The Gods 1771

Chapter 1771 - Voyage to the Southern Sea

"Chanyi, do you think that I should have friends?" Yun Che suddenly asked.

"No, you shouldn't," Nanhuang Chanyi replied without a single shred of hesitation. After thinking about it for a while, she corrected herself. "You are destined to be a ruler so it isn't a matter of whether you should have friends or not. Because from my perspective, there isn't anyone who is fit to be your friend."

"Oh really?" Yun Che chuckled as he stared at his own hand. After that, he spoke in a low voice, "You aren't wrong, you know. Just who in the world has the qualifications to be my friend?"

Yun Che had just said something extremely audacious and arrogant, but Nanhuang Chanyi didn't find it the least bit absurd.

"Continue to keep watch over this place."

Yun Che prepared to leave after giving that brief command. The main reason he had come to the Snow Song Realm today was to visit Mu Xuanyin. He had only resolved the situation with Huo Poyun because it had been convenient.

"Yes," Chanyi said before asking, "Your Magnificence, are you going to integrate the Eastern Divine Region's might with our own now?"

"No," Yun Che said. "I am going to deal with the Southern Sea."

"!?" Chanyi was clearly shocked by what he just said. Her brow furrowed slightly as she replied, "Isn't this a bit too hasty? We still do not know how deep the Southern Divine Region's power is, so we should be focusing all efforts on preparation at this moment. We should quickly consolidate the forces within the Eastern Divine Region and integrate their forces into our army. After that, we can test their loyalties in battle and use their bodies as paving stones in our conquest of the Southern Divine Region. Would that not be a better alternative?"

However, she immediately followed up those words by saying, "Your Magnificence must have already thought this through by himself. Chanyi is only saying some unnecessary things."

Yun Che let out a very strange chuckle. "You're actually absolutely right. So, that also means that the Southern Sea God Realm must be thinking what you're thinking, correct?"

Chanyi was a little stunned by that response.

"What lies behind being fully prepared is a long delay of one's plan, a delay that may very well lead to unnecessary trouble. Since the Southern Sea so desperately wants to know my current attitude toward them, what else can I do but comply?"

As he chuckled coldly, Yun Che's figure had already vanished within the flying snow.

Given the Northern Divine Region's position, they should choose battles which would result in the most gain with the least loss.

However, his position was different from the Northern Divine Region and that had always been the case. Even though he wasn't as extreme as he was in the beginning, at the end of the day... everything in the Northern Divine Region was merely a tool for him to use. That had not changed.

He had become the Devil Master of the North for the sole purpose of being able to control this tool even better.

The thing he desired the most has been and still was vengeance! It had never been sovereignty or supremacy!

His own vengeance, He Ling's vengeance... Returning to the Snow Song Realm today had dug deeply at those painful memories. Now that the Southern Sea had actually invited him into their abode, it was practically impossible for him to restrain the fires of his hatred.

As they were returning to the Eternal Heaven God Realm, Yun Che suddenly asked Chi Wuyao a question. "Do you think that I ruined Huo Poyun's life?"

Chi Wuyao looked askance at him before her lips curved into a smile. She said, "Hah, you looked so ruthless and heartless on the surface, but it looks like it's still nagging at you."

"You're overthinking this," Yun Che replied in a cold and impassive voice. "I only found out today that I would have died at Luo Changsheng's hands back then if not for him, and I don't want to owe anyone a single thing."

"You spared his life today, so can't you call it even?" Chi Wuyao said with a smile that didn't seem like a smile.

"...I guess." Yun Che gave a bland reply.

"His name spread far and wide in his youth and he had the good fortune to be transformed inside the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm. Today, he's already become the Flame God Realm King, so his life will never be marked with the word 'ruined'." Chi Wuyao continued, "But it's a pity that his life has gone far too well. He hasn't been buffeted by the storms of life and been through as many near-death experiences as you have. His cultivation grew by leaps and bounds during the three thousand years he spent in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm, but he has never truly been tested and shaped by any hardships or tribulations. As a result, his mind and heart have also not been put through any true tests, any crucibles of fire. Yet he just had to meet you at the most important period of his life."

As she shook her head, Chi Wuyao smiled and said, "However, you don't really need to be too worried about him. People will grow up in the end. He won't ever find another point of comparison like you in this world, so if he is able to emerge from this 'tribulation' of the heart, then it will be hard for anything to phase him in the future."

"Speaking of which..." Her tone suddenly changed. "It seems like you didn't bring Bingyun along with you."

"She said no," Yun Che replied, a cold light flashing in his eyes. "Furthermore, there really isn't too pressing a need to bring her along with me."

It had lasted for only an instant, yet Chi Wuyao could still sense the malice that had flashed through the air. Her eyebrows twitched as she said, "I'll accompany you on your upcoming trip to the Southern Sea."

"There's no need." Yun Che rejected her without any hesitation. "The Dragon Monarch's absence is an unfathomable mystery and the entire Western Divine Region has gone far too quiet, to the point of it being abnormal. I'll only be able to leave all my worries behind if you stay in the Eastern Divine Region."

"Moreover..." Yun Che paused for a moment as a strange light started glowing in his eyes. ""The fewer people on this trip, the better."

Chi Wuyao thought about it for a moment before she answered with a smile, "Fine."

Upon returning to the Eternal Heaven God Realm, Yun Che finally decided to summon the six Star Gods.

They had been waiting outside the realm during the time Yun Che had spent in the Snow Song Realm. They hadn't even moved a single step. They also did not dare make any complaints because they were all keenly aware of what they did in the past. In fact, they were expecting this sort of treatment from the start.

With Heavenly Jade Star God Aster as their leader, all six of the surviving Star Gods: Heavenly Jade, Heavenly Demon, Heavenly Flame, Heavenly Charm, Heavenly Sun, and Heavenly Soul, knelt in front of Yun Che. Given the exalted status of the Star Gods, they had never needed to kneel to Xing Juekong, they had only ever needed to bow. But since they all decided to come here, they knew what sort of attitude and posture they had to show Yun Che given their circumstances.

"To think that you actually had the guts to appear in front of me." Yun Che's brows sank as he looked down on all of them. His voice was impassive and cold as he said, "Wouldn't it have been better to learn from that old dog Eternal Heaven and run to the Western Divine Region like a bunch of defeated dogs?"

Aster bent her head and said, "The root of the Star God Realm lies within the Eastern Divine Region. No matter whether we live or die, we will not abandon our home."

"Does that mean that you've all come here to die?" Yun Che's eyes flashed with a cold light.

Aster took in a very light breath before saying, "We are willing to devote all our power and loyalty to the Devil Master. Even though the Star God Realm has lost much of its power and we aren't even comparable to what we were in the past, whatever remains of it can surely help the Devil Master in the future. I hope that the Devil Master will oblige us."

A dying camel was still bigger than a horse, so even if the Star God Realm had lost most of their power, they still had the six Star Gods and seventeen elders, all of whom were in the Divine Master Realm. It was a power that no one could ignore or belittle. In fact, it was the only thing they could rely on right now.

Aster did not mention anything about obeying the Star God Emperor's wish to come and surrender. No one else in the universe was aware of how Yun Che died or how Jasmine became the Evil Infant in the Star God Realm all those years ago except for them, and it was a fact that was etched into their hearts.

As a result of this, Yun Che hated Xing Juekong to the bone and there was no way he would truly accept him. The display of obedience that Xing Juekong had put on in the Eternal Heaven Projection had been nothing more than a dog and pony show set up by Yun Che.

Aster also didn't inquire about Xing Juekong's location or fate. Since he had already ended up in Yun Che's hands, they could well imagine what had happened to him.

"It doesn't sound bad, does it? After all, who wouldn't want tools that deliver themselves right to your doorstep?" The corner of Yun Che's lips started to curve up. The words that he said were incredibly harsh and it caused the emotions in the six Star Gods' eyes to fluctuate a little, but no one said anything.

Aster had already prepared them mentally for this occasion before they made their resolution.

"However, before I do this," Yun Che said as his tone started to change, "don't you think that you should give me... a reason not to kill you?"

A wave of killing intent engulfed the six Star Gods before he had even finished speaking, instantly causing them to shudder as a chill spread through their bodies.

Aster replied in a calm voice, "As Star Gods, we had no choice but to carry out the Star God Emperor's commands, no matter whether they were wrong or right. When we serve under the Devil Master in the future, it will be exactly the same."

"Since you had no choice but to obey your liege's commands, then it is also logical that you have to bear responsibility for your liege's crimes, correct?" Yun Che said as he glanced at them.

"...That is correct," Aster replied in a soft voice. "If the Devil Master desires our deaths, we can say nothing against it. We won't even fight back. However, we were hoping that we could use our lives and Star God powers to redeem ourselves."

"This is not only for the sake of the Devil Master. It is even more for the sake of Princess Jasmine and Princess Caizhi, whom we owe far too much to. They would also definitely not hope for the extinction of the Star God' lineage. We beg the Devil Master to oblige us."

After she finished speaking, Aster slowly closed her eyes, as if she was waiting for the final judgement to fall upon her.

After a dreadful and heavy silence, Yun Che finally started to speak, "All of you were already dead at first. Do you know who exactly allowed you to live until now?"

"We do," Aster replied. After the Northern Divine Region had launched their invasion, the Eternal Heaven God Realm, Moon God Realm, and Brahma Monarch God Realm had all been struck with hellish calamities and only the Star God Realm, the weakest of the four king realms and also a realm that Yun Che bore much hatred toward, had avoided this devilish calamity... It was only after they personally witnessed Qianye Fantian bring along all of the Brahma Kings to beg Yun Che forgiveness that they understood that Caizhi's sword was meant to save them, not destroy them.

The one who had the biggest reason to hate and resent them had saved them instead. This was what led to Aster's resolution today.

Even if they all really died here today, she would have no complaints.

"I hope that each and every one of you never forgets the reason I'm leaving you alive today. She is also the person you should live for from now on... Do you understand!?"

Those words meant that they could keep their lives, but Aster showed no excitement or joy. Instead, she prostrated herself before Yun Che and said, "I thank the Devil Master for obliging us."

"Devil Queen," Yun Che said, "select someone suitable to govern the Star God Realm."

"There's no need for that," Chi Wuyao replied as she shook her head. "Wait for her return. She is the only one who should be the master of the Star Gods."

"..." Yun Che raised his head to stare into the distance. The scene of his last meeting with Caizhi played out in front of his mind's eye.

Caizhi, where are you right now? Why are you not willing to see me even though you've clearly returned to the Eastern Divine Region?

Have you still not forgiven me yet...

He silently acknowledged Chi Wuyao's words and turned around. After that, he suddenly spoke in a low voice, "Tianxiao, have all the preparations been finished?"

Yan Tianxiao stepped forward and bowed as he said, "We completed the preparations a long time ago."

"Let's go." Yun Che looked to the south as he gave that simple, decisive, and rather sudden command.

"Yes!" Yan Tianxiao responded just as firmly. A violent black light suddenly flashed in his eyes. He even felt his own blood starting to boil.

A hand suddenly shot out to grab Yun Che by the wrist. Fingers gently tightened around his arm as Chi Wuyao's voice softly rang in his ears. "I know that I can't stop you, but you must return safe and sound, do you understand?"

"Of course," Yun Che said. "Long Bai and Zhou Xuzi are still alive, so how could I bear to die!?"

A pitch-black profound ark descended from the sky. As Yun Che twirled his body around, he disappeared in front of them and appeared inside the profound ark. Yan One, Yan Two, and Yan Three quickly followed behind him. With the Three Yama Ancestors present, even if Yun Che was a weakling, he could still go wherever he pleased in this universe.

He did not warn either Shui Meiyun or Qianye Ying'er of his departure as the black profound ark Yun Che was on sped off into the distance. It flew toward the distant south, to the Southern Divine Region that he had never visited before.

Chi Wuyao saw Yun Che off as he departed for the Southern Sea God Realm with nary a doubt. She softly muttered under her breath, "Mu Xuanyin, now that I've monopolized him for so long, it's finally your turn to be by his side. Why should I be worried about sending him off to a place you've already gone to?"

"Has he left?" Qianye Ying'er suddenly appeared beside her as she stared in the direction where Yun Che had left with sunken brows... Her lips were moving but she did not chase after him. "Mhmm." Chi Wuyao gave a nod of her head. "He didn't let me go with him. Perhaps he's going to take revenge on the Southern Sea sooner than we think."

"…"

After a long period of silence, Qianye Ying'er suddenly shot off into the distance.

"Where are you going?" Chi Wuyao asked.

"Returning to the Brahma Monarch God Realm," Qianye Ying'er absent-mindedly replied as she rushed off with Qianye Wugu and Qianye Bingzhu.

Chapter 1772 - The Four Emperors of the Southern Divine Region

The Southern Divine Region was one of the dwellings of the gods a long time ago. Later on, it became the battlefield where the desperate battles between the gods and devils were fought. That was why the Southern Divine Region possessed the most divine power inheritances, divine artifacts, and forgotten devil artifacts.

The hidden abode of Heretic God Ni Xuan after he gave up his title was also located in the Southern Divine Region.

Just like the Eastern Divine Region, the Southern Divine Region was ruled by four king realms. The Southern Sea Realm was the strongest king realm of them all, followed by the Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm. The Purple Micro Realm and Xuanyuan Realm shared more or less the same strength.

Although they were all king realms, the Purple Micro Realm and Xuanyuan Realm were similar to the Star God Realm and Moon God Realm in the sense that they were relatively weaker compared to the Southern Sea Realm and Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm. But unlike them, the Purple Micro Realm and Xuanyuan Realm weren't enemies since time immemorial. In fact, they had worked with each other for many years and solidified their relationship through political marriage between members of the royal families to solidify their power in the Southern Divine Region. They had never had big conflicts with each other, and to offend either realm was to offend the other as well.

Together, they were still inferior to the Southern Sea Realm, but stronger than the Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm. That was why the king realms of the Southern Divine Region were much more stable and well balanced than the Eastern Divine Region.

After the truth of the crimson calamity was revealed, everyone was shocked by how quickly the king realms of the Eastern Divine Region had collapsed, and how brutal Yun Che's methods were. The unprecedented events had affected even the relatively distant Southern Sea Divine Region and complicated many emotions.

The innumerable Eastern Divine Region profound practitioners who escaped to the Southern Divine Region also unwittingly amplified the latter's fear and panic as well.

Out of all the realms in the Primal Chaos, the king realms were the most shocked when they heard of the demise of the king realms of the Eastern Divine Region. And of all the king realms of the Southern Divine Region, the Southern Sea Realm was without a doubt the calmest of them all. Their pride and confidence wouldn't allow them to be intimidated.

Today was an unusual day for the Southern Sea Realm. Their capital city especially was covered in all kinds of shiny profound formations. The lights were almost brighter than the sun itself.

It was because today was the day of the Southern Sea Realm crown prince proclamation ceremony.

The crown prince proclamation ceremony was of course big news to the Southern Sea Realm. It was because it was also a declaration of the future Southern Sea God Emperor. Everyone had known who the crown prince would be since long ago, but the timing of the proclamation ceremony was so odd that no one had seen it coming until it was announced.

Not only was it happening three quarters of a year sooner than the rumored date, the decision looked like it had been made on the spur of the moment. Considering that the Eastern Divine Region had just succumbed to the Northern Divine Region, what they should be doing now was uniting all the forces of their divine region and dealing with this new threat, not holding this proclamation ceremony.

It wasn't long before the profound practitioners of the Southern Sea Realm caught the scent of a conspiracy... and the scent only thickened when the flagships of two king realms arrived at the same time. Even better, they were carrying the Purple Micro God Emperor and the Xuanyuan God Emperor themselves.

This was just the crown prince proclamation ceremony, not the god emperor ascension ceremony. Therefore, they shouldn't have sent more than two of their inheritors to congratulate the Southern Sea Realm, much less attend the event themselves.

An hour later, a gigantic shadow approached the Southern Sea God Realm at incredible speed. Everyone's face changed when they saw what it was.

It was a cyan-and-black shadow that was over fifty kilometers long. Its fins looked like heavenly blades, its eyes were as deep as the bottom of the sea, and the teeth peeking out of its mouth shone with an intimidating light...

The shadow was a giant shark—literally—and there was no one in the Southern Divine Region who didn't know its name.

"It's the Blue Sea Fierce Shark!"

The same exclamation burst out of countless Southern Sea profound practitioners' mouths at the same time. The shark was the guardian beast of the Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm and the personal mount of its god emperor. This meant that God Emperor Shitian had come to the Southern Sea Realm himself!

Somehow, every god emperor in the Southern Divine Region had shown up to attend a simple crown prince proclamation ceremony. Even a blind person could see that something wasn't right about all this.

Cang Shitian dropped from the sky after the giant shark came to a stop above the Southern Sea Capital. He was accompanied by a man and a woman clad in blue attire only; the two Sea Gods of his realm.

The Northern Hell Sea King, Nan Feihong, walked out of the palace and bowed slightly. He greeted, "Welcome, God Emperor Shitian. My king has been waiting for you. This way, please."

Cang Shitian didn't give him a reply. He walked straight through the palace entrance expressionlessly.

A grand feast was going on inside the palace right now. The Purple Micro God Emperor and the Xuanyuan God Emperor were already seated inside. When Cang Shitian walked in, Nan Wansheng rose to his feet with a smile on his face. "We've been waiting for you, God Emperor Shitian, but... it looks like you're unhappy about something."

Cang Shitian shot the Purple Micro God Emperor and the Xuanyuan God Emperor a glance. He normally acted like the most arrogant and wildest man in the world, but today only a thin, dark smile crossed his lips. "Is that a taunt?"

"Of course not." The Southern Sea God Emperor narrowed his eyes slightly. "The loss of the two Sea Gods is a disaster for the entire Southern Divine Region. If you have any clues at all as to who the culprit might be, just say the word and all three of us will assist you however we can."

"Hehe, naturally." The Purple Micro God Emperor chuckled while stroking his long beard.

"Are we sure this isn't the work of the Northern Divine Region?" The Xuanyuan God Emperor asked seriously.

"Heh! Where is the sense of sending such a terrifying killer to the Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm when they were in the middle of a war against the Eastern Divine Region? I don't think Yun Che and the Devil Queen would be that stupid." Cang Shitian snorted coldly before shooting Nan Wansheng a sideways glance. "And even if this is the work of the Northern Divine Region, the fault would fall on you first. You're the one Yun Che has a beef with."

Inside the main hall, the expressions of the two Sea Kings and the Sea Gods changed at the same time.

Cang Shitian sat down in the foremost seat of honor to the right. As the second strongest god emperor of the Southern Divine Region, he had always sat at the front when he visited the Southern Sea Realm.

"God Emperor Shitian," the Eastern Hell Sea King said suddenly while raising an arm, "please sit down in the seats we've prepared you and the two Sea Gods. If you need anything else, do not hesitate to call upon us."

The Eastern Hell Sea King was pointing at the third seat to the left.

Cang Shitian side-eyed him, but didn't get angry. In fact, an eerie smile crossed his lips. "I see."

His image suddenly faded without warning. It was an afterimage; his real self was already seated in the seat the Eastern Hell Sea King had indicated. Then, he asked again, "Seeing as you've gone through the trouble to set up all this, does that mean that someone from Dragon God Realm will be attending as well?"

"Of course," Nan Wansheng replied. "The Eternal Heaven God Realm was massacred in a single day, the Moon God Realm was destroyed in one bang, and the Brahma Monarch God Realm was forced to capitulate before they could make even a single move. How could the Dragon God Realm sit still after all this? Today's event is exactly the opportunity they needed to show their faces, so there's no way they would miss it."

"What about the Dragon Monarch? Hasn't he shown up yet?" A strange gleam flashed across Cang Shitian's eyes. "No. That's the one thing I do not get about the Western Divine Region right now," Nan Wansheng said.

"The fall of the Eastern Divine Region is most terrible, so the Dragon Gods should've reported this to the Dragon Monarch a long time ago. But to this day, he is still nowhere to be seen," said the Purple Micro God Emperor. "This is not to mention that the official excuse they gave made no sense whatsoever."

The Dragon Monarch had reached his ultimate limit hundreds of thousands of years ago, so it made no sense that he would undergo secluded cultivation. Everyone knew that he would never experience any meaningful breakthroughs again.

"Assuming that the Dragon Monarch was still unaware of the great change of the Eastern Divine Region, the most likely place he had gone to would be the God Realm of Absolute Beginning. That being said, the nine Dragon Gods should still be able to locate him or send him a message... unless he had shut himself away completely so that no one could interrupt him from whatever he was doing."

"If your assumption is true, what could possibly drive the Dragon Monarch to take such extreme measures?" the Xuanyuan God Emperor asked. "Not to mention that this timing is way too perfect to be a coincidence."

"Unverifiable assumptions will only disrupt our minds. We will know the truth after the representatives of the Dragon God Realm arrive." The Southern Sea God Emperor smiled. "Ultimately, that is the Western Divine Region's business. Our business... lies here today."

The atmosphere turned heavy for an instant. Narrowing his eyes, the Southern Sea God Emperor asked slowly, "How many people do you think Yun Che will bring with him?"

Forget them, even the Northern Divine Region should be aware of the real objective of this crown prince proclamation ceremony.

The fact that Yun Che agreed to attend was a good start. All that was left to do was deduce his stance from the number of people he brought with him.

"Hmph." Cang Shitian let out a grunt. "I'm more interested in the Devil Queen than him."

"Don't worry, God Emperor Shitian. The Devil Queen will show up for sure." The Southern Sea God Emperor smiled confidently. "Yun Che may be the Devil Master, but he cannot be the one who set up all the elaborate plans that led to the downfall in the Eastern Divine Region. Therefore, the Devil Queen is the true core of the devil forces, not him. This means two things: one, there's no way the Devil Queen would allow Yun Che to show up alone. Two, she will not let the chance to set foot in the Southern Divine Region slip through her grasp."

Cang Shitian also smiled. "It looks like you have full confidence that the 'ceremony' that's about to happen will go well."

The Southern Sea God Emperor shook his head. "Oh no no no, I don't mean it like that. There are just some things in the world that don't require much thought, especially when all the rulers of this land are gathered in one place... hehehe, hahahahaha!"

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Outside the capital city, a small, black profound ark slowly descended to the ground.

Yun Che could be seen emerging from the exit. Behind him were Yan One, Yan Two, and Yan Three.

The natural pressure he carried with him kept anyone from approaching him. In fact, as Yun Che slowly walked toward the entrance, the Southern Sea palace guards froze as if someone had frozen their entire bodies. The only things that still moved were their eyes.

Although they had never met Yun Che in person, images of him had spread throughout the world and planted themselves in the hearts of every Southern Sea profound practitioner. It was to the point where they could identify him with a single glance.

He wasn't the only reason they were terrified. The three black shadows behind him also contributed largely to that fear.

Just like the other divine regions, the Southern Sea Divine Region's only way of dealing with the profound practitioners of dark profound energy was execution. But they had never felt such a dark, terrifying pressure in their lives, much less three of them.

When the three Yama Ancestors' black auras descended upon them, the Divine Kings actually felt like their vision was blackening, and their bodies were falling into a bottomless abyss where there was only eternal darkness.

"Please inform the Southern Sea God Emperor that Yun Che, the Northern Region Devil Master has arrived."

Yun Che stopped in front of the palace guards and produced his invitation letter. He sounded and looked pretty amiable today.

His voice shattered the darkness in an instant. All the palace guards shivered as if they had just experienced a nightmare. The leader of the guards hurriedly lowered his head before stammering out a reply, "Wel... welcome, Northern Region Devil Master... His Majesty has been waiting for you. I will inform him of your arrival right away."

Inside the palace, the voice of his guard leader entered Nan Wansheng's ears. "Your Majesty, Yun Che is here. He is... waiting at the main entrance right now."

"..." Nan Wansheng frowned slightly before asking, "He's waiting? He didn't try to barge in by force?"

"Correct, Your Majesty."

"How many people did he bring with him?" Nan Wansheng asked.

"He brought three... people with him, Your Majesty."

"..." Nan Wansheng's eyes gleamed unnaturally. Things were not going as he had predicted, especially the part regarding Yun Che's entourage.

Did the boy seriously waltz into his capital city with only three people by his side !?

"Lead him to the main hall immediately! And remember to be respectful at all times."

"Y-yes, Your Majesty." The guard leader was still stammering. The mere recollection of the three terrifying shadows that stood behind Yun Che was all the motivation he needed never to disrespect the Devil Master for as long as he lived.

So Yun Che officially entered the Southern Sea Capital, the highest symbol of authority and the heart of the Southern Divine Region.

The capital city of the strongest god realm of the Southern Divine Region was completely different from the Brahma Monarch Capital. The first and deepest impression Yun Che got from this place was that it was a place of absolute luxury. Here, every brick, every tile, every leaf, every bit of wood and even the air itself were permeated with a sense of extravagance. The greed and desire behind all this wealth was completely bare for all to see.

The corner of Yun Che's lips curled almost imperceptibly as he looked around.

He couldn't wait to destroy this luxurious, splendorous, beautiful, and dazzling place!

Chapter 1773 - Ash Dragon God

A vast blue sky stretched out before them, as far as their eyes could see. A huge shark swam in the air beside two profound warships which were exuding immense and boundless auras. Even though this was the first time Yun Che had seen any of these things, he could guess who they belonged to in the Southern Divine Region just based on their auras alone.

"Hahaha." A deep laugh rang in the air. The Southern Sea God Emperor was already moving toward the entrance of his palace. He came out to meet Yun Che as he greeted him in a loud and clear voice, "The Southern Sea Realm is truly honored that the Devil Master has chosen to grace us with his august presence."

As his eyes swept across the three Yama Ancestors behind Yun Che, the Southern Sea God Emperor's eye's froze for an instant. After that, he stared straight into Yun Che's eyes as he smiled and said, "It's been a long time. The God Child of yesteryear has now become the grand and mighty Devil Master. It wouldn't be remiss of me to say that your current grace and splendor are nothing less than a miracle gifted by the heavens."

"Really?" Yun Che said as he looked at him with calm but narrowed eyes. "The dashing figure that the Southern Sea God Emperor just showed me in the Brahma Monarch Capital a few days ago was also very eye-opening."

The Southern Sea God Emperor's face didn't even twitch at those words. He chuckled as he turned around and said, "And these three gentlemen are?"

Yun Che had really only brought three people with him, but these three people alone had caused the Southern Sea God Emperor's heart and soul to shake violently and without rest. He was far less calm than his demeanour suggested.

He had naturally seen the images of the Eternal Heaven God Realm's slaughter. So he had also seen these three old men trample all over the mighty Guardians and throw them around as if they were ragdolls. They had suppressed the Eternal Heaven God Realm so thoroughly that they could not even

fight back. These scenes were so shocking that even a god emperor could not remain calm after seeing them.

Now that he had personally seen them and come within touching distance of them, the Southern Sea God Emperor was experiencing far more than simple shock.

As the number one god emperor of the Southern Divine Region, the only person he had ever acknowledged as his better was the Dragon Monarch himself! The only people who he would even deign to consider his peers were Qianye Fantian and the strongest Dragon God of the Dragon God Realm, the Crimson Destruction Dragon God.

However, even though no aura leaked from the bodies of the three black-robed elders who accompanied Yun Che, the very first instant the Southern Sea God Emperor's spiritual perception swept over them, he was convinced, to his shock and dismay, that these people were existences that had reached the same heights as he had.

This was especially true when it came to the old man in the middle. He actually caused a terrifying sensation to pervade Nan Wansheng's body, the feeling that he was "superior" to him.

This was the first time he had felt this way since he had met the Dragon Monarch!

It was no wonder the vast Eternal Heaven God Realm had been so utterly devastated under the claws of these three venerable men.

"Hmm?" Yun Che glanced to the side upon hearing the Southern Sea God Emperor's words. He gave a dry chuckle as he said, "They're exactly what they look like. Just three old slaves. To think that the Southern Sea God Emperor, who is legendary for his wild arrogance and his contempt of all things, would actually be so modest and humble as to be concerned with a few lowly slaves? It looks like you really can't trust these things called rumors, huh."

"Hahaha, the Devil Master is a funny man." The Southern Sea God Emperor's eyes flashed violently just after he finished saying those words.

These three old men were so strong that any one of them had reached the level of a god emperor. In fact, their strength would far surpass the majority of the god emperors in existence. People who possessed such dreadful might would definitely also possess a corresponding arrogance and pride. There was no reason for them to serve anyone at all.

However, when Yun Che addressed them as "old slaves" and "slaves", the auras of these three old men had not even fluctuated one bit. They'd actually withdrew their auras even further in and even their heads all drooped down together with uncanny synchrony. It was as if they were showing how reverential they were to their master.

As he pushed down the shock in his heart, the Southern Sea God Emperor turned to the side and said, "Devil Master, after you. The other god emperors and my lowly son have been eagerly awaiting your arrival."

As he strode into the palace, a shocking web of auras rushed to greet him. Yun Che recognized Cang Shitian with a single glance and he also saw the two Sea Kings and a bunch of Sea Gods. The two people seated beside Cang Shitian were exuding auras of god emperors. There was no doubt that they were the two other great god emperors of the Southern Divine Region—the Purple Micro God Emperor and the Xuanyuan God Emperor.

There was no way that so many personages would have gathered here just for a crown prince proclamation ceremony.

They had heard the entire exchange between Yun Che and the Southern Sea God Emperor at the gates of the palace. As Yun Che entered the hall, the atmosphere within changed completely. The silence had now grown heavier and more oppressive than before. All eyes fell on Yun Che but no one made a sound. Cang Shitian was already in the middle of standing up from his seat. His eyes continuously switched from Yun Che to the Three Yama Ancestors and his expression had also changed.

Back then, this person was so pitifully weak that he could not even be considered "weak" in their eyes. They had been able to toy with his destiny as they pleased and he had been forced to flee into the Northern Divine Region because of them. But now, he not only stood proudly in their midst, they could even feel an incredibly heavy and coercive might radiate from his body.

As the dark oppressive might of the Three Yama Ancestors began to pervade the room, shocked expressions crossed the faces of the two Sea Kings and all the Sea Gods who were present. This was despite their position of strength and home-court advantage.

As level ten Divine Masters, the Northern Hell Sea King and the Eastern Hell Sea King were supposed to lead the Sea Gods in showing the Devil Master the divine might of the Southern Sea, to put on a show of strength for him. However, their hearts and souls had been utterly shaken by the presence of the Three Yama Ancestors. It was so stifling that even they found it difficult to breathe. They couldn't even maintain their relaxed expressions in the face of these overwhelming auras.

"Devil Master, please take your seat," the Southern Sea God Emperor said in a cheerful voice. His attitude and tone were both very friendly.

Yun Che did not stand on ceremony. He immediately plopped down in his seat. There was an empty seat beside him and it had clearly been meant for the Devil Queen.

"Ah, it's too bad that the Devil Queen didn't come. I can't hide my disappointment," the Southern Sea God Emperor said. He swept his eyes across the Three Yama Ancestors standing behind Yun Che.

He waved a hand and said, "Quickly prepare seats for these three venerable seniors."

"There's no need for that." Yan Three said in a dark and gloomy voice before the Southern Sea God Emperor could even finish speaking. "None of us are worthy of sitting next to Master."

He did not even lift his head up as he spoke and it was clear he was speaking in an extremely humble manner, but this humility was only directed toward Yun Che. Everyone else who heard those words felt a cold darkness seep into the very depths of their souls.

These three venerable men were stronger than most god emperors but they behaved like loyal dogs in front of Yun Che. There was no way to describe the shock the powerhouses of the Southern Divine Region were feeling from witnessing this.

Yun Che gave a cold and dry chuckle. "Since the Southern Sea God Emperor has already specially prepared a seat for us, leaving it empty would really be quite a pity. Yan Three, take a seat."

"Yes." Yan Three replied as he sat next to Yun Che. He still did not even condescend to look at anyone else. His withered arms remained hidden in his gray robe, but his fingers were already tingling with accumulated power.

The moment the situation changed, any one of the Three Yama Ancestors would spring into action, and since Yan Three was seated next to Yun Che, he was in an even better position to protect him.

A dark and cold energy soundlessly spread through the hall. This was clearly the Southern Sea's palace, the most exalted and sacred place in the Southern Divine Region, but darkness had quietly crept into its halls.

This clearly told everyone present that the terror imparted to them by these three old men definitely wasn't hollow... They might very well be much more terrifying than what they had sensed so far.

The Southern Sea God Emperor sat down on his throne and spread his arms wide as he started speaking in a grand and dignified manner. "The appointment of our Southern Sea's new crown prince is merely a small matter, yet all of you bothered to come and witness it. That is truly my great fortune. This is especially true in regards to the Devil Master. I am extremely happy that you decided to grace us with your presence.

Yun Che's eyes narrowed as he replied, "Happy? Why?"

The Southern Sea God Emperor said, "The fact that the Devil Master is willing to give us face and show up today means that, at the very least, you aren't going to make an enemy of the Southern Sea Realm and the Southern Divine Region. This can be considered a most fortunate thing from any perspective."

"Hehe." Yun Che chuckled as he replied in a languid manner, "Isn't the Southern Sea God Emperor rejoicing too soon? I have always been a person who will avenge hatred with hatred. I am also sure that all of you have witnessed what happened to Eastern Divine Region. Furthermore, the things that your Southern Sea did to me all those years ago..."

His voice grew dark and deep as he carefully enunciated each word, "You haven't forgotten about them already, have you?"

Yun Che had come here personally and he had only brought three people with him. So it seemed that he had come to show his sincerity at first, but the very first thing he did was to clash with the Southern Sea God Emperor. Everyone's expression changed subtly after he said those words.

Yet the smile on Nan Wansheng's face remained as wide as ever. "As long as one is alive, they should live full lives, paying back debts and vengeance alike. Only useless cretins will swallow up their grievances and be choked by them. This is where the two of us are very alike."

"However, there has always been more than one way to avenge yourself and vent your hatred," the Southern Sea God Emperor said as he looked at Yun Che. "How can we compensate the Devil Master and appease his wrath? I only need the Devil Master to say the word and nothing you say will offend me."

"Hahahaha!" Yun Che howled with laughter and it seemed like a sneer of derision and a sigh of lament rolled into one. "The Southern Sea God Emperor that I've heard of has always been a wild and arrogant man. So much so that I don't even need to mention your contempt for all living beings. In fact, you have always dared to do even the most despicable things for your own gain. When you went against me all those years ago, you ruthlessly cut my legs out from under me and drove me into a corner. So why does the Southern Sea God Emperor seem like such a timid little pussy today?"

Nan Wansheng didn't show the slightest trace of anger. He answered with unhurried composure, "This world has always been one that is governed by strength. When the Yun Che of the past had the Devil Emperor and Evil Infant to back him up, no one dared to move against him either. However, when the Devil Emperor and the Evil Infant both disappeared, what did he have left?"

"The fact that you saved the world? Your halo as a god child? Hehehehe, what the hell are those things?" His eyes slowly narrowed. "No, you were only a weakling, and you were a weakling with limitless potential at that. A weakling who threatened to become a huge danger to all of us. And who would care about a weakling's feelings? Who would bow to a weakling's will? If you were me, would you have done so?"

"The situation at hand is entirely different. You are no longer that so-called god child. You have transformed yourself into the Devil Master, someone who is far stronger than your past incarnation, someone who now controls a vast amount of military might. You now have earned the right to sit at the same table as I, you have earned my fear and wariness."

The Southern Sea God Emperor leaned forward, his eyes had been fixed on Yun Che throughout. "So how can my attitude be the same now that I am speaking to someone strong? This is a simple rule of life. Perhaps the God Child Yun Che of the past was unaware of this, but there is no way that the Devil Master is, am I right?"

Yun Che began tapping the jade cup in front of him, causing it to ring with a slow and steady rhythm. "Well said. That also means that the Southern Sea God Realm... Oh, no, that the entire Southern Divine Region is willing to give way to me?"

The Southern Sea God Emperor also placed his hand on the jade cup in front of him as he smiled and said, "Our Southern Divine Region has clearly witnessed just how strong your Northern Divine Region is. And I'm also sure that the Devil Master is well aware of the Southern Divine Region's strength. If the two of us slug it out in a life and death battle, it will only end up being a pyrrhic victory for the winner. You will lose eight hundred to kill a thousand, so this can only be a losing proposition for both our sides."

"What's more, the Devil Master has far less of a grudge against our Southern Divine Region than you had against the Eastern Divine Region. In that case, why is there a need for us to fight to the death? If the Devil Master truly felt that way, you would not have graced us with your presence either, would you?" The Southern Sea God Emperor chuckled as he raised his jade cup and made a toast toward Yun Che.

Yun Che did not reply. Everyone seemed to think that his arrival here was a declaration of intent, that he had no intention of making an enemy of the Southern Divine Region.

"Vengeance must be had, grievances must be aired out and resolved. I, the Southern Sea God Emperor, and the entire Southern Divine Region will definitely pay back everything that we owe the Devil Master," the Southern Sea God Emperor said as he looked around the hall. Even though he wore a smile on his face, his voice was stern and resolute. "My fellow god emperors, what are your opinions?"

"I have no objections," the Xuanyuan Emperor replied. "In order to express my sincerity, my Xuanyuan Realm has already decreed that we are not to wantonly kill any dark profound practitioner from now on."

"Mn." The Purple Micro God Emperor gave a slow nod of his head. "The Purple Micro Realm dislikes conflict and squabbles. We also feel that this is the best way forward."

"Hmph." God Emperor Shitian's nose twitched at those words, but he did not say anything.

"Very good." The Southern Sea God Emperor turned back toward Yun Che as he spoke in a slow and measured manner, "I will have to trouble the Devil Master to be frank with me and tell me how exactly we can pacify your wrath and satisfy your anger. However, if our Southern Divine Region truly cannot accede to the Devil Master's wishes, or if the Devil Master is determined to pit the Northern Divine Region against the Southern Divine Region, then I, the Southern Sea God Emperor, will meet you headon."

"After being an emperor for a lifetime, if I am fated to meet you in battle, this life will not have been lived in vain, no matter what the outcome! Hahahaha!" The Southern Sea God Emperor laughed uproariously as he raised his jade cup high in the air and emptied it with a single gulp.

His words had been exceptionally frank and he had conveyed his intentions in a crystal-clear manner. The Southern Divine Region did not wish to fight the Northern Divine Region, but they weren't afraid of a fight either.

As this heavy atmosphere filled the hall, everyone's attention was focused on Yun Che. They zoomed in on every change in his expression as they eagerly awaited his response.

It was at this exact moment that a voice boomed out across the hall. It was a soul-shaking voice that was as heavy as a mountain. "Southern Sea! Did you lot invite me here just for me to witness this ugly display of cowardice!?"

As that voice rang in everyone's ears, a vast and boundless dragon might descended upon the hall. The entire palace seemed to tremble faintly as waves of energy churned the air.

A towering gray figure appeared at the entrance of the hall at this moment. All eyes fell upon him and it seemed as if an exalted and intimidating gaze was sweeping across every corner of the hall.

The Southern Sea God Emperor stood up and replied in a cheery voice. "Our Southern Sea greatly welcomes the Ash Dragon God. Please, take your seat."

It was as if he had not heard those mocking words which had thundered in everyone's ears.

The person who had just arrived was one of the Dragon God Realm's Nine Dragon Gods, the ones who served directly under the Dragon Monarch himself.

The dragon race was strong but they never had a lust for battle. They were a proud and unapproachable race, but they were mostly possessed of a calm and steady temperament. In fact, they rarely ever showed their emotions on their faces. The stronger the dragon, the more reserved they would be.

Even so, there was one exception amongst the Nine Dragon Gods... and that was the Ash Dragon God.

He was the only Dragon God who wore his heart on his sleeve, but he was also the most violent and ill-tempered Dragon God.

His mocking words had appeared before he had. Among all the Dragon Gods and Dragon Sovereigns of the Dragon God Realm, only the Ash Dragon God would behave in such a manner.

The Southern Sea God Emperor rose to greet him. He did not seem the least bit angry and it wasn't just for show either! On the contrary, a bizarre and excited look flashed in the depths of his eyes.

There was no way that the Dragon God Realm would be unaware of the true goal of this "grand ceremony". The Dragon Monarch's whereabouts were still unknown, but the person the Dragon God Realm had dispatched was not the strongest Dragon God, the Crimson Destruction Dragon God, or the wisest and most composed Dragon God, the Azure Dragon God. Instead, they had sent the Ash Dragon God, the most irascible, haughty, and violent Dragon God of them all!

As such, this matter might be far more simple... than he had initially expected it to be!

Chapter 1774 - Enraged

A dragon's aura naturally contained an oppressive might that affected all living creatures, so why would a Dragon God's aura be any different?

The Ash Dragon God had come alone, just like the Dragon Monarch had when he came to the Eternal Heaven God Realm to attend the Profound God Convention. They had never deigned to bring along any servants.

The Ash Dragon God ignored the Southern Sea God Emperor's words. He walked into the hall and every step he took felt as heavy as ten thousand mountains as his cold and haughty gaze fell on Yun Che.

Everyone in the God Realm was now keenly aware of the names "Yun Che" and "Devil Master". Regardless of the Dragon God Realm dismissing and belittling him in the beginning, after a short few weeks, his name was growing more and more thunderous with every second.

After he stopped in front of Yun Che, he said in a dry voice, "Yun Che, Northern Region Devil Master, it's great that you've come."

The Ash Dragon God was much taller than most normal humans, so he towered over Yun Che even though he stood in front of his seat. Both his eyes and posture conveyed his cold and haughty arrogance.

The Three Yama Ancestors lifted their heads simultaneously. The attitude that the Ash Dragon God was showing to their master right now was intensely disrespectful in their eyes.

However, the race which most deserved to be arrogant in this universe was the dragon god race. The race which no one could afford to offend was also the dragon god race. The strength of the Dragon God

Realm resembled a mountain which pierced the heavens and everyone had no choice but to fear and respect it. It had been this way since time immemorial and no race or star realm would ever ever think of offending the Dragon God Realm. Even the most craven and ambitious villains would not dare entertain any designs on them.

No one had been shocked by the mocking aspersions the Ash Dragon God had thrown at the Southern Sea God Emperor or his cold and haughty attitude toward Yun Che. Because this was a Dragon God, and it was the most wild and arrogant Dragon God at that.

Yun Che did not bother to look up at the Ash Dragon God. He looked down toward the floor as he said in a dry voice, "To think that a mere Dragon God would dare to act so disrespectfully in front of me. Could it be that you're not afraid of death?"

Those words caused this vast hall to completely freeze over. The room grew so hushed that one could hear a pin drop.

A look of shock even flashed over the faces of God Emperors Cangtian, Xuanyuan, and Purple Micro. So it was natural to see such an expression on everyone else's faces as well.

The Northern Divine Region's invasion of the Eastern Divine Region had been swift and brutal, but the profound practitioners of the Northern Divine Region had not taken even a single step into the Western Divine Region. They had very deliberately attacked the territories of the Eastern Divine Region that were far away from the Western Divine Region. They didn't dare bring the battle any closer to them and clearly broadcasted their intentions for the world to see: They had no desire to offend the Western Divine Region.

This was something that made all too much sense to the inhabitants of the God Realm.

Since the Northern Divine Region had invaded the Eastern Divine Region on the pretext that the Eastern Divine Region had "started it", it was very likely that the Western Divine Region would simply sit back and watch the two sides battle it out. But if they offended the Western Divine Region, it would be nothing less than digging their own graves, no matter how strong they were.

Although the Northern Divine Region had displayed a strength that had far exceeded everyone's expectations as they handed the Eastern Divine Region a complete loss, no one thought to compare them to the Western Divine Region.

With the Eastern Divine Region's defeat, the probing discussions between the Northern and the Southern Divine Regions would dramatically change depending on the Western Divine Region's stance. However, Yun Che, who clearly did not want to offend the Western Divine Region and certainly shouldn't have even wanted to, had actually said such harsh and cutting words to the Dragon God that had been dispatched to represent them.

The Ash Dragon God's dragon eyes narrowed slightly, but he did not seem the least bit angered. Instead, one side of his mouth began curling up in a mocking grin.

"Are they the great Yama Ancestors of the Northern Region's Yama Devil Realm?" The Ash Dragon God seemed to be asking Yun Che a question, but his voice was filled with an unquestionable conviction when he spoke those words.

Even Qianye Ying'er could only guess at the existence of the "Yama Ancestors", she had not even known what those words referred to at first. But it was now clear that the Dragon God Realm had far more information on them than the Brahma Monarch God Realm.

The Ash Dragon God had definitely been shocked by the dreadful aura of the Three Yama Ancestors. However, he had only been surprised by them. No fear tainted his heart... Because he was a Dragon God! Someone who had the backing of the Dragon God Realm! Once the Devil Emperor and the Evil Infant had disappeared from this universe, there was no other existence that merited their fear or apprehension.

"There are exactly three of them, just like in the records," the Ash Dragon God said in a dry voice. "Though I do not know what method you used to bring them out of the Bone Sea of Eternal Darkness. But to think that just the three of them would give you the confidence to challenge our Dragon God Realm..."

He slowly raised his chin so as to deliberately look further down on Yun Che. His gaze was filled with unconcealed contempt and mockery. "I originally had some minor expectations of you. But it looks like you're exactly the same as you used to be, a naive and childish fool.

The silence in the hall deepened and no one dared to even breathe too loudly.

No one had imagined that the situation between the people representing the Western and Northern Divine Regions would deteriorate so soon after the Ash Dragon God's arrival.

As he looked at both of them, the Southern Sea God Emperor's expression grew stiff and he looked as if he was at an utter loss for what to do. But his heart was practically bouncing with joy.

The Dragon God Realm had been a neutral realm throughout their entire history. They would not move unless they were offended. As such, they did not look like they were going to make a move, despite the present condition of the Eastern Divine Region... However, this largely had to do with the Dragon Monarch's absence.

Even if the Dragon Monarch was around, it was very likely that the Dragon God Realm would not do anything as long as the Northern Divine Region did not touch the Western Divine Region. After all, no matter how strong they were, they would still definitely suffer significant losses if they threw themselves into such a grand and brutal conflict.

As a result, no matter how arrogant he was to the Southern Sea God Emperor, everyone still believed that Yun Che would definitely display the utmost restraint and sincerity in front of the Dragon Gods of the Western Region—even if he possessed a deep and abiding hatred for the Dragon Monarch over his antagonistic actions all those years ago.

This should also have been one of the goals of his visit today.

Yet the current situation was evolving in a way that far exceeded their expectations.

If the Dragon God Realm were to become thoroughly enraged... then what would his Southern Divine Region have to worry about!?

Yun Che suddenly smiled as well, and his smile was calm and playful. He finally deigned to look up at the Ash Dragon God. He only spared him a single glance before he looked away with that same smile on his face and said, "Very well."

Without Yun Che's explicit command, the Three Yama Ancestors would not move and their auras did not change either.

Upon receiving Yun Che's acknowledgement, the Ash Dragon God gave a cold smile as he arrogantly turned around.

Given the Ash Dragon God's temperament, he would have flown into a rage if it had been anyone else. However, he knew that he could not fly off the handle with the Three Yama Ancestors around, regardless of not being afraid of them. When it came to raw power, he was well aware that he wasn't a match for any of them.

"Hehe, two of you are truly worthy of your titles. With just a few short words, you have already displayed soul-shaking power," the Southern Sea God Emperor said with a cheery smile as he arranged for the Ash Dragon God to be seated. "Qianqi, the Northern Region Devil Master, the Ash Dragon God, and all of the god emperors have gathered here today because of you. When your father was appointed crown prince all those years ago, I had never even dared to hope for such honor to be bestowed upon me. What are you waiting for? Thank all of our honored guests."

A dashing man who radiated the aura of a Sea God stood up from one of the seats besides Nan Wansheng. He walked out and bowed in front of everyone in the hall. "Southern Sea's Nan Qianqiu gives his earnest and sincere thanks to the Northern Region Devil Master, the Lord Dragon God, God Emperor Cangtian, the Xuanyuan God Emperor, and the Purple Micro God Emperor. Qianqiu is filled with both overwhelming shock and gratitude. Once I have inherited the seat of crown prince, I definitely won't disappoint the expectations of royal father or any of my seniors."

Though the ceremony had yet to be held, he had already been confirmed to be the crown prince. He was also the person who was exceedingly likely to become the next Southern Sea God Emperor, so his status was far different from before. As such, he did not need to kneel in the presence of all these god emperors and a Dragon God.

Yun Che turned to take a good look at Nan Qianqiu.

As a son of the Southern Sea God Emperor, his looks and bearing were naturally extraordinary. Nan Wansheng's features were easily recognizable on his face and his tone was neither deferential nor disrespectful. His eyes were glowing with vitality and even though he faced god emperors and a Dragon God, they showed no fear.

A Sea God aura that was at the eighth level of the Divine Master Realm... He had been able to merge with the Sea God divine power to such an extent over just a dozen years, it was an outstanding feat.

When Nan Qianqiu stood up, Yun Che clearly felt He Ling's soul violently shake and tremble.

The Southern Sea God Emperor had used Nan Qianqiu's appointment to crown prince as an excuse to facilitate today's events, but he would never have dreamed that the words "Nan Qianqiu" were actually the main reason for Yun Che's arrival.

"You truly do live up to your father's name, you didn't disappoint me at all." The Ash Dragon God shot Nan Qianqiu a few penetrating stares before he gave him generous praise.

He suddenly thrust out an arm right after he had finished speaking. With a flick of his finger, he sent a cluster of grayish-white profound light flying towards Nan Qianqiu. "Even though your Southern Sea has truly been disappointing, the appointment of a new crown prince is always a big matter. I hope that you won't look down on our petty gift."

It was clear that he was still contemptuously mocking the Southern Divine Region for taking a step back before Yun Che.

The Southern Sea God Emperor let out a roar of laughter. "What are you saying? Were the Ash Dragon God to present to us a single feather, it would still be considered a heavenly treasure. Qianqiu, what are you waiting for? Accept the gift."

Nan Qianqiu quickly walked forward to take the gift in both hands. As the profound light dispersed, a jade box fell into his hands. The jade box opened and dense and thick draconic energy immediately gushed out of it. It was, astonishingly enough, a perfect and undamaged dragon core of an extremely high level.

Nan Qianqiu was overjoyed. He bowed deeply toward the Ash Dragon God. "Qianqiu thanks the Lord Dragon God for his gift."

"No need for that," the Ash Dragon God said as he waved his hand. He then suddenly turned his head toward Yun Che. "Northern Region Devil Master, what grand present did you bring today? I'm actually very curious."

Yun Che gave a smile that was clearly not a smile as he said, "How could I come empty-handed to such a grand event. I have brought a gift so grand that it can pierce the heavens, but I'll only be able to present it slightly later. However..."

He looked at the Ash Dragon God and continued, "I'm just afraid that the Ash Dragon God will no longer be in the Southern Region to see this present."

"Oh no, I can afford to wait and I'm also very interested," the Ash Dragon God said in a contemptuous voice.

"Ash Dragon God," Cang Shitian suddenly said, "do you know where the Dragon Monarch has been lately?"

Many rumors about the Dragon Monarch's location had spread from the Western Divine Region. But today, they could finally ask one of the Dragon Gods directly.

He was well aware that this question would be presented to him, so the Ash Dragon God replied impassively, "If the Dragon Monarch does not want anyone to know where he is going and what he is doing, then no one will know. There is no need for you lot to pry any longer. If the Dragon Monarch wants to make an appearance, he will do so."

He was indeed unaware of where the Dragon Monarch had gone and when he would return. He only managed to find out two things. The first was that he had gone to the God Realm of Absolute Beginning

and the second was that he had severed his spiritual connection with all of the Dragon Gods. This meant that none of the Dragon Gods could send a soul transmission to him.

This sort of thing very rarely happened and it was clear that the Dragon Monarch wasn't tied up in something ordinary.

The only one who knew the circumstances of his absence was the Azure Dragon God but he refused to reveal anything about it. It was clear that the Dragon Monarch had given him strict orders before he had left, so how would any of the Dragon Gods dare to disobey the Dragon Monarch's command?

"...I see," Cang Shitian said in a relaxed voice.

"Yun Che, I can't help but say that your luck is actually pretty good." The Ash Dragon God lifted his chin proudly as he spoke in an unhurried and arrogant manner. "My Dragon God Realm has never condescended to actively bullying someone, but the Dragon Monarch seems to have grown to hate devils over the last few years."

Yun Che let out a cold and dry laugh.

"The Dragon Monarch just so happened to be absent when you and your devils decided to swarm out of the Northern Divine Region and cause trouble in the Eastern Divine Region. And when it comes to battles between divine regions, we won't move unless the Dragon Monarch commands us. But if the Dragon Monarch were to return..." He chuckled coldly. "Given his loathing of devils over the last few years, I'm afraid even ten more lives wouldn't save you."

"So?" Yun Che said as he stared at him.

"On account of the good that you did back then, I will enlighten you on the two paths open to you." The Ash Dragon God continued to look down on him as he spoke in a languid voice. "The first path open for you is this. As the Devil Master of the North, you should bend the knee as quickly as possible and declare your loyalty to the Dragon Monarch. Given the dragon soul within your body and the admiration the Dragon Monarch had for you back then, he might not necessarily reject you. And if he can control you, then he might also be able to tolerate the devils of the Northern Region who serve under your command."

"And what is the second path?" Yun Che asked with a bemused expression on his face.

"Before the Dragon Monarch returns, take your people and run back to the Northern Divine Region," the Ash Dragon God said in an exceedingly arrogant tone. "Since you are devils, you should obediently resign yourselves to your fate as devils. Living as beasts who can only dwell in darkness is surely better than being squashed like a pitiful worm, right?"

He leaned forward as he stared at Yun Che. His lips curved up slightly as his voice turned incredibly deep and somber. "Don't blame me for not warning you in advance, because the Dragon Monarch really, really hates devils."

He wasn't saying these things just to frighten Yun Che.

The Western Divine Region was just like the Eastern and Southern Divine Regions, they had never had any tolerance for dark profound practitioners. The Dragon God Realm had also never made any laws to

exterminate or kill any devil people and that seemed to be something that was carved into their bones, something that was inherited from generation to generation.

However, just a few years ago, the Dragon God Realm suddenly decreed that all devil people within the Western Divine Region were to be killed. This was a law that the Dragon Monarch had personally decreed and it was incredibly extreme and cruel. Even the bones of a devil person would not be tolerated.

This just so happened to be during the period after Yun Che had become a devil and fled into the Northern Divine Region.

One could say that the Ash Dragon God's words were either a piece of advice or a threat, but in actual fact, it seemed more like he was pitying Yun Che.

The Southern Sea God Emperor's brows twitched as his eyes narrowed into long slits. He suddenly realized that he had been a little too pessimistic about the situation before. The attitude the dormant Dragon God Realm was showing to Yun Che on their very first encounter was far more "perfect" than he could have dreamed.

Before Yun Che could even reply, an earth-shaking explosion suddenly thundered outside the royal palace.

"Who is it!? How dare you barge into this... AAAHHH!!"

What followed that shockingly powerful yell was a wail of misery.

Everyone in the royal palace turned in the direction of that scream. Every Sea God and Sea Guard were about to move out... But in the next instant, all of their bodies froze and it was as if someone had nailed their feet to the ground. Everyone's expression also dramatically changed at this moment.

Because, shockingly enough, the auras that were rapidly approaching them were the auras of four...

Level ten Divine Masters!

Of the four, two radiated an exalted imperial might which was not the least bit inferior to the Southern Sea God Emperor's!

"Heh! To think that lowly lapdog nipping at the heels of the Dragon Monarch would dare to bark so arrogantly at our Devil Master!"

A woman's voice rang out mockingly in the distance. As a black light flashed in the air, a woman with ephemeral beauty appeared in front of the palace. As she slowly strode into the palace, her shiny gold hair gently swayed at her waist as it fluttered in the wind.

Shockingly enough, this woman was Qianye Ying'er!

Calling any one of the Dragon Gods a "lapdog" was something that was unheard of. The Ash Dragon God's expression remained unchanged but his dragon eyes instantly flashed with explosive rage. He slowly turned around to look at the one who had taunted him, but when he saw the people who flew behind Qianye Ying'er, his pupils instantly shrank to pinpricks.

"Qianye Bingzhu, Qianye... Wugu!?"

The Ash Dragon God let out a strangled cry of shock when he saw the two people trailing behind Qianye Ying'er. He stared at them fixedly, as if he had seen a ghost.

Chapter 1775 - The Devil Master's Kill Order

The lifespan of the dragon race was longer than the human race, so the Ash Dragon God had already seen three Brahma Monarch God Emperors come and go. As a result, he instantly recognized Qianye Bingzhu and Qianye Wugu.

However, they were two people who had clearly already passed away!

Even if a human reached the cultivation of the Divine Master Realm, their lifespan would number no more than fifty thousand years. To the human race, the number fifty thousand was just like the Divine Master Realm of the profound way, they were limits that could never be broken.

Qianye Bingzhi's lifespan had surpassed the boundary of that limit a long time ago so it would only be natural for him to have died of old age already, let alone Qianye Wugu.

They had not only appeared in front of them full of life. Their auras were dense and heavy and even seemed to exceed what they had been back then.

Besides the Southern Sea God Emperor, everyone who heard the names "Qianye Bingzhu" and "Qianye Wugu" had leapt to their feet in shock. This was especially true of Cang Shitian, the Xuanyuan God Emperor, and the Purple Micro God Emperor. All of them had seen Qianye Bingzhu in their youth and the person beside him exactly resembled the Qianye Wugu in their inherited memories.

Qianye Bingzhu and Qianye Wugu had no reaction whatsoever to everyone else's shock and alarm. Qianye Wugu opened his mouth to speak, his voice as faint as a wisp of cloud. "The two of us are people who should have died long ago and we no longer have much time left anyway. The reason why we still exist in this world is to send the Brahma Monarch God Realm off, there is no need for you to be concerned."

A strange light flashed in the Ash Dragon God's eyes as his aura fluctuated continuously. But he immediately noticed his loss of composure, something that should never have happened, and he slowly began to suppress his agitated energy. He spoke in a cold voice, "It looks like the news we received many years ago was actually true. The item that your Brahma Monarch God Realm found along the borders of the Southern Region... really was the Primordial Seal of Life and Death!"

The six words "Primordial Seal of Life and Death" exploded in everyone's ears like thunder, violently shaking the hearts and souls of all who were present.

"As expected from the Dragon God Realm," Qianye Bingzhu said, his voice as calm and composed as ever. "It is exceedingly hard to hide anything from you."

"However, the Primordial Seal of Life and Death is no longer in the hands of the Brahma Monarch God Realm and there is no need for you to pay any attention to the two of us," Qianye Wugu said. "Everything in the Brahma Monarch God Realm is now decided by its new master."

"Shut up," Qianye Ying'er barked in a cold voice. "Why are you wasting so many words on a dead man?"

Qianye Wugu and Qianye Bingzhu immediately stopped talking.

"A dead man?" The Ash Dragon God was stunned for an instant. But after he realized that Qianye Ying'er seemed to be referring to him, his body bent backwards slightly as he let out a roar of wanton laughter. "Hahahaha——"

However, Qianye Ying'er did not spare him a single glance during his laughing fit. She simply walked straight toward Yun Che.

It was also at this time that the Southern Sea God Emperor stood up and stepped forward. He smiled as he said, "Ying'er, it's been many years since we last met. How have..."

"Nan Wansheng," Qianye Ying'er directly addressed him by name as her lips curved up in what seemed to be a mocking smile. "I'll let you guess. Do you think I've come today to congratulate you or settle our debts!?"

Even though Qianye Ying'er had only been in the Northern Divine Region for a few short years, her mental state and her desires had undergone a monumental and fundamental change. This was in addition to the small changes that the devil blood, darkness profound energy, and Yun Che's devil art had wrought on her body, causing Qianye Ying'er's entire aura and temperament to undergo a huge and dramatic transformation.

Everyone in the God Realm knew about the Southern Sea God Emperor's infatuation with the Brahma Monarch Goddess.

As the number one god emperor in the Southern Divine Region, there was nearly nothing in this world that he could not obtain. However, the one thing that he desired the most, Qianye Ying'er, was precisely the thing he had never been able to.

It could be said that Nan Wansheng had not hesitated to do anything to win Qianye Ying'er's favor back in the day. He would never reject any of her requests, even when it was blatantly obvious that she was only using him. Furthermore, he had endeavored to fulfill all of her requests personally as well and he even did so regardless of the consequences at times.

It was a pity that he had never been able to even touch Qianye Ying'er after centuries of doing this, but he never felt any resentment toward her. In fact, his passion for her was quite inflamed. It was like an itch he could not scratch.

Now, her change in temperament, her dark corruption, and the charm and grace that Yun Che had nurtured all combined to deliver a knockout punch to the Southern Sea God Emperor. The moment he laid eyes on Qianye Ying'er, he felt as if poison was flaring up in his veins, causing every single drop of blood in his body to stir agitatedly.

However...

The Southern Sea God Emperor froze for two whole breaths upon hearing Qianye Ying'er's cold words. It was only then that he swiftly smoothed out his expression and smiled at her. "Even if Ying'er has come to settle debts, I will still gladly welcome it. Now that you've ascended to become the new Brahma Monarch God Emperor, you've accomplished your royal father's greatest wish and it looks like he can rest in peace."

"I'm just curious but has the date for your coronation been set? I can barely contain my eagerness to attend!"

"Heh." Qianye Ying'er gave a cold and dry chuckle as her gait slowed. "Nan Wansheng. The longer you live, the more your mind regresses. It looks like all the women over the years have emptied more than just your body. Has your brain been emptied as well?"

"Oh?" A broad smile spread across the Southern Sea God Emperor's face.

"My name is Yun Qianying." She looked away, not sparing the Southern Sea God Emperor another glance. "As for that Qianye Ying'er you speak of, she died a long time ago. That dead Qianye Fantian isn't my royal father either, he's only an old dog who should've died long before he actually did."

"I am now the master and emperor of the Brahma Monarch God Realm. There's no need for any grand ceremony and even less need for you to come and witness it... Do you understand!?"

Her words caused shock and astonishment to erupt in everyone's hearts. However, Qianye Bingzhu and Qianye Wugu, who trailed behind her, actually... showed no reaction at all to her words.

"Also, 'Ying'er' is my previous name." Qianye Ying'er's eyebrows sank as she closed her eyes. "To me, it is the disgraced name of someone who is already dead. However, my man is a very narrow-minded person, so I can't vouch for whether he will be angry or not if he hears that name."

Nan Wansheng's face froze for a second.

Qianye Ying'er arrived in front of Yun Che's seat and said to Yan Three, "Get lost."

As everyone looked on, Yan Three, whose aura was so dark and sinister that it even caused the hearts of all the god emperors present to pound violently in their chests, retreated to stand behind Yun Che without daring to make a single sound.

Qianye Ying'er sat down beside Yun Che while Gu Zhu, Qianye Wugu, and Qianye Bingzhu fell in behind her, their faces impassive.

Space seemed to silently contract as all the eyes that looked towards them started twitching... Because within this imperial palace, this tiny hall, there were seven level ten Divine Masters assembled in one spot!

Furthermore, with the exception of Gu Zhu and Qianye Ying'er, every one of these people stood at the very peak of the tenth level of the Divine Master Realm, the ultimate power one could aspire to in this era. Any one of them could defeat any god emperor of the Southern Region who was not named Nan Wansheng.

This was a dreadful array of force.

The people of the Southern Region were still trying to compose themselves after being shocked by the appearance of the old Brahma Monarch ancestors and the news of the Primordial Seal of Life and Death. But when they realized this point, the shock they were still struggling to overcome grew dozens of times greater.

Even the Ash Dragon God, who had been provoked and enraged by Qianye Ying'er, who had been on the verge of exploding, started to look very grim. His face was far more grim and somber than it had ever been in the past.

Seven level ten Divine Masters, five old monsters... This was before they could even take Yun Che, the one whom everyone could least afford to underestimate and whose power could barely even be guessed at, into account. This was when that most dreadful Devil Queen and "the number one god emperor in the Northern Region" had not even made an appearance.

Most people attributed the Eastern Divine Region's utter defeat to the tricks and schemes of the Northern Divine Region. This was especially true for the battles against the king realms of the Eastern Divine Region. The only one they had defeated in direct battle had been the Eternal Heaven Realm.

At this moment, to their collective shock, everyone present seemed to realize that they knew next to nothing... about the Northern Divine Region's true strength.

The surroundings grew incredibly silent and oppressive, and no one spoke for the longest time. The Xuanyuan God Emperor and the Purple Micro God Emperor, who had both leapt to their feet, hurriedly sat down as an incredible array of expressions played across their faces.

"Why did you come here for?" Yun Che asked in a somber voice as he side-eyed her.

"If you can come, why can't I?" Qianye Ying'er retorted as she turned her face to the side. It seemed as if she was rather unhappy with the way Yun Che had deliberately avoided her when he left.

"How presumptuous of you!" Yun Che's voice started to grow dark and grim.

"Even if I am being presumptuous," Qianye Ying'er said as she let out a soft snort, "surely Uncle Gu, I, and the two old guys behind me, won't slow you down in any way."

"Furthemore, when it comes to grudges and grievances, I am the master of the Brahma Monarch God Realm, so I have far more reasons to come to this place than you do."

"..." Yun Che did not pursue the matter any further. Now that Qianye Ying'er had already come, he could not simply chase her away.

She had actually grown quite obedient over the last part of their sojourn in the Northern Divine Region. But now that she had inherited the Brahma Monarch God Realm and gained power that far exceeded whatever she had in the past, she had started to "act up" again.

"Hehehe." A low chuckle rang out in the air as the Ash Dragon God slowly got to his feet. "The new emperor of the Brahma Monarch God Realm? With Yun as her surname? Qianye Wugu, why don't you tell me something. Does the current Brahma Monarch God Realm bear the surname Qianye? Or does it bear the surname Yun?"

Qianye Wugu slowly closed his eyes, but he did not say anything.

He had not even settled scores with Qianye Ying'er yet for calling him "a lapdog nipping at the heels of the Dragon Monarch", and now Qianye Wugu was actually ignoring his question!?

As one of the Dragon Gods, existences below the Dragon Monarch alone, existences who reigned far above the rest of creation, who would dare treat him this way? Even Qianye Fantian would never have dared to treat him in such a cold and rude manner.

"Qianye Wugu, you preserved your withered life with the Primordial Seal of Life and Death, but have your ears gone deaf already?"

Not a single one of the Dragon Gods would have been able to tolerate this treatment, much less the Ash Dragon God.

"Heh heh." Qianye Wugu let out a dry laugh, but his face remained calm and his eyes remained closed. "Our master is here. If you have any doubts, you can ask our master yourself."

He was her paternal grandfather, yet he addressed Qianye Ying'er as "our master", and this was even after she had abandoned her surname "Qianye" and adopted the surname "Yun". The Ash Dragon God's eyebrows pinched together tightly as the expressions of everyone from the Southern Region changed. They were unable to understand what had happened.

"So you're saying," the Ash Dragon God said with a smirk, "that as an ancestor of the Brahma Monarch God Realm, the two of you are willing to become... lapdogs of the devils!?"

"Ash, your words are far too serious," Qianye Bingzhu replied. "Our master cares about the future of the Brahma Monarch God Realm, and the blood of the Brahma Monarch God Realm runs through her veins. So is her surname so very important?"

"If not for our master, Brahma Monarch would have long ago followed in the Moon God Realm's footsteps. The two of us witnessed everything, and so we are content with the outcome. We are even more eager to personally witness what the Brahma Monarch God Realm's final destiny will be after this choice."

Qianye Bingzhu and Qianye Wugu had both once been the Brahma Monarch God Emperor, so their experience and vision were as vast as the ocean. Also, they had even transcended the limits of life and death and the enlightenment and wisdom they had gained while existing as the "deceased" might have reached a realm which no mortal man could touch.

Every single one of the words seemed to hide meaning as vast and deep as an entire universe; they were filled with boundless profundity and worldly wisdom.

Yet these men had actually made such a "choice"?

Amidst this profound silence, everyone present, from the lowliest Sea Guard to all the exalted god emperors, felt their hearts being greatly shaken by those words.

"Shut up!" Qianye Ying'er barked out coldly. "Didn't I just tell you to not waste words on a dead person? Are the two of you really deaf?"

"..." Qianye Wugu and Qianye Bingzhu immediately clammed up.

"A dead man?" The Ash Dragon God let out a derisive laugh. "Qianye... Ah, no, Qianying of the Yun clan, you couldn't possibly be talking about my supreme self, right?"

"Oh?" Qianye Ying'er raised her head to look at him. She seemed to let out a very soft laugh before she spoke languidly, "You couldn't possibly be thinking that you will be leaving this place alive today, right?"

Once she said those words, everyone in the imperial hall but Yun Che's entourage started to grow excited.

"Hahaha! HAHAHAHAHAHA!!"

The Ash Dragon God threw all thoughts of bearing or comportment to the side as he let out an incredibly wild and arrogant laugh. "Good, very good. This has truly been the most amusing joke that I have heard in my entire life... Hahahahaha!"

The Southern Sea God Emperor immediately started laughing as well. "Hahaha, Ying'er has always liked to crack jokes, so I hope that the Ash Dragon God will not take her seriously. Everyone, please take a seat. I have prepared more than a few festivities to entertain everyone before the ceremony begins. They definitely won't disappoint."

However, the Ash Dragon God acted as if he had not heard the Southern Sea God Emperor's attempt at mediation. His laughter suddenly stilled as he glared at Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er with cold eyes. "You lot were able to hand the Eastern Divine Region one humiliating loss after the other, and you ended up conquering it in the short span of a single month. This proves that you do have some skill. However, you can't be thinking that this would give you the qualifications to taunt our Dragon God Realm, right!?"

"Tsk, tsk." The Ash Dragon God shook his head, the grin on his face was three parts mocking, seven parts pitying. "I was originally feeling good-hearted enough to show you a way out of this mess but it's such a pity that the two things that are most incurable in this world are naivete and stupidity."

The Southern Sea God Emperor did not say a word. On one side was the Devil Master of the North, on the other was a Dragon God of the West... Given the Southern Region's position, no one would dare to interrupt either party rashly.

Furthermore, as the god emperors of the Southern Region, why would they even want to mediate when their desired outcome had been realized so perfectly!?

The Ash Dragon God's temperament was explosive and arrogant. However, no one had ever dared or been able to call the strength of the Dragon God Realm and the Western Divine Region into question since their inception... Furthermore, as the ones who stood at the very summit of the universe, their strength was definitely far more incredible than what had already been shown.

"Heh." Yun Che chuckled in a deep voice before he spoke in a languid manner. "If anyone dares to behave arrogantly in front of me and even dares to insult me to my face, there are only two options for that person. If he has some use, he can become one of my loyal dogs and live to see another day. If not... only death awaits!"

"As for you..." When Yun Che raised his head to look at the Ash Dragon God, his eyes were dark and cold. It seemed as if he was looking at a pitiful and lowly person who was about to die, not a Dragon God. "There is only death."

Yun Che's cold and indifferent words caused the already oppressive atmosphere to grow several times more cold and heavy.

Die... He was going to kill a Dragon God here!?

Just because of the Ash Dragon God's wild and arrogant words? Behavior that was simply all too common for him?

They did not dare to believe the words he had just said. They simply couldn't bring themselves to believe those words.

"With just your power?" The Ash Dragon God suddenly realized that Yun Che did not seem to be joking as he stared into his eyes. But this only made him feel even more contempt and ridicule toward Yun Che.

His gaze slowly swept over the people assembled behind Yun Che as he spoke in a deep voice, "I admit that I am no match for the old monsters behind you. But if I want to leave, who can stop me? As for the consequences... Heh, surely you wouldn't truly be stupid enough to take that step, right?"

If Yun Che truly did attack the Ash Dragon God in the Southern Sea Royal Palace today, he would immediately have offended the entire Dragon God Realm!

All for a reason that didn't even seem like a valid one!

This could no longer even be described as "crazy" or "irrational".

Yun Che's expression didn't change one iota. He seemed to be unconsciously rapping his finger against the table as he said in a voice as smooth as silk, "When you kill a bird, you still have to worry about it flying away. As for killing dragons? Heh, isn't that just like killing a dog?"

Chapter 1776 - The Collapse of A Dragon

Just a moment ago, most of the people in the hall were still convinced that Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er had only been joking around... At worst, this was an extremely unwise show of strength, something that could even be said to be rather stupid and puerile.

This was a Dragon God they were talking about!

When the Northern Divine Region had invaded the Eastern Divine Region, they had never once dared to show any sort of aggression toward the Western Divine Region. In fact, when the three regions had faced off against each other today, it wasn't strange at all for the Northern Divine Region to kick things off by threatening the Southern Divine Region. But no matter what, they definitely shouldn't have any intention of enraging the overlords of the Western Divine Region, the Dragon God Realm.

No, after Yun Che had said those words, how could this still even be considered a provocation? This was indubitably an unreserved declaration of war!

The dragon race was undoubtedly the strongest race in this universe. Even when they were at the same level of cultivation as their opponents, the dragon race was unbeatable due to their unreasonably strong vitality and their robust strength. As a result, "slaying a dragon" was seen as an exalted feat of martial prowess in any era.

As for killing a Dragon God... Even the words "as hard as reaching the heavens" were not enough to describe it.

However, Yun Che made killing a dragon sound even less significant than killing a chicken. If anyone heard those words, they would not even be scandalized by them. They would only find them laughable and ridiculous.

At the very least, the Ash Dragon God's first reaction was to let out a huge roar of laughter. His laughter was so loud that it set everyone's ears buzzing. "Hahahahaha... Well-said, well-said indeed. You truly do live up to the name 'Devil Master of the North'. You've truly opened this supreme one's eyes. Hahahahaha!"

As he laughed wildly, his eyes, which were staring at Yun Che, were completely devoid of anger. Only an overwhelming contempt could be seen in them. "It looks like this utterly insane butcher who has killed a bunch of sleepy, complacent pigs, that had grown fat on their own complacency, has let it go to his head. So now he thinks that he can slay dragons. Southern Sea God Emperor, how do you think the future generations will view and describe such a joke?"

"Hehe, the one constant of this universe is that nothing is constant. How can people from this era hope to predict how the future generations will view us?" the Southern Sea God Emperor replied with a smile.

The Ash Dragon God gave him the side-eye him and his reply was filled with mocking contempt. "The Southern Sea God Emperor is reputed to be a brilliant and unrestrained person. However, it looks like rumors really can't be trusted. A lamb who has been scared out of its wits is no better than a sleepy pig."

The expressions of everyone from the Southern Region changed at those words, but no one dared to kick up a fuss. The Southern Sea God Emperor's face did not even twitch and his faint smile still remained plastered on his face. "Ash, it's true that rumors are unreliable and reality often differs greatly from fiction, but you're being a bit hasty with your judgement here. Why don't you calm yourself, sit down, and have a few glasses. Your verdict might very well change after several minutes have passed."

"There's no need for that," the Ash Dragon God said smugly. "Our dragon race has never deigned to go out of our way to offend other people. But the people who have offended our dragon race have never had the chance to do it a second time. I'm sure all of you are well aware of that fact."

He looked sideways at the four god emperors of the Southern Region. "Isn't this also what you want to see happen the most?"

"Ah, how annoying," Yun Che muttered in an impatient manner. "Kill him."

In this Southern Sea Imperial Palace, Yun Che had actually said those two words while facing off against a Dragon God of the Western Region. He had said it so casually that it sounded like he was only ordering someone to swat a fly.

The moment Yun Che uttered those words, the Three Yama Ancestors, who had been quiet and still as corpses just an instant ago, immediately transformed into three black scars which streaked across the hall. A violent dark energy instantly erupted and filled the hall, and all of the light within the Southern Sea Imperial Palace was instantly devoured.

The Three Yama Ancestors. If one did not consider Yun Che, they were the ones who represented the pinnacle of the powers of darkness!

When they released their Yama Devil powers at the same time, there was no question that it allowed everyone in the hall to feel the most dreadful dark oppressive might they had ever felt in their lives.

No matter how bad the situation was getting, no one truly believed that Yun Che would make a move against the Ash Dragon God. Because the moment he did take action, it would mean that he had decided to utterly offend the Dragon God Realm and there would be no room for negotiation.

"Wait a minute, ple..." the Southern Sea God Emperor swiftly interjected, but his voice was immediately drowned out by a heaven-shaking explosion of energy.

RUMBLEE!!

The Ash Dragon God had already rushed into the air the same second as the Three Yama Ancestors. As the Southern Sea Imperial Palace started to collapse, he broke through the ceiling and unleashed a vast and dense dragon might which spanned five hundred kilometers.

It naturally wasn't possible for the Ash Dragon God to defeat the Three Yama Ancestors, but now that he had unleashed his Dragon God powers, who in this universe could stop him? He stared down at the people below him and as the dark yin energy of the Three Yama Ancestors rushed toward him, his gaze turned even more contemptuous and arrogant. "To think that you'd really dare to attack my supreme self. Yun Che, it looks like even using the word 'idiot' on you would be considered praise."

"Foolish devils, be prepared to face the true wrath of a dragon!"

As his mighty voice shook their souls, the Ash Dragon God began to turn around and leave.

Yun Che still remained seated, his body had not moved a single millimeter. However, the corner of his mouth crooked up into a grin as he muttered three words.

"Get down here."

His eyes started to glow blue, but that blue light only lasted for a second before it turned into a black light that was even deeper than night. The pitch-black figure of a dragon suddenly appeared in the skies above and its eyes were like demonic abysses. It bared its fangs as it released its boundless dragon might and let out a primordial dragon roar that was filled with boundless hatred and resentment.

ROAAARR----

The blue dome of the sky looked like webbed glass as the imperial palace split apart. All of the god emperors and Sea Gods... felt as if their souls had been smashed by a heavenly hammer. Their bodies shuddered violently as their minds went blank in that instance.

As for the Ash Dragon God, the color swiftly drained from his dragon eyes as they went from ash-gray to pale white in the blink of an eye. After that, even the pupils of his eyes disappeared and the only thing left in those eyes... was a shock and fear he had never felt in the hundreds of thousands of years he had lived.

The exalted draconic might that had originally erupted out from the Ash Dragon God and covered a vast space was instantly shattered into nothingness and his body, which had just soared proudly into the sky an instant ago, was sent plummeting to the ground.

The moment he landed on the ground, most of the dragon energy that naturally radiated from his body had already been dispersed.

SHAA!

It was at this exact moment that three dark shadows rushed toward him. The pitch-black ghost claws of the Three Yama Ancestors mercilessly slashed down at him as they pierced into his shoulders and chest.

The body of a Dragon God could be called the hardiest and toughest body in the universe, and breaking the skin of a Dragon God was as hard as reaching the heavens.

However, the strong dragon soul possessed by the dragon race, something which reigned above all creation, would suffer a fear that was ten times greater than any other living creature in the presence of Yun Che's Dragon God Domain.

His Dragon God Domain displayed the ancient heavenly might of a True Dragon God.

As his dragon soul started to collapse amidst his overwhelming terror and sense of inferiority, it was no surprise that his Dragon God powers had also collapsed as well. The ghost claws of the Three Yama Ancestors seemed to slice into the Ash Dragon God's dragon body effortlessly. Three incomparably dreadful blasts of Yama Devil power surged into and exploded within the Ash Dragon God's body, crazily gnawing at everything they touched.

The god emperors of the Southern Region swiftly roused themselves from their brief stupor, all of them immediately looking towards the fallen Ash Dragon God. His body had been pierced by the black claws of the Three Yama Ancestors and it was swiftly being dyed black. A black pallor had even come over his face.

"Aaaaahhhhhhhh... AAAAHH!!"

Violent pain which seemed to come from the deepest pits of hell swiftly brought clarity back to the Ash Dragon God's eyes. As his dragon eyes regained their focus, a deep shock and fear could still be seen lingering in them.

He had not gone to the Profound God Convention that year. Neither had he personally witnessed and endured the dark soul that Yun Che had unleashed in his despair. There was also no way that the only one who knew everything, the Dragon Monarch, could let the world know that the dragon soul in Yun Che's body belonged to an ancient Dragon God... the origin soul of the god that their entire dragon god race believed in.

If he had even the slightest clue about Yun Che's dragon soul, he might not have been reduced to such a pathetic state.

"You..." His first reaction was not to struggle or attempt to flee. Instead, he looked at Yun Che and his shock, fear, and utter disbelief caused his eyes to bulge out of their sockets.

The fact that Yun Che's body contained a dragon soul was common knowledge to the entire world by now.

However, only the dragon god race could tell just how outrageous this dragon soul truly was!

As shock overwhelmed him, the Ash Dragon God's eyes had widened to their limits. He let out a hoarse roar as a gray-colored draconic energy suddenly erupted from his body. As an earth-shaking explosion rocked the area around him, a pair of enormous dragon wings unfurled amidst the eruption of gray energy. The Ash Dragon God was reverting back to his original form.

Normally the dragon god race would conduct their day to day business in human form as it expended the least amount of energy, and also caused the least amount of stress on their bodies.

The Ash Dragon God's true body stretched thousands of meters long and the gray-white scales along his body glinted with a cold light that shone even brighter than metal. Just a single glance at this cold light would cause a Divine Sovereign or Divine Master to feel a clear sense of oppression, and even despair.

The moment his original form appeared and his Dragon God power erupted, the energy waves formed by that outburst of power could overturn the heavens and the earth. They were so powerful that they even managed to blast the Three Yama Ancestors aside. However, the three clusters of dark Yama Devil light did not disappear from the Ash Dragon God's body. Instead, they continued to crazily gnaw away at that practically invulnerable draconic body.

Now that the Ash Dragon God had reverted to his original form, his draconic might had multiplied. However, he did not waste any time talking. Instead, his wings rent the air as he tried to flee the Southern Sea Capital with all of his might, his body trembling all the way.

This was the first time he had ever fled in such an urgent and disgraceful manner... and he was even doing this while in his complete draconic form.

All of these shocking changes were happening far too quickly and even the god emperors present could barely keep up. Only Qianye Ying'er remained calm and composed. She shot a glance toward the Ash Dragon God's fleeing figure, dark energy bleeding from his wounds, as she let out a mocking laugh.

ROAAARR----

A dark dragon cry that was filled with ancient heavenly might and resentment rang out in the skies of the Southern Sea God Realm once more. But this time, the Ash Dragon God was prepared for it. However, the moment he unleashed his dragon soul with all of his might, his eyes instantly went blank again.

A huge black dragon appeared in his mind's eye and it was as colossal as a star realm... No, the entire Primal Chaos itself seemed to be a resting place for its vast body. In front of its immense presence, his own draconic body, which had allowed him to haughtily look down on all other living creatures in this universe, was as tiny and insignificant as an ant. His noble and exalted bloodline and soul was so inferior to the presence in front of him that he did not even dare to stare at the dragon directly or even lift his head toward it.

He felt as if those two dragon eyes which could take in the entire universe were staring straight at him. He felt as if this dragon only needed a single instant, a single thought, to wipe him away from the face of this universe like a speck of dust.

Inferiority, terror, collapse... The gray dragon froze in the sky for a moment as his vast dragon energy crazily dissipated in all directions. After that, he once again fell from the sky like a shooting star.

However, because he had set up defenses around his soul this time, he had been stunned for a far shorter period than the last time. He managed to forcefully regain some focus and clarity just as he was plummeting toward the ground.

However, in front of the Three Yama Ancestors, this brief moment of stupor had already decided his fate. Three dark devil claws once again cleaved into his draconic body.

When the Three Yama Ancestors had been blasted backward by the Ash Dragon God's unrestrained eruption of power, it had been an extraordinary shame and humiliation for them. They rushed toward him once again and their stances were no longer relaxed. Any hint of their previous casual playfulness and carelessness was now gone and they were baring their teeth and snarling at the Ash Dragon God as they attacked him with all of their might.

Riiiip!

In that instant, an instant of absolute darkness descended upon this vast Southern Sea Capital. It was a darkness that struck incomparable dread in anyone's heart.

The dark powers of the Three Yama Ancestors were extremely terrifying in the first place, so when they struck the Ash Dragon God, who could not muster up any sort of defence whatsoever, the three beams of unrestrained Yama Devil power instantly spread into his blood, meridians, and even his profound veins. These energies fiercely suppressed his body and profound energy as they mercilessly gnawed away at his body.

BOOOM!!

The gigantic body of the Ash Dragon God smashed into the ground heavily under the blows of the Three Yama Ancestors, causing the capital to shake violently. The Ash Dragon God's face contorted under the enormous amount of pain he was feeling, but he refused to let out a single wail of pain. His draconic eyes bulged violently as his scales shook and even though the pain had multiplied several times from before, he was still doing his best to struggle against the Three Yama Ancestors as he bellowed in a deep and low voice.

Two world-shaking dragon cries had caused the Ash Dragon God, who should have been able to arrogantly make his escape, to be crushed under the heels of the Three Yama Ancestors... and it had only taken a few short moments!

The draconic intimidation that had struck all of the god emperors of the Southern Region had not been as dreadful as the one that had struck the Ash Dragon God, but it was by no means insignificant. When they saw the Ash Dragon God being reduced to this miserable state in the blink of an eyes, their stunned minds could barely process or register what had just happened in front of them.

"Devil Master, this ... "

"Heh, to think that he was still thinking of struggling." Qianye Ying'er immediately cut the Southern Sea God Emperor off just as he had begun to speak. She directly ignored the Southern Sea God Emperor as she gave a mocking laugh. "You two, go and quiet him down."

The bodies of Qianye Bingzhu and Qianye Wugu, who had been standing behind her, turned transparent as they reappeared above the Ash Dragon God. Two beams of golden light shot down toward him, pressing against his body.

The Three Yama Ancestors and the two Brahma Ancestors. There were five ancestors currently suppressing the Ash Dragon God together.

The Ash Dragon God's fluctuating and agitated draconic energy completely dissipated at this moment. His body froze as every whisker and scale that had been shuddering violently came to a sudden stop.

Under the power of these five ancestors, even gasping for breath or twitching a claw on his hand was an extravagant hope, so there was no need to even mention the word "struggle".

The world grew quiet and even the dust flying in the air had suddenly vanished without a trace.

A dreadful stifling silence descended upon the half-ruined Southern Sea Imperial Palace. After they had witnessed the events that had just played out in front of their very eyes, they found it as hard to breathe as the Ash Dragon God himself.

Given the heights they had ascended to and their own experiences, they could barely imagine what sort of power would render a powerful Dragon God completely immobile.

Perhaps they were still having a hard time convincing themselves that everything that had just happened wasn't a hallucination.

This was the Ash Dragon God! One of the Nine Dragon Gods of the Dragon God Realm! Existences which were practically viewed as equal to the god emperors in the eyes of the world. As strong as the Southern Sea God Emperor was, even he would not have been able to defeat him in such a short period of time.

The entire process had taken the blink of an eye... a mere blink of the eye, and he had already fallen into such a state?

Amidst that dreadful silence, Yun Che slowly walked forward and stared into the anxious, trembling dragon eyes of the Ash Dragon God. His gaze was calm and indifferent and it was as if he was looking at a lowly ant as he said, "Dragon God? Even someone like you is worthy of that title?"

Chapter 1777 - Cruelty

Among the ancient race of gods, all of them acknowledged that the Dragon God was the next most powerful god after the Four Creation Gods.

Thus, as inheritors of the Dragon God's bloodline, it was only logical that the race of dragon gods would become the strongest race in the world.

However, "Dragon God" was the divine title that used to belong to the Primordial Azure Dragon alone. Thanks to the blessing of the Primordial Azure Dragon, these so-called "dragon gods" were nothing more than people who were profaning the Primordial Azure Dragon's name to Yun Che.

Furthermore, if there truly was someone that had to be given the title of dragon god in the current era, the only one who truly deserved the title was not these "dragon gods", was not even the Dragon Monarch. In fact, it wasn't anyone from the Dragon God Realm... It was him, Yun Che!

Only he had inherited the Primordial Azure Dragon's original bloodline, soul, and dragon marrow.

The moment Yun Che's unleashed draconic might approached the Ash Dragon God, a feeling of oppressive pressure that even extended to his bloodline and soul overwhelmed him like he had never felt before.

At this most inopportune time, he suddenly understood why the Dragon Monarch had wanted to take in a young human cultivator who had not even reached thirty years of age as his foster son. Someone who had just entered the Divine Spirit Realm.

His decision reverberated through the Dragon God Realm and the reaction of those that lived there was a hundred times more intense than the reaction of the people living in the Eastern Divine Region. However, the Dragon Monarch had never once explained his decision to anyone, and that included the Nine Dragon Gods.

"The analogy you made just now was pretty good." Yun Che's voice was bored and it seemed as if he was praising the Ash Dragon God. "So I'm a butcher and the Eastern Divine Region were a bunch of sleepy and complacent pigs. Then..."

As he neared the Ash Dragon God, his voice turned calm and gentle. "Why don't you guess what your Dragon God Realm is to this butcher?"

The Ash Dragon God's dragon eyes shuddered before he spoke in a hoarse and strained voice, and it seemed as if he had used every ounce of willpower and energy to even speak. "You... better... let go... of me... right now..."

Even though he was in such dire straits, even if he was going to die, the Ash Dragon God was not willing to let go of the pride he had carried with him for his entire life.

At this moment, the Southern Sea God Emperor slowly walked forward and spoke in an amicable manner, "Northern Region Devil Master, all of us have witnessed the dashing figures of those under your command, and we are both shocked and awed. But now that matters have escalated so quickly, how about you let him go first..."

"Southern Sea God Emperor." Yun Che's voice was cold as he addressed Nan Wansheng without even turning to look at him. "I believe that everyone here witnessed just how rude and arrogant this lowly dragon was to me. While I'm not familiar with the rules of the Southern Divine Region, in the Northern Divine Region, according to my laws, this is an unpardonable offense, a sin punishable by death."

"In other words, this is my own personal matter. It has nothing to do with any of you. I trust that none of you want to be dragged into this either, correct?"

None of the god emperors of the Southern Region made a single sound.

The Three Yama Ancestors and the two Brahma ancestors. These terrifying old monsters seemed to have appeared out of thin air, and there were still Qianye Ying'er and Gu Zhu waiting on the sidelines. Yun Che himself was a freak of nature more terrifying and venomous than any of these old monsters as well. Even though this incident was taking place in the heart of the Southern Divine Region, it had nothing to do with them. So who would dare to involve themselves in it? Who would even want to get involved!?

What's more, if the Northern Divine Region and the Western Divine Region completely fell out with each other, it would only help the apprehensive and uneasy Southern Divine Region... The more terrifying Yun Che's performance, the better it would be for them.

The Southern Sea God Emperor gave a faint smile. "There's naturally no reason for me to intrude into the Devil Master's private affairs. However, this is currently happening in my Southern Sea God Realm and the Ash Dragon God is also an honored guest that I personally invited. Furthermore, my Southern Sea God Realm has always been amicable with the Dragon God Realm. I can't simply stand by and ignore what's happening in front of me."

"Can you show leniency to the Ash Dragon God on my account?"

Even though he was begging for mercy, the Southern Sea God Emperor's tone was very neutral. He did not sound particularly intimidating or sincere.

Beg for mercy? Since when had he, the Ash Dragon God, ever needed to beg anyone for mercy in his life?

"Since when did my supreme self... ever need... the likes of you to plead for leniency on my behalf?" He gritted his teeth as veins popped out in his eyes. "Yun Che... do you actually dare... to kill me?"

"You've pleaded on his behalf, and that can already be counted as an act of utmost benevolence and duty. However, I reject your plea for leniency." Yun Che still did not turn around. "Is this enough?"

"Of course," the Southern Sea God Emperor said with a smile. After that, he stepped backwards and did not utter another word.

The Purple Micro God Emperor moved forward to stand beside the Southern Sea God Emperor. "Southern Sea, are we really going to just let this..."

The Southern Sea God Emperor raised a hand to cut off the words he was about to say. His eyes remained fixed on Yun Che as a strange light flickered in them. It was as if he was truly anticipating what Yun Che was about to do next.

"It looks like you still don't think that I have the guts to kill you." Yun Che glanced at the Ash Dragon God from the corner of his eyes. His voice was dull and bored, it was as if he could not even muster up the effort to show any contempt towards him.

The Ash Dragon God's pupils expanded to the point where they looked like they were about to burst, but his body still radiated an intimidating pressure that could cow almost every living being in the universe. "Heh... Heh heh..."

He had actually started laughing again. Even though his laughter was extremely forced and filled with pain, it still contained a deep contempt. "So this is... the Northern Region Devil Master... Heh heh... What a colossal joke. You're so foolish and naive... to think that the likes of you... can afford to offend my Dragon God Realm..."

"To think that someone like you... is deluded enough to believe that you can rule the God Realm..."

"Rule the God Realm?" Yun Che began to chuckle himself. He raised his head to the sky as he continued speaking, as if he was talking to both the Ash Dragon God and to himself. "If I truly wanted to rule the

God Realm, the only thing I needed to do back then was to persuade the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor to stay. At that point, which creature in this vast starry universe would dare to disobey my commands!? And when the devil gods were about to return and calamity was about to descend upon the entire world, only I could ensure that this peace would last forever. Even your Dragon God Realm could do nothing else but to beg for my protection at that time."

Those words weighed heavily on the hearts of everyone present.

This was especially true for the god emperors who had borne witness to the return of the Devil Emperor. They could not refute any of his words.

Even the Ash Dragon God's violently shuddering eyes went still for a moment.

"If I truly wanted to be king, do you think the name 'Dragon Monarch' would still exist in this world!?" Yun Che's voice turned cold. "The only people that I want to kill are those who deserve death. Do you get it?"

The Ash Dragon God managed to gasp out a reply. "Good. Then do it! Kill me and all of you... will definitely enjoy the fulsome wrath of my Dragon God Realm! At that time, even if you manage to escape, all of the lowly devils who accompanied you from the Northern Divine Region... will be buried along with me!"

"Hehe." Yun Che let out a very peculiar chuckle as he replied in a calm voice, "I didn't bring them out of the Northern Divine Region to give them a new lease on life. I brought them here as tools to baptize this dirty world in blood!"

"Them dying would be the single-most meaningful thing to me. Because I'm already dying to see just what will be left of your Dragon God Realm after all of them have died."

The air suddenly turned solid.

An invisible chill deeply penetrated everyone's soul as it gnawed at them like countless devil claws.

As cultivators standing at the pinnacle of the universe, everyone present possessed incomparable experience and cunning. Their hands were all drenched in sin and fresh blood.

Even so, the words that just rang in their ears were the darkest and most insane words they had ever heard in their entire lives.

The expression on everyone's face dramatically changed as they stared at Yun Che's back and the pervasive cold in their heart refused to fade. Even the Southern Sea God Emperor, who had been happily watching from the sidelines up to now, shot Yun Che a sudden look of consternation.

He had long called Yun Che a lunatic in front of his Sea Kings and Sea Gods. He also knew that Yun Che had not returned to conquer but to take revenge.

This was also the biggest reason why he, the most wild and arrogant god emperor of them all, had chosen to "concede defeat".

The scariest people in this world were not those that were the strongest, but those that were insane.

At this moment, he suddenly realized that he had entirely underestimated the depths of Yun Che's insanity.

"..." Qianye Ying'er's brow wrinkled a little when she heard those words.

The Ash Dragon God's widened pupils violently shrank at this moment... The dragon race was so strong that no one dared to offend them and the haughty pride of the dragon race also meant that they never stooped to bullying other races. As a result, during the million year reign of the Dragon God Realm, they had always been admired by the rest of the universe without exception.

If the devils of the Northern Divine Region would really be willing to throw away their lives to bathe the Dragon God Realm in blood...

Even though he was absolutely convinced that the devils of the North were no match for the Dragon God Realm, given the power they had shown thus far, these devils would undoubtedly cause an unprecedented amount of damage to the Dragon God Realm. Especially if they were willing to trade their lives to achieve that goal.

After a brief period of heavy silence, his eyes suddenly turned away from Yun Che as he let out a hoarse laugh. "Haha... Hahahaha... Did you old devils hear that!? You're willing to put your lives on the line for such a man... but he only views you as tools to be sacrificed whenever expedient... Hahahaha... and you still aren't... UWAAAAAH!"

Crack!

The sound of several dragon bones snapping rang in the air and reverberated like the sound of a mountain collapsing.

Yan One raised his head, terrifying devilish light gathering in his ancient eyes. "Dying for Master would be the greatest honor of our lives!"

Yan Two raised up a severed dragon bone in his withered hand. "We could only hope to die ten thousand times for our master's sake!"

Yan Three's lips split open as he bared his ghastly gray teeth. "Heehee, we live but to serve our master! What kind of crap are you trying to spout, you lowly dragon!?"

The Ash Dragon God was completely stunned by those words and everyone else felt as if something had been rammed down their throats. They were unable to utter a single sound.

When the Three Yama Ancestors said these words, there wasn't even a single hint of discontent or resistance. They said these words with a pride that came from the marrow of their bones, the depths of their souls!

The Southern Sea God Emperor felt his scalp go completely numb.

These three dreadful old ghouls who shouldn't even exist in this world possessed such great loyalty and reverence for Yun Che that it left him confused and perplexed. Their words flummoxed him... and they also nearly made him go mad with envy and admiration.

A god emperor was an existence that could reign over all creation. They would not deign to serve under any living creature. And this did not extend to just the god emperors either. Every god emperor had to treat the divine power inheritors of their realm with extreme respect. They had to treat them well and mollify them with indulgences, they even had to compromise with them.

Since this was the way of the world, they naturally would not be so silly as to think of them as loyal dogs who would gladly sacrifice their lives over and over again if they could.

Individuals as strong as them were the cornerstones of a realm, so they could never ever become loyal dogs.

However, Yun Che actually had loyal dogs who were not only as strong as god emperors, but were also willing to die a thousand times for him!

And he had three of them, no less!

He simply could not fathom it, much less accept it.

"What... a great... trick... you've pulled..." the Ash Dragon God croaked out in a hoarse voice. "What a great trick you've pulled... To think that the so-called Yama Ancestors... would actually be willing to become the loyal dogs of a fool... Heh!"

Devilish light flashed in Yan Three's eyes and it was clear that he had been enraged by those words. However, he did not dare to make any rash moves. He looked toward Yun Che and asked, "Master, can we kill this lowly dragon now?"

Yan Three's sinister voice did not shake the Ash Dragon God in the slightest. Although he was being restricted by those five ancestors, he still spoke in a proud and severe voice, "Come... kill me... Yun Che... If you have the balls... then... DO IT——"

Yun Che spared him a glance, then suddenly chuckled coldly. "Most of the people that I've met in my life are afraid of death. Furthermore, my experience has been that the higher up these people are, the more afraid of death they are. Someone like you who truly isn't afraid of death is quite hard to come by."

"But since I've met someone who's unafraid of death, why would I be so kind-hearted as to allow you to die?"

The Ash Dragon God's eyes widened once again as he let out a wild mocking laugh. "Haha... Hahahaha... It looks like you really don't dare to kill my supreme self after all... Where did your courage go now? Hmmm!? Hahahaha..."

"I'll let you die if you want," Yun Che said in a calm voice, "if you beg me. It is only when you learn how to kneel to me properly that you'll have the right to be granted death, do you understand?"

"Heh... Hahaha... Hahahahaha..." The Ash Dragon God's face was twisted with pain but wild laughter still continued to erupt from his mouth. "You pathetic devils... are actually deluded enough to believe that this supreme one will submit to you... Dream on!"

"Yan One, Yan Two, Yan Three." Yun Che turned around without sparing the Ash Dragon God another glance. "How to make a lowly dragon beg for death. I believe that I shouldn't need to teach you such a simple thing, correct?"

That low command ignited the dark malice that lay deep within the bones of the Three Yama Ancestors. Their ancient eyes twinkled with a mirthful black light and even their voices had grown heated with excitement. "We obey!"

"ААААННН————"

As soon as the Three Yama Ancestors spoke, a soul-piercing howl of pain rent the air above the Southern Sea Capital.

Countless black scars began to spread out from the areas of the Ash Dragon God's body pierced by the ghost claws of the Three Yama Ancestors. It was as if millions of devilish black knives were cruelly slicing and dicing every corner of his enormous body.

The corrosion of darkness was already a sort of cruel torture in and of itself.

So how could it feel any better when it was being administered by the Yama Devil Ghost Claws of the Three Yama Ancestors?

Every single one of those countless black scars and every flash of black light was enough to instruct everyone present on what it meant to be better off dead than alive.

Nonetheless, the Ash Dragon God's hoarse howls of pain only lasted for a second before he clamped his mouth shut. He was not even willing to let out a hiss of pain, much less beg for mercy or death. The only sounds coming from his mouth were the ghastly sounds of his fangs shattering as they ground together due to the immense pain he was experiencing.

"Hmmm?"

To think that the most cruel Yama Devil powers could not accomplish the simple task of getting this dragon to submit. This undoubtedly threw the Three Yama Ancestors into a silent rage. They gestured with their hands at the same time. In an instant, the black scars criss-crossing the Ash Dragon God's body, which was supposed to be so hardy that it was nigh-indestructible, multiplied, causing several thousand more scars to appear, and his bones started to break one by one.

A veritable flood of dragon blood gushed out of his body in that instant.

Craaack———

The Ash Dragon God's body spasmed violently and he had shattered his own fangs. Most of the experts inside the royal palace had let out involuntary gasps due to their shock, but the Ash Dragon God still refused to wail in pain.

"Heh ... Heh heh ... "

The pain of having his bones broken was no less than being tortured in a purgatory, but it could not break his pride as a Dragon God. He laughed, even if it twisted his face up into a sinister-looking mess.

"You... want ... my supreme self ... to beg for mercy ... The likes of you will never be worthy ... "

"Your deaths... will definitely be... a million times more miserable... than mine... Heh heh... Ha... Haha..."

The Ash Dragon God could laugh and even talk under such immense pain.

Everyone in the palace had been stunned by the immense pain the Ash Dragon God was enduring, but something else had now shocked them even more. Deep feelings of admiration and respect for the Ash Dragon God blossomed in all their hearts.

This was the willpower of a dragon, the soul of a dragon, the proud bones of a dragon.

"There's no need to be so anxious, save some of your strength and enjoy the process." Yun Che said in a languid and indolent manner. "I have plenty of time to spare. I'm sure that torturing a so-called Dragon God isn't something that you get to see every day. The crowd will definitely want to take it in for a while longer, so you need to hold out for a little longer."

Just when he finished speaking, the Ash Dragon God's muscles started to snap as they were slowly being consumed by the darkness.

The dreadful sound of dragon fangs grinding together continued to echo in the air, but he never once let out a wail of misery or started begging for mercy.

"Northern Region Devil Master." The Southern Sea God Emperor finally decided to speak up. "The Ash Dragon God has already paid a sufficient price for offending you. Since both you and the dragon race have a special connection and you have no great grudge toward the Ash Dragon God, can you bestow your kindness and mercy on him and spare him? How does that sound?"

"Offend" and "bestow your kindness"... The Southern Sea God Emperor's words did not cause any gratitude to form in the Ash Dragon God's heart. It enraged him and a hoarse and twisted roar of anger ripped from his throat. "Southern Sea... this supreme one does not need you to beg for mercy on my behalf!"

"Yun Che... If you have the balls, kill me... Do it!!"

"You want to die? Heh, beg for it," Yun Che said with a dry chuckle.

"Ptooey!" The Ash Dragon God had just shattered the last of his fangs, but the wild arrogance in his voice had not faded in the least. "You ball-less wonder... a rabid dog who succumbed to the darkness... The likes of you will never be worthy!"

Yun Che turned his head to the side as he shot the Ash Dragon God an incredibly cold look.

Honestly speaking, the Ash Dragon God's willpower had indeed exceeded his expectations... In fact, it had far exceeded them.

He was acutely aware of just how cruel and terrible the Three Yama Ancestors' Yama Devil powers were. As such, he knew that the pain that the Ash Dragon God was currently enduring was actually no less than the pain inflicted by the Brahma Soul Death-Wishing Mark.

It would be fine if he didn't beg for mercy, but he actually even managed to suppress his wails of pain.

It looked like he really did need to reevaluate the Nine Dragon Gods of the Dragon God Realm.

"Why is there a need to waste so much time on a mere Dragon God?" Qianye Ying'er suddenly said.

She continued in an unhurried manner, "Given the willpower of a Dragon God, he won't beg for mercy even if you torture him to death."

She stood up and looked at Yun Che before saying, "If you want him to submit, you merely need to destroy the things that are most important to him."

"Go on," Yun Che replied. When it came to the Dragon God Realm, Qianye Ying'er's knowledge of it far exceeded his own.

"It's really very simple." Qianye Ying'er said. "To them, the two words "Dragon God" are more important than anything else. Even if they have to die a thousand times over, they will never abandon or forsake them, and it is even less likely for them to do anything that will trample on their pride and dignity as Dragon Gods."

"Then..." Her perfect lips curved up into a sly smile as she softly uttered words that were no less than an abyssal nightmare to the Ash Dragon God. "Shatter his dragon core, flay his hide off his body, and brand him with the most insulting brand of darkness you can think of. After that, string him up in the Eternal Heaven God Realm and broadcast it for the world to see."

"Let all the world marvel at his pitiful and pathetic appearance, let those ants which he would normally not even spare a glance look at him with pitying eyes. As such, the Ash Dragon God will become the shame of the Dragon God Realm, a shame made eternal."

"In the future, when any race looks up the history of the Ash Dragon God, they will definitely see the words 'humiliation' and 'shame' recorded therein."

"You..." The Ash Dragon God's body suddenly started to shudder spasmodically as his draconic eyes swiftly turned from dull gray to crimson.

An invisible chill ran down everyone's spines.

The Brahma Monarch Goddess, who had already been an extremely dreadful person before her fall from grace, had clearly become even more cruel and violent after her return.

"Very well." Yun Che gave a faint nod of his head as he said, "Yan One, Yan Two, Yan Three, let's follow Ying'er's suggestion. First, shatter his dragon bones and dragon core and let him live while begging for death. As for the dark brand... Hmph, just carve the two words "lowly dragon" into his body."

"Understood!"

The Three Yama Ancestors shouted in unison. The dark energy that was ravaging the Ash Dragon God's body stopped gnawing away at his bones. Instead, the darkness began to wrap around them and bent them in unspeakably cruel ways. The sound of bones snapping echoed like thunder in everyone's ears.

"АААААНННННН——"

Compared to being slowly devoured by the darkness, this was far less painful for the Ash Dragon God. However, the Dragon God, who hadn't even been willing to let out a hiss of pain before this, suddenly wailed miserably. He roared in a voice twisted up in pain and anguish, "Kill me... Kill me!" His voice no longer contained the stubborn arrogance it held before. It now not only sounded incredibly anxious, it was also clearly shuddering with fear.

Chapter 1778 - Crazed Devil (1)

Every living being in this world had a weakness. For the Ash Dragon God, someone who treasured his pride as a member of the Dragon God Realm above everything else in life, Qianye Ying'er's brief words had been far more tortuous to him than anything the Three Yama Ancestors had done.

Yun Che slowly looked towards him as he spoke in a voice filled with disdain, "What? Is this lowly dragon trying to give me commands? If you want me to graciously bestow death upon you, you'll have to beg for it."

"..." Blood-colored lines began to slowly spread across the Ash Dragon God's face.

After he had become a Dragon God, he had never begged or pleaded with anyone other than the Dragon Monarch himself. Besides the Dragon Monarch, there was no one else in this world who had the qualifications to hear him beg.

However, every single word that had come out of Qianye Ying'er's mouth had plunged him into a hellish nightmare. No one would dare to do such a thing! No one would even be capable of doing such a thing! It was an action that would thoroughly enrage the Dragon God Realm, an action that went against both the laws of heaven and human morality, something which would provoke the condemnation of the world.

Yet Yun Che would!

Just a single look at the miserable state of the Eastern Divine Region was proof of that! Everything he had done today was proof of that! It proved that he did not have a shred of kingly dignity or decorum even though he had reached the level of the god emperors. He was clearly nothing more than a complete and utter lunatic!

He was both terrified and regretful. He truly regretted... regretted that he had chosen to provoke such a madman!

Once someone's determination collapsed, their body would soon follow, and the Ash Dragon God now truly understood what the words "rather be dead than alive" meant at this moment.

"I beg..." His mouth trembled as it opened and closed more than a dozen times before he finally uttered the words that no Dragon God should ever have to say in this current era. "The Devil Master... to grant me death..."

These were the words that he had found the hardest to say in his entire life, the words that caused him the most pain.

However, that instant of monumental humiliation and shame soon gave way to a deep sense of relief. He even felt as if the pain in his body had lessened by several times and his dragon eyes slowly turned from scarlet to a dull and flat gray.

Everyone from the Southern Region was violently affected by what had just transpired.

Even so, Yun Che did not choose to mock the defeated and despairing Ash Dragon God. His face was completely impassive, as if everything that had just happened was supposed to have come to pass. He continued looking down at the Ash Dragon God before he said in a cold and indifferent voice, "Answer one final question. Who... is the true fool here?"

"..." A mocking smile flashed across the Ash Dragon God's face amidst that dreadful silence... It had been a smile aimed at himself. After that, he began to croak with laughter before replying, "He... Hehe... I... I am the fool... He... Ha..."

The Ash Dragon God had always been a wildly arrogant man, and he behaved in the same manner even when speaking to the god emperors of the other realms.

Even after he met Yun Che, he still displayed the same arrogance, aloofness, and contempt that he always did... because he was a Dragon God!

As a result, he had paid a price that he had never dreamed that he would have to pay.

Right, he was a fool. Now that they had reached this point, there was no way he was getting out of this alive. His death today would ignite the fiery rage of the Dragon God Realm... but it would also, without a single doubt, become the shame of the Dragon Gods, the shame of the Dragon God Realm.

"Very good." Yun Che uttered a word of praise before he turned around and casually flung out a hand. "Kill him."

"Yes!" The Three Yama Ancestors shouted at the same time. After that, their Yama Devil powers erupted from their bodies, covering the vast Southern Sea Capital in darkness.

However, they actually did not need to do such a thing. Because the Ash Dragon God had lowered all of his defenses after he had said those last few words. He had even withdrawn all of the fluctuating dragon energy in his body... because he only wanted a quick death now.

Bang!

In a single instant, the Ash Dragon God's draconic body... the divine body of a Dragon God, something that the world recognized to be the hardest and most durable material in the world, exploded into dozens of pieces under the terrifying power of the Three Yama Ancestors like it was the body of an ordinary mortal dragon. A huge shower of reddish-black dragon blood poured down on the capital.

This scene rooted everyone's feet to the ground and their eyes remained fixed on where the Ash Dragon God's body had been, on the huge shower of dragon blood.

The four god emperors of the Southern Region had never seen a Dragon God die in such a terrible manner. As a matter of fact, even their grand ancestors, the original god emperors of the Southern Region, had not borne witness to such a thing.

However, the one who remained the most calm was the person who had orchestrated this mindnumbing event in the first place, Yun Che. He casually walked back to his own seat as he said in a languid voice, "I hope that I haven't ruined everyone's festive mood while I dealt with a piece of personal business. My imprudent actions have damaged this royal palace and I hope that the Southern Sea God Emperor will be magnanimous enough to forgive me." Yun Che's calm and casual words made it seem as if he had merely squashed an ant which had been annoying him.

"..." Qianye Ying'er stared at him. Although she remained silent, her mind had started to churn furiously.

She had more or less guessed why Yun Che had come to the Southern Sea God Realm. It was just that she had never imagined that he would go this far.

Furthermore, she was keenly aware that Yun Che had not killed the Ash Dragon God for his rudeness... Even if the Ash Dragon God had paid Yun Che the same respect a grandson would have given his grandfather, Yun Che would still have found a "suitable" reason to kill him right here and now.

Droplets of dragon blood were still dancing in the air and everyone's souls were seized by an uncontrollable shaking. The Ash Dragon God... One of the Dragon Gods, beings who stood on equal footing with the god emperors of the God Realm, had died just like that!?

There was no bitter and terrible battle. There wasn't even much of a struggle. He had simply died in an incomparably casual... and humiliating manner.

They dumbly stared at the Dragon God's battered corpse and Yun Che's boundless black figure seemed to fill every inch of their quaking souls.

So this... was the Devil Master of the North! The person who had hurled the Eastern Divine Region into the depths of despair in less than one short month!

This was... that Eastern Region's Yun Che, the boy who had been far too kind and pure for his own good?

What had just happened would undoubtedly shake the entire God Realm. However, with this single move, Yun Che had now formed a blood debt with the Dragon God Realm that could never be resolved. The Western Divine Region, which had played the role of the passive observer thus far, would certainly come to blows with the Northern Divine Region in the future.

As the Northern Region Devil Master, there was no way that Yun Che wasn't cognizant of this fact. But he had not shown a single shred of hesitation or fear when he had decided to kill the Ash Dragon God.

The Southern Sea God Emperor slowly turned around, a faint smile on his face. "I just said that a proper gentleman should gladly pay back debts and vengeance alike, and the Devil Master's actions can certainly be considered vengeance well exacted! I have no choice but to give you my respect."

"Respect?" Yun Che asked dully. "The noble Southern Sea God Emperor actually knows this word? What a surprise."

The Southern Sea God Emperor didn't dignify Yun Che's words with a reply. He suddenly flung his golden sleeve out and a hurricane spun into life, causing all of the rubble inside the hall to instantly disappear.

The Southern Sea God Emperor's body then blurred before he reappeared sitting on his royal throne. The other god emperors and Sea Gods wore stiff and frozen expressions on their faces, but Nan Wansheng alone was wearing a small smile on his face. "Since the Northern Region Devil Master has resolved his personal matter with the Ash Dragon God, it is time to turn our attention to my Southern Sea God Realm's grand event. So I ask all of my honored guests to take their seats once more..."

Bang!

A muffled explosion rang through the hall before the Southern Sea God Emperor had even finished speaking. After that, an uncanny gray light flashed in the air, causing a vast and dense dragon energy to fill the area.

Yan Two slowly raised his ghost claw into the air, and he was holding a dragon core in his hand.

The Ash Dragon God had been completely suppressed by a true Dragon God's soul might. After that, he had been completely restrained by the five ancestors and from that moment onward, he did not have any strength to resist or fight back. As a result, his dragon core was completely unharmed. It remained in a perfect, flawless state.

This was the dragon core of a Dragon God!

A divine item that none of the god emperors present had ever laid their eyes on before!

Because every single Dragon God in the history of the God Realm had died of old age, and their dragon cores naturally dissipated as their lives came to a close. No one had ever been able to kill a Dragon God.

Even if there was someone who did have the ability and guts to force a Dragon God to their death, given their extreme pride, every Dragon God would destroy their own dragon core before their death. They would never allow the core of their strength to fall into their enemy's hands.

Unfortunately, the Ash Dragon God's power had been completely suppressed by the five ancestors. Trying to destroy his own core before his death would simply be wishful thinking on his part.

Thus, Yan Two was holding the first and only Dragon God dragon core to ever make an appearance in the history of the God Realm... and it was an exquisitely perfect dragon core at that. Its aura was so powerful that even the Southern Sea God Emperor had to stop and stare at it.

Yan Two's black figure blurred in the air before reappearing in front of Yun Che. He bowed before Yun Che as he reverently held out the dragon core toward him. "Master, how should we handle this object?"

Yun Che stretched out a hand, and the Ash Dragon core gently floated into his palm.

Under the dragon god might he was subtly releasing, the masterless dragon aura grew incredibly meek and docile. It did not dare flare up in the slightest.

Yun Che subtly used his spiritual perception to probe this dragon core that was about twenty centimeters wide. The moment his spiritual senses came into contact with the core, it made him feel as if he had stumbled into a boundless world. The dragon energy within the core was so vast that it seemed endless and boundless.

Qianye Ying'er glanced at Yun Che. After taking one look at his eyes, she had already figured out what he was going to do with this dragon core. However, could Yun Che's current mastery of "nothingness" truly allow him to refine energy on the level of a Dragon God?

Yun Che deposited the Ash Dragon core into the Sky Poison Pearl with a flip of his hands, causing everyone's eyes to bulge dramatically. It was as if they had been startled awake and millions of ripples appeared in their hearts.

One could only obtain a Dragon God's dragon core by killing a Dragon God... This was something that shouldn't even exist in this universe!

Yun Che waved a hand before he said in an indifferent voice, "Clean up this corpse, it's irritating to the eye."

Yan Two immediately sprang into action. As he swept a claw over the Ash Dragon God's broken body, it was instantly sucked into a cluster of black light. After that, Yan Two closed his hand, making the black light shrink and slowly coalesce into a pitch-black spatial crystal that was about a half an inch long.

A bizarre smile suddenly flashed across Yun Che's face as he took the dark crystal that held that Ash Dragon God's body. He turned slightly to face the young man standing next to the Southern Sea God Emperor.

As the Southern Sea Crown Prince, Nan Qianqiu's spirit and mind had long since been tempered and refined. He was no ordinary man.

However, the events that had just taken place had even managed to violently shake the souls of the gathered god emperors so why would he, an unofficial crown prince, be any different?

By the time he realized that Yun Che's gaze was actually drilling into his body, Nan Qianqiu, who had refused to bow and scrape toward anyone, who had been charming and elegant throughout the entire proceedings, felt his body go rigid.

He felt as if every blood cell in his body had stopped moving and the hands he had unconsciously balled into fists started to shake. He was unable to stop them from shaking no matter how hard he squeezed his fist together. As Yun Che looked at Nan Qianqiu, a ghost of a smile appeared on his face as he spoke in a languid voice, "I said just now that I would definitely present the new Southern Sea Crown Prince with a grand gift."

He slowly raised a hand and the spatial crystal which contained the Ash Dragon God's body was pinched between two of his fingers. "A Dragon God's blood, flesh, tendons, and bones. Any one of these things is precious beyond compare and not even your royal father could ever dream of obtaining them."

"Southern Sea Crown Prince, do you dare to accept this generous gift?"

"..." Nan Qianqiu blankly stared at Yun Che as chills ran down his spine. His scalp went completely numb and he couldn't find the right words to respond.

He had just personally witnessed a Dragon God die a dog's death so even though he was the Southern Sea Crown Prince, he still felt incredible dread when he stared straight at Yun Che. It was a sense of terror he had never felt before in his life.

He felt as if Yun Che was holding his very life in those devilish hands of his. A life that he could casually rend apart on a whim, a life that he could squash if he made him even a little angry.

Everyone was completely dumbfounded by Yun Che's actions... He had actually taken the Ash Dragon God's body and presented it as a congratulatory gift to the Southern Sea Crown Prince!? Was this why he had told the Ash Dragon God "It's too bad you won't be around to see it"?

Wait a minute, could it be that he had decided at that time... No, could he have actually come here with the intention to kill whichever Dragon God the Western Divine Region sent here!? These thoughts sent chills down everyone's spine.

At this point in time, even the dumbest person among them had realized that Yun Che had come for an entirely different reason than they had imagined. In fact, his intentions might be completely opposite of what they had expected.

"Hahahaha!"

At this moment, laughter boomed across the hall like the tolling of an ancient bell. Nan Qianqiu was so shocked by this laughter that he nearly jumped out of his skin. The Southern Sea God Emperor stopped laughing as he said in a clear and bright voice, "Even though you are still young, since you are my Southern Sea's Crown Prince, there is nothing in this world that you should fear! Why should you be afraid of accepting this generous gift?"

"Qianqiu, the blood and bones of this Dragon God are indeed treasures that even I, your father, can't dream of obtaining. You should properly thank the Devil Master for bestowing such a grand gift upon you."

Nan Qianqiu's heart and soul were steadied. He knew that the shock and fear that he had just displayed had greatly disappointed his royal father.

He fiercely bit down on his tongue, his eyes regaining their focus and clarity. After that, he looked straight into Yun Che's eyes as he began to slowly walk towards him. He stretched out a hand and took the spatial crystal that lay in Yun Che's palm.... He continued to stare straight into Yun Che's eyes throughout this entire sequence, his gaze unflinching.

"Thank you for the extravagant gift, Devil Master. I will definitely use the remains of the Dragon God well." His voice was hard and steely as he bent his body towards Yun Che.

"Very good." Yun Che glanced at him before giving a small nod of his head. It was as if he was an elder giving a look of approval to a junior... Even though Nan Qianqiu was many years older than even his own grandfather.

"You truly are worthy of being chosen as the Southern Sea God Emperor's successor. Not only are your looks outstanding, your spirit is extraordinary as well. At the very least, you're far more lovable than that lowly dragon," Yun Che said in a warm voice. "Since you've accepted my generosity, then it shouldn't be too much trouble to answer a few of my questions, right?"

Chapter 1779 - Crazed Devil (2)

The blood in Nan Qianqiu's body froze like ice when Yun Che looked and spoke to him. He subconsciously looked to the Southern Sea God Emperor for support.

The Southern Sea God Emperor did not say anything, but he frowned a little at his son's reaction.

Realizing that his reaction was unseemingly, Nan Qianqiu quickly acted to regain his composure. When he faced Yun Che again, his gaze was back to calm. "Qianqiu will answer all your questions, Devil Master."

"Very good." Yun Che's eyes and voice darkened a little. "Southern Sea Crown Prince, not long ago I heard that you and your royal father traveled to the Eastern Divine Region before you inherited the Southern Sea divine power."

"... ?" The Southern Sea God Emperor shot Qianye Ying'er a glance.

"My question is, what was the purpose of you travelling to the Eastern Divine Region?" Yun Che stared at Nan Qianqiu. His gaze was harmless and his tone was inquiring, but it felt like that would change immediately if he tried to avoid answering.

Nan Qianqiu hadn't forgotten that particular trip, of course. It was the trip to the Eastern Divine Region right before he received his inheritance after all. His expression didn't change, but his mind was spinning as he pondered over Yun Che's objective.

His silence caused a change in Yun Che's eyes, however. Even his voice seemed to soften a bit. "What's wrong? Was it such an unusual experience that you can't speak of it?"

Everyone turned to stare at Nan Qianqiu. The Ash Dragon God's shocking end hadn't yet faded from their minds, and Yun Che was bringing up something new already. One thing was certain though, it couldn't possibly be an innocent question.

Nan Qianqiu looked up and smiled. "I, Nan Qianqiu, am the Southern Sea Crown Prince, and there is nothing I can't say unless the person listening is unworthy to hear my words. Naturally, you are not among these people, Devil Master."

He turned slightly to face the crowd before declaring loudly, "When Qianqiu became a Divine King, the Sea God's divine power finally accepted him and acknowledged him as a being worthy of becoming a Sea God. Since then, royal father has thought of making me his Crown Prince."

Every high level in the Southern Divine Region knew about this, of course.

"But before I inherited the Sea God's divine power, I traveled with my royal father to the Eastern Divine Region for two reasons."

"One, we went to visit the four god emperors of the Eastern Divine Region and inform them that I was the Southern Sea God Realm's future successor."

"Two, we wanted to gather a large amount of fresh Wood Spirit Orbs to purify my profound energy and vitality. It was to smoothen the process of inheritance and improve my compatibility with the Sea God's divine power."

By the time Nan Qianqiu finished, He Ling's soul shuddered so violently that Yun Che almost thought that she had lost control.

Yun Che was a bit surprised by Nan Qianqiu's frankness. He put a smile on his face and asked, "Who was the one who hunted the Wood Spirits and gathered the Wood Spirit Orbs then?"

"I did, of course."

Nan Qianqiu answered immediately and without hesitation. He didn't even blink despite the question coming from Yun Che himself. "If I couldn't handle something like this myself, then I would live up to my father's expectations, would I?"

From the moment Yun Che sprang this question on him out of nowhere, Nan Qianqiu guessed that he must've learned everything already. Moreover, the very first king realm they visited when they traveled to the Eastern Divine Region was the Brahma Monarch God Realm, and knowing their ability he wasn't surprised that his movements were completely found out.

Today, Qianye Ying'er was supporting Yun Che, and the Brahma Monarch God Emperor had succumbed to Yun Che as well... after a brief consideration, Nan Qianqiu decided to do away with deception and answer as honestly as possible.

Not to mention that that trip was completely insignificant to him.

The Southern Sea God Emperor hadn't spoken up all this time, but he was secretly quite satisfied with Nan Qianqiu's performance. After all, Yun Che had just tortured and killed the Ash Dragon God a moment ago. It wouldn't be exaggerating to say that the Devil Master was exuding as much pressure as any existing god emperor right now.

"A good answer." It was difficult to read any emotion from Yun Che's expression or words. "To my knowledge, you obtained quite the bounty from a small star realm close to Eternal Heaven God Realm, am I right?"

Qianye Ying'er was right here, so Nan Qianqiu wasn't surprised by how in-depth Yun Che's knowledge of his movements was. He took a moment to recall before answering, "That is correct, Devil Master. I have forgotten the name of that star realm, but you are definitely right in saying that it is close to the Eternal Heaven God Realm."

Yun Che: "..."

"I know that there are very few Wood Spirits left in the world, so I initially thought that it wouldn't be an easy task to find them. However, as if the heavenly way was favoring me that day, I was able to find almost a thousand Wood Spirits in that star realm. Naturally, I killed them all. I was able to gather many times over the fresh Wood Spirit Orbs I needed in just a moment."

Nan Qianqiu continued. "One thing that stood out to me during the hunt was that the auras of the two leaders of the Wood Spirit tribe were stronger and very different from the rest of the Wood Spirits. After inquiring with my father about this, I learned that they were Royal Wood Spirits, a breed of Wood Spirits that were thought to be extinct. Unfortunately, I didn't know this back then, so I didn't stop them when they detonated their Wood Spirit Orbs and commited suicide."

He shook his head slightly before adding, "Even now, the mere thought of the value of the Royal Wood Spirit Orbs fills me with regret."

Yun Che's heart was shaking... it came from the depths of He Ling's soul.

The puzzle fit together so, so perfectly that it was impossible to sow even a bit of doubt in it.

The tragedy that befell the wood spirit race, the nightmare that cost He Ling everything... as it turned out, the culprit wasn't the Brahma Monarch God Realm after all. It was the Southern Sea God Realm who caused everything, a king realm of the Southern Divine Region so far away that the possibility never even crossed their minds until Qianye Ying'er had completed her investigation!

Still maintaining a faint smile on his face, Yun Che quietly consoled He Ling in his head while asking Nan Qianqiu, "You are surprisingly frank about this. Don't you know that hunting Wood Spirits is considered a shameful taboo in the entire world?"

"Sure. If the crime was committed by mere mortals, then their sin cannot be understated," Nan Qianqiu replied. "But neither you nor I are mortals, are we?"

He declared while looking at Yun Che, "When the Devil Master emerged from the Northern Divine Region and ordered the destruction of the Eastern Divine Region, countless innocents were buried in the process. However, it is their bodies that paved your path to unrivaled fame and glory. Today, there is no one in the entire world who hasn't heard of the Northern Region Devil Master."

"As for me, the sacrifice of several hundred Wood Spirits made me a better Southern Sea Crown Prince and, in the future, a better Southern Sea God Emperor. With that in mind, doesn't the result justify the process? Doesn't the good outweigh the bad?"

"If my act is considered 'good', then the Wood Spirits should be honored that they got to die for my sake. If it is 'bad' then..." He looked like he wanted to smile. "My sin is still nothing compared to yours, Devil Master."

Yun Che didn't say anything.

Everyone was shocked by Nan Qianqiu's words.

In their opinion, Yun Che brought this up because he wanted to bully Nan Qianqiu. After all, the crime would become a black mark on his record if it was publicized.

Surprisingly, not only did Nan Qianqiu confess to his crime willingly, but he was able to resolve the reputational crisis easily against Yun Che who had scared the hell out of the god emperors just a moment ago!

They all started looking at Nan Qianqiu in a different light.

"Hehe." The Southern Sea God Emperor finally let out a chuckle and said, "You are a child, Qianqiu. It is rude to compare yourself to the Devil Master."

Nan Qianqiu quickly gave a bow of apology. "You are right, royal father. Please forgive me, Devil Master."

Yun Che smiled enigmatically before saying, "Very good. The way you speak, the way you present yourself. You really are the successor of the Southern Sea God Emperor."

"You praise him too much, Devil Master." The Southern Sea God Emperor chuckled. "If Qianqiu possessed even ten percent of your ability and bearing, I would've surrendered the throne to him already."

Dong-

The sonorous sound of a gong came from outside, and the Northern Hell Sea King spoke in a quiet voice, "Your Highness, it is time."

"Very well!" The Southern Sea God Emperor rose to his feet. "Raise the divine altar!"

His eyes were bright, and his complexion looked healthy. It was as if he was completely unaffected by the shocking death of the Ash Dragon God.

Rumble rumble rumble

A five-kilometer wide golden tower that was bursting with divine light rose from the ground and pierced the clouds in the blink of an eye. It was at least thirty thousand meters tall.

A cloud of golden light was covering the top of the tower. In fact, it was almost as wide as the entire Southern Sea Capital.

It wasn't just the people of the Southern Sea Capital. Everyone in the farthest corners of the Southern Sea God Realm could see the massive tower that pierced the clouds, and the golden light that brightened the whole sky. Countless Southern Sea profound practitioners dropped to their knees and prayed, bearing witness to the grand event that was tied to the future of the Southern Sea God Realm itself.

"Hahahaha!" The Southern Sea God Emperor barked out a laugh before striding forward. "The divine altar is raised! Honored guests, please follow me to the divine altar and bear witness to the future of the Southern Sea!"

"Heh. An impressive display." Qianye Ying'er withdrew her gaze before asking in a cool voice, "I remember that the Southern Sea Divine Tower is raised during the coronation of a god emperor. Aren't you afraid that this is too much for your Crown Prince to bear?"

"Hehe. It is true that no Crown Prince before mine has ever had the honor." The Southern Sea God Emperor chuckled. "But since he's my son, there is no glory in the world that he couldn't bear, hahahaha!"

The declaration made bare his infinite arrogance and a surprising amount of satisfaction. He valued Nan Qianqiu far more than he showed, it seemed.

"Southern Sea Divine Tower?" Yun Che looked up. The tower was at least ten thousand floors high, and at the top of the tower was an altar surrounded by a divine light. It looked incredibly impressive.

"This way, my honored guests!"

The Southern Sea God Emperor raised his hand in invitation before taking to the air himself. Nan Qianqiu, the Sea Kings and the Sea Gods quickly followed behind him.

God Emperor Shitian, God Emperor Xuanyuan and the Purple Micro God Emperor exchanged a glance with each other before rising to the air as well.

Qianye Ying'er was correct. The Southern Sea Divine Tower was only fully erected during a god emperor's coronation. The purpose of it was to make a prayer to the heavens and announce the new god emperor to the world. To date, this had never been done during the conferring ceremony of a crown prince.

They were puzzled, but they didn't voice their doubts.

"Let's go!" Yun Che ordered before soaring to the air smoothly.

Qianye Wugu's gaze swept across the tower. A moment of silence later, he sent Yun Che a sound transmission. "Your Magnificence, the tower's aura is slightly different from what I remember. It may be wise to act with caution."

"..." But Yun Che didn't react. It was almost as if the advice had fallen on deaf ears.

Qianye Wugu didn't try a second time.

While the Southern Sea Crown Prince's conferring ceremony was going on, the Dragon God Realm was also experiencing what might be the biggest shock ever in its history.

All eight Dragon Gods were at different locations, but their souls shuddered violently, and the light in their eyes exploded like a supernova at the same time.

Within the Southern Sea Capital, countless people had witnessed the tragic death of the Ash Dragon God as well. The stunning news was spreading to every corner of the God Realm at an astonishing speed.

When the attendees reached the top of the Southern Sea Divine Tower, everyone was bathed in a golden light. It originated from the purest form of Southern Sea divine power, and every ray contained an unimaginable amount of richness and power.

Plenty of Southern Sea God Realm denizens were looking at the sky and witnessing the birth of the future Southern Sea God Emperor right now, but only a handful of them had the right to step onto the altar.

In fact, the Southern Sea God Emperor, the Sea Kings, and the Sea Gods were the only ones in the Southern Sea God Realm who had the right to ascend the tower. Not even the Divine Master Realm elders, princes and princesses were qualified to enter it.

"Qianqiu," the Southern Sea God Emperor started, "today's ceremony is not just a ceremony, and after today my expectations aren't the only things sitting on your shoulder anymore."

"I understand." Nan Qianqiu nodded calmly. It was difficult not to be impressed by him.

"Let us pray to the ancestors before we begin the ceremony. Feihong, Zhengtian, stand guard at the entrance while we're getting ready."

"Yes, Your Highness." The Eastern Hell Sea King and Northern Hell Sea King acknowledged.

They stood guard behind Nan Qianqiu while he was kneeling at the center of the divine altar and praying to the ancestors. If someone was staring at their eyes at this moment, they might just notice the trace of an ulterior motive behind them.

Yun Che was standing on the giant altar and looking below him. He seemed completely unconcerned about the ceremony that was soon to begin.

"It must be a riot in the Dragon God Realm right now." Qianye Ying'er moved next to Yun Che and said slowly, "Pray tell, what will your next move be? You aren't planning to fight them head on, are you?"

"This is just the beginning," Yun Che replied coldly, but didn't give her a direct answer.

"Knowing your personality I'm not surprised at all, But I do wish you'd listen to the voice of reason and speak with Chi Wuyao from time to time." She paused for a moment before smiling. "Well, what's done is done, and the Northern Divine Region is just a tool in the end. Interacting with Chi Wuyao has the interesting effect of diminishing this particular memory."

Yun Che: "..."

"You can see the entire Southern Sea God Realm from here. What do you think of this view, Devil Master?"

The Southern Sea God Emperor's voice suddenly rang beside their ears, and a golden flash later the man was standing next to Yun Che and looking at the world beneath his feet.

Instead of looking at him, Yun Che asked coldly, "Is there something you would like to talk about, Southern Sea God Emperor?"

The Southern Sea God Emperor smiled once before asking a question that seemed to have come out of nowhere, "How do you categorize the people of the world, Devil Master?"

"Those who deserve to die, and those who don't," Yun Che replied. His voice was even, but there seemed to be something eerie lurking behind it.

Qianye Ying'er: " ... "

"That view does fit your title very well." The Southern Sea God Emperor chuckled. "Would you like to know how I categorize the people of the world, Devil Master?"

"Heh." Yun Che let out a low chuckle. "I thought that there are only a handful of people whom you really pay attention to, Southern Sea God Emperor. Is it really necessary to categorize them?"

"In my eyes, there are four types of people." The Southern Sea God Emperor continued unhindered. "There are many who think that I'm egocentric, lecherous, mad, and out of control. They think that I have none of the bearing a true ruler should have, but what they don't know is that my mask changes depending on the type of person I'm facing."

"The first type is the weaklings. As you may have gleaned from the name already, they are pathetic people who'll never dare to rise against me. They can swallow any amount of oppression or indignity as long as their final bottom line remains untouched. Therefore, I am free to act however I like and do whatever I want to regardless of societal norms or taboos."

He shot a glance at the three Southern Region God Emperors standing some distance away from him after ending his sentence. He didn't even bother to hide who he was talking about.

"The second type are unscrupulous villains. Their power and authority are equal or better compared to mine, and their minds are even more unpredictable. I would have to be wary around them, but again I don't need to restrain myself. As a shrewd person, their self-interest comes before everything else, so they won't turn hostile unless they are given a very good reason to. Of course, if they found the perfect opportunity to eliminate me, they wouldn't hesitate to carry out the act."

"Qianye Fantian?" Yun Che threw out the name indifferently.

"That's right. In this age, he is the only man in the entire world who deserved this category." The Southern Sea God Emperor said, "Unfortunately, he is no longer with us thanks to you."

"I never restrain myself around the first two types of people, but the latter two are a completely different story."

"The first type is the untouchable king. I never act or behave out of line when I'm around the Dragon Monarch." The Southern Sea God Emperor admitted directly.

"The second type is a madman." He smiled a little. "A madman knows neither fear nor consequence, and the slightest touch could trigger them completely. They could pay even the price of life if it meant bringing misery to those who woe them."

"That is why no one is willing to provoke a madman. Even I would take a pacifist approach if I ran into a powerful madman."

A cold breeze blew past everyone's skin and cooled the temperature a little.

"Do you happen to be describing me, Southern Sea God Emperor?" Yun Che asked indifferently.

However, the Southern Sea God Emperor shook his head. "No. You don't belong to either of these types." He turned slowly and stared at Yun Che with his golden eyes before saying, "Although, I had thought you a madman and have given you the space I thought you needed when I first learned about you."

Yun Che slowly turned his head and met the Southern Sea God Emperor's gaze. He asked curiously, "If I'm not a madman, then what am I?"

The god emperor narrowed his eyes, drew what looked like an amiable smile across his face and replied, "A mad dog, is what you are."

Their conversation wasn't loud, but absolutely everyone on the divine altar was a powerful person. Naturally, the answer didn't escape their ears. The air, their breath, their eyes and even their blood, everything seemed to turn to ice in an instant.

The three Southern Region God Emperors who were looking away instantly turned toward the Southern Sea God Emperor and Yun Che. Deep shock was etched on all of their features.

Oddly, not only did Yun Che look perfectly unperturbed, but the expression behind the thin, black fog surrounding his person barely changed at all. If anything, the corners of his lips had turned up slightly. "If I may ask, what is the difference between a madman and a mad dog?"

"It's simple." The Southern Sea God Emperor replied with a smile, "A madman is mad, but not even they have lost all their humanity and reason. Therefore, there are still plenty of ways to negotiate and placate such a person."

"But if a mad dog wants to bite someone..." The Southern Sea God Emperor shook his head. "Who in the world could change their minds?"

"So?"

"So a madman can be placated and negotiated with..." The Southern Sea God Emperor's eyes narrowed into long, dangerous slits. "But a mad dog... can only be wiped from the surface of the world!"

Chapter 1780 - Southern Sea's Trump Card

In that instant, the azure sky hanging above the altar, no, the entire Southern Sea God Realm seemed to turn as cold as death.

God Emperor Shitian, the Xuanyuan God Emperor, and Purple Micro God Emperor, even the Sea Gods were clearly caught by surprise.

The sudden turn toward hostility was swift, unexpected, and extremely unwise. Although Yun Che had only brought a couple of people with him, their power and ruthlessness could only be described as nightmarish. So why had the Southern Sea God Emperor chosen this place and time to provoke that violent specter who didn't even fear even the Dragon Gods!?

The Northern Hell Sea King and Eastern Hell Sea King were the only ones who maintained their posture. The only thing that had changed was the growing golden light in their eyes.

Nan Qianqiu slowly looked up. He was just as shocked as the others, but he recovered and understood what was going on almost immediately. The corners of his lips turned upward as he muttered to himself, "As expected of royal father."

"Southern Sea God Emperor," the Xuanyuan God Emperor said, "this is hardly the occasion to be making a joke like that."

"Joke?" The Southern Sea God Emperor let out a low chuckle. "I never joke. Mad dogs must be killed, and the sooner the better. They must be annihilated down to the last hair on their bodies, or the Southern Divine Region may very well become the next Eastern Divine Region. What do you think, Devil Master?"

"You are absolutely right." A smiling Yun Che said in a cool voice, "Even I am often terrified of people who were transformed into mad dogs by the circumstances around them. Southern Sea, your soul must be shivering like a leaf right now, aren't you?"

Contrary to everyone's expectation, Yun Che didn't react with a sudden burst of anger, violence, or crazed laughter. He was so unperturbed that it was almost frightening.

Beside Yun Che, Qianye Ying'er's reaction was pretty mild as well. She didn't even give the Southern Sea God Emperor a sideways glance. It was almost as if she was an unrelated spectator who was just watching a show.

The three Yama Ancestors weren't nearly as calm, however. Their old eyes suddenly glowed like black suns, and it was as if six pitch black abysses were about to devour everything beneath their feet.

Qianye Wugu and Qianye Bingzhu exchanged a glance with each other before looking to the bottom in unison. Their expression gradually turned serious.

Yun Che's reaction—or lack thereof—didn't surprise the Southern Sea God Emperor at all. Not only was he accompanied by seven level ten Divine Masters, five of them were even ancestor level monsters. No one in his position would panic or get angry by this sudden "falling out". Who knows, he might even be laughing at his "stupidity" on the inside this very moment.

"You're right." The Southern Sea God Emperor slowly raised his arms. "Yun Che, you are an impressive mad dog. Not only do you terrify me from the bottom of my soul, you've driven me to methods I never thought I would have to resort to!"

It wasn't like the Southern Sea God Emperor was trying to play coy before, but now there was no room for even a flimsy excuse. After he finished his sentence, a strange shaking suddenly appeared in God Emperor Shitian, the Xuanyuan God Emperor and the Purple Micro God Emperor's eyes. At the same time, Nan Wansheng flashed golden and launched a golden imprint toward his targets.

No, the golden mark wasn't meant for Yun Che, who was just meters away from him. They were meant for the three god emperors of the Southern Sea Divine Region at the back.

Strangely, none of them tried to dodge or defend themselves from the imprint. In fact, they allowed it to push against them and used the energy to launch themselves far away from the altar.

The moment the three god emperors crossed the edge, a golden rainbow spread out above the Southern Sea Capital and enveloped the entire divine altar.

"Hmm?" Yun Che seemed surprised that the Southern Sea God Emperor could send three god emperors flying away with a single hit.

It was at this moment Qianye Wugu and Qianye Bingzhu broke their inaction and shattered space itself. They summoned their massive Brahma Monarch divine power and made a grab for a certain person at the same time.

Their target was none other than the man standing at the center of the divine altar, Nan Qianqiu!

However, the two Sea Kings were only ten steps away from Nan Qianqiu. It looked like they had predicted this to happen from the beginning. The moment the two mighty Brahma ancestors acted, they spun around, instantly released the power they had been secretly gathering, and formed a golden barrier to block the attack.

Clang!!

The power of four level ten Divine Masters clashed against one another, and the noise generated from the explosion was so terrible that it nearly tore apart the azure sky.

Although they were all level ten Divine Masters, Qianye Wugu and Qianye Bingzhu's powers were far greater and firmer than their opponents. The Eastern Hell Sea King and Northern Hell Sea King couldn't even hope to match them. However, the two Brahma ancestors had launched a surprise attack, and the two Sea Kings had been gathering their strength and waiting for this to happen. Therefore, neither the Brahma ancestors nor their power weren't able to get close to Nan Wanqiu, much less hurt a hair on his body.

One instant was all they needed. Using the exploding force to their advantage, the Sea Kings withdrew at top speed and escaped the divine altar with a perfectly calm Nan Qianqiu.

Neither Qianye Wugu nor Qianye Bingzhu pursued or gave the escaping Nan Qianqiu a second glance. If this was before they partook in the experiment, the thought to attack a junior multiple generations younger than them would never even have crossed their minds.

"It's too late." Qianye Wugu let out a sigh.

"Well played, Southern Sea," said Qianye Bingzhu as he looked at the God Emperor.

"Hehe, you praise me too much, seniors." The Southern Sea God Emperor chuckled. "Extraordinary people at extraordinary times can only be dealt with extraordinary methods, don't you agree?"

All the Sea Gods present at the altar appeared behind the Southern Sea God Emperor while he was talking. Their bodies were glowing slightly, and their eyes shone with a pressure that resembled the descent of gods.

"What are you two doing?" Yun Che narrowed his eyes slightly at Qianye Wugu and Qianye Bingzhu. He was clearly displeased with them acting without orders.

"Sea... Emperor... Barrier," Qianye Ying'er parted her lips and said slowly.

"What is that?" Yun Che glanced at the golden rainbow surrounding the altar. The feral gleam in his eyes hadn't diminished in the slightest despite the series of unexpected events. It was as if every barrier in the world was just a joke to him.

Qianye Ying'er answered, "Do you remember the Absolute Star Soul Barrier the Star God Realm activated before the Evil Infant returned to the world? This Sea Emperor Barrier is similar to that."

She looked up slightly and continued in a darker voice, "It is just as impervious to all the power of this world, and it is passable only by those with the corresponding bloodline and divine energy."

Yun Che: "..."

Back when the Star God Realm was preparing to sacrifice Jasmine and Caizhi, they had activated the Absolute Star Soul Barrier that no one, not even the god emperors who arrived at the scene were able to break it. Only those with the blood or divine power of the Star Gods could pass through.

Of course, it was ultimately destroyed by the awakened Evil Infant.

"You don't disappoint me, Ying'er. You couldn't have seen the Sea Emperor Barrier before, and the Southern Sea hasn't activated it for tens of thousands of years, but you were still able to recognize it right away. It would seem that the pollution of darkness hasn't consumed your intelligence." The Southern Sea God Emperor praised her. His smile had grown more confident and collected after Nan Qianqiu was taken away to safety. The divine light settling in his eyes had become deeper as well.

Outside the divine altar, the other three god emperors of the Southern Divine Region were watching everything with bated breath. The Southern Sea God Emperor had warned them before launching the imprints at them, which was why they allowed themselves to be launched away from the divine altar.

However, they still didn't understand what Nan Wansheng was planning to do.

Judging from his tone and his killing intent, the Southern Sea God Emperor was planning to kill Yun Che at all costs.

However, Yun Che's power was strange and unpredictable, and the seven Divine Masters beings were some of the strongest powers in the world. The Southern Sea Realm might be the strongest king realm of the Southern Divine Region, but there was no way they had the power to punch through their protection and kill Yun Che by force.

Also, the Sea Emperor Barrier was indestructible, but all it could do was trap the enemy... he couldn't be planning to trap them until the enraged Dragon Monarch and Dragon Gods showed up to kill Yun Che, could he?

That was the only possibility the three god emperors could think of.

However, the Sea Emperor Barrier's strength was proportional to its cost. An unimaginable amount of energy was being expended with each passing breath... could it really last until the Dragon Monarch and the Dragon Gods arrived from the distant Dragon God Realm?

Not far away from them, Nan Qianqiu suddenly let out a puzzling chuckle. "Hehe. In the end, this devil is going to die by my royal father's hands."

All three god emperors frowned and looked at him at the same time.

"Sigh. It is still too big a price." The Eastern Hell Sea King sighed quietly. "If that Yun Che wasn't as crazy as he was, His Majesty would never have made this choice!"

His words only stunned the three god emperors even more. Suddenly, God Emperor Shitian's pupils shrank to the size of needles. "Could it be..."

His gaze turned toward the divine altar again. This time, his eyes were shaking with fear.

"What? What are you talking about!?"

Both the Xuanyuan God Emperor and Purple Micro God Emperor asked at the same time, but Cang Shitian didn't give them an answer. His clenched fists were bloodless due to the sheer amount of strength he was applying to them.

Yun Che glanced around him before letting out a mad laugh. "Hahahaha, Southern Sea, I was hoping you would show me something extraordinary after that arrogant speech, but a turtle shell?"

"Is this the plan? Are you trying to make me laugh myself to death with your stupidity? Hahahahaha!"

The Southern Sea God Emperor broke into a grin. "Yun Che, can you guess who I really raised this divine altar for?"

"And? What are you going to do about it?" Yun Che shot back an eerie smile.

The Southern Sea God Emperor turned away and walked to the edge of the barrier slowly. "Although this plan has been long in the making, I had hoped that it wouldn't come to this; that the altar would only ever be used for my son's feng-shan ceremony[1]. Unfortunately, you are not a madman, but a mad dog. In that case, the only choice left is to cleanse your filthy, devilish blood with the eternal might of the Southern Sea."

He passed through the barrier and moved out of the divine altar after saying this.

The Sea Gods also did the same after he gave them a hand signal. The barrier didn't stop them either.

Yun Che didn't try to attack any of them because the divine altar was incredibly huge. It was impossible to stop the Sea Gods from leaving the barrier even if he employed every power in his capacity, much less the Southern Sea God Emperor.

"You think you can eliminate me using this hilarious turtle shell?" Yun Che snorted and narrowed his eyes slowly. The Sea Emperor Barrier's aura was faint, but he could clearly sense that it was impenetrable.

The Absolute Star Soul Barrier was powerful because it was connected to the Star Gods' Star God origin power. This obviously wasn't the case for the Sea Emperor Barrier though. Most likely the source of its power came from the divine altar beneath his feet and the cloud piercing tower that supported it.

"Devil Master," Qianye Wugu said, "Do you still remember what I told you earlier-"

"Shut up!" Yun Che cut him off coldly before pointing a finger at the barrier and saying in a disdainful tone, "Yan One, Two, Three, test out that turtle shell for me."

The three Yama Ancestors had been dying to murder the hell out of the Southern Sea God Emperor for his arrogance and transgression, but Yun Che hadn't given them the order to attack even after Nan Wansheng and the Sea Gods had left the barrier completely. They had nearly burst a blood vein because of it.

Now that Yun Che had finally given them the order, all three Yama Ancestors let out a mad howl before swinging their ghastly claws at the so-called impenetrable barrier before them.