The Gods 1741

Chapter 1741 - Nirvanic Xuanyin

A jade-like slender hand that seemed to be formed from snow itself lightly caressed Mu Bingyun's icy face. A soft and gentle voice that perhaps no one else in this universe would get to hear came from her lips, "Bingyun, you've grown tired. Rest for a while."

The instability within the sect, the heavy pressure on the Snow Song Realm, the reputation as a "realm of sinners", the drastically reduced status of their star realm, the predatory gazes of the other realms...

All of these things had been weighing on Mu Bingyun and Mu Bingyun alone over the past few years.

Today, she had even used her own life to ensure the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect's safety.

Mu Xuanyin had heard every single word she said, seen every single tear she shed.

As she said those soft words to her, her delicate fingers caressed Mu Bingyun's face and snowy neck... A wisp of light blue ice energy melted into her snowy skin as it soundlessly entered her heart and soul.

Mu Bingyun did not resist at all. Her eyelids no longer trembled and her breathing slowly stabilized. As a quiet and serene peace overtook her, a feeling that she hadn't had in a very long time, she drifted off into sleep like an obedient and satisfied kitten.

Her tears sparkled like stars and her lips had curled up into an extremely beautiful smile

When Mu Bingyun was still a child, she had loved to nestle her head in her big sister's full and tender bosom as she slept. It was the best time for her, the time when she felt the most secure. No matter how great the setback or failure was, she would forget all about it as she slept peacefully in her big sister's bosom.

After that, her big sister became the Snow Song Realm King and she was no longer able to indulge herself like a child.

Mu Xuanyin gently waved a snowy hand in the air, forming an ice bed out of thin air. She gently laid the sleeping Mu Bingyun on top of the ice bed before she started to slowly turn in Chi Wuyao's direction.

Her eyes were extremely cold and her face was so fair and pretty that it made all of the snowy regions in the world lose their splendor. Her long hair fell to her waist and the purest essence of ice seemed to be contained within each icy-blue strand.

Chi Wuyao had already been sure of it, but now that she had fully revealed her face to her, it immediately caused billowing ripples to appear in Chi Wuyao's trembling eyes.

Mu... Xuan...yin!

The Snow Princess Sword gleamed with an icy light that was as resplendent as a brilliant dawn. It seemed to be glowing in an incredibly excited and animated fashion, as if it was prancing with joy.

Four years ago, the Dragon Monarch had dealt her a fatal blow outside the destroyed Blue Pole Star with a single strike of his palm. After that, Yun Che had personally lowered her body into the Heavenly

Netherfrost Lake. Yet, here she was... Standing in front of Mu Bingyun and Chi Wuyao without a single scratch on her.

It wasn't an illusion or a disguise. No matter how unbelievable it seemed to her, Chi Wuyao had been utterly convinced from the very first moment she saw her. This was the real Mu Xuanyin, the Mu Xuanyin who had once been dead and now was alive.

She knew it was her because she was the person who understood Mu Xuanyin the best in this world. They had lived together for ten thousand years, so she was all too familiar with every inch of her snowy skin, every wisp of her soul, every tendril of her aura. It was impossible for her to mistake her for someone else.

"Mu Xuanyin," Chi Wuyao said with a small smile on her face as she stared into Mu Xuanyin's ice-cold eyes. She had only said those three short syllables, but they were filled with emotions and feelings that were far too complex to even describe. "As expected, the Ice Phoenix, who shared the same bloodline and origin as the Phoenix, also possessed the same power of 'Nirvana'."

"As expected, the power that the Ice Phoenix divine being bequeathed to you before disappearing from this world was her 'nirvana' divine power."

She started to smile. It was a smile for both her and Yun Che... She was unable to even imagine just how excited and joyful Yun Che would be if Mu Xuanyin reappeared in his life.

Mu Xuanyin had indeed died four years ago. She had used her life to save Yun Che, and her icy beauty had disappeared from this world forever.

To the knowledge of the world, the Ice Phoenix and the Phoenix were two contradictory existences, they were beings who should have been mortal enemies.

In reality, they actually came from the same bloodline in the far distant Primordial Era. It was only later that they fractured into two entirely distinct clans.

There were many legends in the current God Realm about how many ancient phoenixes would revive if they were bathed in fire and they would even grow stronger after their resurrection.

Unfortunately, the records of how the ancient ice phoenixes could achieve the same nirvanic rebirth after their first death if they were immersed in ice had been lost to the world.

Before the Ice Phoenix divine being, who had lived in the depths of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake, faded away, she had felt very guilty for interfering with Mu Xuanyin's will for a very long time. As a result, she bestowed a very special thread of ice energy to her as compensation.

This special thread of ice energy contained the Ice Phoenix divine being's nirvanic divine energy.

The trace of nirvanic power that Yun Che had inherited all those years ago had come from a fragment of the Phoenix's spirit. It was extremely weak and had only just managed to preserve his life energy when he had died in the Star God Realm. However, his powers and divine body had remained dead.

However, the being that had lived in the depths of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake had been the true ancient Ice Phoenix. Even though the nirvanic divine energy she had given to Mu Xuanyin also wasn't complete, it was many times stronger than the nirvanic divine energy that Yun Che had obtained.

Mu Xuanyin had all along been undergoing a nirvanic rebirth due to the ice energy within the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake.

A complete body, a complete soul, and...

An Ice Phoenix divine power that had undergone a quiet but fundamental change due to the nirvanic divine energy coursing through her body.

When her life had been ebbing away, Mu Xuanyin discovered Chi Wuyao's existence right before her soul scattered away. Thus, she knew exactly who this black-clad, devilish seductress whose bewitching allure could bring calamity to the world was.

She did not say a single word. Instead, she slowly raised the Snow Princess Sword in her hand. An icy light erupted from it as it pierced toward Chi Wuyao.

Chi Wuyao remained completely still, she did not even circulate any profound energy to protect herself.

Pfffft!

The piercingly clear sound of silk being ripped apart rang through the air as the Snow Princess Sword mercilessly plunged into Chi Wuyao's left shoulder. The tip of the sword pierced through the back of her shoulder as it glinted with an icy light.

Blood started to gush out of the wound before it was immediately sealed with cold energy. The icy sword light gleaming from the Snow Princess Sword was reflected in both women's eyes as they silently stared at one another from an incredibly close distance.

They had shared an existence for ten thousand years, but this was the first time they had truly met each other.

Chii!

The Snow Princess Sword slid out of Chi Wuyao's body and no blood stained it. Chi Wuyao's body violently swayed but she did not even bother glancing at the wound. In fact, she did not even seem the slightest bit angry.

The sword light vanished and Mu Xuanyin turned around and said with a cold voice, "On account of you specially coming to save Bingyun and on account of your sincere feelings for Yun Che... The grievances between us have been settled by that thrust of my sword."

Chi Wuyao gave a very sweet smile as she spoke in a soft voice, "Mu Xuanyin, even though you've experienced death, you still haven't changed one bit. One thing has always been troubling me over the years, and that is whether I had influenced you more or vice versa."

Mu Xuanyin: "..."

Chi Wuyao straightened her back, not bothering with the wound on her shoulder. She walked to stand beside Mu Xuanyin and smiled as she gazed at her profile... After all, their souls had been connected for ten thousand years, so even though that connection had now been severed, they had already formed a special kind of spiritual connection and bond.

It was the same for Mu Xuanyin as well.

"Can you tell me how long it's been since you've woken up?" Chi Wuyao asked.

"Three years," Mu Xuanyin replied.

"...I see," Chi Wuyao muttered to herself.

"Help me take Bingyun back to the Snow Song Realm," Mu Xuanyin said. It was hard to tell what sort of emotions were contained within those beautiful glacial eyes. "Tell her to not reveal my revival to anyone. You are also not to tell anyone about this."

"Does that include even 'him'?" Chi Wuyao's beautiful eyes turned toward her.

"Yes," Mu Xuanyin replied without a trace of hesitation.

"Why?"

A cold wind blew past them, causing icy-blue hair to flutter across Mu Xunayin's snowy celestial face. Even Chi Wuyao, a woman who had long since grown used to peerless beauty, felt her heart move at the sight of Mu Xuanyin's ethereal beauty. She answered calmly, "He nursed his hatred in the Northern Divine Region for so many years before he finally started on his rampage of revenge. If I were to appear now, I would distract him and lessen his desire for revenge... At the very least, I shouldn't appear right now."

Chi Wuyao's eyes grew hazy as her lips trembled. "So you're saying that as a realm king of the Eastern Divine Region, as the one person in the world who could cause him to waver, you have no intention of stopping him at all?"

"Stop him? Why should I stop him?" Mu Xuanyin's voice turned cold as she stared into the void. "Doesn't this world owe him enough?"

"Furthermore, the current me is no longer a realm king of the Eastern Divine Region," she continued. "I amm also no longer anyone else's puppet. I belong wholly to myself... A Mu Xuanyin who has never been more free, never been more true to herself."

Chi Wuyao: "..."

"I muddled along in life for so many years. Now that I've died and come back to life, it's about time to live for myself."

She turned to look at Chi Wuyao. "If he wants to take revenge, then let him do it to his heart's content. If he wants to vent his rage, then let him vent all of it out. If he wants to kill anyone, then he can go ahead and kill that person! Even though I am someone who was born in the Eastern Divine Region, I see no reason to go and stop him."

Chi Wuyao gave a small smile as images started to float up in her mind. "No matter what he becomes, even when he has transformed into the feared Devil Master of the North, someone who has become as brutal and vicious as a devil god, your habit of spoiling him and letting him run wild still hasn't changed."

"..." Mu Xuanyin lapsed into a long period of silence. When she finally spoke, her voice had grown a lot softer. "Back then, I punished him for his disobedient and wilful behavior time and again. I even tried to think of ways to restrain his rash nature."

"This time, it's different."

"This time, he has the right to be wilful. No matter how wilful his behavior is, it's justified this time around."

After she finished speaking, she turned around to leave, her snowy robe dancing in the wind.

"Where are you going to go?" Chi Wuyao asked.

"After the Eastern Divine Region, it's the Southern Divine Region, correct?" Mu Xuanyin suddenly asked.

"That's right." Chi Wuyao didn't hide anything. "The Star God Realm isn't strong enough to be considered a threat and we've already broken both the Eternal Heaven God Realm and the Moon God Realm. Yun Che already seems to have a plan in mind when it comes to the Brahma Monarch God Realm. Once all four king realms have been defeated, the convictions of the Eastern Divine Region will completely collapse and my Northern Divine Region will slowly begin to take control of it."

"Are you heading to the Southern Divine Region?" Chi Wuyao suddenly recalled something.

"Yes," Mu Xuanyin replied. "I'll help you get rid of some obstacles before you invade the Southern Divine Region."

It had been three full years since she revived in the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake, yet no one had sensed her presence.

A level ten Divine Master who could perfectly conceal her presence, someone who was also thought to be dead... She would be as terrifying as a nightmare to any strong Divine Master she targeted.

She could get rid of far more than just a few obstacles!

Her eyes grew hooded as she seemed to sigh gloomily as she whispered, "I used to hate devils with all of my heart and I used to kill any devil person that I came across. But to think there would come a day... where I'd actually take the side of these wicked fiends."

"Your heart is content now, isn't it?" Chi Wuyao smiled sweetly. "Furthermore, the current you is the real you. The one who is in complete control of her own mind and will. You are unconcerned with good or evil, right or wrong, and any responsibility, so everything you say and do comes from your heart."

Mu Xuanyin did not give her a reply and began rising in the air.

"Wait a moment!" Chi Wuyao suddenly thought of something. The look in her eyes grew strange as she said, "Before this, you said the words 'on account of your sincere feelings for Yun Che'... How would you know whether my feelings for him are real or not?"

"Could it be that you've been to the Northern Divine Region?"

"No," Mu Xuanyin coolly replied. "But there is someone who told me a few things about your relationship with him."

"...Who?" Chi Wuyao's eyebrows arched.

"You'll meet her very soon."

Once she finished speaking, she rose into the air and vanished into a twinkling of icy light in the next instant.

The current Mu Xuanyin had achieved complete and total control over her "invisibility".

Chi Wuyao stood there with furrowed brows and it took a long time for her to come back to her senses.

That person...

Mu Xuanyin would not willingly reveal herself, so that meant that the person who found Mu Xuanyin and told her these things had actually been able to sense her presence.

It seemed that the only person who could see through Mu Xuanyin's invisibility... was "her".

She turned to look at the unconscious Qianye Zixiao lying on the ground below, her lips crooking up into a small beatific smile.

"Finding a suitable pawn to plant inside the Brahma Monarch God Realm was supposed to be as hard as scaling the heavens themselves, but now it's become all too easy."

As she whispered those words, her hand swept down as black light flashed in her devilish eyes.

Mu Xuanyin's sneak attack had simply been far too powerful and sudden. It had actually caused the body and soul of a powerful Brahma King to collapse.

She'd even vaguely noticed that Mu Xuanyin's Ice Phoenix divine power seemed to have undergone an enigmatic improvement.

As a devilish light flashed in her eyes, Qianye Zixiao slowly got to his feet. However, his arms were dangling and his eyes were slack and vacant.

"Qianye Zixiao," Chi Wuyao said in a soft and cottony voice, "as you were escorting Mu Bingyun back to the Brahma Monarch God Realm, you were ambushed by Yama Emperor Yan Tianxiao and as a result, Mu Bingyun was taken away from you... Did you get all of that?"

Qianye Zixiao opened his lips and spoke in a dull voice, "I was escorting Mu Bingyun back to the realm... In the middle of our journey... Yama Emperor Yan Tianxiao ambushed me and Mu Bingyun was taken away from me because of that..."

"Very good!" Chi Wuyao nodded her head as she praised him. She suddenly thrust out a hand and a beam of dark light shot into Qianye Zixiao's body, causing him to collapse to the ground again. The corrosive darkness immediately consumed all of the ice energy inside of his body, leaving behind startling wounds seething with dark energy.

She then also took to the air and swiftly vanished into the boundless sea of stars.

After ten breaths had passed, Qianye Zixiao got back to his feet inside the profound ark. He immediately pressed a hand against the dark wound carved into his chest. His eyes grew dark and somber as he

spoke through clenched teeth, "That damned Yan Tianxiao! If you ever fall into my hands, I'll definitely... rip you to shreds!"

Chapter 1742 - Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison (1)

Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er stepped out of the God Realm of Absolute Beginning and returned to the Eastern Divine Region.

This trip to and from the God Realm of Absolute Beginning had taken them several days. The first thing Qianye Ying'er did was to confirm all of the reports that had been delivered to them. After that, she gave a cold and mocking laugh. "The Eastern Divine Region really is quite incompetent. We've already conquered about sixty percent of the footholds that we previously selected. The invasion is proceeding at an even quicker pace than that woman Chi Wuyao and I anticipated."

"One side is determined to fight to the death, the other side values their own lives. One side does not have the worry about anything at home, the other side needs to protect their foundations. Isn't such a result all too obvious?"

"We've completely conquered the Eternal Heaven God Realm." Qianye Ying'er narrowed her beautiful eyes. "It will soon be time to take the next step."

"How about Zhou Xuzi?" Yun Che asked.

"Him?" Qianye Ying'er gave a chilling smile. "Of course, he's gone to the place that he ought to go."

"Very good." Yun Che muttered under his breath. After that, he asked, "Are there still no movements from the Southern and Western Divine Regions?"

"No," Qianye Ying'er replied. "Right now, the entire God Realm should be abuzz with the news of the Moon God Realm's destruction. A whole king realm was obliterated in a single instant. This should have served as both a wake-up call and a threat to the watching Southern and Western Divine Regions."

"They still haven't made a move yet, so they must be tightening their defenses and preparing for action."

Qianye Ying'er turned toward Yun Che so that she could carefully observe his reaction. "There's also a sound transmission concerning the Snow Song Realm."

Yun Che's eyebrows twitched. "Tell me."

"The Tenth Brahma King, Qianye Zixiao, evaded our eyes and ears and infiltrated the northern territories far earlier than we expected. Not long after we blew up the Moon God Realm, he left the Snow Song Realm together with Mu Bingyun."

Yun Che's body suddenly froze and an aura of violent malice wildly exploded from his body.

"You don't need to worry," Qianye Ying'er immediately continued. "Chi Wuyao has already rescued Mu Bingyun, and she didn't receive a single scratch. As for Qianye Zixiao... Chi Wuyao even managed to steal his soul."

As she said those words, Qianye Ying'er frowned as a look of deep suspicion flashed through her eyes.

The moment a soul was seized by Chi Wuyao's Devil Emperor soul, their minds would become quietly influenced by her. The person in question would be completely unaware of it and other people would not be able to sense anything either.

The reason why Chi Wuyao had been able to successfully seize Zhou Xuzi's soul was because Zhou Xuzi's mind had practically collapsed due to the brutal impact of watching the massacre of his realm. His heart-shattering despair and Chi Wuyao's devilish voice had exposed a big gap in his defenses, allowing Chi Wuyao to successfully hijack his soul.

As for Qianye Zixiao... Qianye Ying'er knew him to be someone who looked extremely mild and genteel on the surface, but was actually extremely cold-blooded and calculating. He would not even raise an eyebrow if his entire clan was slaughtered in front of him.

How did she successfully seize the soul of such a Brahma King while also rescuing Mu Bingyun without her getting a single scratch?

Could it be that Chi Wuyao had always been hiding the true strength of her Devil Emperor soul power?

Yun Che did not move from where he was standing for a very long time. Even though he heard that Mu Bingyun was completely unharmed, his face had still turned startlingly dark and somber.

"Hmmm?" Qianye Ying'er cast a sidelong glance at him. "Just look at the incredible worry on your face. Could it be that... you not only slept with your master during your time on the Snow Song Realm, but you even slept with her sister too?"

Qianye Ying'er wasn't just trying to mock Yun Che with her words. When it came to women, she really did believe that Yun Che... was capable of doing even the most beastly and reprehensible things.

"..." Yun Che still didn't say anything, but black energy started to rise from his hands.

To Yun Che, Mu Bingyun was not only his benefactor, she was also Mu Xuanyin's only remaining kin in this world.

"Heh, just as expected." Qianye Ying'er naturally took Yun Che's brooding silence as an admission of the truth. After that, she mocked in a cold voice, "I heard that all of the women of the Snow Song Realm had hearts of ice and souls of jade. But it turns out that they're just a group of... Hmph."

"Return to the Eternal Heaven God Realm without me." Yun Che suddenly said. Every word that came from his lips were dark and heavy, they brooked no argument.

"Where are you going to go?" Qianye Ying'er's brow suddenly furrowed. "The Brahma Monarch God Realm?"

Yun Che did not answer her question. Instead, he asked his own question in a cold and hard voice, "The Southern Sea is still there, correct?"

"Of course," Qianye Ying'er replied. "How can that old bastard Southern Sea so easily give up on such a great temptation?"

"Has he made his move?"

"Not yet." Qianye Ying'er's jade face turned slightly cold. "Even though Nan Wansheng is an extremely arrogant man, he isn't anyone's fool. If the allure of eternal life wasn't so great for a man at his level of power, he definitely wouldn't be so willing to take the bait."

"Still, he took the bait in the end. Even then, he won't block a spear for anyone if he doesn't have enough confidence. He absolutely won't do anything that will result in a pyrrhic victory... It's time to find something to spur him into action."

"..." Yun Che's face was dark and brooding, but his lips suddenly curled up into a small grin. He repeated the order he just gave her, but he added something else as well. "Return to the Eternal Heaven God Realm first. While you're on the way there, go and see if there are any traces of surviving Moon Gods."

Qianye Ying'er did not move. She folded both hands below her chest, her eyes cold and dark. "I must be the one who ends Qianye Fantian. Do not forget this! This was the very first condition that I gave you when I agreed to be your incubator!"

"Of course I remember," Yun Che replied. "Don't worry, I'm only going to give the Brahma Monarch God Realm a great present in advance. It's not time to kill anyone yet. When it's time for Qianye Fantian to die, I'll definitely serve him up to you on a silver platter."

Qianye Ying'er didn't ask Yun Che what this "great present" was. She gave a soft snort and said, "That woman Chi Wuyao said that you are still deliberately hiding many secrets, even from us. I hope that you're really going to provide us with a pleasant surprise this time, instead of simply rushing off to throw your life away in anger!"

When she looked at Yun Che's eyes, she knew that she wasn't going to be able to stop him. Before she left, she suddenly said, "If you really do have a plan, it'd be best if you can steal the Brahma Soul Bell from Qianye Fantian. It's extremely similar to the Yama Realm's Yama Devil Nether Crossing Cauldron. It isn't only the medium of the Brahma Monarch divine power, it can also forcefully strip a person of their inherited Brahma Monarch divine power."

"If you obtain the Brahma Soul Bell, you can conquer the entire Brahma Monarch God Realm without firing a single shot! Because you will be holding the very life of the realm in your hands!"

Qianye Ying'er shot into the vast sea of stars, leaving Yun Che standing there by himself.

"Qianye Fantian!" He roared in a deep voice, his eyes swiveling in the direction the Brahma Monarch God Realm. An incredibly vicious and nearly insane venom and malice leaked from those eyes. "I had originally wanted to leave you for last. But since you actually dared to touch the Snow Song Realm..."

"YOU CAN... DIEEEE!!"

Before his voice had even faded, he had already transformed into a streak of flowing light which was shooting towards the Brahma Monarch God Realm.

To Yun Che, the Snow Song Realm was not merely the Eastern Divine Region's pure land, it was also his reverse scale!

Mu Xuanyin's figure was deeply carved into the most painful and guilty parts of his soul. How could he let anyone harm the Snow Song Realm which she had protected her entire life, the Snow Song Realm she had abandoned at the very last moment for his sake?

This was especially true in regards to Mu Bingyun.

Not long after he left, he suddenly sensed two powerful Divine Master auras appear in front of him.

Furthermore, they were two auras which were not unknown to him.

Yun Che's brow furrowed as he started to slow down. Two people also appeared in his vision at this time.

Jun Wuming, Jun Xilei!

Their gazes also fell on Yun Che at the same time.

As the three of them all came to a stop at the same time, their gazes collided in midair. The air slowly started to grow thick and solid in this interminable silence.

Jun Xilei was still dressed in those ancient sword white robes that he remembered. Her face was cold and stern as ever, it seemed as if nothing had changed. She nervously stared at Yun Che. When she looked into his eyes, she saw a boundless black abyss... These days, every profound practitioner in the Eastern Divine Region would recognize those terrifying eyes.

She never thought that she would meet him here... It had only been four years, but he had gone from being a pitiful refugee to the Devil Master of the North, someone who had plunged the entire Eastern Divine Region into a nightmarish hell.

Those short four years seemed like ten lifetimes ago.

She slowly reached behind her and grasped the hilt of the Nameless Sword. With a shrill sound, she had exposed half an inch of her sword's blade, but that was already enough to release a sword storm that could disrupt space itself.

Jun Wuming stretched out a hand to gently push the Nameless Sword back into its scabbard. He gave Yun Che a faint smile and said, "My disciple and I are merely passing by."

When Yun Che looked at Jun Wuming, his brow furrowed.

Jun Wuming's face was ghastly white and his aura was so weak and thin that even a newly-minted divine profound practitioner would be able to sense how weak it was.

He clearly did not even have three years left to live!

When Yun Che had met him four years ago, he was already reaching the end of his lifespan, but he certainly had not been this close to passing on.

It was clear that he forcefully exerted himself and shortened his own lifespan as a result.

When he glanced in the direction that they were headed, Yun Che guessed that they were going to the God Realm of Absolute Beginning.

Yun Che restrained his malice before saying, "Since you're only passing by, then you should just stick to being someone who doesn't meddle in the affairs of the world... unless you want to die an early death!"

After he finished speaking, he no longer paid them any mind as he headed south.

"You!" Jun Xilei turned around with a cold look in her eyes.

"Let's go." Jun Wuming sighed.

Jun Xilei's eyes remained fixed on Yun Che's distant back. She only turned away from him after an odd sense of bewilderment and despondency washed over her. She clenched her teeth lightly as she said, "If not for Master all those years ago, he would have long been..."

"I was merely paying back my debt and clearing up all resentment between us. There's no need to mention it." Jun Wuming stared into the distance, his weathered eyes turning turbid and distant. "Lei'er, this trip into the God Realm of Absolute Beginning may very well be the last time that Master can accompany you."

"Everything from then on will be up to you."

After he traveled through many star regions, Yun Che finally reached the Brahma Monarch God Realm. He started to slow down as his body slowly grew transparent before completely vanishing into thin air.

He cloaked himself in invisibility before entering the Brahma Monarch God Realm and stopped in the skies above its capital city.

The Brahma Monarch Capital was cloaked in a deathly silence. An invisible barrier covered the entire city, blocking anything from entering it. If he tried to break it with force, he would definitely be caught.

The Brahma Monarch God Realm! Even after it had lost the Three Brahma Gods and the Brahma Monarch Goddess, it was still the number one king realm in the Eastern Divine Region!

He had just drowned the Eternal Heaven God Realm in a sea of blood, but he hadn't made any preparations to use a king realm of the Northern Region to attack the Brahma Monarch God Realm. Given the Brahma Monarch God Realm's strength and foundation, if they attacked it head on, they would definitely incur dreadful losses even if they did manage to conquer the Brahma Monarch God Realm in the end.

He alone was enough!

He was still invisible as he stood in the skies above the Brahma Monarch Capital. No one had managed to sense his presence. As he looked down on the capital, he said in a low voice, "He Ling, can it penetrate these barriers?"

"Yes it can," He Ling replied without any hesitation. "This sort of barrier is entirely incapable of blocking the 'Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison'."

He Ling's voice was as calm and airy as ever, but Yun Che could hear it tremble slightly. It was a tremble that He Ling simply could not suppress.

"Good." Yun Che's eyebrows sank as he uttered the words that would decide the Brahma Monarch God Realm's fate, "You may begin."

"Do I use... all of it?" He Ling asked in a very small voice. Yun Che did not know... which answer she wanted to hear more.

"That's right, all of it!" Yun Che replied, sounding like the whispers of a demon.

Chapter 1743 - Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison (2)

He Ling appeared beside Yun Che and stared at the realm beneath her feet blankly... this was the first time she hadn't spoken to him since making an appearance.

She clasped her hands in front of her chest as a dot of blue light emerged from the center of her palm. It was the Sky Poison Pearl.

Unlike twenty years ago when Yun Che first awoke in Floating Cloud City, there was a brilliant, emerald glow in the Sky Poison Pearl... a glow that might terrify any ancient god of the past had they still existed today.

He Ling's long, emerald hair started floating, and the Sky Poison Pearl glowed brighter and brighter. Her eyes were also starting to glow the same color as the Sky Poison Pearl as well.

Her usual delicateness disappeared completely in that moment. It was instead replaced by a soundless, intimidating pressure.

The pressure came from the origin of the Sky Poison Pearl. It was a divine aura that exceeded all that existed in the Primal Chaos right now. Like an ancient goddess who descended upon the earth to lay judgment upon the sinful, she evoked a kind of uncontrollable fear and iciness that would paralyze any living being except Yun Che.

When the Sky Poison Pearl's light reached its peak, He Ling finally released her palms and set free the shapeless, odorless and colorless sky poison.

The name of this poison was Heaven Wounding Thought Severing!

Back then, the Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison was a name that frightened even the ancient gods and devils.

Although it was far weaker compared to "Myriad Tribulations", it was still deadly enough to kill a god.

Since the death of the original Sky Poison Pearl Poison Spirit, the only poison Yun Che had been able to cultivate was the lowest of low, a mortal poison. And that was after he found its poison origin on the Azure Cloud Continent.

After He Ling sacrificed herself and became reborn as the perfect poison spirit, the Sky Poison Pearl finally started regenerating its origin poison, Heaven Wounding Thought Severing once more.

This was especially true after he began dual cultivating with He Ling. Although it didn't help his Laws of Nothingness at all, it did improve He Ling's poison recovery speed by leaps and bounds.

In this sense, he could call himself He Ling's "incubator".

Although this was still nothing compared to when the Primal Chaos was still at its peak... it was still the Profound Heavenly Treasure which had a poison that could kill a god!

Even if the poison was a hundred times less toxic than it used to be, even if it was so miniscule that it was almost invisible, it still transcended common sense and the limits of endurance of any living being in the current world.

The Brahma Monarch Capital's barrier failed to impede Heaven Wounding Thought Severing in the slightest. It landed right at the center of the capital before spreading outward.

The Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison was shapeless, colorless, odorless, and even "auraless" in a sense. It was the highest form of poison since the Era of Gods, and not even a god emperor could detect its invasion.

The pinnacle of the profound way in the Eastern Divine Region, the Brahma Monarch Capital looked as peaceful as ever. Not a single person had noticed the spreading poison.

Gradually, the entire capital was trapped inside its deadly embrace.

Yun Che only watched silently as He Ling continued her work. He hadn't forgotten the pain and despair that nearly overwhelmed her when she heard of the death of her brother and her people. It was a pain he had gone through himself. That was why she had to be the one to do this.

He would never forget the look in her eyes when she turned herself into the Sky Poison Poison Spirit for revenge either.

Suddenly... he raised his eyebrows a little.

The light of the Sky Poison Pearl had become much dimmer, but He Ling's eyes were as cool as ever.

Her complexion turned paler and paler, and her hands began to shake a little. But not only did she not show any signs of stopping at all, the poison continued to spread toward the rest of the realm after covering the whole capital.

"He Ling?" Yun Che asked. "You can stop now. It is done."

"..." But He Ling still didn't stop. Doing everything in her power to maintain the divine light in her eyes, she whispered very, very softly, "I wonder... if the people who killed father and mother... are beyond the capital?..."

Shaken, Yun Che quickly grabbed He Ling's trembling hands and said urgently, "You can think about that later, now stop! You're exhausting your poison energy and your spirit energy!"

Four years ago, Yun Che asked an enslaved Qianye Ying'er: Who was the one who had hunted down the Wood Spirit Royal Family?

Qianye Ying'er's answer to him was "I don't know". She even deduced that that person must be pretty low level, or they would never have given He Ling and He Lin's parents the chance to detonate their Wood Spirit Orbs.

Clearly, He Ling still remembered those words to this day.

"Low level". Does that mean those people are outside the capital?...

Slowly, her memories started replaying themselves in her mind. The memory of her father and mother detonating their own Wood Spirit Orbs... the memory of her clansmen being massacred... the memory of her younger brother letting out a heartbreaking scream... the memory of the bad news that extinguished even her last hope...

Her pupils started swimming erratically, but she still didn't stop releasing the Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison. She was normally an obedient girl who only knew how to say yes in front of Yun Che, but for the first time she disobeyed his order and kept spreading the Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison further and further away...

I... finally have the power to take revenge...

The day... has finally arrived!

For my parents, and for my clan...

They must die...

They all must die!

Her pupils and her hands started shaking more and more violently. Her face was rapidly losing all color. Slowly, even her emerald pupils...

...were starting to turn black, the kind of black that should never appear in a Wood Spirit's eyes, much less a Royal Wood Spirit.

The Sky Poison Pearl's light started growing weak and erratic. The shapeless form of the sky poison was also starting to turn unnaturally green as well.

"He Ling... He Ling!!"

When Yun Che shouted loudly inside He Ling's mind still to no avail, he finally wrestled the control over the Sky Poison Pearl away from He Ling and forced its power back into its body.

When the Sky Poison Pearl darkened completely, the emerald light in He Ling's pupils ceased as well. She slowly fell on her back as she stared ahead.

Yun Che extended his arm and caught her gently... a long time later, He Ling's eyes finally regained their usual focus and color.

"Master..." she murmured as if she had just woken up from a nightmare. "I... became really scary just now, didn't I..."

Yun Che shook his head and hugged her gently.

"I... I actually disobeyed you and tried to kill everyone... everyone..." Tears started forming in her eyes as she buried her head into his chest. Her shoulders shook slightly as she sobbed, "Father, mother, Lin'er... would they hate and fear me if they saw me like that...?"

"Of course not," Yun Che said in the gentlest voice he ever used since he returned to the Eastern Divine Region. Stroking her shaking, delicate shoulders, he continued, "You didn't disappoint anyone. It is the world who disappointed your race."

She had succumbed to complete despair and darkness. Infinite hatred and the desire for revenge were the reasons she became the Sky Poison Poison Spirit in the first place. But even then... her kind nature hadn't extinguished completely. It was the one thing that shackled her vengeful thoughts and filled her with guilt far beyond her ability to handle.

"You have accomplished the most impressive feat the wood spirit race has ever accomplished since its inception." Yun Che hugged her even tighter. "They would only be proud of you."

"Thanks to you, no harm will ever come to the wood spirit race again," he declared with ironclad certainty.

"..." Cheeks stained with tears, He Ling smiled and tried to say something back. However, her consciousness started blurring against her will due to deep exhaustion.

Finally relaxing, she fell deeply asleep in Yun Che's embrace.

After sending He Ling back into the Sky Poison Pearl, he pointed into the air and left behind a weak sound recording profound formation.

He shot one last glance at the realm beneath his feet before sneering and departing.

Even now, the denizens of the Brahma Monarch God Realm still had no idea that Yun Che had graced them with his presence, much less the fact that the entire capital was engulfed in the deadly "Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison".

Two hours later, an arrogant voice broke above the sky of the Brahma Monarch Capital. "Qianye Fantian, do enjoy my gift to you, hahahaha!"

Several figures immediately took to the air and arrived at the location Yun Che had been. Their expressions were ugly when they stared at the sound recording profound formation no one had detected until it started playing.

How could they not be? No one had noticed Yun Che or his handiwork until he was long gone!

Yun Che's voice continued to boom from the profound formation. "However, this Devil Master can grant you one chance to live and submit to me. Remember, you only have one chance!"

"You have seven days!"

"Seven days later, you either serve me for eternity... or die without a grave to remember you!"

Buzz!

The profound formation crumbled on its own, and all the Brahma Kings exchanged deep frowns with each other.

At the same time, Qianye Fantian joined them with a dark expression.

"My lord," the fifth Brahma King asked, "should we search for Yun Che immediately? He may still be hiding nearby."

"It's fine," Qianye Fantian said in a low tone. His expression was as dark as the abyss. Yun Che's recorded words were entangling around his soul like a devilish curse.

"Are you worried about his threat, my lord?" The second Brahma King withdrew his consciousness and said, "I've already checked the entire capital, and nothing seems to be amiss at all. He may just be trying to frighten us with an empty threat."

An empty threat? Forget Qianye Fantian, not even most of the Brahma Kings could bring themselves to believe that... after all, no one had forgotten the tragedy that had just engulfed the Eternal Heaven God Realm and the Moon God Realm.

One realm was slaughtered to the last, and the other was annihilated in a single breath. No one had believed that it could happen until it did.

"It's also possible that he is trying to incite the Southern Sea God Emperor to action," the first Brahma King said. "Nan Wansheng hadn't gone far away, but he wouldn't move carelessly unless he was given no choice. This seven-day time limit could be what drives him to desperate actions."

The logical deduction caused all the Brahma Kings to nod in agreement.

It was at this moment the tenth Brahma King, Qianye Zixiao, flew up to join them. Although his injuries were fine now, he wasn't at full health yet. He said immediately once he reached them, "My lord, we cannot overlook this. This may be Yun Che's revenge for what happened at Snow Song Realm!"

Qianye Fantian frowned for a long time before saying, "We are no Eternal Heaven, but you are right. We cannot delay our action any longer."

"Nan Wansheng should understand how terrifying the devil people truly are after hearing of the demise of the Moon God Realm. This is not the time to fight among ourselves right now."

Qianye Fantian swept his gaze across everyone's faces. "It is time to meet the Southern Sea God Emperor."

Yes, it was time to tempt the Southern Divine Region into launching a decisive counter attack against the devil people.

Suddenly, he stared intently at Qianye Zixiao's face. When a memory broke through the surface of his consciousness, his pupils immediately shrank into needles.

"My lord?" Not understanding the sudden attention from his God Emperor, Qianye Zixiao asked in a confused tone. He had no idea... that his eyes were glowing a dark, sinister green.

Chapter 1744 - Crushing The Heart (1)

"What is it, my lord?" Qianye Fantian's reaction didn't escape the rest of the Brahma Kings' notice either. They followed his gaze, stared at Qianye Zixiao's face and froze.

They would never forget this emerald gleam for as long as they lived.

It was because it was the light of the Sky Poison Pearl!

When Qianye Fantian was tricked by Yun Che and Xia Qingyue and poisoned while he was still suffering from the Evil Infant's devilish energy, his pupils had glowed exactly like this.

In fact, the unnatural light in Qianye Zixiao's eyes was even deeper than that.

"Hmm?" Qianye Zixiao looked even more confused. "Why are you... all..."

His expression froze before he finished speaking. His entire body started shaking uncontrollably as a soul-piercing coldness circulated throughout his whole body.

"Hmm!"

He groaned as the greenish gleam in his eyes suddenly became much brighter. His aura started spiralling out of control as he collapsed to his knees and shook like crazy.

The Sky Poison of the Sky Poison Pearl and darkness profound energy amplified each other's power. Qianye Fantian had proven that with his own body back then.

Because Qianye Zixiao was wounded by darkness profound energy just a while ago, he was the first out of everyone to suffer from the Heaven Wounding Thought Severing Poison.

"Zixiao!"

The Brahma Kings subconsciously moved closer to him, but they immediately recalled the past and backed away from him instead.

"Ugh... AAHHHH!"

The Brahma King started screaming in pain. As he tried to struggle to his feet, it became clear that even his face was starting to turn green as well. He looked to be in so much pain that his face looked as ugly as an evil spirit's.

"Poison... it's poison!" He shouted in terror as cold sweat drenched his entire body.

He was Qianye Zixiao, the tenth Brahma King of the Brahma Monarch God Realm and a powerful level nine Divine Master! At his level, he should be completely immune to any poison or nefarious energy. To his knowledge, the only poison that could even threaten him was the Southern Sea God Realm's "Absolute God Slaying Poison".

The moment the Sky Poison awoke from its slumber, he felt like countless evil spirits were greedily devouring his body, his blood, his life force and even his soul!

He circulated his Brahma King divine power with all his might, but even though he was a late stage Divine Master, all he could do was quieten the rampaging monsters inside his body a little, much less expel them from his body or annihilate them!

"It's the Sky Poison Pearl's poison!" Qianye Fantian said in a low tone, "Calm down and circulate your aura. The Sky Poison is a kind of devilish poison, so the more you panic the worse it becomes!"

Cold sweat was forming in his palm even as he spoke. He knew better than anyone what kind of torture Qianye Zixiao was going through because he had been a victim of that nightmare himself... it was so terrible that he had surrendered Qianye Ying'er to Yun Che just to escape it.

"Zixiao, when were you poisoned by Yun Che!?" The First Brahma King asked with a shaky voice.

"I don't know!" Qianye Zixiao shook his head stiffly while sounding like he wanted to die. "I never saw him when I was on the way back from Snow Song Realm!"

Suddenly, the atmosphere in the Brahma Monarch Capital changed without warning. The unnatural distortion in the air caused everyone's vision to blur a little.

Then, painful screams started erupting from every corner of the capital.

Everyone's pupils widened like saucers... a sea of green dots had suddenly appeared throughout the entire capital.

The guards were lying on the ground, writhing in pain and screaming in despair.

Even the Brahma Monarch disciples... the Brahma Monarch Divine Envoys... the Brahma Monarch Elders who were Divine Masters...

Everywhere they looked, everywhere their spiritual sense reached, the profound practitioners of Brahma Monarch Realm... were collapsing in droves.

It was as if it would never end; as if the heavens had suddenly decided to punish them with an emerald nightmare.

No, reality was far worse than that... somehow, the entire Brahma Monarch Capital had been turned into a Sky Poison Hell!

"What ... what ... what's going ... on ..."

He was the First Brahma King, the most powerful and strong-willed of all Brahma Kings, and his voice was trembling, and his pupils were shaking uncontrollably... right now, he would rather believe that he was stuck in a ridiculous nightmare.

Qianye Fantian slowly turned his head and stared at his dazed subjects. The Brahma Kings hadn't realized it yet, but a pair of green dots were slowly but surely growing larger inside all their pupils.

He extended a finger and summoned a small orb of light. From its reflection, he could see a pair of green dots in his own eyes...

Meanwhile, a terrible war was still being waged throughout the Eastern Divine Region. More and more realms became tainted by blood and bodies.

Although a long peace had turned most Eastern Divine Region profound practitioners into cowards—not to mention that the destruction of the king realms were a huge blow to everyone's morale—it wasn't like they were entirely devoid of unyielding warriors.

The Flying Star Realm was a powerful upper star realm in the Eastern Divine Region.

The Dreaming Soul Sword Sect was the realm king sect of Flying Star Realm. It was also one of the few upper star realm sects with two Divine Masters in it.

The Flying Star Realm King and Dreaming Soul Sword Master was called Meng Canyang. He was a level six Divine Maser.

Meng Duanxi, his son was the eighth place winner during the Profound God Convention. After Three Millennia in Eternal Heaven, he became a level three Divine Master.

The core of their defense—two Divine Masters and dozens of Divine Sovereigns—was able to throw back wave after wave of devil people despite repeated assaults. In fact, they managed to kill countless devil people in the process.

The Flying Star Realm was one of the "footholds" Chi Wuyao had ordered to take down no matter what, and the upper star realm ordered to tackle it was none other than the Falling Star Realm. If judged by the name alone, it was the perfect realm to defeat the Flying Star Realm!

In reality though, the Flying Star Realm was a surprising tough nut to crack. Not only did the Falling Star Realm fail to succeed, they had suffered tremendous casualties in the process.

The longer the battle dragged on, the more anxious the Falling Star Realm King became. This was especially true after he learned almost seventy percent of the "footholds" had been occupied already.

"These tenacious rats!" The Falling Star Realm King glared at Meng Canyang and Meng Duanxi before threatening vocally, "Our Devil Master is unrivaled under or above heaven. All of your king realms are already dead, so why are you still struggling futilely instead of surrendering to him?"

"If you surrender now, you won't have to die. Do not send your innocent clansmen to their deaths for your stupidity!"

"Heh!" Meng Canyang sneered and raised his blood-drenched sword into the air. He declared proudly and hatefully, "Even in death, the profound practitioners of Flying Star Realm will never become the devil people's slaves!"

"Besides, it is you monsters who should be worried about yourselves!" He spoke loudly so that everyone in the sect could hear his voice. "It is true that the Eastern Divine Region was taken by surprise, and it is true that we are at a disadvantage right now. However, the Western Divine Region and the Southern Divine Region will not stand by and do nothing! The day the three divine regions unite will be the day you die!"

"Heh, stubborn fool!" The Falling Star Realm King swore angrily. "Kill them!!"

The fierce battle restarted as profound light and sword energies flew everywhere and destroyed everything like mini disasters. Bodies littered the ground in just an instant.

Although the devils were fatally determined and transformed by Eternal Calamity of Darkness, they were fighting on the Dreaming Soul Sword Sect's homeground after all. In fact, the defenders's morale grew each time they managed to throw back the devil people with sheer willpower.

Not only did the devil people fail to take one step deeper into the Dreaming Soul Sword Sect's territory, it wasn't long before they were forced to retreat again.

They weren't the only ones who were failing either. A similar battle was happening all across the eastern star realms.

"Kill them all! Wet your swords with the blood of the devil people!"

Meng Canyang roared after cutting off the heads of hundreds of devil people in one strike. It was supposed to lift his people's morale, but... he suddenly felt a terrible chill and raised his head.

The space above him suddenly split apart as a gorgeous woman with black hair and black robes slowly descended on the war torn battlefield. She looked like she was having a relaxing stroll in a park, and the entire Flying Star Realm darkened a little when she looked down at it.

When the Falling Star Realm King saw her, he shouted in fear and joy. "Wel... welcome, Lady Yan Wu!"

Yan Wu didn't say anything. She simply extended a hand and blasted Meng Canyang with a black spear surrounded by sinister-looking black lightning.

Meng Canyang was a level six Divine Master, but he felt like both his body and his soul would fall apart beneath the terrible power.

"Royal father!"

Meng Duanxi felt the same thing as he joined his father and retaliated against Yan Wu together.

Crack!

The two energies clashed loudly against one another, the impact so shrill that blood burst out of the ears of countless profound practitioners at the same time. Then, the darkness that devoured both energy and space and threw the father and son to the ground. Their defeat was as quick as it was decisive.

Unperturbed by her victory, Yan Wu took a step forward and swung her spear horizontally. The power of the Yama Devils started falling from the sky like black meteors.

BOOM!!

A halo of darkness spread five hundred kilometers away in an instant. Countless Flying Star Realm disciples and profound practitioners' blood were thrown into the air like leaking blood sacks.

She twirled her spear again, and a black storm crushed six Divine Sovereigns and dozens of Divine Kings instantly.

Even Dreaming Soul Sword Sect's Great Protective Formation had been holding strong for several days, but that one attack caused black cracks to spread all across its surface.

Dreaming Soul Sword Sect still didn't stop resisting. Roaring at the top of their lungs, Meng Canyang and Meng Duanxi burst out the rubble they had crashed into and charged toward Yan Wu like two blazing suns...

By the time Yun Che had returned to the Eternal Heaven God Realm, it was already occupied by the Northern Divine Region completely. Not a trace of Eternal Heaven profound aura could be found anywhere.

Fen Daoqi had taken it upon himself to count the loot they obtained after slaughtering a king realm. As it turned out, the Eternal Heaven Realm still possessed a lot of wealth even after spending a ton of resources on recent major events. They were accumulated over hundreds of thousands of years after all.

Rumble...

Yun Che expressionlessly circulated the Laws of Nothingness and reactivated the Eternal Heaven God Realm's protection barrier. He had full control over it.

The protection barrier for the heart of a king realm was powerful to say the least. But since the devil people had appeared directly inside the god realm, the protection barrier was rendered completely useless during the invasion. Now, it was a mighty shield that protected the invaders instead.

It also turned the former Eastern Divine Region king realm into the strongest foothold the Northern Divine Region had.

"Haven't we tackled all the footholds yet?" Yun Che stared at the flashing dots on the profound projection before smiling. "If they enjoy struggling this much, then..."

Suddenly, an aura that shouldn't be here approached him swiftly from the distance.

"Hmm?" Yun Che stared at the direction it was coming from.

Very soon, a tall man appeared in front of Yun Che and bowed before he even took a breath. "Tian Guhu greets the Devil Master."

Yun Che frowned. "Shouldn't you be in the north right now? Why are you here?"

Tian Guhu replied immediately, "The Devil Queen ordered me to deliver something very important to your hands."

That she had sent Tian Guhu meant that whatever she meant to deliver to his hands was incredibly important.

Tian Guhu raised his arms and unlocked the barrier surrounding the objects he was carrying. A couple of bluish orbs immediately entered Yun Che's vision.

Chapter 1745 - Crushing The Heart (2)

A faint blue profound light sparkled like water ripples. Yun Che immediately recognized it as the profound aura of the Glazed Light Realm. Back at the Profound God Convention, he had seen it when fighting against Shui Meiyin and Shui Yingyue.

"Four Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades? Where did you even get them?" Qianye Ying'er stared at the bluish jades in Tian Guhu's hands in astonishment.

"Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades?" This was the first time Yun Che heard of this name.

"It is an advanced, precious toy of some sort," Qianye Ying'er answered. "In essence, it is just another kind of Profound Imagery Stone. However, it is a lot more precious than the common Profound Imagery Stones out there. There are very few of them in this world because it can only be nurtured at the Illusory Heaven Pond, a location where the starlight is the brightest."

"Besides being fancy-looking and rare, it is said... that it can engrave a profound image without being detected."

"Profound Imagery Stone?" Yun Che said thoughtfully before taking the four stones from Tian Guhu. His expression suddenly changed when his consciousness swept across them.

Qianye Ying'er immediately noticed something wrong. "What is it?"

"…"

But Yun Che didn't give her a reply, so she took a step forward and scanned the Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades in his hand herself. Her gaze froze, and her expression and aura changed. Her reaction turned out to be even more drastic than Yun Che's.

She abruptly turned around and asked Tian Guhu, "Who gave you these Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades no! Who gave themit to Chi Wuyao?"

Tian Guhu had barely exchanged any words with Qianye Ying'er in the past, and this was the first time he heard such urgency in herhis voice. Hiding his surprise, he recalled back to his meeting with Chi Wuyao before answering, "The Devil Queen... mentioned a woman with the surname Shui, I think."

"Was it Shui Yingyue... or Shui Meiyin?" Qianye Ying'er asked urgently again, but she immediately turned toward Fen Daoqi and ordered, "Ready the profound jades of Eternal Heaven Realm and turn on the great projection formation again!"

Fen Daoqi received his orders and went away without asking why.

"It's fine." Yun Che let out a disdainful chuckle after his surprised had passed. "I don't need to prove myself to anyone!"

"No, you do!" But Qianye Ying'er refuted him immediately. Deep surprise and excitement was etched inside her eyes. "These four Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades are worth trillions of devil soldiers!"

"Moreover, it affects the Southern Divine Region and the Western Divine Region as well! This is huge!"

Yun Che: "..."

"I can't believe that little girl had something this terrifying up her sleeves! Did she predict that thisat tragedy might come true?"

"Heh... at any rate... she truly is the owner of the Divine Stainless Soul!"

Even now, Qianye Ying'er still wasn't able to suppress the deep excitement in her voice. The fact that she used the word "terrifying" showed just how emotional she was.

She was a prideful woman, and there was almost no one she acknowledged in her life. But right now, she could hardly suppress the admiration in her voice.

This time, Yun Che didn't voice his objection.

It wasn't that he disagreed with his own statement earlier. He didn't need to prove himself to anyone because no one was worthy!

But Qianye Ying'er's assessment was also completely correct. In terms of the war, not even trillions of soldiers was enough to describe its true value!

Knowing this fact, it wouldn't even be surprising if Chi Wuyao had sent the nine Witches to deliver them over instead of Tian Guhu.

It only took a while for the Eternal Heaven Projection to be reenergized since Fen Daoqi was the one who took care of the work himself. Soon, the star tablets all across the Eastern Divine Region started activating once more.

Qianye Ying'er didn't entrust the Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade to anyone. She personally walked up to the great formation and put the first Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade into the slot herself.

Every Eastern Divine Region profound practitioner turned to look when the Eternal Heaven Projection appeared once more. Countless battles were halted temporarily as a result.

Unlike the first time, the projection showed a star region filled with unusual red light and a bunch of people and profound light.

Everyone remembered the crimson light, the eerie crimson light that could be seen from every corner of the Eastern Divine Region. It was clearly a scene during the "Crimson Calamity".

What shocked them even more was the people present in the projection.

They saw the Brahma Heaven God Emperor, Eternal Heaven God Emperor, the Star Gods, the Moon Gods, the Guardians, the Holy Eaves Realm King, the Glazed Light Realm King... there were so many higher realm kings they couldn't even list all of them.

They even saw the Southern Sea God Emperor of the Southern Divine Region, and the strongest god emperor of the Western Divine Region and supreme ruler of Primal Chaos, the Dragon Monarch himself!

Every single one of these people were famous in their own right... because they were all Divine Masters!

There was only one exception. It was a man wearing a snow white robe that identified him as a member of the Ice Phoenix Sect.

He was Yun Che!

Unlike the Devil Master they saw in the projection a couple of days ago, the Yun Che in the projection was greeting his seniors with respect and moderation. They could see a bit of nervousness on his face when he looked at the crimson light on occasion.

There was none of the killing intent or pools of abyss they had witnessed from the man who slaughtered an entire king realm. In fact, his eyes were so pure that he looked like he couldn't stand even the slightest bit of conflict.

In the projection, when the Eternal Heaven God Emperor started talking about the Eternal Heaven General Assembly in an unbelievably heavy voice... they finally realized that it was a projection from four years ago!

Four years ago, in order to deal with the Crimson Disaster, the Eternal Heaven Realm had created a gigantic dimensional profound formation that was said to be connected to the edge of the Primal Chaos and hosted the Eternal Heaven General Assembly, an assembly that only Divine Masters could participate in.

This movement wasn't just known to the Eastern Divine Region. The entire God Realm was aware of this.

However, almost no one knew what actually happened during the Eternal Heaven General Assembly besides the participating Divine Masters.

About two to three months after that assembly, the crimson crack suddenly vanished from existence. The profound beasts no longer rampaged eitheras well.

The crimson crack was said to be a hole in Primal Chaos, and that they were ultimately able to destroy it by gathering everyone's power... they even managed to expel the greatest enemy of the world, the Evil Infant out of the Primal Chaos in the process.

It was also around that time Yun Che was exposed as a devil person and hunted throughout the entire God Realm.

Right now, everyone was treated to a scene they had never seen before, the full scene of the "Eternal Heaven General Assembly" that had taken place back then.

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor spoke of the assembly's true objective before moving onto a heavier story. He talked about the legend of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor and the devil gods she commanded, a tale that sounded so fantastical they would've dismissed it immediately if it hadn't come from the mouth of the Eternal Heaven God Emperor.

Not long after Eternal Heaven God Emperor had spoken, the legend quickly proved its authenticity.

They saw the Divine Masters working together to attack the crimson crack... saw a terrifying woman in black slowly walking out of it after their failure.

Although it was just a projection, the woman still gave off a pressure that threatened to crush the souls of all the living beings in the Eastern Divine Region.

"The filthy god race, they merely sent a bunch of lowly mortal creatures like you to welcome this ruler!?"

Her unparalleled voice marked the return of the Devil Emperor to the Primal Chaos.

The Divine Masters were shivering, and the god emperors were shaking... even the strongest of them all, the Dragon Monarch was trembling in fear.

They saw the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor wiping out the three Brahma Gods like she was crushing an ants.

They saw the Divine Masters and god emperors who towered above all of them dropping to their knees and begging for mercy with unbelievable humility.

"Senior Devil Emperor, will you allow this junior to say something?"

Only one person had stepped out to face the Devil Emperor when everything seemed to be lost. By exposing his Heretic God inheritance and the Sky Poison Pearl, he was somehow able to extinguish the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's anger and killing intent and stop her from killing anyone else.

What happened after that shocked them even more.

"This little king, Qianye Fantian, is willing to forever swear loyalty and servanthood to my Lord Devil Emperor along with the Brahma Monarch God Realm. If we even show a hint of disloyalty, it will definitely cause me, Qianye Fantian, and my entire Qianye Clan to be struck by lightning again and again, cause us to be scoured off the face of the earth!"

The Brahma Heaven God Emperor had dropped to his knees, bowed his head in the most humble manner imaginable and swore an oath of loyalty so pathetic that it made even the profound practitioners of a lower star realm cringe.

After that, the god emperors and the realm kings all followed suit. The Eternal Heaven God Emperor, the Southern Sea God Emperor, the Dragon Monarch... everyone was rushing to be the first to swear their undying loyalty to the Devil Emperor.

It was unimaginable that these kings of kings, these gods-like beings could have a day like this... what honor? What courage? There was only the lowest of the low.

By now, all the wars across the star regions had stopped. An eerie silence hung over the entire Eastern Divine Region as both the eastern region profound practitioners and the devil people stared at the projection on the sky, unwilling to miss even an instant of it.

It was because they had a feeling that something was about to happen; that the truth that had been hidden from the world for so long was about to be unveiled.

As for the higher realm kings who participated in the general assembly and thus knew the whole truth, their expressions suddenly turned both ugly and complicated.

An extremely bad premonition was growing in their hearts, but the projection was coming from the Eternal Heaven God Realm. They couldn't stop it even if they wanted to.

The eastern region profound practitioners watched as the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor took Yun Che away. The image then changed to a different world.

It was a world covered in ice and snow. The higher realm kings, the god emperors and Yun Che were all there.

In the projection, Yun Che was calmly and confidently declaring to the world that the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor had promised not to bring harm to the world.

The god emperors and higher realm kings looked mad with delight. The Eternal Heaven God Emperor even bowed deeply to Yun Che and said, "Yun Che... no, God Child Yun. The devil emperor's return should've resulted in the end of the world. None of us had even dared to dream of an outcome like this. If it wasn't for you... forget the peace that should come with the appeasement of the devil emperor, none of us should even be alive today. Please, accept a bow from this old one."

"Yun Che... no, God Child Yun. The devil emperor's return should've resulted in the end of the world. None of us had even dared to dream of an outcome like this. If it wasn't for you... forget the peace that should come with the appeasement of the devil emperor, none of us should even be alive today. Please, accept a bow from this old one."

"God Child Messiah, there is no one who deserves this title more than you do. There may be none who deserve a bow from me, but you do. In fact, there is no one in the world who shouldn't show you their thanks."

The Brahma Heaven God Emperor was also thanking Yun Che deeply. "The Eternal Heaven God Emperor is correct! "You have saved the world single-handedly and turned away the doom of the God Realm. There is no one in the world who shouldn't thank you for the eternal peace you brought us."

Following closely behind the god emperors were the higher realm kings:

"Please accept a bow from this little king, God Child Yun!"

"Your achievements and virtues deserve to be remembered forever, God Child Yun!"

"God Child Yun's favor is something we may not be able to repay even in a million lifetimes. Please, ask the Infinite Star Realm anything if you have any requests!"

"The Outstanding Sun Realm will even die even a horrible death to carry out your orders, God Child Yun! From hereon, the enemy of God Child Yun is the enemy of Outstanding Sun Realm!

.....

The profound practitioners of the Eastern Divine Region were all stunned. For a long time, the only thing people could hear werehere as their own wild heartbeats.

The third projection took place at the Conferred God Stage of the Eternal Heaven God Realm.

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor herself had shown up and told them something that sounded like it came straight out of a fantasy.

"This ruler has decided that her people will not be returning to the Primal Chaos. Six days from now, she herself will be leaving the Primal Chaos as well. The lot of you no longer have to worry."

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's words stunned everyone... not only because she was an unparalleled existence and the supreme ruler of all, but because she chose to sacrifice herself and her entire clan for the peace of the world!

Words couldn't even begin to describe their shock, especially because she was a devil!

The empress of the True Devils no less!

That wasn't all. It was accompanied by with a sense that everything they knew had been was turned upside down.

The Eternal Heaven God Emperor appeared in the projection with a look of deep gratitude on his face. He bowed deeply to her and said, "We will never forget that Senior Devil Emperor was willing to sacrifice her own to protect the people of the Primal Chaos. We will never forget your kindness, compassion, and virtue. It's a shame that we are so lowly that there's nothing we cannot do to repay your favor... please accept a bow from this old one at least!"

Everyone else also bowed to her and shouted their gratitude at theon top of their lungs. They almost sounded like the worshippers of a religion.

"Compassion? Virtue?" But the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's devilish voice was scornful. "What a bunch of foolish and naive mortals you are. Did you really think this ruler is doing this for your sakes?"

"Heh, did you seriously think that this pathetic world is worth this ruler's sacrifice?"

"There is one person you should all be giving your thanks to, but that person isn't me!" Jie Yuan said coldly. "The only things that this ruler brings are death and destruction. What favor? What virtue? You think the likes of you and this world are worthy of my attention!?"

"The reason this ruler has chosen to leave is because someone has absolved her of her lifetime regret and fulfilled her final wish! This ruler is the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor. It is beneath me to owe a mere mortal a favor! The reason this ruler has chosen to abandon her clansmen and leave the Primal Chaos is simply to repay the favor and fulfill her promise. It has absolutely nothing to do with anyone else!"

"This person, is Yun Che!"

Inside and outside the projection, everyone focused their gazes onto Yun Che.

"You'd best remember his name and his virtuous achievement for the rest of your lives! Never forget who it was that saved you from the brink of despair when you enjoy life in the Primal Chaos!"

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's figure vanished from the projection there and then. However, her voice was forever imprinted in the hearts and souls of everyone.

When the Devil Emperor was gone, the Eternal Heaven God Emperor took the lead again and thanked Yun Che deeply.

"God Child Yun, please accept a bow from this old one... God Child Yun, if it wasn't for you, the devil gods would've caused havoc in the God Realm and the entire Primal Chaos itself after their return. As the savior of the entire world, there is no higher bow, praise, or gratitude that you don't deserve. Everyone in this world including the future generations should remember your name for eternity!"

The rest of the god emperors and Divine Masters also grouped up around Yun Che, bowed deeply to Yun Che, and spouted the most exaggerated words of praise and gratitude they could think of.

And every single one of them addressed him using his new title of honor...

God Child Messiah.

Chapter 1746 - Crushing The Heart (3)

The three projections weren't very long. They definitely didn't include everything those who lived through those experiences remembered because a lot of unnecessary details were removed, but it was still enough to present the moment the Devil Emperor arrived in hate, and the true reason she chose to leave them all completely.

The profound practitioners of the Eastern Divine Region felt like they had just experienced a grand daydream.

They didn't know how terrible the crimson calamity really was... they didn't know that the ancient Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor still existed to this day, and that she had actually returned to the world at a certain point in time.

She could've destroyed the entire world with one finger and a thought. Divine Master? God emperors? They were all equally as small as ants or dust in front of her.

However, the God Realm hadn't been embroiled in a terrible disaster during the months she was back at the Primal Chaos. They didn't even know she had returned in the first place.

It was again, all thanks to Yun Che.

It was him who made her choose to leave the Primal Chaos...

It was only now they knew that the Eastern Divine Region, no, the entire God Realm was teetering on the edge of hell.

It was Yun Che who saved them, the God Realm, the entire Primal Chaos from the brink of purgatory... had the Devil Emperor chosen to vent her anger, had she allowed the devil gods to return, the Eastern Divine Region might've been wiped out of existence already. That was how much they hated the descendants of the gods. Even if they survived, they would've had to live in an eternal hell of fear and slavery.

They saw countless god emperors, king realm experts and higher realm kings from every divine region except the Northern Divine Region in the projection... but not one of them had chosen to tell them the truth.

If the reason they hadn't said anything before the Devil Emperor left was because she ordered them to keep quiet about it...

Then what about afterward?

Why did they tell the world afterward that they were the ones who saved the world, when all they could really do in front of the Devil Emperor was beg? Why did they tell the world that the Divine Masters and god emperors were the ones who sealed the crimson crack, when all they really did was cling to Yun Che for survival!?

They even took advantage of the situation and knocked the Evil Infant out of the Primal Chaos!

The first projection had shown exactly how futile their efforts were. Despite combining everyone's power, the attack of the Divine Masters did nothing to affect the crimson crack at all! It was like a bunch of ants trying to topple a tree with brute strength!

There was no way they were the ones who ultimately sealed the crimson crack!

Still, no one had heard a peep about Yun Che's achievements, much less the title "God Child Messiah"!

All they remembered was the order to kill Yun Che on the day the crimson crack finally disappeared; a bounty issued by every king realm in the entire world!

The irony ran especially deep in the case of the Eternal Heaven God Emperor, the man who bowed before Yun Che and addressed him as "God Child Messiah" again and again in the projection. He was the one who set up an irrefusable bounty and encouraged every realm in the Eastern Divine Region—even the lower realms—to hunt down Yun Che.

Of course, they could hardly forget that the king realms and upper star realms had taken Yun Che's birthplace, a lower realm hostage to force the young man to show himself... and its subsequent destruction. After the Snow Song Realm King saved Yun Che at the cost of her own life, the young man ultimately escaped to the Northern Divine Region.

It was impossible to describe the emotion churning inside everyone's stomach right now. They felt like their hearts and souls were twisted by something cold and unfeeling; felt like a bunch of lowly, pathetic and ignorant fools who were played like a fiddle by the people they looked up to... the projection wasn't over yet. The fourth projection quickly followed after the third.

This projection was something no one had ever seen before until now.

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor was standing in a dark environment. Dark mist could be seen rising from every corner of the image.

Both the eastern region profound practitioners and the devil people identified the dark space in front of her as the Northern Divine Region immediately.

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor was gazing toward the distance with a bleak expression on her face. She said slowly, "I had meant Mo E no harm when I attended that meeting, but he had set up a trap and expelled me and my clan out of the Primal Chaos. Despite this, I could find nothing but praise for the man in all the historical records I've seen... heh, what a joke."

"If it wasn't for Yun Che... if I didn't care if Ni Xuan's name was tarnished because of me... Mo E and Xi Ke's power, will and descendants; I would've gladly wiped out everything that was connected to the god race from this world forever!"

She slowly raised her hand and pointed at the infinite darkness in front of her. "Look at the descendants of darkness. They are permanently trapped in a cage of darkness and treated like livestock. If they dared to take even one step out of their cage, they would be hunted down by the successors of the god race."

"If cruelty, murder and oppression are sins... then who are the true sinners here? The bearers of the socalled righteous way have brutalized, murdered and oppressed these people, but no one has accused them of sinning, have they?"

"These foolish mortals have never questioned why the devils are an evil that must be eradicated. They never even considered that the malice they applied to the devil people was tens of thousands of times worse than what they received!"

"If we must classify 'devils' as evil, then... who are the real 'devils' here, I wonder?"

She was addressing the question to herself and all those who heard her words. Every word she said shook the heart and pierced the soul.

Why were the devils evil? What had they ever done to deserve such a fate?

The question froze everyone present...

The Eastern Divine Region was undoubtedly facing a devilish disaster right now. It was unprecedented and absolutely terrifying.

That was the problem: it was unprecedented. The God Realm had never faced an assault like this until today.

From the moment they were born, they were told that the devils were heretics that couldn't be allowed to exist in the world. They were told that the devil people were dark, cruel, sinful and malicious creatures, and that killing them was the righteous duty of any profound practitioner.

It was the most common of common senses just like man and woman; fire and water.

No one had ever questioned it because it was laughable—and in some cases, even sinful—to try.

Why were the devil people evil? What kind of unforgivable sins had they committed? Had they caused a calamity so terrible that there weren't enough books in the world to describe how heinous it was?... they were shocked to discover they couldn't come up with a single answer.

It was because they didn't need a reason. It was the belief and common sense spread by the king realms and the upper star realms after all.

For a million years, the denizens of the Northern Divine Region had been forced to hole up in their cage under the oppressing power of the three divine regions.

Worse, the "cage" slowly shrank because the amount of darkness profound energy in the Primal Chaos was decreasing. Every year, countless devil people died to strive for an ever decreasing amount of realms and resources.

It was only natural to look down on the Northern Divine Region and make fun of them. It was a meritorious achievement that everyone took pride in.

If someone were to try and tally the number of devil people who died due to oppression for the past million years or so, they wouldn't be able to. It was a terrifying and unimaginable number.

If murder and oppression were sins, then the three divine regions wouldn't be able to repay their debt even if the next ten thousand generations of their people spent their whole lives atoning.

"To think that I, the ruler of devils actually chose to sacrifice myself and my remaining clansmen for a bunch of lowly mortals who mistreated my kind... heh, what a joke, what a joke!"

Her cold smile was full of irony and sorrow.

When the denizens of the Eastern Divine Region recalled the "truth" they were told a couple of years ago and the truth they saw today... yes, it truly was a joke.

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor slowly turned around and stared directly at her "audience". It felt like she was gazing into their hearts through the projection.

This proved that the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor knew that she was being recorded by the Profound Imagery Stone, and allowed it.

"I will be leaving in three days. I have talked to the Evil Infant at the God Realm of Absolute Beginning and told her to conceal herself next to Yun Che three days from now."

"Those mortals may be calling Yun Che the God Child Messiah and swearing to me that they will forever remember his benevolence, but I am too well acquainted with the filthiness of human nature to trust them blindly, especially those who sit at the top. They will never allow someone to surpass them unless they have no other choice."

"I'm worried that they would conceal Yun Che's achievements and turn against him the moment I leave the Primal Chaos... benevolence? Righteousness? Kindness? Why would they care about these things when they could have status, profit, and fame instead? To that end, they can go as low as you can imagine."

"Of course, I hope that this is just my pessimism speaking."

"I hope that the Evil Infant's presence will be enough to dissuade them from exposing their ugliest selves. It is one of the reasons I feel like I can leave the Primal Chaos in peace."

"But..." The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's gaze suddenly changed as she said slowly, "Even if the worst case scenario I envisioned or worse were to come true... you'll save him and protect him no matter what, am I right?"

No one answered her question. The projection ended there and then, dropping the entire Eastern Divine Region into an unimaginable, oppressive silence.

When the projection ended, everyone felt like they had just awoken from a long, long dream... a dream that left them in cold sweat and a completely new view of the world around them.

The crimson calamity ended peacefully because of Yun Che. The irresistible calamity that should've embroiled the entire God Realm didn't happen because of Yun Che.

Not because of those god emperors or Divine Masters!

Even the ruler of devils, the person they thought to be the symbol of pure evil and an unforgivable existence, the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor... had chosen to exile herself and her people from the Primal Chaos for the sake of the mortals.

After that, not only did no one speak of Yun Che's achievements, he was hunted down by the people who knew the truth, made to witness the destruction of his own birth planet, and forced to escape to the Northern Divine Region... in the end, even the fame that should be his was divided among the people who had destroyed his whole life.

Meanwhile, they, the profound practitioners of the Eastern Divine Regions, continued to look up to these monsters like a bunch of clowns, singing their praises and supporting their efforts to hunt down the God Child Messiah who had saved them all, Yun Che...

Were they insulted? No.

Were they angry? No.

Were they sad? No.

Were they lost?

No...

The revelation was so thoroughly shocking that all thoughts and emotions were wiped from their minds... including their faith.

The young man on the Conferred God Stage and the projection had looked so dazzling and courageous. His eyes had shone like the brightest stars in the darkest night.

That same man had massacred the Eternal Heaven Realm and ravaged tens of thousands of realms without mercy.

In that moment, they finally understood why.

After committing literally the greatest act in the God Realm—it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that every man and woman with the power of the god race in them owed him their life...

He had been repaid with the cruelest, most despicable "payback" one could think of.

Even they, the people he saved had unwittingly but surely become the accomplices who pushed him into the abyss.

There was a dazed expression on the face of every Eastern Divine Region profound practitioner. They would rather that what they just saw was a ridiculous dream, that their faith and common sense weren't crumbling, that the people they admired and worshipped weren't exposed for who they really were.

On the other side, the Northern Divine Region profound practitioners were losing all their killing intent and brutality. One moment ago, they were were trying to murder their hated enemies. Now, they couldn't even stop the tears pouring down their cheeks.

The Devil Master had sacrificed himself for the sake of the world.

The Devil Master had single-handedly saved everyone.

The God Realm was peaceful because of the act of kindness of a devil!

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's words had punched right through the wall around their hearts and dragged out the sorrow they had pent up for far too long...

Chapter 1747 - Destruction of Faith

In Eternal Heaven Realm, Qianye Ying'er withdrew the four Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades and turned off the projection formation.

The Burning Moon Realm's profound practitioners guarding the place wore stunned expressions as well.

Devil people were rejected by the world... and they themselves had gotten used to their fates a long time ago. But someone had finally spoken up for them, and it was none other than the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor herself!

She had shown the world the truth of devils by forgiving the world!

It was very difficult to change one's perception of reality. But when you saw with your own eyes that the one who forgave the world was the Devil Emperor herself, and the one who saved the world was a devil person... it might just be enough to overturn the prejudice that had taken root in the people's hearts since forever. At the very least, the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's words were nailed into everyone's mind.

"I can't believe the Devil Master went through all that," Tian Guhu muttered in a daze. This was the first time he understood why Yun Che hated the three divine regions as much as he did.

"Lady Qianying is correct." Fen Daoqi let out a long sigh of relief. "These four special Profound Imagery Stones were definitely worth as much as trillions of devil soldiers."

He might be a devil person born in the Northern Divine Region, but even he could understand how big of an impact this truth would have on the minds of the Eastern Divine Region's profound practitioners.

Moreover, it was only a matter of time before the Western Divine Region and Southern Divine Region were affected as well.

There was a saying that goes: Besieging the heart is superior to besieging a city.

Not to mention that this particular mental attack... was powerful enough to shatter's one willpower and faith where they stood.

Considering the sheer number of Divine Masters who appeared in all the scenes except the last one, only a perfect Profound Imagery Stone that could record a scene without a trace such as the Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade could've eluded everyone's senses.

Fen Daoqi saw how surprised Qianye Ying'er was when she saw that the objects Tian Guhu delivered were four Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades. This meant that the Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade was rare even for someone at her level.

Someone had used something this precious to record this while all those Divine Masters and god emperors were present. They should understand how dangerous their actions were, and how real the risk of discovery was.

No matter how you looked at it, it clearly wasn't a spur-of-the-moment decision. The recorder had prepared all of this just in case some sort of worst case scenario happened, and it had.

Whoever this person was, their sense of danger, intelligence and ability to plan ahead was terrifying to say the last.

Qianye Ying'er shot a glance at Yun Che. The identity of the recorder was as clear as day.

The Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade was an object only the Glazed Light Realm could produce. It was said that the Divine Stainless Soul had the ability to foresee danger.

The person who passed this item to Chi Wuyao was a woman with the surname of Shui.

Not to mention that Shui Meiyin never appeared in the scenes even though Shui Yingyue and Shui Qianheng did once or twice...

Shui Meiyin was clearly the one who recorded all of these momentous occasions in secret.

The timing, the motive, the Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade, the Divine Stainless Soul... it was all perfect. It couldn't be anyone else but her.

Qianye Ying'er added, "It's a bit of a shame that there are no recordings of the day the Devil Emperor left the Primal Chaos, or... hmph."

It was a shame, but it wasn't surprising. No one from Glazed Light Realm had shown up on that day after all.

It was probably because her Divine Stainless Soul had given her prior warning.[1]

What Qianye Ying'er was really curious about was why the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor had purposely met Shui Meiyin alone and brought her to the Northern Divine Region.

Was it because she was the owner of the extremely rare Divine Stainless Soul?

She supposed that that was the only answer.

Qianye Ying'er commented again. "To think that that little girl had prepared something like this way back then... not to mention that the timing of the reveal is absolutely perfect!"

Had Shui Meiyin chosen to release this when Yun Che was hunted by every realm in the world... the people would be angry, but it wouldn't change Yun Che's fate in the slightest.

Now that Yun Che had returned as the Devil Master and massacred a king realm with absolute power, the truth was capable of shattering the wills of all those who wished to resist him. It was now ten times simpler to take control of the Eastern Divine Region, and in the future the Western Divine Region and the Southern Divine Region as well.

Yun Che didn't rebuke Qianye Ying'er for calling Shui Meiyin a "little girl". He simply stared forward and blanked out a little.

Back at the Profound God Convention, the fifteen-year-old girl had inexplicably attached herself to him after their "fierce" battle on the Conferred God Stage. He had had to hide from her and her father because the latter wanted to kill him for "seducing" his daughter.

Despite having spent three thousand years cultivating inside Eternal Heaven Divine Realm, it didn't look like she had grown a day older since the day they met. Her love for him hadn't faded either. Every time she looked at him, it was as if there were a billion stars shining inside her eyes.

If there was one change he noticed in her, it would be that her temperament was now a mixture of innocence and womanly charm. Sometimes she acted as pure as a maiden, and sometimes she was as bewitching as a vixen.

He never noticed the secret efforts of the girl he had thought to be "naive" until now...

In the Flying Star Realm, the battle between the Dreaming Soul Sword Sect and the Falling Star Realm had come to a pause when the projection started. Even after the projection ended, blood stench and an oppressive silence still enveloped the entire battlefield.

The Falling Star Realm King was so agitated that he was shaking uncontrollably. Suddenly, he turned around to face the Dreaming Soul Sword Sect and shouted, "Did you hear that... did you hear that!? The Devil Emperor herself is defending us, and our Devil Master is the one who saved all your lives! The true Messiah! But not only was he betrayed by the people he saved, they tried to silence him once and for all!"

"Besides that, we, the children of darkness were called devils for a million years, when you are the ones who have oppressed us without reason all this time! You... are the true devils!"

Yan Wu was staring at the sky even after the projection had ended.

As a member of a king realm, she wasn't completely unaware of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's return. But after seeing the whole truth and knowing what happened to Yun Che before he escaped to the Northern Divine Region... who wouldn't feel sad for him?

The moment the God Child Messiah had saved the world, he was immediately driven to a dead end and slandered as a devilish threat that must be cleansed... was there anything in the world that was sadder and more ironic than this?

Even a True Devil would at least express their gratitude first before baring their fangs, right !?

The Falling Star Realm King's impassioned statement drove the rest of the dark profound practitioners to shout at the Flying Star Realm profound practitioners as well, but the latter... couldn't say anything in return. Their faces were blank, and their eyes looked empty.

"Sect Master..." A Dreaming Soul Sword Sect disciple murmured, "Is... is this all true?"

Even after they saw and heard everything with their own eyes, they still couldn't—wouldn't—believe the truth.

Everyone turned to look at Meng Canyang and Meng Duanxi. They were present in all three scenes, meaning that they had experienced all those events firsthand.

"..." Meng Canyang's expression changed again and again. It was impossible to deny this when the proof had just been broadcasted throughout the entire Eastern Divine Region.

He let out a sigh before shouting strongly, "Is this the time to question right or wrong? Our sect is in danger right now! How many of your kin have been killed by the devil people? They are just one step away from destroying our home!"

Meng Canyang's words jolted everyone's senses back to normal. When they looked at the sea of blood and corpses around them, their fighting spirit and profound energy returned to their bodies once more.

Then a weak voice suddenly rang from a corner, "If it wasn't for Yun Che... our home would be gone a long time ago... isn't this... just the karmic retribution... the Eastern Divine Region... deserves?"

The speaker was a perfectly ordinary disciple. He was covered in blackish wounds, and he was on the verge of dying and joining the pile of corpses beside him.

Normally, someone like him wouldn't have any say in a realm king sect at all. But his dying sigh had punched into everyone's hearts and extinguished their renewed fighting spirit almost instantly.

"Hehe..." another grievously wounded Dreaming Soul disciple let out a bloody chuckle and caught everyone's attention. He was about to die, and he wasn't going to hold back his last words. "I spent half a lifetime cultivating and working to get to where I am now, and I was honored to join the Dreaming Souls Sword Sect. It was because our sword is known as the sword of righteousness and goodness."

"So Sect Master ... why is my sword ... so dirty ...?"

This time, even Meng Canyang and Meng Duanxi were starting to break under the immense pressure that was guilt.

Back then, the Dragon Monarch, the Southern Sea God Emperor, the Brahma Heaven God Emperor and the Eternal Heaven God Emperor were all present when Yun Che was attacked. Whatever their true opinions might be, they thought that they had no choice but to choose a side.

At the time, their guilt wasn't that strong because everyone else, even the god emperors were siding against Yun Che... and it was lessened even more when Yun Che revealed his dark profound energy.

At the time, there was only one way things could've ended for Yun Che, and it was so final that even they thought that that was the way it should be... they had sworn to lock the truth in their hearts and keep it from the world forever.

Unfortunately, that the truth was now exposed, the depths of their ingratitude, their shamelessness, and their vileness were dragged out into the open, even they were so ashamed that their scalps were numb.
The one who forgave the world was the Devil Emperor, and the one who saved the world was the Devil Master... in comparison, the masters of the Eastern Divine Region were about as dirty as they could get.

When the disciples and even the elders started looking at them in a new light, Meng Canyang and Meng Duanxi knew that their image was tainted forever.

In the sky, Yan Wu slowly lowered her Yama Devil Spear and pointed at her disheartened enemies. Her dark, imposing voice pressed down on their already chaotic minds like a mountain. "You have one last chance... surrender, or die!"

Clang!

A fearless and impassioned sword attendant who was fighting at the frontline lost his grip on his sword. It clattered against the ground loudly and shrilly.

The belief that had empowered him his whole life had just been shredded to pieces a minute ago.

The stronger the belief, the worse the destruction.

The first sword to hit the ground was like the first drop of water to leak out of a breaking dam. After that, ten... a hundred... ten thousand... countless swords fell from their master's hands, lost their light and became one with the bloodied ground.

Everyone knew that there was a world of difference between the ideal and the reality of the righteous way, but it was still something most profound practitioners strove to achieve. It had been an honor they were willing to devote their whole lives to protect.

To lose even that... was a blow to the mind so cruel that it was unbearable.

The Flying Star Realm was but one of the many realms that were undergoing a similar change. The entire war was cascading in the devil people's favor.

At the same time, the truth of the crimson calamity was rerecorded in many forms and spread toward the Southern Divine Region and the Western Divine Region at an insane speed. It was unstoppable.

Eastern Divine Region. There was a small profound ark hiding in a desolate corner of a smaller star realm. It was old and only several dozens meters long, but it was covered in dozens of high level isolation profound formations.

The identity of the passengers it carried would stun anyone should they learn of it.

One of them was Golden Moon God Yue Wuji. He was temporarily appointed as the leader of the Moon Gods since the death of the Moon God Emperor.[2]

However, the Moon God Realm had just been annihilated some time ago. Hundreds of thousands of years of history gone in just the blink of an eye...

Could they really still call themselves "Moon Gods" after losing even their homeworld?

Yue Wuji watched the projection from Eternal Heaven Realm quietly. For a moment, his eyes were trembling with emotion, but he quickly regained his cool when he turned around to face his people. "Let's go."

"No! Why are we leaving? We haven't taken revenge for our master yet!" Blue Jade Moon God Yao Yue cried tearfully as she struggled. Unfortunately for her, several Moon Gods were working together to completely seal her movement. She couldn't break free no matter what she tried.

"This is an order!" Yue Wuji declared while opening his hand. The light of the Imperial Moon Glazed Pearl glowed through his fingers.

"Yue Wuji!" Yao Yue uttered through gritted teeth. "Our star realm is destroyed, our master is dead... and you, the temporary Moon God Emperor choose to hide like a coward!? You coward! The title of the Moon God Emperor will be tarnished forever if someone like you were allowed to bear it!"

"Struggle some more and leak our auras, and you might get us all killed!" Yue Wuji said expressionlessly.

Yao Yue's struggle finally subsided a bit.

Yue Wuji slowly withdrew his fingers before saying, "As long as the Imperial Moon Glazed Pearl doesn't fade, the Moon God Realm will rise again one day. But if we die now, then there won't be a divine moon now and forever."

He closed his eyes as a bit of pain entered his voice. "Yao Yue, I was a Moon God for almost ten thousand years, so trust me when I say that my love for the Moon God Realm exceeds my love for my own life, and that is on par with yours at the very least. One day... you will understand my decision."

The old profound ark took off and carried the surviving Moon Gods and Moon God Envoys toward the unknown.

Chapter 1748 - "Secret"

When the will to protect vanished from the heart, so did the defense line of the Eastern Divine Region. It was already crumbling in the first place, but the temporary stalemate was completely broken after the truth was announced through the Eternal Heaven Projection. Over ninety percent of the "footholds" were taken in just a day.

Once all the "footholds" were occupied, the Eastern Divine Region's lifeline would fall into the hands of the Northern Divine Region.

Eternal Heaven Realm.

A pitch-black profound ark appeared above the tattered lands of the Eternal Heaven God Realm before descending slowly.

"Big Brother Yun Che!"

A melodious voice resounded through the air before the profound light of the profound ship had even faded. Then, a young girl dropped from the sky and flew straight toward Yun Che like a black butterfly, specks of light glittering around her.

"Impudent!"

A Burning Moon Divine Envoy moved toward the young girl in an attempt to stop her... only to be kicked back to his spot by an angry Fen Daoqi. "Are you blind? That's the Soul Sky Warship! Do you think that ship fetches ordinary passengers!?"

Yun Che turned around and faced Shui Meiyin. Her beautiful face was covered in tears.

She buried her face deep into Yun Che's chest, hugged and cried loudly. The dam was broken even before she reached Yun Che, and his shirt was wet with tears in the blink of an eye.

"Hmph!" Qianye Ying'er crossed her arms before her chest before looking away.

The girl in front of him looked the same as ever. Her black eyes, black hair, black dress, even her smile and her tears matched his memory of Shui Meiyin perfectly.

He had turned from the God Child Messiah into the Devil Master. His heart was filled with hate for the three divine regions. His hands were wet with the blood of countless lives of the Eastern Divine Region... and yet she still hugged him like he meant the world to her. Her feelings for him hadn't changed one bit despite his drastic, devilish change.

Yun Che put his hand on her head and stroked it slightly.

A couple more people descended from the Soul Sky Warship, and the Moon Eater and the Burning Moon Divine Envoys bowed in unison. "Greetings, Devil Queen!"

Chi Wuyao slowly descended to the ground before smiling at the touching scene in front of her. She was followed by two people, but they weren't her usual attendants, Jie Xin and Jie Ling, this time. The first person was a beautiful woman with eyes that looked like a pair of moons above the sea. The second person was a middle-aged man in blue robes.

It was Shui Yingyue and Shui Qianheng.

Their cultivation level—Shui Yingyue's in particular because she was a level five Divine Master—and the lack of darkness in their profound auras caused the Burning Moon profound practitioners to frown a little, but no one acted because they had come with Chi Wuyao herself.

When Yun Che looked at them with rare gentleness, his eyes were completely devoid of their usual darkness.

Shui Qianheng's aura marked him as a middle stage Divine Sovereign. As expected, the rumors that Xia Qingyue had crippled him were true.

Shui Yingyue shot Yun Che a complicated look before starting, "Shui Yingyue from Glazed Light Realm greets the Northern Region Devil Master."

Shui Qianheng was about to salute him as well, but Yun Che immediately pushed down his hands before replying, "Senior Shui, I'm sorry for involving you in my mess."

That one line was enough to make Shui Yingyue and Shui Qianheng stare at him blankly.

By now, every man and woman in the Eastern Divine Region had been made to witness Yun Che's ruthlessness and cruelty. No one who saw the way he ordered the massacre of the Eternal Heaven Realm would doubt that he had transformed into a true devil of hatred and vengeance.

Yet there was also no mistaking the sincere regret behind his apology. They knew immediately that the abyss hadn't completely devoured his humanity.

Shui Qianheng shook his head as a relieved smile spread across his lips. "What are you talking about? The Glazed Light Realm has simply chosen to stay true to their convictions."

"Besides, I knew that you would come back one day. It's just..." His smile grew a bit more complicated. "I wasn't expecting it to be this quick or drastic. I thought it would be another millennium before I saw you again."

Meanwhile, Shui Meiyin finally looked up from Yun Che's chest and stared at his face blankly... she didn't care where she was or how many people were watching her right now. All the girl wanted to do right now was to stare at him for as long as she could; to lessen the years of longing and worry in her heart until they were gone.

Just like before, Shui Meiyin was demonically beautiful. It was to the point where a person was in danger of being bewitched just by looking her in the eye... after glancing at Chi Wuyao and sneaking a look at Qianye Ying'er, the Burning Moon profound practitioners wisely lowered their gaze to the floor.

"I'm so glad you're okay, Big Brother Yun Che..." She whispered. "There hasn't been a day I lived without worrying about you... I thought it would take a very, very long time before I could meet you again... thank goodness..."

Qianye Ying'er couldn't stand hearing her loving whispers any longer, so she interrupted the conversation by force. "Are these Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades yours?"

"The Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades only exist in our Glazed Light Realm," Shui Yingyue replied coolly.

Qianye Ying'er: "..."

Yun Che wiped away the tears on Shui Meiyin's face gently before looking her in the eye. "Meiyin, are you really the one who imprinted the projections?"

Although all signs were pointing toward Shui Meiyin, he still wanted to hear the answer from her own mouth. It was impossible to dismiss the effects, affection and love behind the Illusory Glazed Imagery Jades.

"Mn!" Shui Meiyin smiled brightly with a nod. Her eyes shone like star diamonds in that moment. "Although I know the Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade can record things without a trace, I must admit that I was pretty nervous at the time. Luckily, no one noticed what I was doing from the start until the end."

Her reply caused a shiver in every dark profound practitioner present at the scene. They immediately looked at her in a completely different light from before.

"..." Yun Che stared at her with a complicated expression before asking, "What drove you to record these scenes anyway?"

"Actually, I recorded the first projection completely on a whim. At the time, everyone was saying that the crimson crack might very well concern the fate of the entire God Realm, so I thought I might as well keep a record of the historical moment. I wasn't expecting Senior Devil Emperor to return at that exact moment."

"After you successfully changed Senior Devil Emperor's mind, every god emperor and realm king praised you as the God Child Messiah. But for some reason, I couldn't shake off a sense of unease from my soul every time I saw you, so I thought that it would be wise to keep a record of everything that had happened..."

"And it looks like my decision was right."

Shui Meiyin had acted not out of cunning, but out of a vague sense of unease. She did everything just to protect Yun Che.

Yun Che felt a warmth surging in his heart. He might have fallen into bottomless darkness, but at least he still had a rope of warm light to cling onto.

"Thank—"

It had been too long since he thanked someone, but a delicate hand covered his lips before the words could come out of his mouth. Shui Meiyin shook her head at him and said, "You are my fiance, and it's only natural that I protect my future husband, Big Brother Yun Che. I don't want your thanks."

Yun Che smiled and caressed her cheeks. "Alright, I won't be thanking you then."

He moved on to the next topic. "Were you imprisoned in Moon God Realm all these years?"

"Mn." Shui Mingyue nodded. "Xia... Qingyue shut me in the lowest floor of the Moon Prison, but the truth is she couldn't keep me in at all. The only reason I continued to stay there until recently was because I wanted to protect daddy, big sis and the Glazed Light Realm."

"Hmm?" Yun Che raised an eyebrow.

Shui Meiyin continued, "I thought that Big Brother Yun Che might be returning very soon after learning that the Northern Divine Region was acting strangely, so I chose that time to leave the Moon God Realm. I'm glad that I was able to pass this Illusory Glaze Imagery Jade into your hands in time."

"Xia Qingyue couldn't keep you in at all? Why's that?" Yun Che asked.

"It's a secret. I'll tell you about it... and another big pleasant surprise in the future, hehe!" She said with a beaming smile.

Yun Che didn't press her for an answer. He simply smiled and said, "Good. By the way, the person who hurt your father and imprisoned you, Xia Qingyue is dead now. I've also blown Moon God Realm to bits, so you don't have to worry about them any longer."

"..." The sparkle in her eyes suddenly froze. Her lips parted slightly as she whispered, "She's... dead?"

"Mn," Yun Che replied. "She died at the Abyss of Nothingness. Unfortunately I wasn't able to kill her with my own hands because she saved her last bit of strength to jump into the Abyss of Nothingness... hmm? What's wrong?"

For some reason, tears suddenly slid down Shui Meiyin's cheeks again.

She hurriedly wiped them away before showing him a smile again. "That's wonderful news! She's finally dead! She... she did that to you and daddy, she... she's the worst... absolute worst person in the entire world..."

"She ... she's finally ... "

Shui Meiyin suddenly buried her face into Yun Che's chest again. Her shoulders shook violently as she tried to suppress her sobs.

Yun Che held her shoulders gently and felt his shirt turning wet again. Slightly amused by her reaction, he said, "Why are you crying again?"

He barely stopped himself from adding, "You're over three thousand years old, and you're still acting like a kid."

Meanwhile, Shui Meiyin shook her head strongly before saying in a broken voice, "I... I'm just... glad... glad that you're back... glad that Xia Qingyue is... dead... I... I'm so happy... so, so happy... sob..."

On the other side, Chi Wuyao stared at Shui Meiyin's back with an indiscernible frown on her face.

A long while later, Shui Meiyin finally calmed herself down before sweeping a ferocious glance at the people around her. "Big Brother Yun Che is my fiance, so it's my right to cry as much as I want. Don't... don't you dare laugh at me, you hear me!?"

"O-of course not!" Fen Daoqi hurriedly lowered his head.

"Hahahaha!" Shui Qianheng laughed heartily without a care for his daughter's threat.

Qianye Ying'er: (⁻▽⁻~) Tch~~

Now that Meiyin had turned off her waterworks, Yun Che asked another question, "Meiyin, why did the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor want to see you alone?"

Just like Qianye Ying'er, he was confused by the fourth projection. At the very least, the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor had never mentioned Shui Meiyin in his company.

"Senior Devil Emperor knew that I was recording everything from the start," Shui Meiyin replied. No one was surprised by this.

The Illusory Glazed Imagery Jade was an extremely high level Profound Imagery Stone that could fool even the senses of a god emperor, but there was no way it was enough to fool someone like the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor.

"After making up her mind to leave the Primal Chaos, the one thing that worried her more than anything else was the possibility that you might be betrayed. So, she entrusted me with a very important object

that only I, the owner of the Divine Stainless Soul could use. She wanted me to help you if something bad did happen in the future."

"What is it?" Yun Che asked ... an "object" that only the owner of a Divine Stainless Soul could use?

Shui Meiyin shook her head and smiled mysteriously. "I can't tell you that right now."

"Big Brother Yun Che." Before Yun Che could press her for details, she stared him in the eye and said seriously, "I don't want something like this to happen ever again. So can you please become the ruler of the Primal Chaos and the rule-maker of this world?"

"You are the successor of the Heretic God and Senior Devil Emperor. You can do it. You are the only one who has the right to do it."

"When that day comes, I promise I'll tell you all my secrets ... okay?"

Chapter 1749 - "Gift"

"..." Shui Meiyin's words sounded familiar to Yun Che for some reason. Someone had probably mentioned it to him at some point in time.

He smiled warmly again, but this time there was a dark chill behind it. "Yes, I will become the rulemaker... I haven't just returned for revenge after all."

Shui Meiyin nodded strongly. There were still tears in her eyes, but her smile was incredibly bright.

Not only was Yun Che safe, he was far stronger than she had thought he would be. He now commanded the entire Northern Divine Region, and the condition of his soul was far, far better than she initially imagined.

Two things had plagued her mind before she met Yun Che again. The first one was the possibility that Yun Che would succumb to darkness and throw away his humanity completely for vengeance. The second one was the possibility that his desire to commit suicide might be as great as his desire for revenge...

Neither of her fears came true... Chi Wuyao hadn't just been trying to console her after all.

His soul and willpower were also much, much stronger than before.

"What are these secrets? Why can't you tell us now?" Qianye Ying'er suddenly interrupted again. "Childish woman. Do you all enjoy stringing your man around with 'secrets' and other such lowly tactics?"

"Shut up," Yun Che rebuked her.

When everyone was trying to hunt him down, the Glazed Light Realm and Shui Meiyin were the only ones who took the giant risk of hiding him and protecting him.

When he returned and brought a dark calamity upon the Eastern Divine Region, he thought that he wouldn't be entirely surprised if Shui Meiyin decided to turn against him. It was her natural right as a denizen of the Eastern Divine Region after all. But she defied his expectations again by preparing a secret weapon long before he might need it, and using it at the best possible time. Thanks to her, the

entire God Realm now knew that his cause was justified, and countless profound practitioners were disillusioned by their cause.

He had never given anything Shui Meiyin deserved. He hadn't even given her the basic reciprocation one would expect from a romantic relationship because their engagement was an artificial thing forced onto him by Mu Xuanyin.

She had been away from him for three thousand years when she cultivated in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm. He had also changed from a gentle man to a brutal devil after his downfall. But she still gave him everything she had.

Her obsession with him might seem foolish, ridiculous and unreasonable to another person, but he knew how lucky he was to have a woman like her.

It was like having a star that would eternally shine for him and only him.

Having gone through absolute darkness and despair in his life, his appreciation for the girl before him was positively overflowing.

"Hmph!" Qianye Ying'er turned her back on them and looked away.

Shui Meiyin blinked her starry eyes once. It looked like Yun Che wasn't the only one who had changed drastically—no, even more so—over the past few years.

"Big Brother Yun Che, I'm really hiding this for a... very important reason. Please believe me, okay?" She explained briefly before smiling. "Still, Senior Devil Emperor treated you super well, you know that? She did so many things for you in secret before she left."

"Mn." Yun Che nodded... it wasn't like she had a choice, in a sense. Both her daughters were in his hands after all.

The Heretic God and the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor truly were the greatest god and devil in the world.

Unfortunately, the world wasn't worthy of them.

As promised earlier, he didn't press Shui Meiyin for an answer. This time, he turned to look at Chi Wuyao and asked, "By the way, why are the two of you together?"

"Why not?" Chi Wuyao countered. "Little Meiyin and I are old acquaintances, you know."

"Old acquaintances?" Yun Che frowned a little until he recalled the strange look Shui Meiyin gave Mu Xuanyin when she first arrived at the Snow Song Realm.

"She noticed me immediately after she saw 'us'," Chi Wuyao said slowly. "Luckily, she didn't expose me. After that, I decided that the two of you should be engaged to each other. After all..."

Her lips curled into a playful smile. "It would be a shame to give away a girl this beautiful yet frightening to someone else, don't you think?"

"~ ! $@# \pm \%$..." Meanwhile, the Moon Eaters who were guarding the area couldn't stop their eyes from twitching, or their scalps from tingling. They felt like they should be anywhere but here, and yet it didn't feel right to leave either.

At any rate, the Devil Master and Devil Queen's circle was... bizarre to say the least.

Chi Wuyao was smiling, but she was really hiding a deep doubt in her mind.

The Divine Stainless Soul could sense her Nirvana Devil Soul.

Therefore, to a degree, she could sense Shui Meiyin's Divine Stainless Soul too.

That was why she was... confused by the fluctuations in Shui Meiyin's soul when she was explaining things to Yun Che.

She couldn't even imagine what kind of emotion it took to cause a fluctuation like this.

Just what was she hiding?

Why was there a need to hide it in the first place?

"Ahem." After spending a long time to gather his thoughts, Shui Qianheng let out a small cough and started, "Devil Master, we came today not only because we wish to see you again, but also to make a request."

Yun Che looked at him and said mildly, "I haven't forgotten your favor to me, Senior Shui. You may ask me anything you want... except forgiveness on behalf of the Eastern Divine Region!"

Shui Qianheng's expression froze slightly.

Shui Yingyue overtook her father and said evenly, "The Glazed Light Realm is definitely not asking you to forgive the Eastern Divine Region, Devil Master. What we want... is for you to give them a chance."

"A chance, you say?" The corner of Yun Che's lips curled upward. His gentle voice suddenly turned cold and harsh. "Did anyone give me a chance back then!?"

He turned around and looked away from Shui Yingyue. "The Glazed Light Realm won't be affected no matter what happens to the Eastern Divine Region in the future. I will also repay the favor I owe you several times over. But if a second chance for the Eastern Divine Region is what you want..."

"Heh!" He let out a cold chuckle before continuing, "I'm sorry to say that your favor to me isn't enough to make me forget my dead family!"

His answer was clear cut and absolute.

Before Shui Qianheng and Shui Yingyue could say anything else, Yun Che suddenly looked to the side and said, "Are you here to plead for leniency as well, honored guests of the Shrouding Sky Realm?"

A short silence later, two more figures flew down the Soul Sky Warship and stopped in front of Yun Che.

It was none other than the Shrouding Sky Realm King, Lu Zhou and his son, Lu Lengchuan.

The Shrouding Sky Realm wasn't affected by the war, and it wasn't because it was one of the three strongest upper star realms besides the king realms.

It was because he still remembered what Lu Zhou said at the edge of the Primal Chaos despite the massive pressure he had to bear at the time.[1]

It was softly spoken... but he still heard it clearly even though he was on the verge of being overwhelmed by his anger.

"Lu Zhou of the Shrouding Sky Realm greets the Devil Master of the North."

Both father and son bowed respectfully toward Yun Che.

Yun Che turned around to face them. The gesture alone meant that he accepted the bow. "You are one of the few people who defended me when everyone else turned against me, Realm King Lu, and Brother Lu and I shared a small friendship with each other. If you are here as guests, then my doors will always be open to you. But again, if you are here to plea on behalf of the Eastern Divine Region... then don't blame me for throwing you out!"

Lu Zhou looked up in astonishment.

He didn't think that Yun Che had heard his angry mutter back then, much less remember it to this day.

It showed just how much he valued kindness and relationships.

Lu Lengchuan's gaze also became a lot more complicated.

On the Conferred God Stage, he had willingly surrendered victory to Yun Che despite holding a great advantage at the end of that epic battle.

He had become a Divine Master after cultivating three thousand years in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm, but Yun Che had also become the terrifying Devil Master of the Northern Divine Region without having enjoyed the same privilege as him. Who would've thought that his battle against Yun Che would become the most glorious moment of his life?

"No, you are mistaken, Devil Master," Lu Zhou said. "We are here to accept the Glazed Light Realm King's invitation to join you."

"Oh?" Yun Che looked directly into Lu Zhou's eyes, but couldn't find any falsehood or pretense in them at all.

"Heh." Yun Che let out a chuckle. "Are my ears playing tricks on me? Did the realm king of one of the three greatest upper star realms of the Eastern Divine Region just asked to join me, the monster who ravaged your divine region?"

"Did you happen to forget that the blood we spilled across the world, or the fact that we are the bearers of darkness profound energy, the power that is 'rejected by the world'?!"

Lu Zhou remained calm despite staring Yun Che directly in the eye. He replied, "It is true that blood has been spilled across the Eastern Divine Region, but it is the blood that washes away the stain in our beliefs and our souls."

"The rule-maker is the one who gets to decide if darkness profound energy is accepted by the world or not, not the illusory heavenly law!" He declared passionately. "If the Devil Master becomes the new master and rule-maker of the God Realm, then one word from you, and darkness profound energy would no longer be a sin, but the greatest honor one could possess!"

Yun Che: "..."

"You, Devil Master Yun Che..." Lu Zhou's eyes grew more and more determined. He wasn't one to hesitate or go back on his decision once he had made up his mind, "...are the future master of the God Realm we choose to follow."

Yun Che frowned slightly. "Aren't you afraid... that I would just drag you down to the eternal depths of the abyss!?"

"You can't lead a life without making choices, and I never regret the choices I make," Lu Zhou said. "Besides, we aren't doing this completely out of self-interest. It is... to atone for our sins and repay the favor we owe as well."

Yun Che looked to Shui Qianheng and Shui Yingyue. "Is this the choice of the Glazed Light Realm too?"

"That's right," Shui Yingyue replied. "Not only was the truth revealed through the Eternal Heaven Projection, this is the first time the world's perception of darkness was truly shaken to the roots, so I don't think that they'll be too surprised by our choices. In fact, I'm sure that there are a lot of realm kings and star realms who share the same thoughts as us."

"Hahahaha!" Yun Che suddenly laughed loudly. "As expected of the Glazed Light Realm King and the Shrouding Sky Realm King, even the way you 'plead' is much better than what most people can come up with... unfortunately, anyone I want dead will still die even if they break their knees and crack their skulls in front of me!"

Shui Yingyue and Lu Zhou held their breath at the same time.

"Big Brother Yun Che..." Shui Meiyin whispered quietly.

Yun Che suddenly turned toward Chi Wuyao and asked, "You are the one who fetched them over with the Soul Sky Warship. Does that mean that you agree with their plea as well?"

"Of course," Chi Wuyao replied unhesitatingly with a half-smile on her face.

"..." Yun Che stared at her and waited. He knew that Chi Wuyao would give him an answer that would satisfy him... especially because she understood the depths of his hatred more than anyone else.

"The rule-maker decides the rules, and those who serve can either choose to obey, or be punished or even killed. There is no other way. Therefore..." Chi Wuyao's words were bloodthirsty and murderous. "All the king realms who were part of that betrayal deserve to be destroyed, or even massacred to the last."

"But not those below the king realms. I believe they should have a second chance." Chi Wuyao smiled. "After all, we still have the Southern Divine Region and the Western Divine Region to conquer. We need corpses and dogs to pave the path to victory, do we not?" She was helping them and pleading on behalf of the Eastern Divine Region, and yet her words only caused Shui Qianheng, Shui Yingyue, Lu Zhou and Lu Lengchuan's bodies to turn ice cold.

Yun Che suddenly fell silent.

His memories traveled back to the time he was still in the Illusory Demon Realm...

Back then, after the Little Demon Empress obtained the Golden Crow divine power and regained control of the Illusory Demon Realm, she had executed Duke Huai, his family and all of his relatives... however, Duke Hai was hardly the only one who was involved in the revolt. At least sixty percent of the royal family and the Twelve Guardian Families had joined Duke Huai's faction during the unrest that had affected the Illusory Demon Realm for a hundred years at minimum.

The punishment for treason was nine familial exterminations.

If she had done that, the Illusory Demon Realm would weaken considerably and fall into a prolonged state of unrest. Not only would it take countless years to recover, many top-tier inheritances might vanish into the annals of history forever.

If they forgave them, she wouldn't be able to face the dead Demon Emperor and the Little Demon Emperor, or the Guardian Families and Illusory Demon Royal Family who were made to bleed for their loyalty.

In the end, she came to a decision... and Yun Che was a witness of that from start to finish.

"You are right," Yun Che said slowly after a long silence. He sounded like he was talking to himself or announcing a final verdict. "I should give the Eastern Divine Region another chance."

His smile spread wider with every word he spoke. When he was done, the smile on his face wasn't the smile of a benevolent ruler, but that... of a terrifying tyrant.

Chapter 1750 - Seven-Day Countdown

The chill Yun Che sent crawling over their skins was in no way less than Chi Wuyao's, but Shui Yingyue and Lu Zhou knew that it was still one of the better outcomes.

In the end, they were the denizens and the realm kings of the Eastern Divine Region.

Yun Che was the one who had saved the Eastern Divine Region, and the Eastern Divine Region was the one who betrayed him. Taking the fate of the world into consideration, Yun Che had every right to enact whatever revenge he wanted on his betrayers... however, it was also a fact that most of the people living in the Eastern Divine Region were innocent.

Trapped by the "cage" and rules enacted by their own rulers, they never really knew what happened until it was too late.

The Glazed Light Realm and Shrouding Sky Realm were some of the few realms who were safe from the devilish calamity, but the Eternal Heaven Realm was massacred, the Moon God Realm was annihilated, the Star God Realm was holed up in their auxiliary star realm and the Brahma Monarch Realm had closed its own borders... their king realms were either annihilated or useless, so it was up to them to improve things for the Eastern Divine Region if even a little.

Otherwise, it was unknown what kind of hell the Eastern Divine Region would turn into if those terrifying and fearless devil people were allowed to vent their infinite hatred to their heart's content.

Lu Lengchuan bowed and thanked Yun Che sincerely, "Thank you for granting the Eastern Divine Region another chance, Devil Master. When we return to our realms, we will immediately declare in the name of the Glazed Light Realm and Shrouding Sky Realm that those who submit to you will receive your pardon, and those who don't... will be treated as your enemies!"

They knew full well that they would be accused as treason.

Since they hadn't been affected by the war, and because their judgment wasn't clouded by the haze of loss, they knew better than anyone that there was no chance the Eastern Divine Region could resist the Northern Divine Region, not after the Eternal Heaven Realm and Moon God Realm were gone, and the truth was announced to the world.

This was the best, no, the only choice they had if they wished to retain as much of the Eastern Divine Region as possible.

"Heh! There is no need!"

Yun Che smiled and summoned the Primordial Profound Ark all of a sudden. Then, he dragged someone out of the vessel.

Bang!

The ice encasing the person fell apart as they crashed heavily against the ground and rolled into the distance. But instead of getting back on their feet, they chose to curl into a ball and shiver uncontrollably.

Everyone was surprised when they saw the person's face. Then, Lu Zhou and Shui Qianheng shouted in unison, "Star God Emperor!?"

The middle-aged man on the ground turned around blankly and saw Lu Zhou and Shui Qianheng looking back at him... then, he let out a strange cry, buried his face against the floor and wrapped his arms around his head. He writhed like a despairing worm as he said, "No... no... I'm not the Star God Emperor... I'm not... you got the wrong person... I'm not... I'm not..."

Once upon a time, he was a powerful and dignified god emperor that even the likes of Shui Qianheng and Lu Zhou, powerful higher realm kings in their own right, had to bow to in respect.

Today, his shameful appearance was exposed before countless eyes and even a couple of acquaintances. He would rather be frozen forever than to be seen like this.

That way, the people would've remembered him as the vanished Star God Emperor, the god emperor who once commanded Star Gods and wielded great power, not the sniveling mess he was now.

"What... what the..." Lu Zhou and Lu Lengchuan exchanged a look of utter shock.

The Star God Emperor had suddenly disappeared when the Star God Realm was turned to rubble by the Evil Infant. After that, no matter how hard the surviving Star God Realm profound practitioners looked,

scouring nearly every inch of the Eastern Divine Region, they weren't able to find a trace of their god emperor.

The people had countless rumors and guesses regarding the vanished Star God Emperor.

No one—least of all them—was expecting him to show up like this at this time and place.

Right now, Xing Juekong looked nothing like the Star God Emperor he used to be. They could barely sense any profound aura from his body at all, much less imperial might or spiritual pressure.

After being crippled and encased in ice for years, his willpower had long since been ground to dust and some more. There was only brokenness and despair in his eyes. Even the lowliest mortal would feel deep disdain and pity for him if they saw him.

It took time to break the Star God Emperor to this extent, meaning that his torture had probably begun the very day he disappeared without warning... but of course, they dared not ask Yun Che about it.

Yun Che hadn't killed Xing Juekong even though he hated him to the bone. In fact, he had been keeping him alive since the day he found him. He didn't think that his unintentional act of "charity" would prove useful one day.

He glanced at Xing Juekong from the corner of his eyes before tossing the Star God Wheel in front of the latter.

Although Xing Kuekong was just a normal person now, he had had the Star God Wheel for ten thousand years at least. He could practically sniff out the wheel if they were put in the same room.

The weak old man abruptly looked up for his spot and stared at the Star God Wheel for a second. Somehow, he found the strength to leap into the air like a flea and hug the Star God Wheel tightly in his chest. Tears poured down his cheeks like a pair of waterfalls.

Luo Zhou, Shui Qianheng and everyone watched while indescribable emotions surged inside their hearts.

"Heh." Yun Che's eyebrows sank as he said deeply, "Xing Juekong, I will grant you one more chance to become the Star God Emperor... savor it well!"

Xing Juekong didn't respond. It was almost as if he couldn't hear him at all. The old man was clutching the Star God Wheel with all his power, and for a moment he almost felt like the almighty Star God Emperor again.

Yun Che let out a sneer before walking toward the front. He ordered, "Daoqi, turn on the formation!"

The projection formation that had proven itself to be incredibly useful again and again came active once more.

Although it took an incredible amount of energy to sustain it, they were expending the Eternal Heaven Realm's resources. There was no reason to be distressed about the cost at all.

The great projection formation quickly came to life, and Yun Che's dark features and devilish power quickly enveloped the entire Eastern Divine Region once more.

Every devil person in the Eastern Divine Region—the god emperors all the way down to the lowest devil soldiers—dropped to their knees in unison... their near insane display of faith causing the Eastern Divine Region profound practitioners to quake in their boots.

This time though, they couldn't help but see Yun Che in a different light.

He was a devil, there was no denying that... but it was the rulers of the Eastern Divine Region, no, the entire God Realm who made him what he was.

He was supposed to be the God Child Messiah. He was supposed to be their biggest pride in the history of the Eastern Divine Region.

"Children of darkness," Yun Che said slowly in a low tone, "please cool the heat in your blood for a moment, for I have an important announcement to share with the pitiful worms of the Eastern Divine Region. Pitiful worms, please listen carefully and do not miss a word. You will regret it otherwise."

Only gulps could be heard amidst the oppressive silence.

Yun Che slowly raised his hand and stretched his fingers as if he had the entire Eastern Divine Region in his palm. "The Eternal Heaven God Realm and Moon God Realm are gone, and the Brahma Monarch God Realm and Star God Realm are shaking inside their turtle shells."

"Do not think for a second that you've been abandoned, because you don't even have the qualification to be abandoned in the face of the true calamity. Oh no, you are just pitiful worms that can be twisted into any shape and form by them."

Yun Che's speech was full of sarcasm... it was especially biting now that they all knew the truth.

"But I owe the Snow Song Realm a great debt, and the representatives of the Glazed Light Realm and Shrouding Sky Realm have come personally to plead on your behalf. The Glazed Light Realm hid me, and the Shrouding Sky Realm defended me in my direst moment, so I will grant you one, and only one chance to save yourselves!"

Shui Qianheng was still calm, but the Lu father and son could barely control their emotions.

If the Eastern Divine Region really was saved, if Yun Che really became the next master of the God Realm... then everything he said today would increase their already sterling reputation and status to a whole new level.

Who would've thought that a brutal man like him would value kindness and relationships to such an extent?

Joy wasn't the only emotion they felt, of course. They also felt sorrow... if the Eastern Divine Region had chosen to protect him instead of betraying him, their king realms wouldn't have crumbled, and their people wouldn't be slaughtered like dogs. They would've had unshakeable peace and protection.

That being said, if Yun Che was still his old self, if all he wanted was to live together with the Evil Infant in the lower realms, he would never have grown so much so quickly.

Yun Che withdrew his fingers slightly, and countless Eastern Region profound practitioners felt that their lives and souls were caught in his grasp. "In seven days, all upper star realms are required to send their

realm kings before me. They will kneel and swear their undying loyalty to me, or... they can vanish forever in darkness!"

The Devil Master's words caused countless eyeballs and hearts to beat wildly.

"Remember, you only have seven days, seven days! This is the first and last chance I'll grant the likes of you!"

"If your realm king insists on dragging you all to darkness, you can follow them to your deaths, or you can kill them and appoint a new realm king."

"Will you join us in darkness, or will you turn into black dust? I very much look forward to your decision!"

"Hehehehe!"

Yun Che turned away and left after leaving behind a devilish ultimatum and a cold chuckle. Countless seeds of darkness were buried in the wavering souls of the Eastern Region profound practitioners there and then.

"We obey the Devil Master's order. Withdraw!"

The devil army was already backing away as one while the Eastern Region profound practitioners were still in a daze. Even the armies who were one step away from hitting the core of the enemy's base had withdrawn without any hesitation whatsoever.

If it wasn't for Yun Che, they wouldn't even have the power to step out of the Northern Divine Region, much less vent their hatred to their heart's content! Yun Che's order had become their highest faith since a while ago.

So the devil people went away like tide water, leaving behind the Eastern Region profound practitioners and the dark ultimatum of the Devil Master...

The terrible disaster that dyed even the sky red had finally come to a pause, but no one could tell if a blessing or an even darker hell was awaiting them at the front.

"No! We mustn't fall for the devil people's trick!" An Eastern Region profound practitioner shouted. "They are clearly trying to divide our strength and enslave us!"

If this was two days ago, most of them would've fought to the death to defend their last bit of pride and honor. They would've died before they submitted to darkness.

After learning the cruel truth and losing their faith, the offer looked more like hope and a chance to survive.

The Devil Emperor sacrificed herself to save the world. The Devil Master saved the world only to be betrayed by it. If the very idea that darkness couldn't be allowed to exist in this world was wrong, then their million-year-long oppression and slaughtering of the devil people was a sin as well...

Knowing that, was it really that unacceptable to live with darkness; to submit to the man who once saved the world?

At the very least, they would be able to save themselves and their family. At the very least, this calamity would end here and now, and...

...they would have the opportunity to atone for their sins, and correct their misguided perception.

"I... don't want to fight the devil people anymore," a profound practitioner said weakly as he collapsed to his knees.

The pale, lifeless statement was shared by countless other Eastern Region profound practitioners.

"Great Realm King, let's surrender already. The devil people are too powerful, and we are no match for them at all. Besides... Yun Che was a member of the Eastern Divine Region."

"Sect Master, why are we even still struggling after knowing the truth?... I don't want to fight anymore, I really don't."

"They are devil people! Did you already forget how many of your brothers and kin were killed by them!? Are you just going to watch and do nothing while the Eastern Divine Region turns into a devil region!?" A higher realm king roared on top of his lungs.

"Heh." He was cut off by a miserable laugh. It came from their most talented profound practitioner. "Sect Master, that future will only come true if we are all dead. I would rather live and see what a devil person is really like."

"Great Realm King, you absolutely cannot submit to the devil people! How are we supposed to face our ancestors if they knew what we've done? And don't forget, there is still the Brahma Monarch God Realm! There's no way they are 'turtling' as the Devil Master says. They may even be plotting with the Southern Divine Region and the Western Divine Region in secret to deal a decisive blow... if we surrender now, it'll become an irremovable stain in our history forever!"

Countless voices filled the Eastern Divine Region for a time.

It was because the final fate of their star realms would be decided in just seven days.