the person he thought would be able to easily gain control over Yun Che’s fate, had now been enticed to visit him personally.

“Brahma Monarch Goddess, are you interested in hearing the price that Zhou Xuzi named?” Chi Wuyao giggled as she spoke in that soft and cottony voice, “Perhaps after hearing his offer, you will immediately tie up this man and return to the Eastern Divine Region.”

“It’s a pity,” Qianye Ying’er replied with a cold smile. “If you had been in my shoes and had stayed by this man’s side for a few years, you’d realize that even if Old Man Eternal Heaven moved his entire Eternal Heaven Realm here... it still wouldn’t be enough!”

“Oh?” Chi Wuyao’s gaze slowly wandered over Qianye Ying’er’s face. Her eyes twinkled with mischief and subtle mockery. “So you are saying that your so-called great gift is to lure the Eternal Heaven God Emperor here and then kill him? I would think that you, the Brahma Monarch Goddess, would not be this naive, correct?”

“Heh, you’re the one who’s being naive here. Unless you can lure him into the center of the Northern Divine Region, it’s a foolish dream to even think you can kill the Eternal Heaven Emperor with just your own power, Chi Wuyao.” Qianye Ying’er’s voice grew more relaxed. “Chi Wuyao, the great gift that we have given back to you is a ‘reason’.”

Reason, a word that could not be any more simple. However, when Qianye Ying’er said the word, the world suddenly fell into a hush.

Neither of the women spoke. In the blink of an eye, Chi Wuyao’s gray eyes suddenly twitched as a gloomy and bewitching light flashed through them... This was a strange light that even the Nine Witches had never borne witness to.

“Continue.” When she spoke again, the same devilish voice rang in the air once more. But this time, it had lost some of its bewitching indolence.

Qianye Ying’er replied in an unhurried manner, “You want to break the Northern Divine Region out of its cage so it is inevitable that you will face off against the three other divine regions who regard the devils and the northern divine region as blasphemous existences. Once you think the time is ripe, you will marshal up all of the devils to try and break this cage. When you unleash your onslaught on the other three divine regions, they will be thrown into panic and chaos for a short period of time. However, after that, due to their wrath and unity in the face of a common foe... the three divine regions will band together in an extremely short amount of time.”

“When the forces of the Northern Region face off against the combined might of the three divine regions, their incomparable strength and the dark shadow they have left in the hearts of the denizens of the Northern Region will undoubtedly arouse feelings of panic, cowardice, and fear among your forces. Thus, even if you, Chi Wuyao, swallow up the Burning Moon Realm and the Yama Realm, just how many devils in this vast Northern Divine Region will truly be willing to listen to your commands and fight against the combined forces of the three divine regions? One tenth? Half?”

Chi Wuyao, “...”

“But.” Qianye Ying’er paused for a moment, but after that, her voice grew darker and heavier with each word that followed. “What if it was the Eastern Divine Region who attacked the Northern Divine Region first?”

“The devils of the Northern Region have been trapped inside this cage by the other three divine regions for generations. You’ve never been allowed to leave. Not only are all of you trapped here, they don’t even show you any mercy. They would kill all of you if they could. As a result, your people have been oppressed for countless years, and have been in pain for countless years. The discontent and resentment that all of you feel would transform into boundless fury and hysteria due to this provocation. And this will ultimately give rise to a desperate determination, the will to fight back even in the face of death.”

“At that time Chi Wuyao, you won’t even need to mobilize your forces through charisma or trickery. You’ll just need to declare that you’ll attack the Eastern Divine Region and that will ignite a devilish fire that far exceeds even your greatest hopes and dreams.”

“Furthermore, the Eastern Divine Region will not be facing an invasion from the Northern Divine Region. It will be facing a counterattack! You will still do battle with them all the same, however, one thing will be different. The feeling of camaraderie in the face of a common foe will be missing. Instead, most people in the Eastern Divine Region will feel angry and irritated that their leaders had chosen to poke the hornet’s nest that is the Northern Divine Region. The difference between the results wrought by these two scenarios is like the difference between heaven and earth.”

“I still haven’t talked about the most important point,” Qianye Ying’er continued. “If you choose to invade, you will cause the three other divine regions to swiftly band together. But if you were only responding in kind, then it will be viewed as the Eastern Divine Region’s ‘karma’. And why would the Western Divine Region or the Southern Divine Region sacrifice any strength to aid the Eastern Divine Region in solving a crisis of their own making? They would already be considered quite benevolent if they didn’t take advantage of the situation and exploit the Eastern Divine Region’s misfortune.

“Heh.” Qianye Ying’er gave a cold laugh. “The relationship between the three divine regions is far more tenuous and delicate than you, the Devil Queen of the Northern Region, can imagine or even understand.”

“If the devils from the lowly Northern Divine Region left their own devil region and barged into the Eastern Divine Region, the Western and Southern Divine Region wouldn’t even feel as if the Eastern Divine Region was under imminent threat. They’d think that the Eastern Divine Region would sustain some serious losses at worst. This would only cause them to indulge in some schadenfreude over the Eastern Divine Region’s misfortune.”

“By the time they’re able to respond,” Qianye Ying’er said as her lips curved up into a cold and dangerous smile, “you, Chi Wuyao, will already have become the king of the Eastern Divine Region.”

Pah!

Pah!

Pah!

Chi Wuyao gave a slow clap and they could vaguely see her lips curve up into a bewitchingly seductive arc underneath that black mist. “The Brahma Monarch Goddess has painted a picture that is truly incomparably spectacular. The plan itself sounds unreasonably perfect. However...”

“Why are you so confident that the Eastern Divine Region would suddenly launch an attack on our Northern Divine Region?”

“Our Northern Divine Region is already far weaker than the Eastern Divine Region. Furthermore, the moment we denizens of the Northern Divine Region leave our home, our power will fall drastically. Why are you so confident that we will be able to conquer the Eastern Divine Region before the Western and Southern Divine Regions can even respond?”

“He will.” Qianye Ying’er’s eyes grew focused but she had given her prediction in a voice that brooked no question. “You don’t understand just how highly Old Man Eternal Heaven regards that useless son of his. You also don’t understand... just how much this man beside me hates Old Man Eternal Heaven.”

Yun Che’s face remained expressionless.

“As for the latter issue...” Qianye Ying’er gave Yun Che a deep look. “Once you bring us to the Soul Stealing Realm, you will very quickly find out the answer.”

“Fine.” Chi Wuyao replied without pursuing the matter any further, with a surprising and completely unexpected frankness and directness. Her gaze fell on Yun Che and she said, “However, it’s not ‘us’. It’s just him.”

“Oh?” Qianye Ying’er’s eyes narrowed slightly.

“Isn’t he the only person that I’ll need for this endeavor?” Chi Wuyao’s lips curved into a charming and beautiful smile. “As for you. You’re so beautiful that even this queen’s jealousy has been aroused, and you’re far too clever. As a woman, how can I tolerate your presence?”

“Then it looks like you’re going to be disappointed.” A sweet and charming smile had also appeared on Qianye Ying’er’s face. “You do indeed only need him alone. However, this man won’t be able to leave me.”

Yun Che, “...”

“Unless you can replace me as his incubator and toy.”

However, her tone immediately changed into a mocking one as she said, “However, it’s such a pity. I’m afraid that he won’t like your body. I mean, only the heavens know just how many men you’ve been defiled by.”

“Heeheeheeheehee!” Chi Wuyao was not infuriated in the slightest. Instead, her seductive laughter rang out in such a wild and wanton manner that her bewitching body started to shake. This caused Qianye Ying’er’s golden brows to knit together slightly.

“An incubator...” Chi Wuyao drawled out those two words. After that she spoke in a languid voice, “No wonder you were able to frighten that child Yao Die to such an extent, even though you’ve only been cultivating darkness profound energy for a mere three years. As it turns out, your body did not only get a boost from the Untamed World Pellet, it also possesses...”

“The blood of a Devil Emperor.”

When she said those six words, Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er’s heads jerked towards her simultaneously.

“You’ve met the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor!?” Yun Che said as he took half a step forward.

Chi Wuyao did not give them a direct answer. Instead, she replied in that soft and cottony voice, “When the two of you first fled from the Eastern Divine Region back then and stepped into our Northern Divine Realm, you behaved like two startled doves. The moment you heard this queen’s name, your very first reaction was to run as far as you could. Yet you forgot to consider one thing. Why would this queen even deign to utter the word “cooperation” to the two of you? Two defeated dogs who had just fled to the Northern Divine Region?”

“Furthermore, given your strength at that time, Chanyi would have been able to forcibly restrain the both of you with a flick of her finger and bodily drag the both of you to this queen. However, she didn’t try to do this even once and she was even ambushed by you.”

“Did the two of you really think that Chanyi was a lenient and gentle person? If she was really the person you thought she was, how could she become one of my Witches?”

[Chapter 1637 - The Devil Emperor’s Words](#)

When Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er had escaped from Nanhuang Chanyi’s grasp, they had also managed to successfully ambush her. In fact, they had accomplished both tasks with exceptional ease.

In addition to this, even with their meager strength at that time, they had never felt any clear danger or sense of pressure from Nanhuang Chanyi, a Witch, when they had faced her. So once they had successfully ambushed her and escaped her grasp, it was inevitable that they had thoughts like “Oh, so this is all a Witch amounts to”.

However, anyone who could become a Witch, one of the Devil Queen’s shadows, stood at the very peak of the Northern Divine Region’s hierarchy. Every single one of them was an extremely terrifying existence. This could be easily seen from the reverence that all of the realm kings, and even Yan Sangeng and the Burning Moon Crown Prince, had shown to Witch Yao Die back at the Imperial Heaven Tower.

For someone to be chosen as a Witch by Chi Wuyao, they had to possess more than strength and natural talent. They also had to possess a temperament and beauty that was one in a million. Therefore, as a Witch, Nanhuang Chanyi definitely was not the good-natured person she seemed to be on the surface. In fact, when they thought about it carefully, all of the things she had said and done back then had been done on Chi Wuyao’s specific instructions.

However, all of these things were no longer important. Yun Che said in a deep voice, “What did the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor tell you!?”

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor... If she knew that she and her kinsmen had sacrificed themselves for such an outcome, how would she react? Shock? Pain? Regret... Or perhaps this was one of the outcomes that she had long foreseen.

“That is this queen’s private matter, this queen is not obliged to tell you,” Chi Wuyao replied with a soft smile.

Chi Wuyao’s words had already tacitly confirmed that she had met the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor.

It was not strange at all for the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor to visit the Northern Divine Region. After all, she was still an emperor of the devils when it was all said and done. The territory which made up the Northern Divine Region was merely her homeland, a home she had been separated from for a million years. What reason would she have to not visit this place?

Furthermore, it was a place filled with nostalgia, a place where she would willingly linger.

“The reason why the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor came to see you must be because you have a unique devil soul, right?” Qianye Ying’er said.

Her words caused suspicion to creep into Yun Che’s eyes.

Given the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor’s might, all of the living beings in this universe were but ants to her. To her, there was not much difference between a mortal who had not cultivated a dint of profound energy and a god emperor who stood at the very pinnacle of the profound way. When she had first made her appearance, she had not even deigned to look at the Dragon Monarch, the person who possessed the most strength in the universe, the person who had exuded the most robust aura on that day.

So why would she appear before this Chi Wuyao?

“When the Clear Sky God Emperor suddenly died all those years ago, it had not only shaken the king realms in the Northern Divine Region. In fact, all of the king realms in the Eastern, Western, and Southern Divine Regions had been astounded by the event. Then, Qianye Fantian, who only exchanged a short series of blows with you, did not dare to forget the three words ‘Chi Wuyao’ ever again. According to him, based on your profound cultivation alone, you were inferior to him back then, but your soul power was incomparably strange and bizarre. After that, he searched through all of the records and memories in the Brahma Monarch God Realm and the Eternal Heaven God Realm, but he didn’t manage to find anything.”

“The only reason why the Clear Sky God Realm could become a king realm was because they possessed an indestructible inheritance of power. Furthermore, it was this indestructible inheritance that formed the foundation of a king realm’s power, a power that allowed them to lord over the rest of creation. Every single one of these indestructible inheritances were something left behind by a True God, the strongest sources of power in this universe. It is a power that has been passed down from generation to generation. They are like divine flames that burn forever. They will never go out and they can never ever be interfered with.”

“Yet, you managed to transform the Clear Sky God Realm’s indestructible inheritance into another indestructible inheritance, which is the current power inherited by your Witches.” Qianye Ying’er’s voice grew softer. “This is a feat that only you, Chi Wuyao, has accomplished in the entire history of the God Realm.”

“I am very curious about one thing. In fact, I’m sure all the king realms are as curious as I am about this matter. Just what sort of powers do you, Chi Wuyao, really possess?”

A strange light flashed in Chi Wuyao’s eyes. But she replied in a cheery voice, “Before you ask about someone else’s secrets, shouldn’t you first offer up your own secrets in exchange?”

Qianye Ying'er frowned. She had never expected to get the answer in the first place. If one could obtain an answer by simply asking, then these things could not be called secrets anymore.

"It may very well be the case that the only reason the Lord Devil Emperor appeared before me was because this queen was a kinsmen of hers who had survived to this day." Chi Wuyao's devilish voice was as soft and cottony as a cloud and her playful tone concealed a bewitching seductiveness.

"Hmph." Qianye Ying'er replied with a cold snort.

At this moment, Chi Wuyao's smile suddenly vanished and the black mist coiling around her body completely stilled. When her voice rang out once more, it had turned exceptionally cold and distant.

"The yin energy of the Primal Chaos continues to disappear, even I cannot divine the true reason behind it. This final territory of the devils will continue to shrink and if there is no change in circumstances, then it will disappear completely one day. At that time, even if you possess the will to fight, you will still be utterly powerless before the might of the other three divine regions."

"Unless there comes a day where a man named Yun Che enters into this final bastion of devildom with darkness and vengeance in his heart."

Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er furrowed their brows as they stared at Chi Wuyao, whose aura had drastically changed.

When she finished speaking, the black fog around Chi Wuyao seemed to spring to life once more as it started to slowly swirl. Her voice also became as cottony and bewitching as it was before. "These were the words that the Lord Devil Emperor left with me back then. Interesting, aren't they?"

"..." Yun Che looked as if he had been frozen in place, his hands balled into tight fists.

"This queen wouldn't dare to forget even a single word the Lord Devil Emperor told me. When the Lord Devil Emperor said these words, she clearly did not expect that it would happen, so this queen has never truly had any expectations."

"But who would have thought that you'd actually show up, and so quickly at that. You even came here with a heart filled with darkness and vengeance, heeheeheehee."

It was very clear that the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor had thought of this possibility when she had decided to leave.

She understood human nature far too well... No, it would be more accurate to say that she had an overly-pessimistic view of things like human nature. After all, even she, a Devil Emperor, had been viciously tricked by the Heaven Punishing Divine Emperor Mo E, the person who had been viewed as the most righteous in the universe, a person who was famous for disdaining the use of trickery or subterfuge.

"The words I said just now were merely a test," Chi Wuyao said. "After all, this queen has had no prior contact with either of you. But from the looks of things, the two of you are far more interesting than what the rumours say."

"Interesting?" Qianye Ying'er coldly replied. She really disliked having this word applied to her.

"Of course." Chi Wuyao's gaze travelled over their bodies as she said with a wide smile, "The Eastern Region's Yun Che that this queen heard about was an obedient and compassionate child, a good child. In order to save the world, he did not hesitate to thrust his frail and weak body before the Devil Emperor in a bid to change her mind. Such a good and obedient child. Just hearing about you filled my heart with tenderness and pity."

"However, the Yun Che who stands before me, his eyes are filled with bloody knives. And whenever one mentions the God Realm, that frightful gaze turns even scarier... It looks as if he simply can't wait to slaughter everything that is still alive."

Yun Che, "..."

"The legendary Brahma Monarch Goddess is said to possess a beauty that could overturn an age and a pride that disdained the world. This was especially true in regards to men. You never even deigned to spare them a single glance in the past. However, the Brahma Monarch Goddess that I see right now is leaning against a man and even seems to take pride in becoming a man's plaything... So how could any of this not be interesting?"

Qianye Ying'er narrowed her eyes as she laughed. She said, "It is indeed interesting and what's about to happen in the Northern Divine Region is only going to get even more interesting."

"The Northern Region has three emperors, but you have directly chosen this queen so I really do appreciate your perception and judgement." Chi Wuyao stretched out a hand, the tip of her finger gently playing with her fluttering hair. "You won't regret this choice. Even though this queen does not know much about you, as a devil, how can this queen doubt the Lord Devil Emperor's words. In fact, this queen is truly looking forward to how we will cooperate in the future."

"You won't be disappointed," Yun Che said in a cold voice. "Tell us where the Soul Stealing Realm is, we will make our way there ourselves."

"Oh?" Chi Wuyao's gaze turned towards him. After that, she gave a sweet smile and spoke in that devilish voice that could melt bones. "Oh, I see. Having the Brahma Monarch Goddess by your side at all times must make you feel like your bones are melting from ecstasy at every moment. Having an old demoness like me tag along would indeed ruin the view, heeheehee."

She stretched out a finger and a devilish light that contained the coordinates of the Soul Stealing Realm touched Yun Che's forehead.

"Let's go." Yun Che did not say anything else. He simply turned around and prepared to soar into the sky.

But he suddenly stopped moving in the very next instant. His back still faced Chi Wuyao as he said coldly, "Chi Wuyao, this alliance between us is purely based on shared interests. We aren't enemies or friends. I know very little about you, but even I've heard that your skill as a seductress is unrivaled in this universe. Even a god emperor was willing to die beneath your skirts. That truly fills me with admiration."

"However, a word of advice." Yun Che slowly turned his gaze to the other side, a black devilish shadow appearing in the corner of his eyes. "Never try to seize my mind or soul. The consequences will be far more terrifying than you could ever imagine."

“It would be far better if you never tried to probe or test it. Because probing such a matter is very dangerous.”

Yun Che had already taken to the skies and flown into the distance before Chi Wuyao could reply.

“My skill as a seductress is unrivaled huh...” Chi Wuyao softly uttered those words as she gave a silent laugh. After that she muttered to herself, “After hearing you say those words, it truly makes me feel ‘flattered’.”

Ding...

A very soft ring chimed in the air. It sounded like the sound of rain falling on fresh green leaves. A colorful light flashed into existence behind Chi Wuyao as a woman covered in flowing, multi-colored light appeared out of thin air.

“Master,” the woman said as she knelt down before Chi Wuyao. The rainbow light wrapping around her body had not faded or started to dissipate even after she had appeared.

If Yun Che or Qianye Ying’er were still there, they would have recognized her immediately.

Because they had seen this woman when they had stolen the Untamed Divine Marrow. She was the Witch who had appeared at the Thousand Desolation Divine Sect, the Seventh Witch—Hua Jin.

“So what do you think of them?” Chi Wuyao stretched out her hands and gently laid them on Hua Jin’s shoulders, helping her to her feet.

“Replying to Master...” Hua Jin seemed to be hesitating. However, her brows knit together as she finally gave a reply. “No one has ever dared to show such rudeness to Master before! Hua Jin... finds it hard to understand Master’ intentions.”

“When we return to our realm, you will understand,” Chi Wuyao said in a gentle voice. “Do you still remember the ‘Eternal Calamity of Darkness’ that this queen spoke to you about all those years ago?”

Hua Jin pondered the question for a moment before replying, “So what Master is saying is that Yun Che has cultivated this Eternal Calamity of Darkness. But Master previously told me that the Eternal Calamity of Darkness is the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor’s unique devil art and even the other Devil Emperors could not cultivate it. How can Yun Che possibly...”

“It is indeed something that is impossible for other people, but you cannot evaluate Yun Che using common sense.” Chi Wuyao’s lips barely moved but her tone started to change. “The Brahma divine power that Qianye Ying’er inherited from the Brahma Monarch God Realm and cultivated for her entire life was crippled, but in less than three years, her control of darkness profound energy is not the least bit inferior to Yao Die’s. The only possible explanation for this is that she obtained and successfully refined the Devil Emperor blood left behind by the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor.”

“Also Yao Die’s account of the strange and bizarre phenomenon that afflicted her made me think of the Eternal Calamity of Darkness.” The devilish light in Chi Wuyao’s eyes flashed faintly. “It looks like the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor left Yun Che a way out before she departed the Primal Chaos. Even if he was pushed into the darkest and most desperate situation, he could still fight back by taking control of this region of darkness.”

“His circumstances are obviously miserable and tragic, but it still makes one jealous.”

Hua Jin lifted her head and stared at Chi Wuyao in a very serious manner. The Witches were the people closest to the Devil Queen, so they were also the people who understood her the most. This was the first time she had ever seen her master display such an attitude towards anyone. She decided to enquire further, “Master, do you really believe everything that Yun Che told you just now?”

“I do,” Chi Wuyao replied.

A deep look of bewilderment appeared on Hua Jin’s face. “Although there are many rumours regarding Yun Che, today is the first day Master has truly met the man. Even if we leave his insolence aside, his words were so boastful that they’d shock the heavens and the earth. Furthermore, they completely went against all logic and common sense. Moreover, if he truly did possess such powers, then how did he end up in such a state?”

Hua Jin shook her head while speaking in a very certain manner. “I know that Master has extreme respect for the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor. However... Hua Jin was born because of Master and I’ve accompanied Master for so many years, so I know that there is no way Master would display such complete trust for someone just because of another person’s words, even if those words came from the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor herself.”

Chi Wuyao glanced at Hua Jin as her lips seemed to purse up gently. “And how exactly do you know that this is the first time I’ve seen him?”

Hua Jin was stunned by that response. But after that, she seemed to realize something and she immediately replied. “Could it be that Master has been secretly observing them from the very first moment they stepped into the Northern Divine Region?”

Chi Wuyao did not confirm or deny Hua Jin’s words. She merely said in a soft voice, “I understand him far better than you think I do... In fact, I might even understand him better than that Qianye Ying’er.”

“...” Hua Jin was stunned by those words. She did not quite understand what Chi Wuyao had said but she replied, “Hua Jin does not even dare to guess at Master’s will, much less doubt your words. However, I beg that Master be extremely cautious around Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er. In fact, Master already made a miscalculation just now.”

“Oh?” Chi Wuyao glanced at Hua Jin before finally realizing what she meant.

“Hua Jin’s ability to disguise and conceal myself is something that only Master can see through. But Master said that Yun Che could definitely see through it. However, Hua Jin was right next to him just now, but he was none the wiser. Just based on this point alone, I feel that Master... may have truly over-estimated him.”

Hua Jin was ranked seventh among the Nine Witches, but the unique Witch power she had inherited had granted her incredible powers of disguise and concealment. They were so incredible that her ability to disguise and conceal herself was unparalleled in the entire Northern Region.

She had the ability to disguise and conceal her appearance, voice, and even aura in a perfect and flawless manner. It was rumored that there was only one person in the Northern Divine Region who could see through her disguises, the one who had granted her the power of a Witch, Chi Wuyao.

Chi Wuyao's brows knit together delicately before Yun Che's parting words suddenly echoed in her head.

"Because probing such a matter is very dangerous."

"Hua Jin," Chi Wuyao suddenly said, "have you spat out the medicinal pellet that he gave you?"

"Of course not," Hua Jin replied. "He gave me a very low-grade medicinal pellet. If I spat it out, its aura would spread out and he would notice it immediately. So why should I have..."

Her words were cut off mid-sentence as her entire body suddenly seized up. Those eyes which originally sparkled with a multi-colored light instantly widened as two bizarre and gloomy emerald lights appeared within them.

[Chapter 1638 - The Sonata of Darkness](#)

A black shadow flashed and Chi Wuyao appeared right in front of Hua Jin. A hand as white as jade porcelain stretched out from within the black smoke and gently rested against Hua Jin's chest. A darkness profound formation instantly formed underneath it.

Immediately, a thin layer of black light covered Hua Jin's entire body and the gloomy dark green light glowing in her eyes began to slowly recede. However, her eyes were still widened with unprecedented shock as she stared blankly into space. "Master, this is..."

"It's the Sky Poison," Chi Wuyao said. That hand which looked like it had been sculpted by the heavens slowly withdrew at this moment. The moment it receded into the black mist, the contrast between her pearly-white skin and the pitch-black smoke was blindingly intense. "The level of the Sky Poison Pearl's devilish poison is too high, I am unable to destroy it. I was only able to forcefully suppress it. After this, we'll have to wait for its 'lifespan' to run out on its own."

"It was only a tiny amount of poison. You're strong enough to control it, so there's no need to panic. Two days from now, around this time, it should dissipate on its own."

Back then, Yun Che and Xia Qingyue had laid a trap for Qianye Fantian using the Sky Poison Pearl's poison and he had fallen for it completely. The main reason he had been completely taken in by their trick was because he had given in to the terror and despair of not being able to destroy or purge the Sky Poison. He had also been clueless of the fact that the poison released by the current Sky Poison Pearl could only "survive" for about forty hours.

But Chi Wuyao actually seemed to be perfectly aware of this fact.

"So now do you still think that he didn't see through your disguise?" Chi Wuyao said in a calm and serene voice.

Hua Jin pressed a hand against her chest and her breathing only calmed after a long period of time had passed. Her eyes swiveled toward Chi Wuyao as she said in a deep voice, "Master, he claimed that the reason why he baited Master into making an appearance was so that he could cooperate with you. However, the moment he realized who I was, he actually did such a vicious thing to me in secret. He basically isn't the least bit sincere in his desire to 'cooperate' with our Soul Stealing Realm."

“No, he is only using this incident to give me a warning and to make a show of power,” Chi Wuyao said in an unhurried manner. “When we take into account that he killed Yan Sangeng as well, he is not only lighting a fuse, he is also declaring his position and forcing us to come to a decision.”

Hua Jin, “...??”

“The way he does things has completely changed,” Chi Wuyao drawled in a soft voice, a voice that sounded both sad and regretful. “The Yun Che from the past definitely would not have behaved in such a manner.”

“The Yun Che... from the past?” Shock and bewilderment appeared on Hua Jin’s face.

“Hua Jin, your words aren’t completely wrong,” Chi Wuyao replied in an unhurried manner. “No one can guarantee that Yun Che will be able to help us realize our long-held ambition. There is also no one who can foresee whether the future will take a turn for better or worse. However, given the current circumstances that the Northern Divine Region finds itself in, he is our only hope, the only person who can change anything.”

She did not emphasize the word “only”. However, it was deeply engraved into Hua Jin’s heart and mind, just like a devilish seal which could pierce one’s soul.

Hua Jin went quiet for a long period of time. After that, she no longer voiced any of her misgivings or tried to provide any words of counsel. Instead she sank to her knees and knelt behind Chi Wuyao. “We sisters will definitely devote our entire beings to help realize Master’ long-held wish.”

“Send a sound transmission to the ones who are abroad, Yu Wu, Qing Ying, and Chanyi, and ask them to return to the realm immediately,” Chi Wuyao ordered.

After she finished speaking, she raised her delicate head to look at the skies which were cast in eternal darkness. Her lips slowly curled up into a smile. “These skies that have been drenched in darkness for a million years are finally going to get interesting.”

Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er were traveling to where the Soul Stealing Realm was located right now.

The Northern Divine Region was nothing more than a “cage” that was slowly shrinking, so it was far weaker than the other three divine regions. Given their extreme speed, they would be able to reach the Soul Stealing Realm within a day even without using any dimensional profound formations.

“Why did you not tell me about Zhou Xuzi!?” Yun Che suddenly said.

Qianye Ying’er shot him a glance. “You avoided Chi Wuyao just to ask me this question?”

“Why didn’t you tell me!?” Yun Che repeated coldly.

“There was no need to,” Qianye Ying’er said. “Furthermore, even though you’ve already exercised great restraint, you’re still a little over-eager. You should be well aware of this.”

Yun Che’s brow wrinkled but he did not say anything.

“If we had hidden ourselves for one or two more years, we could have asserted ourselves even more in front of Chi Wuyao, but you chose not to. In the Imperial Heaven Tower, you did not discuss anything with me and chose to forcefully kill Yan Sangeng. This was to enrage the Yama Realm and force Chi Wuyao to swallow up the Burning Moon Realm and the Yama Realm sooner rather than later.”

“All of these actions prove my decision to hide this matter from you was correct.”

Yun Che still did not speak.

“The hatred you have for your enemies and for yourself are like devils which devour your body, and every breath that passes leaves you in unimaginable pain. I understand this all too well.” Qianye Ying’er stared straight ahead. “Furthermore, Zhou Xuzi is the person you hate the most... Oh, and maybe also Xia Qingyue? I was afraid that if I told you, you’d try to hasten our meeting with Chi Wuyao even more.”

“Just because of this?” Yun Che’s expression remained unchanged even after Qianye Ying’er had given her explanation.

“Yes.”

“Why is Zhou Qingchen so important to Zhou Xuzi?” Yun Che asked.

Qianye Ying’er gave a dry chuckle and said, “Zhou Xuzi’s eldest son is already nearly twenty thousand years old. However, Zhou Qingchen, the Eternal Heaven Crown Prince, is closer to me in age. Don’t you find this strange?”

“There’s nothing really strange about it,” Yun Che said. “After all, your father also chose you to be his successor, right?”

“I have no father.” Qianye Ying’er gave a cold snort before she continued in a voice filled with disdain, “Can that useless Eternal Heaven Crown Prince even be mentioned in the same sentence as me? The reason why that old dog Qianye Fantian elected me to be his successor was because I possessed an aptitude that outstripped all of his other descendants, a talent that exceeded all of my peers. But as for Zhou Qingchen... You’ve met him a few times. Did you ever feel like his cultivation, aptitude, prestige, or temperament was befitting of his status as the ‘Eternal Heaven Crown Prince’?”

Qianye Ying’er and Zhou Qingchen were close in age. However, even though Qianye Ying’er’s Brahma God divine powers had been crippled, she still possessed the cultivation of a mid-stage Divine Master.

Yet Zhou Qingchen was only a mid-stage Divine Sovereign.

Even though both were the successors of god emperors, the difference in their cultivation of the profound way was like heaven and earth.

If an oddity like Qianye Ying’er was tossed aside, given his age, Zhou Qingchen’s cultivation as a mid-stage Divine Sovereign was enough to lord over the rest of the world. However, he was the Eternal Heaven’s Crown Prince, someone who was bestowed with the best resources and environment in the universe so a large amount of his cultivation had indubitably come from those things.

The fact that two of the great Eternal Heaven Guardians had delved into the God Realm of Absolute Beginning to harvest the Divine Fruit of Absolute Beginning was undeniable evidence of the advantages that he possessed.

In fact, after considering the resources spent on him, resources that could only be found in a king realm, the way the Eternal Heaven God Realm treated Zhou Qinchen far exceeded the treatment of any ordinary crown prince. So even though his cultivation was eye-catching, it could not measure up to the lofty standards required of the Eternal Heaven God Realm's successor... In fact, one could find many people who shine far brighter than him among the "heaven chosen children" who had spent three thousand years in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm.

Whether it was in terms of prestige or temperament, Zhou Qingchen did not even belong into the same stratosphere as Qianye Ying'er.

As a result of this, Zhou Qingchen had always felt inferior and ashamed of himself every time he met Qianye Ying'er, someone he was supposed to be on equal footing with. It was to the point where he did not even dare take a single step towards her, even though his love and admiration for her had long turned into obsession.

Yun Che pondered Qianye Ying'er's words briefly before replying, "Continue."

"It's said that Zhou Xuzi's proper wife was not of noble birth. If my memory serves me right, she came from a lowly middle star realm," Qianye Ying'er explained in a bored voice. "That star realm was similar to the Snow Song Realm as the profound practitioners within it mainly cultivated ice profound energy."

Yun Che, "..."

"Although she came from such a lowly background, Zhou Xuzi chose her to be his proper wife. Everyone could see how deep and thick their love for each other was." Qianye Ying'er let out a soft and disdainful snort after she said those words. "I heard that the reason why Zhou Xuzi valued this woman so much was because she once did something for Zhou Xuzi..."

"Get to the point." Yun Che's cold voice interrupted her. Every time he heard the two words "Zhou Xuzi", all of the veins in his body would spasm uncontrollably. How could he be willing to listen to any of his past affairs?

"Simply put... that woman could not bear Zhou Xuzi a single child even though they were married for many years. Once they consulted doctors, they found out that this was because she had cultivated ice profound energy and her body had long been wounded by this cold energy. Furthermore, these injuries had been present in her body for many years, and they had practically rendered her infertile."

"Heh." Yun Che gave a cold laugh, he could more or less guess what happened next.

"Zhou Xuzi and that woman tried countless methods to restore her fertility, but even after many years had passed, when Zhou Xuzi's descendants had become as numerous as the stars in the sky and his eldest son was nearly twenty thousand years old, she still could not bear him a child. Yet Zhou Xuzi had never chosen a crown prince. This probably filled this woman with both emotion and guilt. She finally steeled herself and made a decision to try the only method left to her. She crippled her own profound veins without letting Zhou Xuzi know and got rid of all of her cultivation and the cold energy within her body. After that, her body was finally restored and she became fertile again."

Yun Che was well aware that it was very easy for women who cultivated ice profound energy to harm their wombs. He could easily fix this problem with his abilities, but for other people, even people at the level of the king realms, this seemed to be an unresolvable problem.

“Even though that woman no longer possessed any profound strength, the resources of the Eternal Heaven Realm still managed to forcefully prolong her lifespan by another thousand years. However, it was unfortunate that the injuries she had sustained from the cold energy were too great, and she immediately died after she gave birth to Zhou Qingchen with great difficulty.”

“This was probably the one moment in his life that Zhou Xuzi felt the most powerless. To him, Zhou Qingchen is far more than just the sole child left to him by his proper wife.”

“Just because of this?” Yun Che seemed to be smiling coldly.

“Isn’t it enough?” Qianye Ying’er retorted.

“...It is enough.” Yun Che’s eyes grew focused, “It’s more than enough... Very good.”

Qianye Ying’er’s eyes darted toward Yun Che. She saw that his hands were clenched in a death grip and there seemed to be a trickle of blood seeping out from between his fingers.

“However, are you sure that old dog Eternal Heaven will launch an attack on the Northern Divine Region after he’s been enraged?” Yun Che suddenly asked.

“Probably,” Qianye Ying’er replied. “Every old monster will have their own weaknesses, no matter how long they’ve lived. In fact, the reason why I know so much about Zhou Qingchen is because Qianye Fantian instructed me to perceive and find weaknesses in everyone from a young and tender age!”

“This included Zhou Xuzi, Yue Wuya, the Dragon Monarch... It included all of the people who could be used as tools or could become a threat in the future.”

Qianye Ying’er was saying that these were the laws of survival that Qianye Fantian had instilled in her from a young age. Unfortunately, she had never been able to perceive any weakness in Qianye Fantian.

“Zhou Qingchen is Zhou Xuzi’s greatest weakness. Once he has been utterly enraged... You can try to drag him down to your level, to drown him in your rage and thirst for vengeance. At that time, anything he does will be within the bounds of reason.”

Yun Che, “...”

“Other than that, he will not only have to endure his hatred for you. He will also personally witness your terrifying growth and hatred. His panic will lead to him feeling an extreme sense of danger from you. Once both things are combined together, it will cause him to try to kill you within the shortest possible amount of time, no matter the cost or consequence. He won’t brook any hesitation and he will try to completely seal off all of your escape routes.”

“How confident are you that all of these predictions will come to pass?” Yun Che asked.

“Fifty percent,” Qianye Ying’er replied. However, she’d naturally had to give a “hundred percent guarantee” in front of Chi Wuyao just now and say it with supreme confidence and nerve.

“Even if he doesn’t take the bait, we can think of something else.” Qianye Ying’er gave a dry chuckle. “As long as we have the will, we will come up with a way. In fact, there won’t be any shortage of ideas but this is the method that I think has the highest chance of succeeding at present. I really hope that you won’t ruin this golden opportunity because of a moment of over-eagerness before all of our preparations are complete.”

“At the very least, we must first make sure that only one king realm... is left in this Northern Divine Region!”

“Furthermore,” Qianye Ying’er said as her lips curved into a faint smile, a smile that was incredibly sinister, “aren’t you hoping to drag the whole thing out, so that their final moment of despair will be all the more excruciating, all the more frenzied?”

Yun Che sank into a period of deep silence. He did not say anything and it seemed like he had acknowledged Qianye Ying’er’s words.

“I am, however, extremely curious about one thing,” Qianye Ying’er suddenly said. “What was the deal with that little kid?”

She did not think that the current Yun Che still had much kindness left in him.

“She was a Witch,” Yun Che said.

“...” Qianye Ying’er’s brows twitched, but after that she let out a soft snort. “I see.”

“Seventh Witch Hua Jin, whose skill in the arts of disguise and concealment is said to be at the level of the gods. She truly does live up to her name.” She immediately thought of a name. “To think that she could fool my eyes even though she was only ten steps away from me. This is something that even the Heavenly Slaughter Star God cannot accomplish.”

“Other than the Witches, we cannot afford to underestimate that Chi Wuyao either.” Qianye Ying’er’s delicate eyebrows knitted together, her eyes cold and hard. “This is the first time I’ve ever felt a person’s gaze drill into my very soul.”

“Furthermore, we seem to have entered into this alliance a little too easily.” She glanced at Yun Che. “Do you think it has something to do with the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor?”

“I won’t put my complete trust in anyone,” Yun Che said in a frosty voice.

“Including me?”

“Correct.”

This one word response was said without a shred of hesitation.

“...Very good.” Qianye Ying’er slowly nodded her head in seeming admiration. After that, she looked into the distance and said something whimsical in a very soft voice. “Even I am starting to find it hard to believe in myself... Heh, how ridiculous.”

“...?” Yun Che shot her a glance

After they had crossed many pitch-black star regions, the star region which the Soul Stealing Realm belonged to appeared within their view.

It was a dark world just like all the others. However, its existence seemed to be akin to that of a devil god that towered over the clouds and cast all of the world around it in a supreme devilish might.

[Chapter 1639 - Yun Che's Trump Card](#)

The Soul Stealing Realm was far smaller than the gargantuan realm they had imagined. As they gazed at it from a distance, they realized that it was not even as big as the Snow Song Realm.

In this world of darkness, this star region resembled the huge and yawning mouth of a devil of darkness. They felt like they would fall into that abyss forever the moment they approached it.

This was a king realm of the Northern Divine Region... As Yun Che stared at the Soul Stealing Realm from a distance, the world that was wreathed in black fog seemed to continuously change shape. A peerlessly dreadful cold, stifling oppressiveness, and feeling of danger radiating from the Soul Stealing Realm repelled any living being who tried to approach it at all times.

"This is located at about the center of the Northern Divine Region." Qianye Ying'er had never been to this place before, but she spoke in an exceedingly confident voice. "There is a unique region in the Northern Divine Region known as the **【Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness】**. This region is located at the center of the Northern Divine Region and it is also the core of the Northern Divine Region. To a certain extent, you can understand it as the Northern Divine Region's darkness origin vein."

"Darkness origin vein?" Yun Che let out a cold and disdainful snort. "The Northern Divine Region has declined so drastically that this so-called origin vein must be a dead vein by now."

Qianye Ying'er continued, "This is also the reason why the darkness aura here is at its most dense and pure. The three king realms, the Yama Realm, the Burning Moon Realm, and the Soul Stealing Realm, all call this place their home. In other words, the three king realms in the Northern Region are all very close to each other. It is said that if a Divine Master flew at full speed, he could travel from one realm to another in a few hours."

The tip of Yun Che's brows twitched as he asked, "Of the three king realms, which one is the closest to the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness?"

"The Yama Realm," Qianye Ying'er replied. "The Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness originally belonged to them in the first place. As a result, the Yama Realm had always existed in the most core location of the Northern Divine Region. This is also probably the reason why the consolidated strength of the Yama Realm is the strongest amongst the three king realms of the north."

"Speaking of which..." Qianye Ying'er suddenly recalled something and her voice dropped several octaves lower, "I saw something concerning the Yama Realm in the records of the Brahma Monarch Realm back in the day. It was a name called 'Yan Zu'. This name was marked with a very serious warning soul mark and this warning did not come with any explanations."

"That is also to say that the ancestor of the Brahma Monarch God Realm had managed to sniff out the existence of this 'Yan Zu' from one of his channels, but he didn't manage to find out exactly what it was. However, the warning soul mark that was engraved on these two words was a little too excessive."

“There’s no way Chi Wuyao doesn’t have information regarding this character. We’ll find out when we ask her,” Yun Che said.

As they spoke, the two of them drew closer and closer to the Soul Stealing Realm. After they pierced through layers upon layers of black mist that could devour one’s soul, they finally landed on a piece of grayish-black ground.

Even though the Soul Stealing Realm was very small, it was, surprisingly enough, not a sealed king realm. However, there was no doubt that no ordinary person could enter this area, the place where the Devil Queen and all of her Witches dwelled.

Yun Che extended his divine senses, piercing through the layers of darkness before his gaze finally landed on a spot in the northeast direction.

That place was the core devil region of the Soul Stealing Realm, the sacred realm of devildom where the Devil Queen of the Northern Region dwelled.

They reduced their speed as they flew in the northeast direction, swiftly sweeping over the land that made up this dark king realm and the creatures living in it.

“I’ve already told you everything that I know about Chi Wuyao,” Qianye Ying’er said. “As for her Nine Witches, even though many rumors and written accounts abound, I only came to know the name of three Witches when I was still in the Eastern Divine Region.”

“Three?” Yun Che was rather shocked.

“The Seventh Witch Hua Jin,” Qianye Ying’er said in an unhurried manner. “Her profound strength is ranked at the bottom of the Nine Witches, but her ability to conceal and disguise herself borders on the realm of the divine. In fact, it’s likely that she has made multiple appearances in the Eastern, Western, and Southern Divine Regions.”

“It is also because her ability to conceal and disguise herself is much too strong and abnormal that all the king realms are aware of the existence of this Witch.” When Qianye Ying’er thought of that little girl in the bamboo forest... and how she had been tricked by Hua Jin even though she’d been so near to her, Qianye Ying’er’s brow furrowed deeply.

Even though her cultivation was far inferior to what it once was, the blood of a Devil Emperor now flowed in her veins, so her ability to sense darkness was exceedingly strong. Yet she had not been able to see through Hua Jin’s disguise even though she had been less than ten steps away from her. That ability of hers could not be described as “terrifying”.

“How about the other two?” Yun Che asked.

“The Great Witch, the very first Witch that Chi Wuyao ‘created’. The most powerful of all the Witches,” Qianye Ying’er said as her voice suddenly dropped several octaves, “a level ten Divine Master!”

The tips of Yun Che’s brows violently twitched before he said, “Then what about the third Witch?”

“The Great Witch is actually two people.” Qianye Ying’er said something extremely strange.

“What do you mean by that?”

“Jie Xin and Jie Ling.” Qianye Ying’er spoke two names which carried world-shaking might in the Northern Divine Region. “They are a pair of twin sisters and they are also the Soul Stealing Realms Great Witch.”

Yun Che frowned as he said, “So you mean that the so-called Nine Witches are actually ten people?”

“No,” Qianye Ying’er replied. “The Witch below the Great Witch is the Third Witch. Jie Xin and Jie Ling are not only identical in appearance, even their aura and their cultivation are exactly the same. It’s said that other than themselves, only the Devil Queen can tell them apart.”

“As a result, they are both the Great Witch. There is no Second Witch amongst the Nine Witches.”

Yun Che muttered something inaudible under his breath before his gaze swivelled towards her. “So you’re saying that they’re both level ten Divine Masters?”

“That’s right.” Qianye Ying’er nodded her head. “This is probably also why the Burning Moon Realm is so afraid of the Soul Stealing Realm.”

Yun Che lapsed into a deep silence.

A level ten Divine Master was what everyone recognized as the level of the god emperors.

The level ten Divine Masters in the Eastern Divine Region:

The Star God Realm used to have only one: Xing Juekong, but he was now crippled.

The Moon God Realm had one: Xia Qingyue.

The Eternal Heaven God Realm had two: Zhou Xuizi and Honorable Taiyu.

The Brahma Monarch God Realm used to have six, but the Three Brahma Gods had been killed by a single wave of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor’s hand and Qianye Ying’er’s power had been crippled due to the fact that she had accepted the slave imprint. So today, there were only two of them left: Qianye Fantian and Gu Zhu.

But in this withered and destitute Divine Region, the Soul Stealing Realm actually had three!

Chi Wuyao, Jie Xin, Jie Ling.

“Ten thousand years ago, when this was still the Clear Sky God Realm, the only person who was a level ten Divine Master was the Clear Sky God Emperor himself,” Qianye Ying’er continued. “After the Clear Sky God Emperor’s sudden death, Chi Wuyao took the throne by force. Every realm thought that the Clear Sky God Realm would descend into chaos and turmoil, and the most likely scenario was that it would end up splintering apart and collapsing due to its internal disorder and end up being divided amongst the Yama Realm and the Burning Moon Realm. Thus reducing the number of king realms in the Northern Divine Region to two.”

“However, what ended up happening was that the Clear Sky God Realm’s internal strife was resolved just as soon as it was starting to erupt. In fact, it was resolved in an unfathomably fast amount of time. Chi Wuyao somehow managed to twist the inherited power of the Clear Sky God Realm into something else, transforming it into the power of the Witches, a power that could only be passed on to women.”

“After the ‘birth’ of the Great Witch Jie Xin and Jie Ling, everyone in the Northern Divine Region was shocked by what Chi Wuyao had achieved.” Qianye Ying’er looked straight at Yun Che, “The secrets that she possesses are of a similar ilk to yours. You both have powers that cannot be explained by the knowledge and universally-recognized principles of this current world.”

“You have your powers because you obtained the legacy of a Creation God, but... what about her?”

“If she did not have power that far transcended the powers of others, how would she dare to have ambitions that other people would not even dare dream of? Isn’t this precisely why you chose her in the first place?” Yun Che said in a bored voice. “As for what secrets she possesses, those are not important.”

“No, they are important,” Qianye Ying’er replied without a single pause. However, she took one look at Yun Che and chose not to continue. To the current Yun Che, revenge was his everything. He truly did not care about anything else.

After the two of them had traversed most of the Soul Stealing Realm, an enormous invisible barrier appeared within their senses.

Even though they were fifty kilometers away, just the invisible oppressive might radiating from that barrier was enough to intimidate most people into stopping in their tracks.

The heart of the Soul Stealing Realm lay within that barrier and it was one of the most important places in the entire Northern Divine Region. Although it was only protected by a barrier that one could not even see, it seemed as if it existed on an entirely different plane from the world around it.

Yun Che unconsciously started to slow down as a dazed look appeared in his eyes.

Because the barrier was extremely similar to the invisible barrier he had seen in the center of the Snow Song Realm, the invisible barrier that isolated the Ice Phoenix Realm from the rest of the Snow Song Realm.

After she extended an arm and blocked Yun Che from advancing, Qianye Ying’er stared at the space in front of them, her gaze cold and steely. “You still have one last chance to change your mind. We can immediately take the next step, or... we can choose to hide away for the next few years.”

Yun Che’s eyes narrowed slightly. “Afraid of your own shadow? Isn’t that the thing you despise the most?”

“What gives me pause isn’t your current level of strength, it’s Chi Wuyao herself,” Qianye Ying’er said in a deep voice. “The result we obtained from our discussion with her was far too ideal. We only met once, but we’ve now already set foot on the Soul Stealing Realm. This sort of ‘alliance’ shouldn’t be this smooth.”

“There’s also one more thing. Although her eyes were hidden from us, I can’t shake the feeling that she’s treating you a bit strangely. However, I can’t figure out exactly why I find it strange and this is the most dangerous part about it.”

Yun Che seemed completely unmoved. He pushed aside the arm she had thrust out in front of him as he said in an indifferent voice, “Let’s go.”

“Wait a minute,” Qianye Ying’er called out to him. “Even though I’ve been by your side constantly over the last few years, I know that you still have many secrets and trump cards that you haven’t told me about.”

Yun Che, “...”

“The less people know about your trump cards, the better. This is something that is only logical, so I’ve never asked you about them or tried to worm them out of you. But I hope that you’ll answer me this time.”

Qianye Ying’er’s body blurred and she appeared directly in front of Yun Che, blocking his path. She stared straight into his eyes and said, “What is the limit of the trump cards you possess right now?”

Yun Che’s gaze turned slightly frosty, but the moment his eyes met Qianye Ying’er’s, the coldness that had just surfaced in his eyes fluctuated slightly.

Her eyes were filled with darkness and the determination to obtain an answer from him no matter what. But other than those two things... there was actually an emotion that should not have appeared in those eyes.

Something that actually seemed like... deeply-hidden worry?

As his brows knitted together slightly, Yun Che spoke in a deep and measured voice, “It is powerful enough to destroy a single person, any person... in this universe.”

The light in Qianye Ying’er’s golden eyes violently shimmered.

“However, I can only use it once,” Yun Che continued. As the scene of Mu Xuanyin dying in his arms flashed through his mind, his voice turned very soft and gentle. “In the end, I will bestow it... upon Long Bai!”

Dragon Monarch Long Bai, the emperor of the dragon race, the monarch of the Primal Chaos... In Qianye Fantian’s own words, he was a transcendent existence that even the four god emperors of the Eastern Region could not defeat if they combined forces. He was unquestionably the number one person in this universe.

So when Yun Che said that his trump card could “eliminate any single person in this universe”, it, shockingly enough included Long Bai!

Furthermore, his eyes had not wavered once when he had said those words... Him being able to kill the Dragon Monarch was not just a possibility. It was clear that he was extremely confident that he could perform such a feat once he used that trump card!

Qianye Ying’er averted her gaze and said, “No wonder you’ve always been so calm and confident. It looks like my worries were for nothing. Even if we have to face the worst situation we can imagine, you will also be able to...”

However, she suddenly realized something as her eyes immediately swiveled back towards him. “What did you mean when you said ‘in the end’?”

“Heh.” Yun Che barked out a cold and apathetic laugh. “There are some trump cards that can only be used in exchange for one’s life. Is this the first time you’ve heard about something like that?”

After he finished speaking, his body blurred past Qianye Ying’er as he started to descend.

Qianye Ying’er did not immediately follow after him. Instead, she lapsed into a deep and heavy silence for a few breaths.

Even though the current Yun Che was still alive, every part of his being was made up of revenge and revenge alone.

Once he completed his revenge, he, who no longer had any attachment to this world or goals to achieve, might...

He wanted to use his own life to end Long Bai at the very end of things... and he had actually said those words without the slightest hint of hesitation or sorrow.

It was as if the life he had right now was merely a tool to obtain his vengeance.

“Other than vengeance, is there truly no other... reason for you to keep living? Even just a little?”

She softly muttered those words to herself as she stared at the distant Yun Che.

Vengeance.

She stretched out a hand and silently stared at her own palm. Every inch of her skin was as white as snow and it seemed to shine with a jade-like luster. If anyone else beheld that arm, they would feel as if they had seen a divine miracle within a dream. They would not believe... No, they would not even be willing to believe that this hand had been stained with a countless amount of fresh blood, filth, and sin.

What was going on?

Her fingers curled up and she unconsciously started to tighten them...

Vengeance. Hasn’t this become the thing I clung to, the thing I lived for after I was crippled. Hasn’t it become my everything?

Why is it that when we are growing closer and closer to our goal, I am actually starting to... become “afraid of my own shadow”, just like he just said!

Just what am I worrying about!?

Crack!

All of her fingers dug into her palm as the clear sound of bones cracking rang in the air. Qianye Ying’er’s golden eyes turned as cold and frosty as an icy hell for a single instant and the bewilderment and worry that had appeared out of nowhere was firmly frozen and sealed away.

Qianye Fantian... killed my mother, deceived me my entire life, shattered my convictions, and destroyed my everything! I trampled on my own dignity, fell into darkness, sold my own body and soul, all just to kill him!

Other than that, nothing else was important!

Nothing... Was... Important...

She urgently made her descent as she landed in front of the barrier with Yun Che.

Just as they drew near, a wave of darkness energy suddenly assaulted them. It was accompanied by a low roar filled with awe-inspiring might and killing intent. "All who dare to intrude on this sacred region shall be kil... UWAAA!"

Before the words "killed without exception" could be completed, that shout had already turned into a series of low and muffled groans. The storm of darkness was ripped to shreds in an instant and four pitch-black figures fell from within that storm before landing heavily on the barrier.

[Chapter 1640 - The Nine Witches \(1\)](#)

The sacred region of the Soul Stealing Realm was a place that tolerated no misbehavior at all. It had been the case since its founding until the arrival of Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er. The commotion was so loud that every dark expert within the vicinity had turned their attention toward the gate in alarm.

Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er slowly landed on the ground. Right in front of them was the central gate leading into the sacred region. The four people they attacked just a moment ago were currently lying on the ground and writhing in pain, unable to stand up for a long time.

These guards were only early stage Divine Sovereigns, but this was the central gate to the Soul Stealing Sacred Ground that they were guarding. They could easily become the realm king of a middle star realm if they so wished.

The guards' source of pride came from their strength and their sacred duty, so they refused to reveal their shock and fear even though they were rattled by their immediate defeat. The guard in the middle said, "No matter who you are, you have committed an unforgivable sin by attacking the sacred region... you will not walk away from this alive!"

Rumble!

A thunderous detonation of profound energy came from the front right after the guard was finished speaking, and three hundred black figures locked their auras firmly around Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er in just a couple of breaths. The air and even space itself was frozen solid.

Half of these profound practitioners were Divine Sovereigns, and even the weakest among them was at least a middle stage Divine King. The speed at which they organized themselves and gathered around the gates was especially impressive. The commotion reached as far as hundreds of kilometers, scaring away every profound practitioner within the vicinity like headless chickens.

"What's going on?"

Suddenly, a peaceful voice that didn't mesh well with the tense atmosphere at all entered everyone's ears. The voice sounded like it came from far away when it started speaking, but by the end of the short question it sounded like it was right beside them.

A figure slowly manifested to full from behind the barrier before stepping outside. It was a tall, handsome man who looked to be around eighteen or nineteen years old. His aura wasn't sharp, but it was as quiet and as vast as the sea itself.

More importantly, he was a level six Divine Master!

Both Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er frowned a little. This man was an unusual one; the kind who would attract everyone's attention no matter where he went. It wasn't because he was a middle stage Divine Master, however... it was because he looked like a living god.

The young man's face looked like it was carved out of exquisite jade, and his skin looked white and flawless. His gaze was cold and intimidating, but it did little to hide the fact that his eyes looked like limpid pools of autumn waters. He had vermilion lips that were rarely seen even among most women, and his fingers were long and slender.

In short, he was so beautiful that he could make a woman go mad with jealousy.

The word "beauty" normally didn't apply to a man, but it did to him. It fitted him as naturally as breathing. It wouldn't be surprising if some people mistook him as a poorly disguised woman either.

The guards' faces changed the second they saw the man. The nervous tension that gripped everyone suddenly disappeared without warning as the guards struggled to their feet and bowed respectfully. "Greetings, Spirit Lord. These two intruders have invaded the sacred region and attacked us without warning. We... we will capture them immediately."

Spirit Lord?

Qianye Ying'er shot the man an interested look. She had an idea who he was now.

"It's fine," the man said indifferently. "I am here, so it is no longer necessary for you to take action."

All the guards looked incredibly shocked by his words. The first four guards said hastily, "You are as precious as the heaven itself, Spirit Lord. You should not have to deign to handle two peasants yourself."

"Peasants?" The man glanced at Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er. "Anyone who dares hurt a member of the Soul Stealing Realm right before the sacred region is either exceedingly foolish, or secure in the knowledge that they're safe. Considering that they are both level seven Divine Sovereigns, it is unlikely that they are the former."

"Did the Devil Queen not recently inform all of us that something big was going to visit the sacred region very soon? We cannot allow anything untoward to happen during this time. So please, retreat and leave this to me."

He made a pushing motion with his palm, and all the guards behind him were pushed gently back into the barrier. Soon, the beautiful man, Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er were the only ones left in the area.

The Spirit Lord placed his hands behind his back and smiled slightly. The unconscious gesture actually looked surprisingly flirtatious. "Two level seven Divine Sovereigns are strong enough to roam ninety percent of the realms without fear, but I doubt your arrogance has grown enough to overwhelm even your common sense. Now speak. What is your goal?"

"Or should I say..." His eyebrows sank, and his gaze turned penetrating. "Who are your masters!?"

Qianye Ying'er whispered, "That woman isn't back yet? Heh, is she doing this on purpose?"

Yun Che gave no indication that he heard anything at all.

The beautiful man frowned deeply. He thought that he was unleashing enough aura and soul pressure to crush any level seven Divine Sovereign's mind, but not only did the two intruders look perfectly unaffected, they were talking among themselves using sound transmissions.

"Speaking of which, this man is quite pretty, isn't he?" Qianye Ying'er seemed to be comparing the Spirit Lord and Yun Che's looks very seriously. "At the very least, he's a lot better looking than you are."

The beautiful man frowned deeper. There were two reasons he had deigned to handle these two intruders himself. One, he just happened to be around the corner when it happened. Two, he didn't want any trouble to happen right after the Devil Queen had given an order. However, he was still the Soul Stealing Spirit Lord. No one had ever dared to disrespect him, much less treat him like he was nothing but thin air.

And these intruders were just Divine Sovereigns!

He smiled and dragged out his voice. "Do you know... who you're talking to?"

This time, Qianye Ying'er favored him with her gaze and observed him from head to toe. Then, she said, "There are nine Witches, twenty-seven Soul Spirits and three thousand six hundred Soul Attendants who serve the Soul Stealing Realm. They call you the Spirit Lord, so I'm assuming that you're the leader of the twenty-seven Soul Spirits. Unfortunately..."

"Unfortunately?" The beautiful man narrowed his eyes.

Qianye Ying'er turned toward Yun Che and said with a disgusted tone, "Unfortunately, Chi Wuyao needs to reevaluate her taste in boy-toys. I will admit that her nine Witches are impressive, but you... why she would ever favor a girlish boy like you, I will never understand."

The world fell silent, and the guards behind the barrier turned deathly pale. The beautiful man had been playing it cool so far, but the second Qianye Ying'er completed her taunt, his face distorted as if a million worms were crawling across his face. Fury and killing exploded out of him like an active volcano.

"You... are courting death!!"

Boom!

His profound energy exploded like a bomb, and the sacred region turned as dark as the night. "You dare insult the Devil Queen? Not even a million deaths will be enough to redeem you!"

"Heh." Qianye Ying'er's golden hair danced as she took in the sight of the enraged man with a wider, more scornful smile. "Are you sure you want to attack us here?"

But Qianye Ying'er's words did nothing to change the beautiful man's mind. The woman had touched the one reverse scale she should never have touched, and he was going to make her pay for it no matter what. Without a word, he gathered the darkness around him and acted to swallow both Qianye Ying'er and Yun Che whole.

It was at this moment the cool voice of a woman reached them.

“Stop.”

Her words were as short and as clear as a heaven pool. They were all it took to stop the beautiful man’s body and energy in their tracks.

A jade green light appeared out of nowhere and penetrated the rich darkness the Spirit Lord had gathered. A while later, it slowly diluted its power into nothing.

Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er looked up at the same time. Blue light was dancing all across the sky like quiet fireflies.

A woman with a slender figure was standing amidst the shower of light. Wearing a blue dress and bathing in the light, she looked like a fantastical dream.

The second she showed up, the Spirit Lord withdrew his aura and knelt on one knee without any hesitation. The guards behind the barrier did the same and bowed their heads deeply as well. Not one of them dared to look up or allow their gaze to linger on the woman for any longer than necessary. It was almost as if they were welcoming a god.

“Shiyan greets Lord Qing Ying!”

If it wasn’t clear enough before, the beautiful man’s attitude and words shed light to the woman’s identity completely.

“Another Witch,” Qianye Ying’er whispered.

This was the fourth Witch they had seen after Chanyi, Hua Jin and Yao Die.

Yun Che penetrated the light with his spirit perception and observed the new Witch for a moment.

The nine Witches never showed their true faces in public, and this “Qing Ying” was no exception. She wasn’t covering her face with a mask like Chanyi, but the lifelike lights danced around her and kept her face hidden behind their mysterious glow. All an outsider could see was a hazy shadow.

The woman in a blue dress landed and spread out her consciousness. She immediately figured out what was going on. Although this was the first time she saw Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er, she knew exactly who they were.

After all, they were the reason she returned to the sacred region in the first place.

“You wound our Soul Attendant the moment you visit our realm? Hmph. You are as arrogant and out of control as the rumors say,” Qing Ying said in a chilly tone. She didn’t care to hide the anger in her voice at all.

“They were the ones who attacked us first,” Qianye Ying’er replied coldly. “Is this how the Soul Stealing Realm treats their guests?”

“Lord Qing Ying!” The beautiful man rose to his feet with a deep frown. “Whoever they are and whatever their motives, they have committed crimes they must be punished for! Whatever your judgment may be, please allow Shiyan to capture them first!”

“Capture?” Qing Ying snorted. “They killed Yan Sangeng and injured Yao Die. Do you really think you can ‘capture’ them?”

“Wh... what!?” All of his fury turned into shock. Realization hit him when the beautiful man looked at Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er again. “You mean they’re...”

“Retreat,” Qing Ying said. “This isn’t something you should interfere with.”

“But...” For a moment, the beautiful man looked rattled and shocked. But his anger reignited, and his gaze quickly turned cold once more. “But they insulted our queen! Every Soul Attendant here can attest to this!”

“...” Behind the blue light, Qing Ying furrowed her eyebrows. A while later, she said stiffly, “Retreat.”

The Witch’s words couldn’t be disobeyed. Everyone could sense the boiling anger seething in Qing Ying’s heart, but still she decided to hold herself back. It could only be the will of the Devil Queen.

“I obey.”

Given no choice, the beautiful man took a few steps backward, gritted his teeth and looked away from Yun Che and Qianye Ying’er. He was afraid that he would lose control of himself if he looked at them any longer.

“I am Qing Ying, the fifth Witch of the Soul Stealing Realm.” She introduced herself indifferently. Her eyes were hidden, but it didn’t take a genius to sense the disgust in her gaze. “Yun Che, Brahma Monarch Goddess, I don’t like you at all, but I cannot disobey my master’s will. Come in.”

Qianye Ying’er and Yun Che bullied Chanyi, injured Yao Die, and attacked their Soul Attendants the moment they appeared in the Soul Stealing Realm. Naturally, she didn’t feel any good will toward them.

Unfortunately, goodness and politeness didn’t exist in Qianye Ying’e’s dictionary.

“My name is Yun Qianying.” She corrected Qian Ying. “Don’t make the same mistake again.”

“Hmph!” Qing Ying turned around and walked toward the gate of the sacred region. She waved a hand, and the barrier melted away to admit the guests.

Qianye Ying’er shot Yun Che a look before falling behind Qing Ying with him. They passed through the barrier they could’ve destroyed anytime they wanted to and entered the dark sacred region of the Soul Stealing Realm.

“Where is your master?” Qianye Ying’er asked.

“...” Qing Ying ignored her, but her lips had been moving almost indiscernibly all this time. It looked like she was speaking to someone in secret.

“That pretty face earlier is called the Spirit Lord, isn’t he? Is he the leader of the twenty-seven Soul Spirits?” Qianye Ying’er asked again with a ridiculing smile.

Qing Ying remained expressionless, but when she recalled Chi Wuyao’s instructions she sucked in a deep breath and forced herself to reply without turning around. “His name is Sheng Shiyan. He is the leader of the twenty-seven Soul Spirits and the grand hall master of the twenty-seven Soul Halls.”

“I knew it.” Qianye Ying’er smiled. “It sounds like he’s second only to the Devil Queen and the Witches. Knowing how ‘beautiful’ he is, I’m not surprised by your master’s ‘treatment’ of him.”

Qing Ying frowned deeply before declaring in a chilly tone, “The reason Sheng Shiyan climbed to his current status today is all due to his extraordinary talents and loyalty. It has nothing to do with his appearance!”

Yun Che shot Qianye Ying’er a sidelong glance. He knew what she was thinking.

As Qianye Ying’er had thought earlier, Sheng Shiyan was the leader of the twenty-seven Soul Spirits. This meant that he commanded the twenty-seven Soul Halls, and that he was the highest leader after the Witches.

The Soul Stealing Realm’s administrative structure was very different from the other king realms. Each Soul Hall was responsible for a region in the Soul Stealing Realm and its subordinate star realm. Of course, the leaders of the Soul Hall were the infamous twenty-seven Soul Spirits.

The Witches were directly subordinated under the Devil Queen, and they had no exact responsibilities to speak of. However, they had the power to utilize any Soul Hall’s manpower and resources, meaning that they had basically infinite power and could do whatever they wanted within the confines of the Soul Stealing Realm. Besides having to obey the Devil Queen herself, their authority was basically equal to the Devil Queen’s.

This was an impossible system in any other king realm or star realm.

The only reason the Soul Stealing Realm could exist the way it was was because the Witches could never betray the Devil Queen.