The Gods 1841

Chapter 1841 - Qianying Goes Berserk

The world had turned completely gray along with her swiftly fading consciousness. She couldn't even hear the rushing sound of the wind as she fell toward the ground.

I couldn't kill Qianye ... nor could I kill Zhou Xuzi ...

In the end... I wasn't able to do anything...

Big Brother... I'm sorry...

Big Sister... I'm sorry...

I'm... sorry...

Yun Che's figure appeared in that dim and gray world of hers and he brought a world of mountain flowers and green forests along with him.

"What's your name?"

"Name, oh.... Let me think. Orange, Apple, Hawthorn, Peach, Papaya, Lychee......Big Mushroom, Little Mushroom, Ant, Elephant, Camellia, Jasmine.."

"Ah! I got it! My name is Jasmine!"

"Little miss, even if you want to lie... You shouldn't be so obvious!"

.....

"Then it's decided! My name shall be... Little Jasmine!"

"What... the... this... what... how... how is this different !?"

"Of course it's different! Little Jasmine sounds even cuter."

.....

"That's right. Jasmine is my wife."

"Wow!!" So it's like this eh... Ah... Jasmine is Big Brother's wife, so Little Jasmine should be Big Brother's..."

"Little sister-in-law!"

"Hmmm, if that's the case, then Big Brother is my brother-in-law... Ah! Greetings, Brother-in-law!"

.....

When they had first met, she had played him like a fiddle, and the wild and exasperated look in his eyes every time she frustrated him was the most beautiful and important of memories... that had accompanied her during the gloomy darkness of the last few years.

If only time had been frozen in that period. How nice would that have been...

Zhou Xuzi swiftly sealed his own wound and when he lifted his head, the first thing he saw was his six Guardians... and the terrible scene of the last six Guardians of the Eternal Heaven God Realm being cut in two.

A single stroke of the sword had cut down six Guardians. Caizhi's attack had already become incredible enough to be recorded in the annals of the God Realm as a feat that would deeply shock a thousand generations.

However, it had not been enough to kill Zhou Xuzi.

"Tai Han, Tai Ze..."

Zhou Xuzi extended a hand, but the only thing he caught was the energy that was still bleeding out of their bodies... The severed bodies of the six Guardians powerlessly fell from the sky and all of them wore stunned and frustrated expressions on their faces. It was as if they couldn't believe that they, the mighty Guardians of the Eternal Heaven God Realm, had died just like this.

Now, all of the cornerstones which had supported the Eternal Heaven God Realm, the Eternal Heaven Guardians, companions who had accompanied him for countless years... had fallen.

Zhou Xuzi closed his eyes in sorrow. He suddenly felt as if he was the only person in this vast and boundless world and endless loneliness and sorrow filled his heart.

Even if he successfully took his revenge, even if the devils were all destroyed, would the Eternal Heaven God Realm... truly still have a future?

His eyes snapped open and a dark and sinister killing intent zoomed in on the distant Caizhi. As he stared at her body falling toward the ground, the white horsetail whisk was instantly sucked back into his hand, an incredibly frenzied and agitated Eternal Heaven divine power swiftly gathering within it.

Chi Wuyao's spiritual senses were so vast that she could clearly observe the rest of the battlefield even though she was currently engaged in a fierce battle with the Crimson Destruction Dragon God.

Alarm filled her heart, but the Crimson Destruction Dragon God's frenzied attacks didn't give her room to breathe, much less concentrate on interfering with Zhou Xuzi's actions. The only thing she could do was to shout out anxiously, "Save Caizhi!"

"You should worry about yourself first!!" the Crimson Destruction Dragon God snarled as his eyes practically popped out of their sockets. As he slashed down with his thick and brutish arms, two claw marks that were hundreds of meters long were torn through the air, completely engulfing Chi Wuyao in a domain of draconic destruction.

"Little Princess!!" the four remaining Star Gods yelled in unison. Each of them were facing at least two opponents of their level, and they were barely holding on as it was. Any distractions would only increase the peril they were already in and there was no way they could extricate themselves from their fights to save Caizhi.

Black devilish light erupted from Qianye Ying'er's hand as she met the huge draconic energy contained within the fist of the Chi Dragon Emperor with her own blow.

If Yun Che was around, she could perhaps just barely manage to take on the Chi Dragon Emperor on her own. However, she knew that she wouldn't be able to hold out for too long in his absence.

Chi Wuyao's anxious cry rang in her ears, and her spiritual senses sensed the Eternal Heaven God Emperor's erupting killing intent and Caizhi's dissipated aura.

A dense white light started to radiate from the Eternal Heaven God Emperor's body as a sinister malice, so great that he had only felt something like it a few times in his life, flashed through his eyes. His horsetail whisk swished through the air and dozens of white energy beams surrounded by needle-shaped fragments of space appeared and shot toward Caizhi with venomous force.

Boom!

Qianye Ying'er, who was already on the back foot, suddenly forcibly diverted her energy, and the draconic might of the Chi Dragon Emperor smashed her right in the center of her chest.

In the next instant, blood gushed out of Qianye Ying'er's mouth. Her body was wracked by such intense pain that she felt like it was going to shatter, but she still spun in midair and forcefully regathered the darkness profound energy that had just been dispersed and launched her body towards Caizhi.

The Chi Dragon Emperor paused for a single instant before he immediately gave chase, his claw shooting straight for Qianye Ying'er's back.

However, a withered and ancient figure suddenly blurred into existence in front of him.

BANG----

The claw of the Chi Dragon Emperor slammed straight into Gu Zhu while the power of the Hui Dragon Emperor slammed into him at the same time. The dreadful draconic power of the two mighty dragon god emperors mercilessly hammered into every part of Gu Zhu's body.

Yet he didn't even shift a single centimeter and his expression remained as tranquil as the water at the bottom of an ancient well.

On the other side, the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor was battling Yan One together with the Jade Dragon God and the Sky Dragon God. However, to his utter surprise and frustration, he simply couldn't gain the upper hand in this fight. Shock and alarm grew in his heart as the fight grew more and more frenetic. Yan One's attacks were growing wilder by the second and he kept letting out shrill cries that threatened to rupture both his heart and his eardrums.

He was already regretting choosing this opponent... To think that he, a god emperor, couldn't get an advantage over his opponent, even though he was workingwith two Dragon Gods!

No matter who the enemy was, this was still an incredibly humiliating thing for him to experience.

It was at this time that he spied Qianye Ying'er shooting through the air from the corner of his eye. When he saw the blood spraying from her mouth and realized that she was trying to save the Heavenly Wolf Star God, a sinister thought flashed in his mind. He broke away from Yan One's Yama Devil power and made a sudden turn, the gray sword in his hand erupting with the dense and brilliant power of his Myriad Manifestations' bloodline as it streaked towards Qianye Ying'er.

Bang!!

A gray figure materialized in front of him as the Myriad Manifestation God Emperor's gray sword strangely switched targets and struck an old man instead. When the sword slid through his body, his Myriad Manifestation divine power violently erupted within.

At nearly the exact same instant, the Chi Dragon Emperor and the Hui Dragon Emperor were also drawn in by him, almost as if their souls had been bewitched into doing so... The powers of the three mighty god emperors of the Western Divine Region exploded all over Gu Zhu's body at the same time.

BOOM----

Any single one of these three god emperors could destroy stars with a single flick of their fingers.

Even so, Gu Zhu's body still did not even rock under their attacks. He was clearly a small and withered old man, and his body had even become a little bent and crooked, but at this moment, it seemed as if he had become a most sturdy and unbreakable wall as he stubbornly guarded Qianye Ying'er's back... He remained defiant even though he was facing off against three mighty god emperors at the same time.

Qianye Ying'er had transformed into a streaking comet as her speed reached its limit. Caizhi was growing closer and closer, but Zhou Xuzi's killing beams of white light had almost reached her as well...

She snarled silently as she flung an arm out, the Divine Oracle snapping forward like a striking snake. It instantly stretched across dozens of kilometers as it exceeded the speed of those beams of Eternal Heaven divine power and wrapped itself around Caizhi. After that, she violently flung her in the direction of the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning.

Crack!!!

Eternal Heaven divine power exploded over the space that Caizhi had been in just an instant earlier. A white scar that stretched over five kilometers was torn into space as a storm of destruction raged over the area like a thousand heavenly calamities.

Boom!

The Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning let out an explosive roar as he fiercely smashed the Azure Dragon God's head into the ground with a swipe of his gigantic claws. However, he did not take the opportunity to deal a critical strike. He soared into the heavens and opened his mouth wide, causing a storm to fly toward Caizhi. The winds gently wrapped around Caizhi and pulled her toward the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning before carefully depositing her on top of his head. Then, he securely wrapped her in his own protective draconic energy.

The annihilation of the last Eternal Heaven Guardians had clearly caused Zhou Xuzi to lose his composure. His power descended from the sky as he charged at the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning, his teeth clenched so hard that they looked like they were about to break... However, a golden figure blurred into existence in front of him and the Divine Oracle transformed into a venomous snake that shot straight at his heart.

He had been severely wounded by Caizhi's previous sword slash, and his aura had grown disordered due to his anxious wrath, so Zhou Xuzi was easily pushed back by Qianye Ying'er.

Blood trickled down the corner of Qianye Ying'er's mouth. There was a wound on her chest, but her attacks were still ruthless and severe. Black devil energy swirled around the Divine Oracle as it sliced open one black scar after another on Zhou Xuzi's body.

Bang!

The Divine Oracle knocked aside his white horsetail whisk from an extremely bizarre angle, causing Zhou Xuzi to stumble backwards. The Divine Oracle immediately darted out once more and struck Zhou Xuzi in the same place he had been wounded before.

A dense black light exploded on Zhou Xuzi's chest as his broken bones and ravaged flesh were instantly dyed a frightening scorched black.

Zhou Xuzi swiftly backpedaled as pain wracked his body.

Qianye Ying'er was just about to give chase when her heart suddenly shuddered and she immediately turned around to discover the cause.

Buzz!

Buzz!

Buzz!

The Chi Dragon Emperor, the Hui Dragon Emperor, and the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor... The power of these three mighty god emperors crazily poured down on Gu Zhu's body and every single blow of their dreadful god emperor might struck him like a bolt of earth-shaking heavenly lightning.

However, Gu Zhu didn't move a single muscle as he bodily endured all of their blows like an ancient bell which remained pristine and unrusted even after an eternity had passed.

Perhaps he had sensed Qianye Ying'er looking at him, but Gu Zhu's eyes finally rippled as a surprisingly powerful beam of white light erupted from his body with no warning at all.

As the white beam struck the three mighty god emperors, it was as if a million hammers had smashed into their bodies and blasted them far away.

They stared at Gu Zhu with a look of puzzled shock as their numb arms started to throb with pain.

"Uncle Gu..." Qianye Ying'er felt her heart tighten in her chest, and for a moment, she couldn't even breathe. "You're... fine... right?"

Blood soundlessly flowed from Gu Zhu's mouth, nose, ears, and eyes... but he continued to keep his back facing Qianye Ying'er. He did not want her to see him in this state.

"Miss." He breathed out that word in a soft whisper. His voice was as calm and composed as it always was, but it sounded as fragile as an ancient leaf trembling in the wind. "I will no longer be able to serve at your side after today, so you... must..."

Before he could even finish, his withered body, which had been standing proud and erect just a moment ago, crumpled forward as he plummeted to the ground.

"Uncle Gu!" Qianye Ying'er unwittingly cried out in alarm as she rushed forward at her fastest speed... However, she had traveled too far from him during her duel with Zhou Xuzi. By the time she finally arrived, she could only watch Gu Zhu's body smash into the ground right in front of her.

Qianye Ying'er fell to her knees and it was only now that she saw that Gu Zhu's body had been completely dyed in fresh blood. It was so ravaged that it looked like a piece of rotten wood that had been battered by storm winds for a thousand years.

His aura had already become so weak and thin that even a gentle breeze could blow it away.

Qianye Ying'er's palm froze in midair, her jade fingers trembling. She did not even dare to touch him. She clenched her teeth in sorrow as tears started to fall from her eyes.

To her, Gu Zhu was both her teacher and her father.

When her own birth father had decided to discard her, it had been Gu Zhu who rescued her from Qianye Fantian's hands without any regard for the consequences of his actions.

When she had returned after falling into devildom, he was also the one who had stood by her side without a single shred of hesitation, no matter what her status or situation was... and now, he had used his own body to block the attacks of three mighty god emperors for her.

For more than half of Gu Zhu's life he had been controlled by the Brahma Soul Death-Wishing Mark. He had been the first successful experimental subject that Qianye Wugu had "created" with the Primordial Seal of Life and Death. He had gained an incredibly long lifespan because of that... However, his lifeforce had also grown incredibly weak as a consequence, even in spite of the fact that his cultivation had reached the tenth level of the Divine Master Realm.

Tears landed on Gu Zhu's withered hand, causing his lips to gently twitch up into a small smile. However, it was a smile that seemed to be filled with boundless peace and joy.

"To think that Miss... would actually... shed tears... for this old slave..."

"Miss... you've really... changed... Heh... Heh heh..."

That faint smile froze on his ancient face as all life left him.

Caizhi had already regained consciousness atop the head of the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning. She stared at Qianye Ying'er, who was currently kneeling in front of Gu Zhu's body, with a complicated look in her starry eyes.

The Chi Dragon Emperor stared at his own palm before giving a cold snort. "That old man's power was truly strange. Could it be because... of the Primordial Seal of Life and Death that the Dragon Monarch spoke of?"

"He's already a dead man, so there's no need to bother," the Hui Dragon Emperor said as he stared at Qianye Ying'er. "I heard that this Brahma Monarch Goddess is currently the closest person to the Devil Master Yun Che. She is also the new master of the Brahma Monarch God Realm. We can't let her live."

"There's no need for any pity! Let's give her a quick death! Attack!" the Myriad Manifestation God Emperor shouted as the gray sword in his hand started to glow with a dense light. The three mighty god emperors attacked once again and after their bodies started to move, an incredibly dreadful energy vortex started to spin towards Qianye Ying'er.

Qianye Ying'er did not immediately move to dodge the attack. In fact, she did not even turn around to face it. She slowly stood up as she gritted her jade teeth grimly. Her entire body started to shake... and when the three god emperors of the west neared her, she suddenly jerked her delicate head up high and let out a shrill scream of despairing determination.

BOOOM----

An incomparably sinister and bizarre field of darkness energy exploded out of her body.

"Woah!"

The bodies of the three god emperors of the Western Dlvine Region suddenly froze once they were caught in this field of darkness energy. After that, they all let out muffled groans as they were blasted far away.

In the west, Long Bai and the Venerable Withered Dragons instantly and violently turned to look in her direction, their eyes glowing with shock and surprise.

The look on Chi Wuyao's face dramatically changed as well and she yelled in an anxious voice, "Qianying, don't be impulsive! Don't forget what we discussed before!"

However, even Chi Wuyao's voice was not able to stop Qianye Ying'er.

Dark devilish runes swiftly started to spread across her body from the center of her chest. They covered her body, her limbs, and her face... they even covered the tip of every finger and toe. These runes transformed her beautiful golden eyes into a bottomless abyss and dyed her flying golden hair into the deep black of a boundless night sky.

The hearts of every Northern Divine Region profound practitioner on this battlefield started to leap wildly in their chests as their blood violently tossed and turned inside of them. Even the darkness profound energy erupting from their bodies had started to become frenzied.

It was a resonance of darkness... The dark aura that covered the battlefield at this moment was one that neared that of the Devil Master himself.

As the three god emperors of the Western Divine Region stared at her with dumbfounded eyes, Qianye Ying'er slowly turned around, her devil rune-covered face both bewitching and lovely.

The Divine Oracle, which she was still holding in her hand, lost all of its golden luster as it started to shine with an incomparably pure black light.

For the first time, Qianye Ying'er had completely released the drop of Devil Emperor blood that circulated inside of her body... without caring about any of the consequences.

Chapter 1842 - Shattering A Dragon

Sigh...

Chi Wuyao let out a quiet sigh in her heart.

The next moment, her devilish pupils turned as determined as a cornered person who had abandoned all hope.

Qianye Ying'er didn't say a word. There was only hatred and killing intent in her pitch-black eyes.

She had absorbed the Devil Emperor's blood with Yun Che's assistance. It was why her darkness profound energy had grown much faster than normal.

However, she was a mortal, not a monster like Yun Che. She didn't know the consequences of burning the Devil Emperor's blood completely and unleashing all of its power, nor did she want to. All she knew was that her body was overflowing with so much unstable darkness profound energy that it could tear her apart at any moment.

She stepped forward and swung the pitch-black Divine Oracle. What was a pitch-black spirit snake a moment ago was now a massive boa.

Her darkness profound energy was a violent fire that devoured all the light within its vicinity. The god emperors of the Western Divine Region were knowledgeable and wise, so they knew that Qianye Ying'er's current aura and attack were anything but natural.

The god emperors dodged. No one was foolish enough to block the hit directly. However, the weapon moved much faster than expected because the darkness profound energy empowering it was out of control. Its speed was like bone gangrene, as it shot straight toward the Myriad God Emperor's throat despite his best efforts.

Energy swirled around the Myriad God Emperor as he spun around. He crossed his sword in front of himself to block the weapon.

There was a shrill noise of impact as the Divine Oracle clashed against the Myriad Emperor's Sword. Incredibly, the dark light emitting from the Divine Oracle burned his face and body directly as if his protective aura didn't exist at all.

After he used the impact to push himself away to safety, he took a look at his sword and was shocked by what he saw. The weapon had accompanied him for tens of thousands of years, and for the first time ever there was a pitch black dent on its blade.

He shouted in warning, "Don't touch her—ugh!"

His shout turned into a groan of pain because the Divine Oracle he knocked away just a moment ago suddenly whipped toward him again in an unnatural fashion. His quick reflexes saved him from having his head smashed like a watermelon, but he still suffered a deep wound to his forehead.

"What...?" exclaimed the Chi Dragon Emperor and Hui Dragon Emperor in unison. They were going to approach Qianye Ying'er until they saw this.

The god emperors of the Western Divine Region possessed the strongest protective energy in the world as a matter of course. It took an incredible amount of effort just to break their defenses, much less injure their bodies.

However, Qianye Ying'er's rampaging darkness profound energy had torn through the Myriad God Emperor's protective aura like paper.

It was the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor's origin blood after all. The power one gained from burning it was a power that almost transcended the limits of this plane. At the very least, it wasn't something a god emperor could defend against.

It could only last for a very short time, and the price was probably worse for the burner themselves than it was the enemy. In the best case scenario, Qianye Ying'er might be weakened for a couple of years. In the worst case scenario... her cultivation could be permanently impaired.

"Wait until she runs out of power!" Long Bai ordered in a low tone.

It was too late though. A chorus of bloodcurdling screams cut through the air right after he finished.

The new Divine Oracle possessed an unnaturally wide attack range. The three god emperors managed to escape after withdrawing at full speed, but the four Divine Master Chi Dragons behind Qianye Ying'er weren't so lucky.

Shred!

The darkness coiled like a serpent, shredding three Master Dragons into pieces and killing a Dragon Sovereign who tried to block it with his arm. The Dragon Sovereign had probably believed that the arm of a Dragon God would be strong enough to block the attack. Instead, he lost both the limb and his heart in an instant.

The scene terrified the three great god emperors of the Western Divine Region and drove them to fly away in three different directions, determined to avoid Qianye Ying'er at all cost.

It was the right move. Everyone knew that it was only a matter of time before Qianye Ying'er burned out completely.

Long Er's eyes shone darkly as draconic energy surged around him. Then, one arm swirling with ancient draconic energy, he swooped down on Qianye Ying'er so fast that he left an afterimage behind. Finally, one of the five Venerable Withered Dragons had decided to take action against the unnaturally powerful Qianye Ying'er.

His draconic pressure was so terrifying that it shook everyone's heart and even the world itself.

Qianye Wugu was fighting against the Qilin God Emperor when this happened. The former abruptly forced the Qilin God Emperor away with a palm strike and teleported straight for Long Er.

The Qilin God Emperor stretched out his arms... but withdrew his power after a moment's consideration. Then, he turned to face Qianye Bingzhu. The Brahma Ancestor was currently battling against his four Ink Qilins.

"I am aware that my strength is no match for you, old friend. I hope you don't mind me working together with my subjects to subdue you."

"Hehe," Qianye Bingzhu chuckled a little. "It is the honor of my life to be able to do battle against five great Qilins at once. My only wish is that my broken body won't crumble too soon."

Rumble!

A golden sun erupted in the sky of Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm and stopped Long Er by force. Slowly, the Venerable Withered Dragon turned to face his attacker.

Qianye Wugu knew he had to go all out if he were to have any chance of holding back Long Er.

Thus, he ignited all of his Brahma blood, released all of his Brahma soul, and summoned the golden image of a Brahma Emperor across his entire body. Even his eyes and skin were dyed gold in color. "Your fellow resurrector, Brahma Emperor Qianye Wugu, wishes to test the might of a Venerable Withered Dragon."

"Hmph." His heart was ancient, but his pride as a Dragon God was still present. Long Er replied indifferently, "You do not qualify."

Qianye Wugu simply responded by pushing out his palm and flooding the sky with golden light. He was aware that he was no match for the Venerable Withered Dragon, but equally, Long Er would not be able to defeat him in a short time.

The entrance of a Venerable Withered Dragon was without a doubt hail to the snow that was their predicament. While Qianye Ying'er was suppressing three god emperors all by herself, how much longer could she maintain her current state?

On the other side, Zhou Xuzi was staring daggers at the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning's giant form. The Guardians' deaths had more or less extinguished his final hope of having a future for Eternal Heaven. All he had left in him was hatred and sorrow.

Not even bothering to heal himself, he flew alone toward the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning.

The Dragon Emperor was already hard pressed to protect Caizhi and do battle against the Azure Dragon God at the same time, and now a hateful Eternal Heaven God Emperor had just joined the battle. When it sensed the blast of divine energy behind his back, the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning let out an angry roar, enveloped Caizhi's body with half of his draconic energy, and tried to stop a Dragon God and a god emperor with the remaining half of his power.

The Dragon Emperor's absolute loyalty toward Caizhi was an artificial emotion the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor had forced upon the creature. However, it was still unshakeable and incorruptible by any emotion.

There was a loud bang, and the dragon emperor was sent staggering a couple kilometers away from the point of impact. Before he could recover, the Azure Dragon God and Zhou Xuzi appeared like lightning and landed a second blow.

The Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning could fight both the Azure Dragon God and Zhou Xuzi and maintain a stalemate for a very long time.

However, protecting Caizhi was its top priority right now. Nothing was more important than this duty.

Zhou Xuzi focusing all his attacks on Caizhi made things even worse. No matter which angle the god emperor came from, it always ended with the Caizhi atop its head. The Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning had no choice but to expose himself again and again to the Azure Dragon God's attacks to protect her.

Roar!

The dragon emperor let out a furious, helpless roar as the Azure Dragon God tore thousands of blooddrenched scales from its body and smashed it heavily against the ground.

Finally, the dragon emperor could no longer maintain its protective energy and Caizhi flew far, far away, heading for the ground.

The Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning roared even angrier, but a grayish blue shadow smashed into its spine and bent its body like a V before it could crawl back to its feet.

On the other hand, Zhou Xuzi ignored the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning entirely and flew straight at Caizhi. Eyes brimming with hatred and fingers bent like an eagle's talons, he made a grab for the girl's head.

All four Star Gods—Heavenly Flame, Heavenly Sun, Heavenly Soul, and Heavenly Charm—sensed the danger at once and looked at her.

"Princess!"

The battle between the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning and the Azure Dragon God was unapproachable and took up an enormous amount of space. Now that the dragon emperor was suppressed by the Azure Dragon God... there was no one left to save Caizhi.

In that moment, without exchanging any word or thought with anyone at all, they listened to the blood of the Star God inside their veins... and arrived at the same, grim determination.

Right now, all four Star Gods were covered in blood and wounds. Normally speaking, they would be hard pressed to defend themselves, much less break free from their opponents and fly to Caizhi's rescue.

Unless...

"НАААААААААННННН!"

A chorus of horrific screams suddenly shattered the air. At the same time, the four Star Gods erupted like blazing stars.

The supernova-like explosions threw the Dragon Sovereigns who had been suppressing—in some cases, even bullying—them far, far away.

With speed surpassing even the fastest meteor, four starlights cut through air and space and flew straight for Zhou Xuzi and Caizhi.

Caizhi looked up slowly. The most brilliant starlight in the world flooded her dazed pupils.

"Little Princess..." the Heavenly Flame Star God's warm, peaceful voice entered her ears. "We know that our sins are unforgivable. This is the only way we can atone for some of it."

"This is our final gift to you. You can't dislike it, okay?" said the Heavenly Charm Star God lovingly and forlornly.

The Heavenly Flame Star God was the first to arrive. He was so moving so fast, and his pressure so immobilizing that Zhou Xuzi had no way of avoiding him. The only thing he could do was cross his arms and gather enough strength to distort the space in front of him.

Rumble!!

There was an explosion of starlight, and the Heavenly Flame Star God returned to ashes just like that. Not even Zhou Xuzi could withstand the supernova that surpassed the power of a Star God. The god emperor instantly bled from all his orifices and rolled across the sky like a tumbleweed.

Before he could recover himself, another two starlights closed in on him in the same manner.

Zhou Xuzi had been a god emperor for tens of thousands of years, so he was able to react very quickly. He forced himself to swallow the gurgling blood in his throat, summoned the cracked Armillary Bell, and channeled all of his power into the divine artifact. It immediately swelled to three thousand meters and flew toward the Heavenly Sun and the Heavenly Soul.

KABOOM!

The light generated from the explosion nearly blinded Zhou Xuzi's eyes, but filled Caizhi's eyes and soul with warmth.

The Armillary Bell distorted drastically, and the crack Caizhi dealt earlier widened at an incredible rate. Then, a boom that felt like the fall of heaven itself later, the remaining starlight hit Zhou Xuzi square in the solar plexus, drilled horrifying holes into his already severely injured body, and crushed his organs to the point where they shifted out of place.

Zhou Xuzi hit the ground heavily and threw up blood non-stop.

It was at this moment the Heavenly Wolf Devil Sword flew back into Caizhi's hands. The wolf's head at the sword tip also reopened its vengeful, bloody eyes.

She slowly rose to her feet. Somehow, she was able to dig up a reservoir of dark Heavenly Wolf divine power from her small, exhausted body.

She wobbled into the air and flew toward Zhou Xuzi. She then let out a low, hateful growl and swung her sword at the kneeling god emperor.

Zhou Xuzi abruptly looked up and caught the sword with both hands, keeping it at bay.

Caizhi's pupils were dark and vengeful. The wolf behind her was flickering but violent. Even as weakened as she was, the force behind her sword was still something to behold.

Zhou Xuzi bled from his palms, and his arms were slowly but surely giving in under the pressure. However, he was able to gather his strength eventually and push back against Caizhi.

Unfortunately for him, the breather only lasted half a breath's time. His widened pupils shrank into the size of a needle... because one final starlight was approaching him at high speed.

Immobilized by the Heavenly Wolf's power, Zhou Xuzi could only watch the starlight of despair fly closer and closer to him.

BOOM-

The star turned into a supernova, destroying Zhou Xuzi's last protective aura and spraying his blood everywhere. However, not only did the explosion not harm Caizhi in the slightest, the girl felt like someone was pressing her cheeks with a warm hand.

A tear slid soundlessly across her cheeks, and the brilliant starlight eventually faded into nothing. Caizhi brought her sword down.

Of the twelve Star Gods, the Heavenly Wolf was the only one left now.

KABOOM!

This time, Zhou Xuzi had nothing left to defend himself. His chest cavity crumpled beneath the swing, and at least half of his chest bones and ribs shattered at the same time.

Red peeking between the black in her eyes like the blood stains of the abyss, An exhausted Caizhi somehow summoned a power that could only be described as fueled by infinite hatred and swung her sword again and again.

BOOM... Zhou Xuzi's right arm was shattered.

BOOM—Zhou Xuzi's left arm was shattered, and the force was so great that it literally ripped chunks of flesh from his body.

BOOM... Zhou Xuzi's legs and knees turned to dust.

BOOM—this one struck Zhou Xuzi's skull and turned his world into a nightmarish buzz.

BOOM-

The final strike pierced his broken body completely and scattered his dirtied blood across the field like a burst blood bag.

Bang. Zhou Xuzi collapsed to the ground like a dying dog, unmoving.

However, his eyelids were still trembling, and there was a wisp of aura that struggled like a dying fish on shore. The end of the devil race was happening right before his eyes, and he refused to die until he witnessed its end.

At the same time, the Heavenly Wolf Devil Sword crashed into the ground and made a noise that sounded like crumbling mountains.

Eyes gray and unfocused, Caizhi slumped against her sword and just barely kept herself from dropping to a full kneeling position. She could sense that a wisp of Zhou Xuzi's aura was still struggling to live, and she wanted nothing more than to get back to her feet and end it once and for all. However, her arms, no, her entire body no longer felt like they belonged to herself, and even keeping her eyes open nearly depleted all of her strength and willpower.

Sis...

I'm... so tired...

I... really... don't have... anything left... anymore...

Bang...

A dreamlike murmur later, still slumped against the Heavenly Wolf Devil Sword, her consciousness finally faded into complete darkness.

Long Bai had been watching everything. He hadn't tried to save Zhou Xuzi or kill the unconscious Caizhi with his own hands.

It was beneath him.

"Azure," he said indifferently, "kill that Little Heavenly Wolf. But make sure you preserve the body."

It would make an excellent gift for when he met Yun Che later!

He hadn't given the order via sound transmission, so everyone heard his words clearly.

ROAR!!!

The Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning let out a roar of absolute fury and frustration. A violent storm of energy immediately shattered much of the Azure Dragon God's bones and knocked him high, high into the air.

Unfortunately, it wasn't able to transform the opportunity into a chance to crush the Azure Dragon God once and for all. It was because the nine Dragon Sovereigns who were battling the four Star Gods earlier had rushed over to stall it for as long as they were able.

Eager to carry out the Dragon Monarch's order, the Azure Dragon God forced himself to return to an upright position before flying toward Caizhi. Behind him, the dragon emperor's roars grew a decibel louder.

"Yama Emperor, Qianying!" Chi Wuyao shouted. However, Yan Tianxiao was busy defending himself, and Qianye Ying'er had lost half of her mind after burning the devil's blood. She hadn't reacted to the roar at all.

Chi Wuyao abruptly descended toward the ground, but the Crimson Destruction Dragon God wasn't going to let her escape as a matter of course. A crimson domain that seemed to burn with infinite flames abruptly appeared from his body, and he shouted, "You will not escape! Devil Queen!"

Suddenly, Chi Wuyao stopped and turned to faceLong Fei. her eyes were gleaming with a demonic light.

Chi Wuyao once said that anyone whose soul had been feasted upon by her devil soul before—even if it was the Crimson Destruction Dragon God himself—would be traumatized by the experience. She had claimed that he wouldn't be able to face her without fear until a very, very long time later.

She was correct. Even now, the fear was twisting inside his pride like a malicious snake. It was why he had sworn to destroy her, the source of his fear and shame with his own two hands.

Now, after he saw the all-too-familiar gleam in her eyes, the Crimson Destruction Dragon God immediately and instinctively protected his dragon's soul. He looked like a bird who was scared by the twang of a bow.

It was at this moment a blue gleam of space appeared less than thirty meters away behind the Crimson Destruction Dragon God and pierced into his neck.

It had happened all too suddenly and unexpected. There was zero sign whatsoever until it happened. Forget the others, even Long Fei himself didn't notice it despite being so close to the ambusher.

There had only been thirty meters of distance between Long Fei and the strange reaction, not to mention that his attention had been fully focused on Chi Wuyao. It had come as a complete surprise!

Even better, the cold beam of power had pierced through the supposedly impenetrable body of a Dragon God with ease!

Ding! A ring of ice sealed the Crimson Destruction Dragon God's power before he could gather it.

Ding! A second ring of ice sealed all the veins on his upper body.

Ding! A third rice of ice pushed down his second attempt to channel his power again, and...

Ding ding ding ding ding ding...

It began from the wound in his neck, and it ended up with everything being encased in ice. A total of eighteen rings of ice had frozen his power, his blood, his veins, his bones, his profound veins, his consciousness, his limbs and more so fast that those who weren't facing the scene didn't even have time to turn their heads.

The Crimson Destruction Dragon God had been frozen into ice before he was able to react or put up any meaningful resistance at all. Then...

BANG!

The sword sang again, and the rings exploded. The frozen Crimson Destruction Dragon God, the physical body that was second in power only to Long Bai, shattered into a shower of dreamlike, bluish fragments.

The blue figure who did all this wasn't done yet, however. They cut through space with impossible speed and brought their sword toward the Azure Dragon God next.

Everything had happened in just an instant. No one was anywhere near fast enough to cry out in warning. By the time the Azure Dragon God turned around in shock, all he saw was the Crimson Destruction Dragon God shattering into a million pieces, and... a blue light that was just inches away from his head.

Bang-

The Snow Princess Sword struck the Azure Dragon God squarely in the forehead and erupted into a thousand-meter expanse of ice.

Chapter 1843 - Eternally Dark Blood and Soul (1)

Roar~

A soul-wrenching roar escaped the Azure Dragon God's throat. The icy light looked beautiful, but it had blasted a three meter wide hole in his head and filled it up with more ice before his blood could even

splatter out of the wound. The freezing energy would continue to seal more than half of his screaming soul.

Countless icy cracks began spreading from his soul. If he wasn't a dragon god, if he was just a human at the same power level, his skull would've been blown to icy smithereens already.

Suddenly, a greater roar erupted from nearby. It was the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning detonating its aura and blood, knocking away the nine Dragon Sovereigns who had been stunned silly by the sudden, drastic turn of events.

It wasted no time in pouncing toward the screaming Azure Dragon God, channelling his disastrous power into his talons, and hitting him squarely in the head.

Boom!

Boom!

BOOM!

At its peak, the freezing energy of the Ice Phoenix chilled not only the Azure Dragon God's skull, but also his soul. His frozen thoughts became unusually sluggish, and not-yet-frozen thoughts were doing their best to chase away the chill. Therefore, he was completely defenseless when the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning struck him again and again.

His skull, his cheek bones, and his neck cracked under the assault again and again. Soon, the icy cracks spread to his entire head like a spider web.

No one, not even Long Bai tried to rescue the despairing Azure Dragon God. It was because they were shocked by the sudden death of the Crimson Destruction Dragon God, and their eyeballs were fully stuck on the icy figure who had killed him.

In fact, all the battles that were taking place across the entire Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm—not counting the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning ravaging the Azure Dragon God—had come to a sudden pause.

"Big... big... big brother..." the Sky Dragon God stuttered.

"Im... impossible..." For the first time, the White Rainbow Dragon God refused to believe her sight and spiritual perception no matter what.

The icy figure had taken her time to reveal herself. It was only now she fully appeared before everyone.

She was dressed in simple white, but she was so beautiful and graceful that she looked like a goddess who had descended from the heavens. Her eyes looked like icy ponds, her hair looked like dancing ice, her skin looked like fair snowflakes, and her lips looked like blooming cherry. She didn't need to say a word or strike a pose. Her very existence was the perfect, dreamlike image of a proud ice queen.

There were many people who were familiar with her outline, her aura and her countenance. It was why she shocked them more than even the death of Long Fei.

Long Bai's draconic aura surged wildly.

It was because the woman reflected in his pupils should be long gone.

She was Mu Xuanyin!

Ding!

The Snow Princess Sword returned to Mu Xuanyin's hands with a soft ring. The pure, lustrous bits of ice surrounding her and her sword only added to her mysterious and phantasmal appearance.

The Qilin God Emperor froze. The Blue Dragon Emperor froze. The Dragon Gods looked like their eyeballs were about to fall out of their eye sockets, and Cang Shitian nearly lost control of himself and fell from the sky.

Even the half-mad Qianye Ying'er was staring at her in disbelief.

The terrible war came to a sudden pause. The northern region's profound practitioners seized the moment to regain their breath and stare blankly at the fantastical ice goddess of war who had killed the Crimson Destruction Dragon God in an instant.

Chi Wuyao calmed her breathing and looked at Mu Xuanyin, the most familiar person in her life. She smiled. "I knew you wouldn't disappoint me when you made your move."

Of everyone present, she was the only one who had been aware of Mu Xuanyin from the beginning.

It was because she knew Mu Xuanyin's body and soul far too well... so well that she could recreate every trace of her skin, and every wisp of her icy soul from memory. She knew her so well that, without any interaction at all, she could create the perfect opportunity for Mu Xuanyin to assassinate the Crimson Destruction Dragon God right as the latter was about to act.

"Who... is this woman?" Long Yi asked. Waves were riding behind his pupils, and a storm was raging inside his heart.

He was a Venerable Withered Dragon. The senses granted to him by his strong draconic soul was beyond powerful. And yet he had failed to detect even a trace of this woman.

The entire Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm was embroiled in battle right now. Everyone was throwing around their Divine Master power everywhere. To his knowledge, it should've been nearly impossible to conceal oneself perfectly in such an environment!

This was without mentioning that Long Fei was the current number one Dragon God of the Dragon God Realm. His power and soul were at least on the same level as the five Venerable Withered Dragons, and yet he never noticed that she was within thirty meters of him until it was too late... not even a million "impossible"s would be enough to describe their feelings.

At the very least, not one of the five Venerable Withered Dragons could perform such a feat despite having hundreds of thousands of years of experience under their belts.

Yun Che was the first person to master the Moon Splitting Cascade successfully. However, Mu Xuanyin was the one who pushed its stealth ability to the absolute limits.

When Yun Che inherited the Phoenix's power of nirvana, it was through the soul fragments of the Phoenix Spirit. It revived Yun Che, but it was unable to awaken his old power and left him a cripple.

If it wasn't for the Divine Miracle of Life and Yun Wuxin giving up her Heretic God talent permanently, he would still be crippled to this day.

However, the Ice Phoenix's Rebirth Mu Xuanyin had undergone was a result of the primal divine power of nirvana granted to her by the Ice Phoenix Spirit herself. It was imperfect just like the one Yun Che had received, but it was ultimately a divine origin power. Not only did it grant Mu Xuanyin new life, it drastically increased her profound energy, her soul energy, and especially her mastery of the Ice Phoenix divine power.

One could even say that Mu Xuanyin was the Ice Phoenix since the old Ice Phoenix Spirit had passed away, and she had inherited both the Ice Phoenix Origin Power and Ice Phoenix Divine Soul.

"She is... Mu Xuanyin?" The Blue Dragon Emperor murmured.

"But didn't she... die?" The Qilin God Emperor exclaimed in surprise.

Countless jaws hit the metaphorical floor at the same time.

A long time ago, many god emperors and realm kings had witnessed Mu Xuanyin defending Yun Che to the death outside Blue Pole Star.

In fact, Long Bai was the one who dealt the fatal blow himself. Everyone who had been present that day had felt her life aura dissipating completely into nothing. So... how was she still alive?

And how was her freezing aura several times stronger than it was before !?

Not only did this person who shouldn't exist conceal herself so well that not a single god emperor in this realm had noticed her, but she had shattered the Crimson Destruction Dragon God himself in one hit... it was something they didn't dare to believe even after witnessing it with their own eyes.

"My appearance may have worsened things instead of improving them," Mu Xuanyin said in an emotionless voice while pointing her sword at Long Bai.

Long Bai and the Venerable Withered Dragons had been watching the battle from a distance up until this point, and they would've continued doing so if she hadn't shown herself to save Caizhi.

"If fate must wound us like this, it doesn't matter if it comes sooner or later," replied Chi Wuyao.

Long Bai and the Venerable Withered Dragons might have stayed their hands if it was just a western region god emperor that she had killed. But the number one Dragon God, the Crimson Destruction Dragon God himself? The only thing that awaited them was a world of draconic rage.

"That being said, I would rather die with you than without you," added Chi Wuyao with a smile.

"Ss... what a strange day today has been," Cang Shitian said to himself. His eyes were bulging, and his teeth were bared in fear. After all, he was one of the people who had attacked Mu Xuanyin back then!

Wait a second!

He suddenly remembered something.

Is she the one behind the sudden deaths of the two Sea Gods!?

She has to be! She managed to kill even Crimson Destruction Dragon God in one hit! My two Sea Gods must have been as easy as pigs at the slaughter to her!

That also means... that the few times I felt a weird chill crawling up my spine... it wasn't just my imagination!?

Cang Shitian couldn't stop sweating when he thought up till this point. Come on! I may have attacked you that day, but I barely put any effort into it at all! How vengeful do you have to be to want to kill me over a token gesture!?

"How... is this possible?" Long San said with a frown.

"It's the Moon Splitting Cascade," Long Yi said. "The eastern ice phoenix has been declining as far as I can remember because its powers are difficult to pass down. To think that..."

"Fei..." Long Wu murmured while closing his eyes. He thought he had severed all his emotional ties to the world since the day he went into hibernation, so why did his son's death still hurt him so?

"Hmph!" Long Bai pushed down his shock and unleashed his healing aura and his anger, causing the world to stand to attention immediately. "If one death isn't enough to kill her, then two will be!"

He was about to march into the battlefield himself when a sigh sounded next to him. "Allow me."

Long Wu's figure vanished and reappeared before Mu Xuanyin. When he raised his arm, the dark clouds scattered, and it felt as if the heavens themselves were falling toward her. "You would've been unrivaled within the human race. You shouldn't have angered the dragons."

Mu Xuanyin simply brought the Snow Princess Sword to bear and dashed toward Long Wu using Moon Splitting Cascade, leaving behind a million icy afterimages behind her. When she stabbed at the Venerable Withered Dragon, a million ice lotuses erupted from her sword.

Chi Wuyao's darkness profound energy followed her partner with perfect synchrony. The sudden darkening of the sky turned what should've been blue lotuses into black.

Their attributes and even their races were different, and yet the strange duo worked perfectly with one another. When the black lotuses erupted, Long Wu instantly fell into a cold and dark abyss.

"Long Si," Long Bai said, "help Long Wu."

Buzz!

Another Venerable Withered Dragon joined the fight.

Space itself shivered when Long Si unleashed his draconic aura. It was as if the combined weight of all the power battling at this part of the world was pushing it toward the brink of collapse.

It was Mu Xuanyin and Chi Wuyao versus two Venerable Withered Dragons. When Long Si joined the fray, the apocalyptic storm grew even bigger and pushed away all the Divine Masters within several hundred kilometers of the battle.

Although Long Bai didn't attack Mu Xuanyin, he didn't withdraw his draconic aura either. Instead, he looked at the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning standing atop the Azure Dragon God.

Caizhi had vanished from her original spot. The Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning had put her back on its head and enveloped her with a protective barrier that was several times thicker than before. It didn't take the Heavenly Wolf Devil Sword though.

The Azure Dragon God was utterly crushed. It was obvious that his spine was broken from how bent his body was.

Considering the Azure Dragon God's strength, he shouldn't have been beaten into this state even if he was no match for the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning. However, the heavy blow that nearly shattered his entire skull and disintegrated over half of his consciousness was still affecting him. Even now, the freezing energy of Mu Xuanyin was ravaging his insides like a billion arctic needles.

Long Bai raised his arm and was about to send an imperious energy blast at the dragon emperor when suddenly, his eyes caught sight of something.

The war was so powerful that the world was literally crumbling away with every tiny moment. Almost ninety percent of the Deep Sea God Realm had collapsed, and the land beyond it had dissolved into dust a long, long time ago.

However, the royal palace at the center of the Deep Sea God Realm was only slightly affected by the attack. It was the only intact structure amidst a sea of ruins and dust.

Long Bai looked at his surroundings and began recalling everything that had happened since the start of the war. Suddenly, he realized that almost all the northern region's profound practitioners were either fighting elsewhere or intentionally dragging their battle away from the royal palace.

Even when they were close to death, they would crawl away in the opposite direction.

Long Bai frowned and gathered his dragon's soul. When his consciousness slipped into the royal palace, he was met with one, no, several incredibly high level barriers... and a faint aura of darkness.

It was the one Yama Ancestor who hadn't shown his face all this time!

At the heart of the seven-layer barrier, Yan Two felt the Dragon Monarch's soul touch and abruptly opened his eyes.

"Long San, we should act as well," Long Yi said. "This girl is probably as strong as the Eternal Heaven lass in her prime, if not stronger. Long Wu may not be able to defeat her alone."

"Wait!" Long Bai suddenly said and pointed at the royal palace. "Attack the palace!"

Chapter 1844 - Eternally Dark Blood and Soul (2)

Long Yi and Long San's eyes narrowed when they looked in the direction of the Deep Sea Royal Hall.

Long Bai's order was probably unnecessary. At this point, anyone who was paying the slightest attention to the battlefield would notice that something was amiss.

The two Venerable Withered Dragons immediately rose higher into the sky and gathered a surge of energy that literally warped the world around them. At the same time, a terrifying pressure capable of annihilating a star pressed down toward the Deep Sea Royal Palace.

The sudden, drastic change in air current immediately drew everyone's attention. A withdrawing Chi Wuyao sighed in her heart as she looked back at the palace.

In the end, it had come to this.

If they hadn't drawn the battle away from the Deep Sea Royal Palace as far as possible, the structure would have crumbled due to the power of the Divine Masters and exposed the barriers beneath it.

However, the opposite choice was barely any better. When the battle had progressed for some time, and everything in the Deep Sea God Realm had crumbled into dust and ruin, the unusually intact royal palace was sure to attract the enemy's attention. It was only a matter of when.

It was an impossible situation. In the end, they chose the one that bought them more time, but it was only a small amount of time.

Chi Wuyao inhaled slightly—her devilish aura shivering unnaturally as she did so—and issued the loudest, most shocking order she ever had in her life. "DEFEND THE BARRIER!!"

Chi Wuyao's shout stabbed into every northern region profound practitioner's taut nerves like a knife.

The barrier of the royal palace was the one thing they were tasked to defend at all cost. Even in death, they had to stack their dead bodies on top of one another to form a last line of defense.

The Venerable Withered Dragons were incredibly fast. In just a moment, they had approached the airspace of the Deep Sea Royal Palace and unleashed their devastating draconic energy in unison.

RUMBLE!

At almost the same time, a screeching black light tore apart the roof of the royal palace and flew straight toward Long Yi and Long San.

Yan Two had been gathering his strength the moment he felt the touch of Long Bai's draconic soul. Ten Yama Devil black talons instantly shredded Long Yi and Long San's energy blast before a screaming Yan Two attempted to pierce the two Venerable Withered Dragon's throats.

Long Yi and Long San pushed out their arms casually. At the same time, the gray white image of a Dragon God's talons flashed above their arms.

Bang!!

There was a loud bang, and the space where the three energies had collided shattered into a million pieces. Over half of the divine stones used to construct the palace crumbled instantly and revealed the outermost barrier.

The seven-layer barrier had been constructed with the darkness profound energy of the three Yama Ancestors, Chi Wuyao, Qianye Ying'er and the Yama Emperor. Yun Che had then used Eternal Calamity of Darkness to remove its presence to the greatest degree. Not only did the seven-layer barrier isolate sound and aura completely, it isolated light as well.

Therefore, as long as the barrier remained standing, no one could glimpse what was hidden behind it.

No matter how powerful Yan Two was, he couldn't possibly fend off two Venerable Withered Dragons by himself. As a result, the shadow talons he conjured were torn apart, and he fell through the barrier like a meteor.

The Venerable Withered Dragons' attacks couldn't penetrate the barrier, but the leftover energy was still enough to leave a 3-meter long crack on the outermost barrier.

It was only natural. Even the Deep Sea Barrier was unable to withstand the Venerable Withered Dragons' power for long, much less the temporary dark barrier.

The next instant though, Yan Two was out of the barrier again with the shadow of the Yama Devil trailing behind him. He rushed toward Long Yi and Long San with far greater power than before.

The order he had received was to defend the barrier and Yun Che to the death. Any enemy who wished to lay their hands on the Eternal Heaven Pearl had to step over his shattered corpse first!

Meanwhile, a huge change had suddenly taken over the entire battlefield.

Chi Wuyao's order had turned the minds of every northern profound practitioner with the blood of darkness running inside their veins temporarily white. Then, countless darkness profound practitioners suddenly detonated their power and rushed toward the barrier at maximum speed.

The reason they had chosen to stay behind despite the hopeless situation was to protect their final ray of hope, Yun Che. If the barrier was breached, that hope would be completely extinguished, their faith and determination would dissolve into dust, and everyone would have died for nothing.

That was why they surrendered their lives just to maintain the final defense line for even a breath, no, an instant longer.

Every northern region profound practitioner freed themselves from their opponents no matter the cost and rushed to the Deep Sea Royal Palace at the center of the realm. While the western region profound practitioners were still confused, they swiftly erected a defense line that was made from their own blood-drenched bodies.

Long Bai raised his arm and ordered imperiously, "All profound practitioners, release your foes and blast that barrier with everything you've got!"

The order cused every northern region profound practitioner's hearts to sink like a rock.

The winds of the battlefield began to literally twist. Soon, devastating storms of energy started attacking the royal palace from every direction.

The bones of the northern region profound practitioners began creaking audibly. Their expressions turned incredibly savage as well.

In a head-to-head battle, even if the enemy was far greater in power, numbers or both, the disadvantaged practitioner could choose to counter attack, defend, dodge, or escape until a better opportunity presented itself.

However, this wasn't the case when the objective was to defend a barrier to the death. It meant that they would have to guard against the enemy's strongest attacks with their power and bodies directly!

Even if they were blasted to bits, the enemy's attacks could not be allowed to hit the barrier.

The battle was desperate to begin with, but now the battlefield was relocated to the Deep Sea Royal Palace, and the despair many, many times worse than before.

Yan One and Yan Three were able to knock their opponents away and rush to the royal palace.

Mu Xuanyin and Chi Wuyao couldn't, however. Their opponents were the two great Venerable Withered Dragons, some of the strongest profound practitioners on this entire battlefield. The moment they tried to leave, two overlapping draconic domains immediately sealed all the space around them. Even the Venerable Withered Dragons themselves couldn't leave this domain.

Mu Xuanyin immediately changed her mind and attacked the two Venerable Withered Dragons using the Moon Splitting Cascade. Keeping these two occupied was probably better for the barrier.

"Yama Ancestors, guard the west side. Yama Emperor, Jie Xin and Jie Ling, guard the north side. Realm kings—"

RUMBLE!!

Long Si interrupted Chi Wuyao's sound transmission before she could finish. The Devil Queen slowly turned around to stare at him, and the Venerable Withered Dragon suddenly broke out in goosebumps, and his heart turned as cold as ice. At the same time, her black ribbon began spawning many nightmarish black lotuses that chewed hole after hole in the dragon's domain.

She didn't send any more sound transmissions because it was no longer necessary. The only thing keeping everyone standing was their final hope and faith.

And the only thing that could decide the final outcome was fate.

All the space within five hundred kilometers of the Deep Sea Royal Palace was distorting violently. The building had inevitably become the center of the battlefield; the focus of the worst battle the God Realm had ever seen since its inception.

The Yama Devils, Burning Moon Devils, and Soul Stealing Devils had all returned to the barrier to defend it with their lives. Even the Dragons of Absolute Beginning had flown over to guard one side of the barrier. When all the powers of the Western Divine Region and the Northern Divine Region became focused in one place, a kind of brutality like nothing the world had ever seen before was wrought.

The Withered Dragons, the Dragon Gods, the Dragon Sovereigns, the Chi Dragons, the Hui Dragons, the Blue Dragons, Myriad Manifestations, Qilins... despair wasn't an adequate word to describe what the devils were feeling when the full might of the Western Divine Region truly bore down on them.

BOOM!

RUMBLE!

Two Yama Devils joined hands and blocked the attack of four Dragon Sovereigns, but the price they paid was their arms tearing themselves apart in dozens of places. However, the Dragon Sovereigns attacked again in no time, forcing the two Yama Devils to thrust their spurting arms forward and unleash a stream of bloodstained Yama Devil power once more. Their eyes looked savage, and the concept of fear and pain didn't seem to exist in their minds.

BANG!

This time the two Yama Devils were sent flying, but they forcefully canceled their momentum and charged toward the Dragon Sovereigns' energy blasts again. Since their power was spent, they used their own bodies to block the attack, literally sacrificing flesh, blood and bone to stop it from reaching the barrier.

BOOM!!

The sky erupted in a shower of blood. The four Dragon Sovereigns' attacks still reached the barrier, but they only had thirty percent of their power left.

All the northern region Divine Sovereigns who had been avoiding the battle until now; the profound practitioners who had no place on the battlefield of the greatest, roared out their hearts and rushed to the defense of the royal palace. They used both their powers and their bodies to protect the barrier as best they could.

It didn't amount to much, however. Their bodies might be unparalleled in the eyes of a mere mortal, but against a Divine Master? It was barely any better than paper. It took only a moment for the shattered bits and pieces of their corpses to cover the barrier completely.

"Hold the line ... HOLD THE LINE !!"

Yan Tianxiao screeched like a beast and sent three Chi Dragons and their energy blasts flying far, far away, even if it meant worsening the wound Long Bai had left on his person earlier.

Rumble... a darkness profound formation shattered, and both Yu Wu and Chanyi crashed to the ground. Yao Die and Qing Ying immediately teleported over and took over their positions.

All nine Witches including Jie Xin and Jie Ling were injured at this point... Jie Xin and Jie Ling especially were half-drenched in blood and blurring in and out of consciousness because they had to take the attacks of the Pure Dragon God and Purple River Dragon God head on. Even then, the devilish blades in their hands refused to dim their light.

Long Bai raised his arm and pointed his palm at the distant Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning.

A chain of space distorted with a dull groan, and the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning was blown back another fifty kilometers despite having received the attack from fifty kilometers away. He then lifted the Azure Dragon God over with the same draconic aura.

The Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning rose back to its feet and ordered all of its dragons to protect the Deep Sea Royal Palace. However, it remained where it was because protecting Caizhi was its top priority. Caizhi was completely exhausted and unconscious right now. There was no way it would seek out an opponent on its own, much less step into the killing ground that was the Deep Sea Royal Palace right now.

There was a blue-and-gray flash, and the Azure Dragon God returned to its human form. Almost half of its bones were completely broken, his skull was covered in cracks, and his face was barely recognizable. However, the terrifying life force and physique of a Dragon God actually allowed him to rise to his feet despite his broken spine and speak in an unusually clear voice, "Your Majesty... Azure... has failed..."

Long Bai didn't respond to him. His gaze continued to stay locked on the Deep Sea Royal Palace.

BANG!

A sudden noise that shook everyone's heart appeared. It was the first layer of the barrier shattering into bits amidst a rain of blood.

"Yun Che has to be inside!" declared the Azure Dragon God.

His reminder was completely unnecessary. The northern devils had chosen to stay behind and fight them despite knowing that they were coming... it was clear now that they weren't buying time for Yun Che to return to the Northern Divine Region. They remained to protect the barrier!

The only thing that would cause so much concern for the northern region devils was their "Devil Master", Yun Che!

As for why Yun Che had stayed in this barrier despite the obviously grave circumstances, there could only be one explanation. The Devil Master was in the middle of some sort of secluded cultivation that couldn't be interrupted.

To the south, Qianye Wugu was battling Long Er alone and had suffered some minor injuries. However, it would be a while before he lost the battle, so in a sense he was keeping one of the greatest enemy threats in check.

Qianye Bingzhu looked at the barrier at the center before attempting to teleport away from the five great Qilins by force.

However, the Qilin Emperor let out a sigh and lowered his voice. "Don't. If you stay, it will look like you're holding the five of us back from attacking the barrier. If you return, we will have to obey orders and join in on the assault. It would only make things worse."

The Qilin Emperor was the strongest god emperor of the Western Divine Region besides the Dragon God Realm. His cultivation might be weaker than Qianye Bingzhu's, but he was supported by 4 Ink Qilins, all level ten Divine Masters. If they had gone all out from the start, Qianye Bingzhu would have been defeated a long time ago.

The Brahma Ancestor cast the Qilin God Emperor a long look. Wordlessly, he stopped retreating and attacked the god emperor again with his full power.

The Dragons of Absolute Beginning were large and powerful. The barriers they formed with their own bodies should be some of the most indestructible barriers in the entire world. Unfortunately, the ones

attacking these barriers were also the greatest powers in the entire Primal Chaos, the Western Divine Region.

Draconic blood kept spilling across the sky. By now, the mist of blood floating above the royal palace was so thick that it resembled a dark, city-sized cloud.

BANG!

There was a sorrowful groan, and three Dragons of Absolute Beginning were snapped in half cruelly and ruthlessly. At the same time, the second barrier collapsed into bits as well.

The bones on the ground and the pungent stench of blood had fully awakened the brutal, animalistic side of everyone in this battle. Even the western region Divine Masters' cowardice had been twisted into something horrifyingly violent in the face of the desperate northern region devil people. Eventually, kill or be killed became the only thought in everyone's heart.

Chapter 1845 - Eternally Dark Blood and Soul (3)

The area in front of the Deep Sea Royal Hall was plunged into a terrible sea of blood and explosions. Meanwhile, the Chi Dragon Emperor, Hui Dragon Emperor, and Myriad Manifestations God Emperor weren't able to extricate themselves from their fight to approach the royal hall. The Divine Oracle was radiating a dreadful black light as they were driven so far away that they were about to reach the border of the Deep Sea Divine Region.

The time Qianye Ying'er could stay in her berserk state had far exceeded the wildest estimates of the three god emperors, but at this moment, she had finally reached her limit.

In the next instant, the black light coming from the Divine Oracle grew dull and dim and Qianye Ying'er's wildly dancing black hair also fell back to her shoulders.

Her body froze in midair as the peerlessly dreadful darkness energy suddenly bled from her like a torrent of water. The dark light in her eyes slowly dissipated and it seemed as if she had lost all consciousness as she started plummeting powerlessly from the sky.

The three god emperors were riddled with injuries and they found it extremely hard to expel the darkness profound energy that remained inside of them as it gnawed at the marrow of their bones. As they saw Qianye Ying'er's energy disperse and her delicate body plummet groundward, all of them let out a long cold breath.

The Myriad Manifestations God Emperor's jaw clenched tightly in anger and he was about to rush toward her when the Chi Dragon Emperor grabbed his arm and yelled, "The Dragon Monarch commanded us to focus on breaking those barriers first! Yun Che must be inside!"

"Let's go!" the Hui Dragon Emperor snarled as he shot straight for the Deep Sea Royal Hall, a hurricane swirling in his wake.

One could well imagine just how much harder it would be to defend the Deep Sea Royal Hall if these three god emperors joined the fray.

"Wan Wu, Wan Lie... Kill her!"

After he barked out that command, the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor sped off for the Deep Sea Royal Hall along with the Chi Dragon Emperor. At the same time, two Myriad Manifestations' Divine Masters flew in from a nearby area and rushed toward the seemingly unconscious Qianye Ying'er, their bodies flaring with an icy-cold killing intent.

It was at this moment that Qianye Ying'er's eyes regained their focus. The dissipated black light instantly flared back up with a renewed intensity and it looked as deep and gloomy as an abyss.

The Chi Dragon Emperor, Hui Dragon Emperor, and Myriad Manifestations God Emperor suddenly felt their backs go cold. Their reactions were lightning-quick, but when all three of them turned around... they realized that the world in front of them had turned completely dark. There wasn't even a single speck of light left in sight.

A space that was one hundred and fifty kilometers wide had been entirely encased in total and complete darkness.

"What... is going on ?" The three god emperors cried out in shock. Their shock deepened even further when they realized that they couldn't sense each other's existences or hear each other's voices.

They swiftly released their profound energy, but this only resulted in them receiving an even greater shock. It was now exceptionally difficult for them to release any power and even raising a hand seemed to exhaust several times the amount of energy that it usually did. In fact, they felt as if their bodies had sunk into a dense and viscous swamp of never-ending darkness.

Qianye Ying'er raised her arm amidst the darkness and the Divine Oracle, which had fallen into a short silence, once more glowed with a dense black light.

This was her Lightless Eternal Night bolstered by the power contained within that drop of Devil Emperor blood! This domain not only consumed all light, but it also consumed the spiritual senses, touch, hearing, sight, and smell of any living creature caught within it... Due to the suppression of the Devil Emperor's blood, even these three god emperors of the west were unable to resist.

Riip!

The Divine Oracle drew a dark line in the air as it instantly penetrated the bodies of the two Myriad Manifestations Divine Masters. After that, it shot straight for the three mighty god emperors. The moment it came into contact with the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor, it immediately bound him tight. It continued to extend after that as it snaked out after the Chi Dragon Emperor and the Hui Dragon Emperor. Once it wrapped itself around all of them, it suddenly and fiercely tightened.

While they were trapped in this swamp of darkness, the spiritual senses of the three god emperors had grown exceptionally dull. They also felt their energy being released from their bodies in an exceptionally slow and sluggish manner.

However, they were still god emperors, and the Chi and Hui Dragon Emperors also possessed mighty draconic bodies, so how could they simply give up without a fight? As they struggled desperately, the Divine Oracle cut apart their profound energy and their flesh... and it was only once it reached their bones that the tightening stopped.

Droplets of blood slowly fell from the corner of Qianye Ying'er's mouth in the darkness and her face was growing paler by the second.

The previous dissipation of her energy had not been an illusion.

The droplet of Devil Emperor blood had perfectly fused with Qianye Ying'er's body. Hence, it had automatically withdrawn its power to protect Qianye Ying'er when her body was nearing its limits... However, Qianye Ying'er had forcibly activated its power once more.

Previously, she had been enduring the burden of a Devil Emperor's power with her body.

Now, she was burning her own lifeforce to release it.

She felt her lifeforce and vitality slip away from her with acute clarity and the blood that trickled from between her teeth turned into a steady flow, but she still continued to crazily squeeze out the last bits of power from the droplet of Devil Emperor blood.

She desperately wished that she could cut the bodies of these three god emperors in two... but she knew that it was merely an extravagant hope at this point. At the very least, she would use this Divine Oracle in her hand to trap them in this place. She definitely wouldn't allow them to take a single step toward the Deep Sea Royal Hall... even if she had to burn her life down to embers to accomplish the task.

BANG!!

The third barrier surrounding the Deep Sea Royal Hall shattered.

Long Bai stared at the blood-covered Deep Sea Royal Hall from a distance. He still had not made a move, because the scene before him had made him drunk with ecstasy. Still, there was some regret mixed in.

This dogged defense, this pitiful struggle, this hopeless situation. If only Yun Che could see all of this with his own two eyes. A pity... What a pity indeed!

Dragon Queen... I will soon prove to you that your choice was wrong! It was truly wrong!

How could he be worthy of you... He isn't even qualified to gaze upon you directly!

All of the Northern Divine Region profound practitioners who were guarding the Deep Sea Royal Hall were injured without exception and their backs were practically pressed up against the barrier they were protecting.

Yan One, Yan Two, and Yan Three were facing off against two of the mighty Venerable Withered Dragons along with the Cyan Abyss Dragon God, Jade Dragon God, and Sky Dragon God. Even though this battle was taking an incredible toll on them, this was the part of the devil race's formation that was the most secure.

However, no matter how precarious a situation other people were in, no matter how big the holes poked in other parts of the formation were, not even one of the Yama Ancestors could divert themselves away to reinforce those areas. The power of the Venerable Withered Dragons and Dragon Gods wouldn't allow it. They needed to use power exceeding their very limits to desperately defend the barrier. In the south, nearly half of the hundred Dragons of Absolute Beginning had fallen, but a good number of Master Dragons had fallen along with them. Broken dragon bone and torn dragon flesh was lying in pools of dragon blood, forming a grisly scene that seemed to come from some blood-filled purgatory.

Most of the Northern Region's higher realm kings and their respective elders had also fallen. The surviving members could instantly recognize the dark aura of their kinsmen. Unfortunately, it was more often than not coming from corpses lying in their own blood, decapitated heads which were being trampled by the enemy, or severed limbs that were flying through the air...

Since death was right behind them, all of them had decided to become demons of hell first as they used their powers and their lives to kill all the enemies who drew near them.

Boom!

A flower composed of water bloomed in the air as the Jade Rivulet Sword danced in Shui Yingyue's hand. She had used her "Heaven Drawn Glazed Light" to create a beautiful curtain of water that redirected the power of two Master Dragons toward each other.

As huge explosions rang in the air, the two dragons roared in misery and tumbled to the ground. However, she was not able to defend herself against the attack of the third Master Dragon. The blow viciously struck her and sent her hurtling downward, blood immediately staining her blue robes.

"Ke... keh keh..."

She pressed a hand to her chest and stared at the blood-colored earth and sky. Then, a steely determination that was completely incompatible with her cool and calm features coalesced in her watery eyes.

As the Glazed Light Realm King, she had only needed three thousand years to become a mid-level Divine Master. She was undoubtedly one of the most brilliant women of her generation but in this battle, she seemed to be like a frail ant facing down titans.

"Meiyin... you mustn't die..." she whispered as she stood up once more. She launched herself into the sky again as the liquid sky-blue light of the Glazed Light Realm erupted from her body and shone on the most terrible battle to ever take place in the history of the God Realm.

Boom!

Boom!

BOOOOM--

Wave after wave of incredible Divine Master power exploded against the surface of the barrier. If this had not been a darkness barrier that had been formed by all of the most powerful Divine Masters of the Northern Divine Region, it would have been destroyed in a single wave of attacks.

It was easier to besiege a castle than it was to defend it. Furthermore, the "castle" in question was a barrier that could be attacked from all sides. Even if the Northern Divine Region had twice the number of Divine Masters on the field, they still wouldn't have enough people to block all of those attacks.

As a result, every single explosion against the barrier violently plucked at the heartstrings of all the profound practitioners of the Northern Divine Region.

Yan Tianxiao's face and arms were covered with blood and his fingers resembled ghoulish claws as they ripped through the bodies of Divine Masters and sent them flying. In return, countless fresh wounds seem to spring up on his body after every exchange of blows.

The bloody hole that Long Bai had bored through his chest had become even more tattered. Every time he released his power, fresh blood gushed from it, yet it didn't even seem like he even noticed.

Buzzzz!!!

He gritted his teeth so hard that both of his canines broke as he desperately held back a level ten Chi Dragon Divine Master with each hand. However, an explosion that caused despair to race through his heart rang out behind him.

The bodies of two Yama Devils heavily smashed against the surface of the tattered barrier, as the remaining might from the attacks that hit them shattered the fourth barrier.

"UWAAAAAAAH!!"

Yan Tianxiao's eyes bulged in their sockets as black light exploded from his body and blasted the two mighty Chi Dragons far away. Next he whirled around, a furious roar building up in his chest which died as he saw a Yama Devil's power collapse while trying to go up against three Dragon Sovereigns. As wounds burst out all over his body, the White Rainbow Dragon God appeared before him and thrust a claw straight through his chest. The claw tore out the Yama Devil's still-beating heart... and crushed it.

His vision turned blurry... The Yama Realm's Ten Yama Devils, a force which had once proudly reigned above the rest of the Northern Divine Region, had now dwindled to four.

It was at this time that the battlefield suddenly brightened.

A ray of light suddenly shone into the world of the Lightless Eternal Night.

The moment the light started invading that space, the entire world of darkness started to rapidly collapse.

The three mighty god emperors swiftly regained their spiritual sense and felt the gigantic pressure on their bodies dramatically lessen. They quickly exchanged glances and released their god emperor power at the same time.

BOOOOM---

The shuddering world of darkness burst like a bubble of soap as they easily blasted away the Divine Oracle binding them all this while. The dark glow that radiated from its surface quickly faded away as it was restored to its original dazzling golden color in the blink of an eye.

As the darkness faded, Qianye Ying'er's body, which was only a few short kilometers away from the three god emperors, started to slowly tumble from the sky. Her face was entirely colorless and no dark light or aura radiated from her body. Even her long hair, which had turned pitch-black after her fall, had returned to its old golden sheen.

Wan Wu and Wan Lie... The two Myriad Manifestations Divine Masters whom the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor had ordered to kill Qianye Ying'er had already been turned into scorched black corpses on the ground.

The bodies of the three god emperors were scored with black wounds which caused them soul-burning pain with every second that passed. This was especially true for the deep wound that gouged their waists. Flesh had been stripped off all the way around waists and even the exposed bone had been scorched black. It was truly a grisly sight to behold.

Bang!

Qianye Ying'er smashed into the ground, but she retained her consciousness this time. Her fingers scrabbled against the cold, hard ground as her arms spasmed and trembled. It looked as if she was desperately trying to get to her feet... Her aura was as frail and weak as a leaf spinning in the wind.

"That demoness!!" The Myriad Manifestations God Emperor hands balled into fists as a sinister expression appeared on his face.

After his eyes swept over Qianye Ying'er once, the Chi Dragon Emperor gave a cold snort. "So she burned her own life to pull that off. No wonder... Hmph!"

"She's about exhausted all of her vital energy, so she'll die soon enough. We don't even need to lift a finger," the Hui Dragon Emperor said. His voice became tinged with pity as he said, "The Brahma Monarch Goddess, the only woman who could be mentioned in the same breath as the Dragon Queen... Tsk, it truly is such a pity."

"God Emperor!!" The voices of the Brahma Kings suddenly cried out.

All of the remaining Brahma Kings began to desperately rush over to Qianye Ying'er, regardless of their circumstances.

"Let's go!" The three god emperors did not want to be tangled up with the Brahma Kings, so they rushed straight for the Deep Sea Royal Hall. Before they even arrived, their approaching auras caused a heavy pressure to descend upon the already bitterly-engaged forces of the Northern Divine Region, a weight that pushed them into an even deeper despair.

Even though her consciousness had turned blurry, Qianye Ying'er could still sense the auras of the six Brahma Kings zooming her way. She struggled to lift her head off the ground as a weak but stern voice came from her lips. "You are... not to come here! Defend... the barrier!"

The Brahma Kings instantly stopped in their tracks and the Third Brahma King exclaimed in a quavery voice, "But God Emperor, you..."

"I will kill... anyone who dares to approach me!" A look of pain flashed across Qianye Ying'er's colorless face, but she still managed to growl out one last command, "Get lost!"

The Third Brahma King gritted his teeth with force as he spun around and roared, "We obey our God Emperor's command! Let's return and defend the barrier."

As they had been left with no other choice, the six Brahma Kings once again hurled their battered and bruised bodies back into the terrible battle taking place in front of the Deep Sea Royal Hall.

After she roared out the words "get lost", Qianye Ying'er's delicate head sank to the ground. She could no longer feel even the smallest bit of strength or energy left in her body.

As her consciousness started to waver, she knew that when her world finally turned pure white, it would be time for her to die.

Yun... Che...

The only thing that was still clear and distinct to her in this increasingly blurry world was his name.

I had originally thought... that even if I were to die... I had to at least do it in your arms... by your side...

Even if... you were the one who had killed me...

However...

It's fitting... Me, a person covered with filth and sin... How could I deserve... a good ending...

How could I deserve... to see my wishes come true...

Chapter 1846 - Yama Dust

In the distance, Qianye Wugu, who had sensed Qianye Ying'er's life withering and fading away, suddenly turned his old eyes in her direction, the Brahma light radiating from his body suddenly growing dull and dim.

How could Long Er miss such a great opportunity? His pale-white dragon claw carried the weight of a thousand mountains as it smashed apart Qianye Wugu's Brahma light and smashed into his body.

Rumble!

The power of a withered dragon was like a million bolts of lightning going off at the same time. A cloud of blood burst out of Qianye Wugu's body as his ancient frame hurtled to the ground like a piece of rotten wood before slamming deeply into it.

Just like Qianye Wugu had guessed, Long Er did not chase after him. Instead, he coldly and calmly glanced at him before he rushed straight for the barrier surrounding the Deep Sea Royal Hall.

Earth exploded everywhere as Qianye Wugu's body flew up from the ground. He landed beside Qianye Ying'er and a cluster of dense golden light formed above his blood-stained palm before he gently pushed it into her lower back.

Qianye Ying'er was quickly pulled out of that blank white world as a robust and dense vital energy poured into her like a spring shower. Her five senses were refreshed as the revivifying energy coursed through her entire body.

Qianye Ying'er slowly opened her eyes and turned to look at the old man beside her.

As her vision gradually cleared up, she saw that this old man was Qianye Wugu. Most of his gray robe was stained with blood and she could clearly feel... the vital energy that was coming from him.

Even though Qianye Ying'er no longer possessed a Brahma Soul, she was still Qianye Wugu's direct descendent. Since they shared the same blood and lineage... he could use some of the scant few years he had left to save her life.

Even if they shared the same blood and lineage, using this method to transfer one's life force was highly inefficient. A hundred years of his life could only give her one or two years.

"What... What are you doing... Stop!"

Her mind was fully awake, but her body was still incomparably weak. Qianye Ying'er could only yell at him in shock, she was powerless to push him away.

Qianye Wugu didn't say anything, he merely continued to pour his lifespan into Qianye Ying'er without stopping.

"Use your power to defend the barrier! Don't waste it on me!" Qianye Ying'er desperately wanted to struggle against his efforts. Her voice started to grow extremely harsh and fierce as she yelled, "This is an order... You stupid old man! This is an order!"

The look on Qianye Wugu's face didn't change as he calmly replied, "You are the Brahma Heaven God Emperor and this old man is a member of the Brahma Monarch God Realm, so I must naturally obey my emperor's commands."

"However..." he said as the faintest of smiles appeared on his face, "I am also your great-grandfather. There is no reason or sophism in this world that can override an old man's right to save his own descendant."

"You..." Qianye Ying'er's fingers curled up into a fist. Her heart and soul trembled, but she couldn't say anything else.

The situation around the barrier had started to dramatically change.

The addition of Long Er had drastically increased the pressure on the Three Yama Ancestors.

Meanwhile the Chi Dragon Emperor, Hui Dragon Emperor, and Myriad Manifestations God Emperor had also descended from the sky to join the fray, causing the already frail defensive line formed by the forces of the Yama Realm and Burning Moon Realm to completely collapse.

The surviving Yama Devils, Moon Eaters, Yama Ghosts, and Burning Moon Divine Envoys were all thrown to the ground by the force of the three god emperors landing. In an instant, the three god emperors had landed right in front of the barrier and their power thundered against the swiftly collapsing barrier like heavenly lightning.

Meanwhile, the White Rainbow Dragon God led the charge from the back and a huge group of Dragon Sovereigns, Chi Dragons, Hui Dragons, and Qilins poured forward like a tidal wave as a hundred beams of Divine Master energy slammed into the barrier.

BANG!!

The fifth barrier had shattered, and it had also been the one that had held on for the shortest amount of time.

Each of the five destroyed barriers had been shattered quicker than the last... As the power of the Northern Divine Region shrank and collapsed, the next two barriers would only be shattered even more quickly.

Yan One turned around and roared in an enraged voice, "You useless brats... Aaaaaah!"

Unfortunately, he, Yan Two, and Yan Three were currently locked in battle with three great Venerable Withered Dragons and three Dragon Gods. The pressure they exerted far exceeded what anyone else could imagine, so the only thing Yan One could do was to curse and vent at his flailing allies.

Yan Wu's left arm was already broken and she didn't even have thirty percent of her profound energy left. However, she rolled to her feet and rushed at three god emperors by herself. The Yama Devil Spear in her hand was stained with her own Yama Devil blood as she released the limit of her power.

BOOOOOM!

Her figure blurred into existence in front of the three god emperors as black light exploded and shoved them backward dozens of meters.

When her dark power came into contact with the black wounds Qianye Ying'er had carved into their bodies, it instantly caused incredible pain to course through their veins. However, this pain had also triggered their simmering wrath.

Attacks erupted explosively from their hands, but their target wasn't the barrier that was right in front of them. It was Yan Wu.

Even though Yan Wu was also a level ten Divine Master, she still wasn't powerful enough to contend against a god emperor, and that was before taking her broken left arm into account.

Bang!

Her Yama Devil Spear was sent flying by the Chi Dragon Emperor.

Boom!

The black Yama Devil light radiating from her body was shattered by the Hui Dragon Emperor's fist.

Pchhht!

A bloody light streaked through the air as the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor's imperial sword flew through her chest, leaving a bloody hole in its wake.

Yan Wu's eyes grew focused as a violent black light erupted from them and the Yama Devil Spear flew back into her right hand... However, before she could even attack, a vast and mighty draconic energy shot down from the sky, slamming into her chest.

The White Rainbow Dragon God was the one who had landed that terrible blow on Yan Wu. Her chest violently sank in and a cloud of blood spewed from her mouth as she was sent flying.

"Wu!!" Yan Tianxiao turned around and let out a furious roar. He fiercely sent the Dragon Sovereigns and Chi Dragons flying, then sped toward Yan Wu with such speed that he left afterimages behind. "Hmph, die!" The Chi Dragon Emperor's arm shot out and a fatal draconic image was sent hurtling toward Yan Wu.

Boom!!

The Chi Dragon image did not hit Yan Wu. Instead, it fiercely slammed into Yan Tianxiao, who had suddenly appeared in front of her.

He spread his arms out wide and took the Chi Dragon Emperor's attack without moving an inch. An invisible barrier expanded out from his body and blocked all the energy that could have hurt Yan Wu.

"Heh, I see that you're still trying to struggle. How pitiful," the White Rainbow Dragon God said with a low chuckle. He suddenly thrust out an arm at Yan Tianxiao. White light covered his claw as he sent it smashing straight into Yan Tianxiao's chest.

Yan Tianxiao had just endured the Chi Dragon Emperor's strike, so his energy had been thrown into disarray. Furthermore, the White Rainbow Dragon God's claw had, intentionally or unintentionally, struck the hole that Long Bai had previously created in his chest... A huge amount of blood gushed out as the White Rainbow Dragon God's hand burst out of Yan Tianxiao's back, his sinister-looking hand covered in gore.

The Myriad Manifestations God Emperor and Hui Dragon Emperor also chose this moment to attack together. A sword lanced through his stomach while a palm strike ruptured his internal organs.

"..." Blood gushed out of every orifice on Yan Tianxiao's face, but his expression remained unchanged.

"Yama Emperor!" Fen Daoqi, who was currently mired in his own desperate struggle, exclaimed in shock.

"My... Lord!" A Yama Devil, who had fallen to the ground, howled in pain.

Yan Wu sank to her knees and vomited a few mouthfuls of blood before she could struggle to her feet again. It was only then that she realized the miserable condition that Yan Tianxiao was in.

"Royal father!" She screamed in a shrill voice as she staggered toward him. She regained her balance and immediately made a mad dash forward.

However, a large hand suddenly shot out and launched a dark energy wave that shoved her backward.

Yan Wu stared at her father's arm with puzzled eyes before she... turned to look at the warm but fleeting gaze he shot her way.

He gave his daughter one last look, the final one of his life, before he... turned back to focus on the enemies in front of him.

The irises in his eyes vanished as his eyes turned a boundless gloomy black.

Her heart started hammering in her chest as Yan Wu suddenly realized something. She thrust out a hand, her trembling fingers desperately trying to reach toward her father, as an anguished sob escaped her lips, "Royal father... no... no... Don't..."

"DON'T!!!!"

"UWAAAAAAAHHHHH!!!!"

Yan Tianxiao let out a scream so shrill that it tore his throat as something suddenly erupted out of his back. It was a pitch-black devil shadow.

The devilish shadow was about three meters tall and its aura was astonishing. Unfortunately, it still wasn't something that could threaten a Dragon God or a god emperor.

"I see that you won't give up even when you know that all is lost," the White Rainbow Dragon God said with a sneer on his face. The hand which still transfixed Yan Tianxiao's body suddenly swelled with a vast power as he snarled, "Die..."

However, the expression on his face dramatically changed before he had even finished saying that word.

When he bent down to look at his arm, he suddenly realized that it had become wrapped in a layer of strange black light that was trying to trap him... Power erupted from his arm, but he actually wasn't able to pull it back.

The same black light had quietly and stealthily wrapped around the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor, Chi Dragon Emperor, and Hui Dragon Emperor as well.

This was the strongest dark binding that Yan Tianxiao could use. However, it wouldn't last for very long when used on Dragon Gods or other god emperors.

"Uurgh... Aaaaah... AAAAAAAHHHHHH!!"

Yan Tianxiao's shrill screaming continued and the Yama Devil shadow behind him suddenly started to expand. In the blink of an eye, it had grown tens of meters... hundreds of meters... thousands of meters... until it was several kilometers tall!

The Yama Devil aura that it was radiating swelled to an incredibly shocking level. After that, it merged with the dark binding that Yan Tianxiao had used and pressed down on all of the living creatures caught in the Yama Devil Shadow like a dark mountain.

The eyes of every combatant swiveled toward him in shock as all combat ceased. Even the Three Yama Ancestors descended into an awestruck silence for an instant.

"This brat..." Yan One mumbled under his breath.

"ААААААААААААНННН!!!"

Yan Tianxiao's body was entirely swallowed up by that gigantic Yama Devil shadow and it wasn't clear whether that roar had come from him or from the Yama Devil that seemed to have come from the abyss itself.

As he roared, the Yama Devil shadow suddenly started moving. The huge dark figure started rushing forward... and it dragged the White Rainbow Dragon God and three god emperors along with it as it swallowed up one Dragon Sovereign after another, one Western Region Divine Master after another, on its westward charge.

RUUUUUMBLE!!

The earth undulated like ocean waves as the expressions of the White Rainbow Dragon God and three god emperors of the west twisted up. They tried their best to break free from their dark prison as their power exploded toward Yan Tianxiao time and again... However, the gigantic Yama Devil shadow was growing faster and faster as it dragged them along with eleven Dragon Sovereigns and more than ninety other Western Region Divine Masters on its journey west.

The gigantic power they couldn't break free of made them feel as if their bodies and souls were stuck to that gigantic Yama Devil shadow. This coupled with the horrific wails of despair coming from it would form a dark shadow in their hearts that they would never be free of.

Five kilometers... Ten kilometers... Fifteen kilometers... Twenty-five kilometers... Thirty-five kilometers...

Cries of shock and alarm filled the air as a huge part of the Western Divine Region's forces was being dragged further and further away from the battlefield. The pressure on the defending northern profound practitioners drastically lessened as the collapsing defensive line was quickly sealed up by the Yama Devils and Yama Ghosts... However, all of them were crying tears of blood as they watched the back of that huge Yama Devil shadow.

Yan Wu struggled to her feet and cast one last, long look at her father's distant back... Tears misted up in her eyes, making her vision go blurry, as she silently stood in place. However, she wasn't willing to take her eyes off him for even one second.

"Charge... Charge!!"

The Yama Devils and Yama Ghosts were roaring those words as they hurled their sore and wounded bodies towards the battlefield once more. Their bodies were erupting with an incredibly sinister and violent killing intent as they squeezed out every last drop of their Yama Devil power. Boundless hatred and murder filled their eyes as they clawed their way to the nearest western Divine Master.

The already-bloody fighting had suddenly grown even more violent and merciless.

RUMMMMMBLE!

The Yama Devil shadow continued to move forward like an inexorable tidal wave, a tottering shadowy mountain, as it dragged the trapped Western Region profound practitioners along with it.

Fifty kilometers... Seventy-five kilometers... A hundred kilometers...

RUUUUMBLE...

After that, the Yama Devil shadow suddenly turned hazy and transparent, and its speed finally started to slow down.

It stopped tottering... as its steps started to slow... and it started to stagger forward.

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

One step... Two steps... Three steps...

His steps were growing slower and slower, but he still pressed forward with incredible determination... until his legs refused to lift themselves up.

The towering Yama Devil shadow finally shimmered out of existence.

And only the figure of a battered and wounded Yan Tianxiao remained.

He silently stood in place, his arms frozen in a forward motion. He didn't even move a single muscle and there wasn't any malevolence on his face, only determination.

There wasn't a single speck of light in those eyes and there wasn't any aura or energy radiating from his body.

In fact, there wasn't even a drop of blood flowing from his open wounds.

He simply stood there silently, looking for all the world like a weathered and battered statue.

Bang!!

A muffled explosion rang out in the air as the White Rainbow Dragon God violently struggled free from his dark bindings. He stretched a hand out, but before he could even release his draconic might... a gust of cold wind blew toward the silent Yan Tianxiao.

The "statue" instantly started to crumble as gray dust danced in the air. This was how the Yama Emperor of this generation greeted death. His body crumbled into the wind like dust, and he did not leave even a trace of himself behind.

Chapter 1847 - Dying Light

In the distant skies above, Chi Wuyao was pushing herself to match the heavy pressure coming from Long Si. However, she was still distracted during that one instant as she turned to send Yan Tianxiao off with her eyes.

"Do you have any regrets?" Mu Xuanyin asked.

Chi Wuyao shook her head, "Since I've already made my decision, I won't regret it, no matter the outcome... However, this guilt and debt that I owe, I'm afraid that I won't have the opportunity to make up for them.

She was the only surviving member of the three god emperors of the Northern Divine Region.

To be completely accurate, her current title was the Devil Master's Queen... Hence, the three god emperors of the Northern Divine Region were already a thing of the past.

The dark binding had vanished but the released Western Region profound practitioners simply sat there with stunned expressions on their faces. They watched the Northern Region's Yama Emperor turn into swirling gray ashes with a complicated look in their eyes and a stifled feeling in their chests.

The White Rainbow Dragon God angrily waved a hand at the swirling dust, his petty act of angry petulance scattering it to the wind.

"Let's go!"

The White Rainbow Dragon God and three god emperors of the west immediately started flying toward the ruined Deep Sea Royal Hall with dark looks on their faces.

As a result, the Dragon Sovereigns and the Western Region profound practitioners had no choice but to suppress the shock in their hearts, grit their teeth, and follow after them.

In the north, the Blue Dragon Emperor, who had been battling Cang Shitian all this while, gave a melancholy sigh and murmured, "Why must there be conflict in this world... So much blood has been shed, so many lives have been lost, but is the end result really worth the cost?"

"Heh!" Cang Shitian wiped away the blood that trickled down from the corner of his mouth. "Little Blue Dragon, I really love that naivete of yours."

Boom!

Just as Cang Shitian finished speaking, a frigid spear of ice smashed into his face. The impact caused his left cheek to sink in as his body did a few pathetic-looking cartwheels in the air.

"Hmph!" A Blue Dragon Divine Attendant stared icy daggers at Cang Shitian as she spat in a cold voice, "How dare you insult my lord!? You're courting death!"

"Heh heh heh." Cang Shitian chuckled as he rubbed his left cheek. "Little Blue Dragon, the entire God Realm knows that your Blue Dragon Realm never wishes to be involved in any grievances or conflict, but there are far too many things in this world which will not allow you to be the righteous one among the wicked."

The Blue Dragon Emperor, "..."

"I'm already not your match in a one-on-one duel, so I wonder why I haven't been defeated even though you have all these girls helping you," Cang Shitian said with a leering grin. "It's way too obvious that you're taking it easy on me. It's so obvious that the Dragon Monarch would be able to tell even if he was an idiot. Do you really think that he will ignore your uncooperativeness once everything is over?"

"Oh, no, no! You're basically defying him at this point."

The Blue Dragon Emperor remained silent... The Dragon Monarch she had seen over the last few days was far different from the Dragon Monarch that everyone knew and loved. His usual calm and peaceful demeanor had disappeared and it had been replaced by perversely dreadful malice.

Perhaps this had been his true nature all along.

Furthermore, the reason behind everything... The shocking "green hat" that Chi Wuyao had uttered was still reverberating in everyone's heart, but no one dared to ask or even mention it.

In the distance, they could see that the second-last barrier had already become torn and tattered. Cang Shitian let out a dreadful laugh before he said, "It looks like it's about to be game over for us. But I really had fun, so it's worth it even if I die!"

"You on the other hand. I really advise you to hurry up and use your full strength to cripple or kill me. If not, it'll be too late. Trust me, you'll definitely regret it if you don't."

The Blue Dragon Emperor remained silent but it was clear that she wasn't going to take his advice.

"Heh!" A mocking expression appeared on Cang Shitian's face. "To think that the current Blue Dragon Emperor is so indecisive and full of compassion. It looks like your Blue Dragon line won't last for many more generations!"

"You're really looking to die!" a Blue Dragon Divine Attendant yelled. Water climbed and swirled around her, forming into a thick whip of ice that lashed at Cang Shititan.

Crack!

The heavens and earth shook once more as the sixth barrier collapsed amidst the clouds of blood that were erupting all around it. Now, only the final barrier glowed with a faint light that almost seemed tinged with despair.

The sixth barrier had become the barrier that had lasted the longest... Alas, this star of hope had only been able to shine brilliantly because of the brief light of hope brought about by the Yama Emperor's complete and utter self-sacrifice.

The eyes of the Northern Region profound practitioner had become as red as blood. Now that their backs were truly against the wall, they had transformed into despairing beasts who focused only on killing the enemy, even if it came at the expense of their own lives. They crazily released all of the power left in their bodies as they started their final counter-attack.

At this time, Long Bai suddenly frowned.

Now that there was only one dark barrier left, its ability to block out his spiritual senses had greatly weakened. His divine sense penetrated the barrier from a long distance away, but he did not sense Yun Che's aura as he had expected. Instead, he sensed a very unique aura, one which was very familiar to him.

The Eternal Heaven Pearl!?

After a brief moment of shock, sudden realization dawned on him. The reason why Yun Che had yet to appear had nothing to do with him entering seclusion to awaken some power. He was inside the Eternal Heaven Pearl's Eternal Heaven Divine Realm!

"Stop attacking the barrier for now! I want you to subdue all of our enemies instead!" Long Bai's voice boomed out like thunder as he gave that sudden order.

The Dragon Monarch was finally making his move. As he shot into the air, a vast and overwhelming draconic might instantly covered the skies. Even the blood and dust swirling around the battlefield started surging toward the Deep Sea Royal Hall after him.

The Dragon Monarch's order caused the situation on the battlefield to change drastically. Now that the Divine Masters of the Western Divine Region no longer needed to split their focus between their enemies and the barrier, they could use all of their might to suppress the opposition. This caused the pressure on the Northern Region profound practitioners to explosively increase in a single instant.

Long Yi, Long Er, Long San and the three Dragon Gods gathered their power together as they tried to take down the Three Yama Ancestors.

Meanwhile, the Three Yama Ancestors did not dare to dodge this blow. The reason for this was simple. If they chose not to take this attack head-on, it would explode against the barrier and deal severe damage to it. As such, they also attacked at the same time, the Yama Devil shadows behind them howling to the skies.

The two terrifying attacks crashed together and started pushing against each other as the space around them was compressed to the point where it looked like a balloon that was about to pop.

The Three Yama Ancestors were very much on the backfoot when it came to power. When the fearsome struggle started, their expressions grew violently sinister and their feet became nailed to the ground. They would not retreat even an inch and only their arms, which were discharging world-ending power, were shuddering violently.

Long Bai's aura had shocked everyone. The profound practitioners of the north knew that his power would be the straw that broke the camel's back if he joined the fray... No, rather than a straw, it would be the mountain that broke the camel's back.

Mu Xuanyin's eyes went cold as her figure blurred out of existence. She had used Moon Splitting Cascade to instantly escape the lock Long Wu's draconic aura had on her. As she reappeared again, the image of an Ice Phoenix appeared behind her back. The image almost seemed to be solid as it let out an extremely loud and shrill phoenix cry. The Snow Princess Sword shone with a brilliant icy gleam as resplendent as any heavenly light as it sliced apart the dragon domains of two Venerable Withered Dragons and shot through hundreds of kilometers of space as it headed right for Long Bai.

Unfortunately, the distance was simply too great.

Long Bai swept his right hand forward and a huge energy field of imperial draconic might unfurled from his body. When that streaking icy-blue comet finally arrived, the power of his energy field was able to easily alter its trajectory.

Whoosh---

Ice Phoenix divine power exploded behind Long Bai as an incredibly powerful beam of rainbow-colored light pierced through the heavens and the earth to strike him. However, it didn't do the slightest bit of damage to the Dragon Monarch. All it had done was to slow him down a little.

A storm howled in the air as the space around Long Bai violently shuddered. When he arrived, the energy wave that erupted from his body along with his oppressive might was enough to knock most Northern Region profound practitioners and Dragons of Absolute Beginning off their feet. An empty space had actually opened up around Long Bai in this blood-soaked battlefield.

As Long Bai hurtled downward, the image of a claw appeared above his hand when he struck at the final barrier.

The previous flurry of frenzied attacks had already caused the light of the final barrier to grow dim, and a spider web of cracks could already be seen running down its surface.

The final barrier shuddered violently when the Dragon Monarch's claw smashed into it. A pitifulsounding screech could be heard as a million black cracks appeared on the surface of the barrier. The hearts of the profound practitioners of the north immediately fell into a deep abyss. Yan Three gnashed his teeth as he roared, "Old ghosts, hold the fort for me!"

He suddenly withdrew his power as he spun around and let out a howl before he rushed at Long Bai like a rabid dog.

Now that they were missing Yan Three, the pressure on Yan One and Yan Two had drastically increased. The skin of their withered arms started to split and peel as black blood spurted out.

Even though the situation was already unspeakably terrible, they still refused to collapse as they stubbornly fought against the power of three Venerable Withered Dragons and three Dragon Gods. No one could understand how their withered and skinny bodies and arms could endure such gigantic pressure.

It seemed as if the heavens and earth were flipping over with every second that passed.

They had not been holding on with their own strength, but by the force of their convictions and absolute loyalty to Yun Che.

Rumble!

Long Bai slammed a palm into the barrier once more. Under his vast draconic might, the barrier had already become a giant web of cracks and it was only glowing with the last vestiges of a faint black light.

"AAAAAAAAAH!"

Yan Three let out a sinister cry as his fingers curved into black hooks. Violent black light erupted out of that claw as it dove straight for Long Bai's eyes.

Long Bai did not even bother to turn around to meet Yan Three. He abruptedly swung his right arm backward, intercepting Yan Three's dark withered claw with a hand that was radiating a dull white light.

Crack!!

A cracking sound so dreadful that it tore at one's soul rang through the air. The black light surrounding Yan Three's hand completely dispersed, leaving broken bone.

Long Bai's powers of recovery were too scary. He, who had been quietly observing the battle thus far, had nearly recovered all of his power and even the serious wounds that he had recently suffered were almost completely healed.

Meanwhile, Yan Three was not only covered in wounds, but he was also exhausted. So how could he possibly go against Long Bai by himself?

Yan Three let out a strange yelp as his Yama Devil power surged forth once more. Yet, before he could even release that power, Long Bai's draconic might had already rushed past his arm to smash into his body.

Yan Three felt an explosion go off in his head. He was only half-conscious as his body was sent flying through the air like a withered leaf caught in a storm.

He desperately bit down on his tongue as he was hurtling through the air and haphazardly gesticulated with both his arms. Those actions caused the still-existing Yama Devil shadow that was behind him to shoot down to the ground. Yama Devil power forcibly exploded when the Yama Devil shadow hit the ground, sending many Western Region Divine Masters flying. This also allowed a bunch of the Northern Divine Region's Realm Kings to escape from their shackles.

"Stop him... STOP HIM!!" Yan Three hoarsely yelled with all of his might. The Dragon Monarch had sent his body hurtling more than fifty kilometers away... but his voice could still be heard wildly howling from the distance.

Ding!

Long Bai's finger smoothly pierced the barrier. As the sound of glass shattering rang in the air, the final barrier collapsed like evaporating soap bubbles.

The Eternal Heaven Pearl quietly floated in the middle of the destroyed barrier as it radiated a dim but unspeakably pure and sacred white light.

"The Eternal Heaven... Pearl?"

"The Eternal Heaven Pearl!!"

As startled cries rang out from all around the battlefield, all the Western Region's profound practitioners suddenly realized why the Dragon Monarch had ordered them to stop attacking the barrier.

They definitely did not want to harm that divine artifact, even by accident.

In the distance, Zhou Xuzi, who was barely more than a ragged corpse at this point, seemed to sense its presence as he slowly lifted his head up from the ground. When he saw that speck of incredibly weak white light, unintelligible words croaked out of his throat.

"Sigh." The Eternal Heaven Pearl was right in front of Long Bai, and no one could stop him any longer. Chi Wuyao slowly closed her eyes and let out the most helpless and powerless sigh of her life.

However, there was still someone who had not given up yet.

Just as Long Bai started walking toward the Eternal Heaven Pearl, Tian Guhu, who had escaped his captivity thanks to Yan Three's efforts, suddenly exploded out of the pool of blood he was lying in and violently smashed into Long Bai side. He poured all of his power into his limbs as he desperately tried to wrap them around the Dragon Monarch's body.

Tian Muyi, who had also been kneeling in a pool of his own blood, had already fallen into despair. But when he witnessed what was happening, his body stiffened and he gave a strangled cry, "Guhu!"

Bang!

Long Bai's expression grew stiff and cold. He thrust a hand out, his claw instantly piercing Tian Guhu's body. He lifted him into the air and fiercely threw him to the ground, filling the air with the ear-splitting sound of bones being shattered.

"Guhu!!" Tian Muyi shouted miserably, his eyes bulged out of their sockets.

Long Bai didn't even turn to look at his fallen assailant as he took another step ... However, a cold dark wind suddenly brushed against his back as a bloodstained arm looped around his neck.

Long Bai's eyebrows sank imperceptibly.

The force he had just used had been enough to shatter at least sixty percent of the bones in Tian Guhu's body. It should also have dealt him fatal internal injuries. Yet, he still managed to bounce to his feet and leap at his back... To be honest, even Long Bai felt a ripple of shock run through his heart at Tian Guhu's actions.

"Do not... approach ... the Devil... Master ... "

Tian Guhu's arm fiercely tightened as if he was trying to break the bones of his own arm. Long Bai stopped moving as he casually reached back to place a hand on Tian Guhu's right shoulder. He gently released a wisp of draconic energy.

CRACK!!

Tian Guhu's right arm was instantly shattered into dozens of pieces.

"URGHHHH~"

Despite the unimaginable pain that was coursing through his body, Tian Guhu only let out a hoarse moan as he immediately replaced his shattered right arm with his left arm by fiercely hooking it over Long Bai's neck!

White light flashed through Long Bai's eyes as draconic energy erupted from his body.

BOOOOM!!!

Tian Guhun finally screamed within the muffled sound of an explosion. Both his arms shattered in the air, becoming a large expanse of bone fragments and blood foam. The armless body sprayed blood as it flew, smashing into a thick, sticky pool of blood.

"ААААААААААААНННННН!"

Tian Muyi had clearly exhausted all of his energy to the point where he might even die from overusing it. But at this moment, an extreme power that transcended anything he had ever displayed before burst out of his body. He fiercely hurled himself at Long Bai like a despairing beast. He clearly planned to use his blood-drenched body to impede Long Bai's advance.

"Sect Master... We're here!" The Imperial Heaven Grand Elder roared from behind... as he charged along with the surviving members of the Imperial Heaven Realm.

Soon, Huo Tianxing, the Great Viper Sage... and all of the higher realm kings who had escaped their captivity charged Long Bai with eyes as red as blood. Some of them fell on him from above, others tackled him from the side, and there were even some who clawed at him from the ground. One person after the other, one wave after the next.

Their bodies and powers got tangled up together as they formed a solemn and tragic human wall to impede Long Bai's advance.

Long Bai's body stumbled under the rush of people who were exerting power beyond life and death, beyond belief and determination. He was even pushed back a step.

To the Dragon Monarch, this single step backward was undoubtedly one of the most incredible humiliations he had experienced in his life.

His eyes turned dark and cold as the image of a dragon appeared around his body. A soul-shaking dragon cry reverberated through the air as he unleashed his wrathful draconic might.

BOOOOM!!!!

Cruel explosions ripped through the air as blood fountained like freshly-dug geysers.

The anger that was burning in Long Bai's heart had caused him to lash out with nearly all of his strength, so how could these Divine Masters, who were already at the end of their rope, withstand it?

The wall built with the bodies of many Divine Masters was violently blasted apart as broken bodies and severed limbs were sent flying through the air. Half of them had simply been blasted to death while the rest had all suffered serious injuries.

The Imperial Heaven Realm King Tian Muyi had been the very first person to block him and his body had simply been shattered right then and there. He hadn't even been able to leave a single word behind.

"Hmph!" Long Bai flung his arm out in disgust, shaking off the blood that stained his body. He was just about to take a step forward when a biting pain suddenly coursed through his leg.

The bones in Tian Guhu's legs had been shattered and his arms had been blasted to bits, so he was no longer even able to stand up straight. However, he had crawled forward and used his teeth to bite down on Long Bai's leg. Those eyes, which had clearly already lost all of their light before this, were now shining with a frightening determination.

Vexation suddenly filled Long Bai's heart as he kicked Tian Guhu. A rupturing sound that was even more heart-wrenching than the last filled the air as Tian Guhu flew across the ground like a broken blood bag.

"Urghh... Aaaah..."

He still hadn't passed out. Or perhaps it was more accurate to say that he refused to let himself pass out. His head was wobbling as he continued to struggle, the sight of it tearing at everyone's heart, but this time, he wasn't able to stand up or move anymore.

His injuries were extreme and every source of his vitality and lifeforce had been destroyed. Even if one of the ancient True Gods suddenly appeared before them, they would still not be able to save him. The only reason he was still alive at this moment was because his unrelenting will refused to let him die as he stubbornly clung to the last threads of life.

He had battled for Yun Che until his last breath, until he shed his last drop of blood... Just like he had vowed before.

Now that there were no more "flies" to block his path, Long Bai grandly advanced. His eyes grew focused as he slowly stretched out a hand to the Eternal Heaven Pearl.

It was over...

It was really over...

This was the gloomy and most depressing thought that rang through the hearts of all the Northern Region profound practitioners at that moment.

However, it was also at that moment that the white light around the Eternal Heaven Pearl suddenly disappeared as space started to twist around it.

A wave of repulsive spatial energy erupted from the pearl. It was so overwhelming that even Long Bai could not ignore it. Color drained from his face as he swiftly snatched back his hand and flew backward.

Amidst the twisting space, two black figures emerged side by side... as everyone stared at them in shock.

The Eternal Heaven Pearl slowly descended from the air and landed in the upraised palm of the man before vanishing completely.

Chapter 1848 - Vow of Peace

When Yun Che emerged from the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm, what greeted him wasn't the cool and calming aura of the Deep Sea Realm. He was assaulted by the thick stench of blood and smoke.

Yun Che calmly surveyed the area around him as the trembling Shui Meiyin gasped in shock.

When he saw Yun Che's figure appear in front of him, Long Bai's eyes immediately widened to their greatest extent. Hatred, restlessness, excitement, and agitation raced in his heart... along with several other complex emotions he could not quite put a name to.

He had even dreamed of ripping Yun Che to shreds in his sleep and his dearest wish had been to inflict the most cruel tortures imaginable on Yun Che's body in the most painful way possible. Everything that he had done today was motivated far more by his desire to vent his hatred on Yun Che than it had been to destroy the devil race.

However, he didn't immediately launch a wrathful strike now that Yun Che was in front of him. Instead, he took a few steps backward and roared in a thunderous voice, "Stop!"

The bloody and terrible battlefield instantly stilled as the Dragon Monarch's voice boomed through the air. This was the Dragon Monarch's command and every word he uttered was reverberating throughout every corner of their souls. No one even thought of defying that command.

All of the Western Region profound practitioners immediately withdrew their energies and the most terrible battle in history, a battle exclusively between those who stood at the very top of the universe, came to a forced stop in just a few minutes of time.

Before everyone could even puzzle out the meaning behind the Dragon Monarch's words, he was already barking out another order. This order was also a single-word command. "Retreat."

The state of the Northern Region profound practitioners was so miserable that even the western Divine Masters had started to feel pity for them. As more and more of the northern devils collapsed to injury or death, the already-huge advantage that the Western Divine Region possessed quickly became

overwhelming. Given the current situation, they would have been able to exterminate all of the enemy forces before too long.

So this order to retreat was undoubtedly giving their enemy a free chance to rest and catch their breath.

However, no one would dare to defy the Dragon Monarch's command.

The Divine Masters of the Western Divine Region immediately retreated, but they did not forget to pick up the bodies of their fallen kinsmen and comrades before they left.

The two armies, which had been trying to rip each other's throats out just a few moments ago, both retreated and stared at each other across the intervening distance.

Even the battles happening in far off places had stopped as the Venerable Withered Dragons, the Qilin Emperor, and the Blue Dragon Emperor stopped fighting once they heard the Dragon Monarch's command. However, Chi Wuyao and Mu Xuanyin had not stopped moving. They spun around and raced down to Yun Che...

The Dragon Monarch did not say anything, so Long Si and Long Wu did not move to stop them.

"Your Magnificence!"

"Your... Magnificence."

"Your Magnificence!!"

•••••

When Yun Che normally heard these cries, they were always filled with a healthy vigor and an excited pride. Sadly, right now those cries were mixed with choking sobs and most of the voices that called out to him had become hoarse and weak.

Furthermore, he heard far less familiar voices, sensed far less familiar auras.

Yan One and Yan Two did not even bother to catch a quick breath as they rushed toward Yun Che at the fastest speed possible. Their frail and withered bodies were normally only stained with the blood of other people, but right now, they were covered with all sorts of wounds.

This was especially true when it came to their arms. Most of the muscle and skin had been destroyed, displaying the white bone beneath, and even those exposed bones were full nicks and scratches.

He could not imagine just how dreadful their battle must have been and the terrifying pressure they must have had to endure throughout this period of time.

A painful wheezing sound rang through the air as Yan Three just managed to rush back to the battlefield. He immediately dropped to his knees but all four limbs were dripping with blood and he was gasping so hard that he looked like he was about to die from exhaustion. However, he still imposed his body between the enemy and Yun Che like some fierce guardian god.

"How did this happen... How did this happen..." Shui Meiyin muttered in a dazed voice as she observed the bloody battlefield around her. When her gaze came into contact with the city floating in the distance, she whispered, "The World... Dragon City?" As the master of the World Piercer, she had inherited some memory fragments from it, so how could she not recognize the World Dragon City, an artifact which the World Piercer had helped to create?

This was something the Creation God of the Elements had gifted to the dragon god race and it was a profound ship that should have been destroyed in that ancient war.

To think that it would appear in this time and place...

When she laid her eyes on it, Shui Meiyin instantly understood the cause of this hellish calamity.

Her spiritual senses then came into contact with Shui Yingyue's aura.

"Big Sister!" she screamed in shock. She immediately rushed over to Shui Yingyue's side, all other thoughts banished from her head.

Shui Yingyue was using her Jade Rivulet Sword to prop herself up and her blue robes were stained in dirt and blood. She stared at the misty-eyed Shui Meiyin as a small smile appeared on her beautiful but pale face. She whispered, "Meiyin, as long as you're safe... everything is fine..."

Now that her burden was lifted off her shoulders, Shui Yingyue's entire body immediately grew weak and limp. She was no longer able to hold out any longer as she slumped unconscious into Shui Meiyin's embrace.

Long Bai stared at Yun Che with indifferent eyes, but Yun Che had not looked at Long Bai even once.

His ice-cold divine senses chaotically swept through the area... The Deep Sea Divine Region was no more and only a devastated bunch of ruins remained.

He then found Caizhi's aura. She was completely unconscious, but she was also being protected by the Dragon Emperor of Absolute Beginning. He could not sense the aura of the six Star Gods that had answered her call, but he could sense six different threads of Star God divine energy floating in the air around her... However, every single one of these threads of energy was as weak as a faint breeze that felt like they could disappear at any time.

Qianye Ying'er had exhausted all of her energy and even her lifeforce had grown unspeakably weak. In fact, it wouldn't be wrong to say that she was on death's door. The dormant Devil Emperor blood within her spoke of the resolute decision that she had made... If Qianye Wugu had not unhesitatingly transferred his lifeforce to her and protected her, she would have disappeared from his life before he could even return.

He sensed Mu Xuanyin's aura next. When he saw her figure and matched gazes with her, elation should have wildly filled his heart... However, he couldn't even feel a single ripple of joy in his heart right now, because there was something far too heavy weighing on his thoughts and emotions.

The Yama Devils and Moon Eaters had been reduced to four people apiece and the Nine Witches were all seriously injured, Jie Xin and Jie Ling included. There were only three survivors among the Brahma Kings Qianye Ying'er had brought along with her and nearly half of the Dragons of Absolute Beginning had fallen. The Northern Divine Region's realm kings were the greatest casualties as more than sixty percent of them had died. This calamity seemed to have happened in the span of a single night to Yun Che. It was as if he had gone to sleep and woken up to this nightmarish reality.

The Western Divine Region had come in full force as all six of their king realms were represented. Seven of the eight Dragon Gods still remained and there were the ancient draconic auras of five incredibly strong beings, beings he had no knowledge of at all.

"Do you feel despair?" Long Bai asked in a flat voice. He was like an exalted emperor who had arrogantly crushed a pitiful peasant underneath his heel. If he simply exerted a bit of force, he would utterly shatter the person beneath him.

He wanted to see shock, astonishment, helplessness, pain, fear, despair on Yun Che's face... wanted to hear his pained cries, his roars of anger... wanted to witness the frenzied expression on his face as he slowly collapsed into a feral state...

However, as time slowly dripped by, he felt disappointment growing in his heart.

Yun Che's face still remained cold and impassive even when he saw the dark blood pool around him like a giant lake. In fact, he was abnormally calm.

The only thing that betrayed his emotions was the drops of blood silently falling from his tightlyclenched fists.

"Where is Tianxiao?" Yun Che whispered. He still refused to look at Long Bai, and it was as if he hadn't even heard his question in the first place.

What answered him was the sound of the surviving Yama Devils and Yama Ghosts grinding their teeth together. It was only after a long pause that Yan Wu finally whispered, "Royal father is tired... He has gone to his rest."

A cold wind blew across Yun Che's body as both Chi Wuyao and Mu Xuanyin landed beside him.

When Chi Wuyao first spotted Yun Che emerging from the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm, a scene they had been fervently hoping for since before the battle began, a dream-like ecstasy immediately filled her heart. However, it was quashed as quickly as it had started.

Yun Che's profound energy aura was still at the tenth level of the Divine Sovereign Realm.

She had always thought that Yun Che would definitely be able to break through to the Divine Master Realm during the three years he had spent in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm. And if he entered the Divine Master Realm, his power might very well transcend the limits of this current era. It would be enough to kill all of their strong foes and rescue them from their current predicament, no matter how dire things got.

However, he actually hadn't managed to break through at all during the three years he had spent in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm!?

"Yun Che," Chi Wuyao sent a sound transmission to him, her grim voice echoing in his mind. "Prepare to leave this place immediately."

Mu Xuanyin had already stretched out a hand to grab Yun Che's arm.

Yun Che didn't reply. He merely slowly and gently brushed off Mu Xuanyin's hand with his own, his face still a mask of impassivity.

"Now isn't the time for you to be wilful!" Mu Xuanyin said in a cold voice.

Chi Wuyao also spoke in a much softer voice, "Long Bai returned to the Dragon God Realm sooner than expected and immediately mobilized all of the Divine Masters of the Western Divine Region with an extremely overbearing command. He also awakened the Venerable Withered Dragons, five extremely powerful members of the dragon god race that had lain hidden until now. Furthermore, that World Dragon City that you see allowed him to move all his forces from the Dragon God Realm to here in the span of two hours."

Yun Che, "..."

"I managed to discover all of these things in advance thanks to my link with Zhou Xuzi, so all of them had a chance to flee. However, not a single one of them chose to. All just to defend you until you could safely leave the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm... All for this moment!"

Yun Che, "…"

"As long as you live, the Northern Divine Region will still have infinite hope. But if you die... then all of them will have died for nothing!!"

Chi Wuyao's voice grew harsh as she tightly gripped Yun Che's ice-cold arm... but she was still slowly and firmly pushed aside by him.

Qianye Wugu descended together with Qianye Ying'er. His aura had grown exceptionally weak and thin and his face had become as white as a sheet of paper, but he still stood as proud as an ancient tree, his old face calm and composed.

Qianye Ying'er had managed to recover some power from Qianye Wugu's vital energy. She straightened her back with much difficulty, but she did not move toward Yun Che. Instead, she gritted her teeth as an incredibly fierce light flashed through her eyes and she barked out in the harshest and cruelest of voices, "Go... Leave immediately!"

"Your Magnificence... hurry up and leave!" Fen Daoqie groaned.

"Your Magnificence... leave..." Yan Wu struggled to her feet. "Do not let... my royal father's death... all of their deaths... be in vain..."

"Your Magnificence..."

"Your Magnificence... Please leave!"

.....

The excited cries had turned into anxious pleading. They soon stopped trying to persuade him as they struggled to their feet and started to stir up all of the remaining power in their bodies.

They had already personally experienced how terrifying the Western Divine Region was, and the returned Devil Master's profound energy aura was still at the Divine Sovereign Realm... He had finally

returned after their desperate defense, but he had not brought that anticipated light of hope along with him.

So right now, the only thing they could do was to use their remaining life and power to safely escort him out of this place.

"Leave? Hah, do you really think he can leave?" the White Rainbow Dragon God sneered. "At this point, do you actually still believe that naive daydream of yours?"

They had not attacked due to the Dragon Monarch's command, but a vast and boundless might had settled on the entire Deep Sea Divine Region. They only needed to act to seal the fate of their enemies. None of them could even dream about escaping from this place alive.

Yun Che still didn't show any reaction. His eyes were very slowly turning dark and grim but his face was so calm that it was terrifying.

"Your... Magnificence..."

A voice that was even weaker than a mosquito's buzz drifted out along the wind. In fact, if Yun Che's spiritual senses hadn't been sharp enough, he wouldn't even have heard it.

Yun Che finally started to move, his slow and measured steps taking him to Tian Guhu's side.

He squatted down and planted his palm on Tian Guhu's chest, causing a pure white light to slowly encase his entire body.

When he saw the light profound energy emanating from Yun Che's hand, Long Bai immediately clenched his fists so hard that his fingers nearly broke. His features twisted sinisterly and it took a long time before he finally managed to calm himself.

Tian Guhu had lost his arms and both his body and his face had been shattered... Yun Che could barely even bring himself to look at him. Even the white light emanating from his arm couldn't save Tian Guhu. It could only lessen his pain.

The very fact that he had managed to hold on to his life until now was a miracle that moved Yun Che's heart.

"Guhu, what do you want to say? I'm listening," Yun Che softly asked.

Tian Guhu managed to slowly open his mouth with much difficulty, and he took a long time to even croak out in a voice that was as weak as a thin mist. "We... people of the Northern Region... are born in darkness... and bear darkness within ourselves..."

"However, we... are not natural-born sinners... We only want... to live... freely under the light... just like everyone else..."

The world turned unbearably quiet as that extremely weak voice penetrated the hearts of all who were present. In fact, many of the Western Divine Region's Divine Masters had started looking at Tian Guhu with a complicated expression on their face.

"Your Magnificence... I beg you... Escape from this place... I beg you... Please live... for the sake of the Northern Divine Region..."

Tears rolled down Tian Guhu's bloody and shattered face. "This is definitely... the most selfish and unreasonable request... in the world... but only you... only you can..."

Tian Guhu's despairing and pleading voice was violently reverberating through the deepest part of every person from the Northern Divine Region.

They had been condemned to the darkness for a million years, bore the mark of sin for a million years, resigned themselves to their cruel fate for a million years... Even the god emperors of their king realms had completely given up the fight and the Devil Queen, a strange upstart who had risen to the highest echelons of power, had been forced to whole up in her dark domain for a full ten thousand years after she probed the Eastern Divine Region just once.

Only the Devil Master Yun Che had given them the opportunity to overthrow their fate. In the few months that he had led them, he had truly allowed them to touch and hold on to hope.

If the Devil Master lived, hope abounded. If the Devil Master met with calamity, then the Northern Divine Region, whose core strength had already been destroyed today, would be plunged into eternal darkness.

As such, Tian Guhu used his last breath, his last tears, to make this "most selfish and unreasonable" request to Yun Che.

"There's no need to say anything else." Yun Che raised a palm and an even more dense light profound energy slowly descended over Tian Guhu... After that, Yun Che quickly used his spiritual senses to sweep the area, but he could not sense the presence of a single aura belonging to the Imperial Heaven bloodline on this devastated battlefield. From the lowest Imperial Heaven Divine Sovereign to the Imperial Heaven Realm King Tian Muyi himself. All of them had died in this place.

"Tian Guhu, listen here." Yun Che's face was still impassive as he stared straight into Tian Guhu's eyes. "On my name Yun Che, on my title as the Devil Master of the North, I vow..."

"That all of the people of the Northern Divine Region will be able to hold their heads up in the light from this day forward. There will no longer be anyone who looks down on you or bullies you. There will no longer be anyone who will dare to view darkness profound energy or dark profound practitioners as the emblem of filth and sin."

"You and your clansmen will not die in vain! Every drop of blood that you have shed here will not be in vain! The future generations of the Northern Divine Region will forever remember that their new life was bought with the blood that was shed here today! As long as I live, the bloodline of the Imperial Heaven Realm will be forever exalted!"

His voice was preternaturally calm. It contained no sorrow, joy, hatred, or mirth. However, every single one of those words had penetrated the ears and hearts of everyone present.

The faces of all the surviving Northern Region profound practitioners froze as their eyes silently misted up. This wasn't just a vow that Yun Che had made to Tian Guhu. It was a vow he had made to all of them. Even if this vow seemed like an ephemeral shadow that could be scattered by a single ray of light, even if it only lasted for those few fleeting moments, all of them still desperately held on to it and believed those words.

Qianye Ying'er, Chi Wuyao, and Mu Xuanyin all stared at Yun Che dumbly... This was a Yun Che who was completely foreign to them, a Yun Che unlike any of the Yun Ches they had ever seen before.

The corners of Tian Guhu's lips violently trembled as tears gushed out of his eyes like a waterfall.

"Your... Magnificence... thank... you..."

He used all of his remaining strength... to shout in the loudest voice he could muster. After that, the eyes that he was unwilling to close slowly fluttered shut.

Qing'er... I'm coming... to be with you...

"..." The white light vanished from Yun Che's hand.

He slowly and gently withdrew his hand from Tian Guhu's body and the tips of his fingers were tinged with his still-warm blood.

Tian Guhu. The Yama Devil power in his body had been forcibly grafted onto him via Yun Che's Eternal Calamity of Darkness and he had paid for it by sacrificing much of his lifespan.

He was a tool of vengeance that Yun Che had created using the most merciless and wicked methods, and he had forged him without a single trace of doubt or hesitation.

From the moment he had stepped into the Northern Divine Region, he had decided that all of its power would be used for the sake of his vengeance.

When he had become emperor of the Northern Divine Region and all of their profound practitioners yelled out "Devil Master" and knelt at his feet, they had finally been successfully "transformed" into his tools of vengeance.

During the battle for the Eastern Divine Region, the countless deaths and injuries the Northern Divine Region's forces had suffered had not moved him in the slightest. He had not even felt the smallest twinge of pain or sorrow... because that was how tools were supposed to be used, that was the fate of anyone who became a tool for someone else.

Before he had found out about the Blue Pole Star's survival, he had already decided that he would climb over the backs of these corpses during their battle with the Western Divine Region, all just to set the stage for his final vengeance.

•••••

But, at this moment...

Why did he feel such an intense pain in his heart?

His fury... was on the verge of boiling over.

•••••

"There has never been a realm king or god emperor that has received such worship and reverence before in the history of the God Realm. Big Brother Yun Che, I'm beginning to believe that these people are no longer fighting for the Northern Divine Region alone. Perhaps, they would be equally willing and eager to sacrifice their lives just for your sake alone."

.....

The words that Shui Meiyin had told him before they left for the Seven Star Realm once again rippled in his heart.

At that time, he had immediately denied it. He just wasn't willing to admit it.

"That wasn't such a bad dream," Long Bai calmly said as he stared at Yun Che. He didn't see anything else besides Yun Che now that he was finally in front of him. "Yun Che, the Devil Master of the North... It's been a long time."

"Heh... Hehe... Hehehehehe..."

Yun Che's expression finally changed. However, he wasn't showing any anger or fear; he had started laughing. It was a demented and sinister chuckle that caused everyone's hair to stand on end.

"Long Bai." He spoke in a slow and deliberate manner, as if savoring every word that came out of his mouth. "Very good. You've done very well."

"During the last three years I spent in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm, I focused on repairing my heart and soul, slowly erasing the devilish malice that dwelled in my heart. I even managed to turn myself from seventy percent demon and thirty percent human back to thirty percent demon and seventy percent human."

Yun Che paused as he slowly raised his hand, the tip of his extended finger glowing with a faint and almost indistinct light. "However, you've managed to successfully let out all of the demons that I had barely managed to suppress, in the very first moment I returned to this world."

"Tell me... How ... exactly ... should I repay you for this !?"

Chapter 1849 - Fair

"Hehehehe." Long Bai merely chuckled at Yun Che's icy threats. "Yun Che, I heard that you were a peak Divine Sovereign a few months ago when you and the northern region devil people invaded the Eastern Divine Region. You seriously wounded Honorable Tai Yu single-handedly, and defeated the Moon God Emperor together with that Qianye woman of yours."

"This made me assume that your cultivation would improve when you emerged from the Eternal Heaven Pearl, but..." Long Bai looked down on Yun Che as if judging him with a mild expression of disappointment. "It seems that you are still a Divine Sovereign despite bearing both the power of the Heretic God and the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor. How entirely predictable yet disappointing."

"Even my talons disdain the very idea of going up against a Divine Sovereign."

Yun Che replied with the same expression and gaze as before, "You wish to fight me alone?"

"It will be a boring and laughable fight, but..." Long Bai raised an arm, and an astounding pressure slammed down even though he hadn't unleashed his draconic aura at all. "You must die by my own hands!"

"Ptooey!" Yan Three spat bloody spittle on the ground before stepping forward angrily. "You'll have to walk over my corpse first before—"

"Get lost," said Yun Che indifferently.

Yan Three immediately withdrew his neck and his foot.

"Very well." Yun Che slowly clenched his fingers into a fist. His expression was still calm and collected, but only he knew that the rage scalding his heart and soul was like a million devils screaming for release, and that he could lose control over them at any moment.

"That is true. There are some very boring and laughable things in this world that have to be done regardless of one's personal feelings."

Yun Che slowly stepped toward Long Bai despite the scared and worried expressions on the northern region profound practitioners. "If you wish to fight me alone this much, then I, the Northern Region Devil Master Yun Che, shall grant you this favor!"

"He'll grant him this favor...? Hahahahaha..." The Dragon Gods, Dragon Sovereigns, and Western Region God Emperors all laughed like crazy when they realized what they had just heard.

He might be the Northern Region Devil Master that the devil people had fought to the death to protect, but it did nothing to change the fact that he was just a level ten Divine Sovereign. How could they not laugh at his ridiculous statement?

In fact, they were even starting to wonder if Yun Che had broken under the sheer desperation and pressure he was facing, and had lost his mind.

"Hmph." Long Bai exhaled slowly. "I suppose you deserve a favor for what you've done for the Primal Chaos back then. Do enjoy it while it lasts. The amount of time you'll be able to hold out directly translates to the amount of time your devilish pets will be able to breathe."

The moment he finished speaking, he took one step forward and unleashed his draconic power in full, causing almost all the profound practitioners from both sides to shudder violently. The weaker ones had to take a step backward, and the heavily injured ones were even knocked to the ground and bled from the inside.

Long Bai said slowly, "This is my battle with Yun Che. No one is to interfere no matter what happens."

Both the northern region profound practitioners and the western region profound practitioners were stunned by this. The Sky Dragon God blurted, "But my lord, a defeated, drenched dog like him do not deserve—"

The Pure Dragon God seized his arm before he could finish and said, "Shut up."

"Anyone who dares to ignore my order... will. Pay. For. It!"

Long Bai's warning was as alarming as it was intimidating. The words sounded like a ridiculous joke, but his tone was anything but that!

The Sky Dragon God immediately shut his mouth and broke out in a cold sweat.

At this point, even the slowest person had come to the realization that Long Bai wasn't attacking Yun Che just because he was the Dragon Monarch, and the latter was the Devil Master. There obviously existed a deep, personal grudge between the two.

When they recalled the Devil Queen's earlier taunts and put two to two together...

The possibility flashed across everyone's mind, but was extinguished as quickly as it came. They didn't dare to let even a single trace of their blasphemous thoughts slip through their mouths or their expressions.

The few people who knew the truth such as Chi Wuyao, Qianye Ying'er, and Yun Che himself weren't surprised that Long Bai would want to fight the latter alone at all.

After all, it was the only way the jealousy-maddened dragon could vent the pure hatred he had been accumulating in his heart for the past couple of years. Only by crushing Yun Che in every way possible with his own two hands could he finally regain some shreds of his pathetic pride and balance.

One only needed to look at his lack of expression when the Western Divine Region had utterly crushed the Northern Divine Region a moment ago to know that it was true. All he had felt during that battle was impatience and irritation.

Finally... finally... FINALLY...

His expression was calm, and his draconic aura was silent. However, his seemingly relaxed fingers were really so taut they could break with just a bit more force.

"All of you, move to the back." At the same time, Yun Che made a similar order. "Anyone who interferes with my battle with Long Bai will be punished severely!"

Yun Che's declaration stunned every northern region profound practitioner besides the three Yama Ancestors who never questioned his orders. They all looked hesitant because their greatest desire and the very reason they fought up until this point was to deliver him safely away from this place, no matter the cost.

With that in mind, how could they allow him to face the terrible Long Bai alone?

Chi Wuyao shot Yun Che a long look, but didn't try to change his mind or even confirm his intentions. Raising an arm and pushing out a gentle gust of dark energy, she said, "Do as the Devil Master's says. His Magnificence's order cannot be denied, and this is his battlefield. We don't have the right to interfere."

Qianye Ying'er staggered her way to Chi Wuyao before falling on top of the Devil Queen. Somehow, she was able to find the strength to grab her arm in a vice grip and say, "What... are you doing..."

"Believe in him," Chi Wuyao said.

"It's not a matter about believing in him or not..." A bitter-looking Qianye Ying'er clenched her teeth so tightly she could shatter them. "You and Mu Xuanyin... absolutely have the strength... to send him away from here! You two can turn that risk... into no risk at all!"

"If not for him, then think of everyone... who has sacrificed to come this far. Are you... going to let them die... for nothing!?"

"..." Chi Wuyao's lips parted. She didn't realize that she had clenched her hands into fists. The normally decisive woman was hesitating greatly.

She had never seen Yun Che looking this certain in her life. However, she didn't know if his confidence was driven by good reason or complete insanity, nor could she ignore the fact that he was, without a doubt, still a level ten Divine Sovereign.

"He won't..."

A soft, girlish voice suddenly entered her ears. It was Shui Meiyin murmuring while covering her slumped sister with her aura, "Big brother Yun Che... won't let their sacrifices be for nothing... he will never."

She carried Shui Yingyue and flew away after that.

Her reply affirmed Chi Wuyao's resolve, and she spoke while lifting several grievously wounded northern region profound practitioners with her aura. "Move! We obey the Devil Master's order!"

Both sides retreated from the center of the Deep Sea God Realm. Soon, Yun Che and Long Bai were the only ones left.

"Come," said Long Bai while putting his arms behind his back.

His heart screamed for blood and wanted nothing more than to tear Yun Che to pieces right here and now, but his pride, arrogance, manhood, status, and reputation all stopped him from making the first move.

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword winked into existence with a black flash. Yun Che grabbed the weapon and said, "Grab your weapon."

"Weapons are beneath me," Long Bai said indifferently.

"Is that so?" Yun Che actually put away his weapon after replying. Then, his gaze landed on Long Bai's solar plexus, and he said, "Oh? You were hurt?"

Yun Che's eyes darkened, and he raised his right arm with a burst of profound energy. A stunning, fiery light appeared around his right fist, and he punched himself in the solar plexus to the shock of everyone.

PCKBOOM!!

The blow was so devastating that it penetrated his internal organs. Large amounts of blood flowed out of his solar plexus, his back, and his mouth at the same time.

"Your... Your Magnificence!?"

"Yun Che!!"

Confused cries erupted from behind him. Forget the northern region profound practitioners, even the western region profound practitioners couldn't understand what the hell he was doing. Of all the things they imagined that he would do against the terrible Long Bai, mutilating himself was the absolute last thing in their minds.

It was no superficial self-harm either. It was a blow through the solar plexus!

The heart-piercing wound Long Bai received earlier was tiny to begin with. Also, enough time had passed that nearly half of it was fully healed.

Meanwhile, Yun Che's self-inflicted wound was obviously worse than Long Bai's in every way. Even if it wasn't, it was a perfectly fresh wound. It would surely affect his vitality and profound energy drastically.

"Is... is he insane?" the Myriad Manifestations God Emperor asked.

"Hah, he must be." The Hui Dragon Emperor snorted in disdain. "Or maybe this is his way to buy himself some pride knowing that he would lose horribly? Hehe. Looks like the so-called Devil Master is just a thirty year old brat after all. How childish and pitiful can you be?"

The five Venerable Withered Dragons were frowning, however.

It was because Yun Che's level ten Divine Sovereign profound energy was as strong as a level ten Divine Master's!

Although they had heard about this from Long Bai and the Dragon Gods, they had to see it to believe it. They couldn't help but be shocked by the transcendent sight they just saw.

"..." Long Bai didn't say anything. His only reaction was curling his lips into the glimmer of a sneer.

It didn't take much imagination to know just how painful it was to be on the receiving end of an attack that went through the heart. However, Yun Che's expression remained perfectly neutral, almost as if he couldn't feel the pain at all. He puffed up his blood-drenched chest in no time and stared back at Long Bai. "Now it's almost fair... let us begin."

Boom!

With that, Yun Che gathered all his profound energy into his right fist and rushed toward Long Bai like a tornado.

The Dragon God didn't use weapons because their physical bodies and strength were superior to almost everything in the Primal Chaos. More accurately, their talons were already the greatest weapons they could possibly wield. To use anything else would only be detrimental to them.

On the other hand, Yun Che had seriously injured himself and abandoned his own weapon.

Worse, he decided to punch Long Bai directly instead of using his greatest powers, darkness and fire.

No matter how you looked at it, he was working hard to dig his own grave.

All seven Dragon Gods looked at the Devil Master scornfully.

While Yun Che's profound energy was as abnormally strong as the rumors claimed, the idea of hitting the Dragon Monarch's body with pure strength was... they could already imagine what was going to happen next.

Long Bai still didn't react to Yun Che's violent action. He hadn't even moved his hands from behind his back.

He let Yun Che's fist fly toward his face.

BOOM

Yun Che's fist struck the space above Long Bai's forehead.

There was no darkness or fire, but it was still the power of a peak Divine Master. The entire world shuddered beneath its explosion.

Space shattered, and dust flew everywhere. However, not only did Long Bai not move from his spot, his head only tilted around three inches backward.

It was because a faint layer of white light was stopping Yun Che's fist from reaching him.

The western region profound practitioners looked on with scorn and pity on their faces. The northern region profound practitioners felt their hearts stop. To the latter, it was obviously a most despairing sight.

"It's that unnatural white light again!" Chi Wuyao muttered to herself.

Long Bai's expression didn't change in the slightest. He looked as if he was punched by a powerless child, not the northern region Devil Master.

He stared at Yun Che like someone would stare at a dying, struggling larva. "Have you realized how laughable you are?"

Yun Che's face didn't warp into the astonishment or panic he was expecting to see. Instead, his lips stretched into an eerie sneer.

"Good question."

BOOM!!!

Suddenly, Yun Che's spent energy defied common sense and erupted greater and stronger than it was before. At the same time, a pale profound energy exploded across Long Bai's forehead!

The layer of white light surrounding Long Bai suddenly disappeared, and even his protective energy withdrew like a shameplant.

Rumble!

There was a thunderous impact, and Long Bai's forehead crumpled inward like some sort of balloon. Not only that, the terrifying energy sent him spinning through the air before smashing into the ground hard!

Rumble rumble rumble...

The earth split, and the dust clouds floated. The ground was plowed at least fifteen kilometers before Long Bai's body finally came to a stop.

Chapter 1850 - Crushing

Dust clouds flew as eyeballs threatened to explode from their sockets. Neither northern region nor western region profound practitioners dared to believe what they just saw.

Bang!

The earth suddenly became ripped in half as Long Bai shot to the sky before falling slowly back to the ground. His face was expressionless, his clothes were perfectly clean, and his appearance seemed as magnificent as ever. The embarrassing look from a moment ago was nowhere to be seen.

It was almost as if he hadn't been punched so hard that he uncontrollably plowed the ground for fifteen kilometers straight.

"What... what..." The western region Divine Masters' eyeballs were still bulging even now.

The Dragon Gods and Dragon Sovereigns looked like they wanted to say something, but didn't dare to.

Although Long Bai looked perfectly unharmed—even untouched by the dust on the battlefield—right now, they all saw how his forehead crumpled inward where Yun Che had punched him.

There was nothing tougher in the world than a dragon's bones, and the toughest bone in a dragon's body was without a doubt the skull.

So how did a mere human punch it so hard that it crumpled inward? The skull of the Dragon Monarch no less?

In the end, they chose to tell themselves that what they saw was an illusion caused by the distortion of space... it was the only possibility!

Meanwhile, all the northern region profound practitioners were staring at the scene with their mouths agape.

Their greatest profound practitioners had fought Long Bai just a moment ago, and they all saw how abnormally strong he was. It was why they found it even harder to believe that their Devil Master had sent the Dragon Monarch flying with a single punch.

Their shock was so much greater than their joy that they had even forgotten to cheer for their Devil Master.

"How is this... possible?" Long Wu muttered in obvious disbelief as his gaze became fixed on Yun Che's person.

All five Venerable Withered Dragons were stunned by the scene. They didn't recover even after a long time had passed.

"His draconic energy suddenly crumbled earlier. Did he do it on purpose?" Long Yi asked in a soft voice.

The Venerable Withered Dragons couldn't speak for the others, but they were certainly strong enough to sense that at least thirty percent of Long Bai's draconic energy had suddenly dissipated when Yun Che's power erupted.

"...it has to be. But I don't know why," replied Long Er.

"Hmph!"

An expressionless Long Bai let out a soft snort as he stared at Yun Che. He said in a cool and intimidating voice, "Looks like you did grow somewhat while you were inside the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm after all. Not bad."

Long Bai maintained a lofty appearance despite having been sent flying in the first exchange. He spoke as if he was praising a junior, as if he had purposely shown weakness to gauge Yun Che's strength.

Right as he finished speaking though, a warm sensation suddenly flooded his nose.

Blood jetted from his nostrils despite his effort to suppress it as quickly as he could. In fact, his interference caused them to erupt right in front of his nostrils and dye his white robes red.

It instantly destroyed the unconcerned image he was trying to present.

"By all means, please continue your act!" Yun Che said with a sneer. "It is so much better than that time you kneeled in front of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor like an obedient pet! I cannot help but feel disgusted by it!"

"Hahi... haha... HAHAHAHAHAHA!" Cang Shitian suddenly burst into a mad laugh while clutching his chest. Every bout tore at his wounds and made him bare his teeth in pain, but still he laughed so hard that he was rocking back and forth.

The western region Dragon Gods shot him angry and murderous glares, but not only did he not restrain himself, he laughed even harder and continued to the point where he was nearly out of breath.

He had never seen Long Bai looking this ugly in his life. It was such a bizarre scene that it was beyond his ability to describe.

Cang Shitian's mad laughter shook the northern region profound practitioners out of their shock and made someone laugh. One became two, two became four, and soon the entire god realm was ringing with uproarious laughter.

The expressions of the western region profound practitioners—especially the Dragon Gods—turned ugly.

They would've attacked already If it wasn't for the Dragon Monarch's order.

The Dragon Monarch's expression remained unmoved despite the ear-piercing laughter. After wiping the blood stain away with his hand, he abruptly launched himself toward Yun Che.

Buzz—

Long Bai's face was still devoid of emotion, but everyone could sense the anger behind his attack. When he threw a punch at the Devil Master just like the latter did earlier, space itself suddenly squeezed like a vice, and the world trembled before his draconic aura.

It was the greatest power in the current world after all; the draconic energy that suppressed all living beings and controlled the entire Primal Chaos.

The northern region profound practitioners' breathless laughter ceased abruptly when a kind of suffocation like nothing they had ever felt before pressed against their faces. Their hearts immediately became dyed in deep fear and worry.

Yun Che's clothes and hair flapped wildly to the storm that was flying his way, but instead of dodging out of the way, he met Long Bai's punch with a punch of his own. Moreover, he still wasn't using his darkness profound energy.

"Fool!" All seven Dragon Gods said the same word at the exact same time.

The power of a Dragon God was so strong that it crushed everything. At its peak, even profound arts were just shackles that limited its power.

Given the choice, no one in the entire world would dare to challenge the dragon god race to a contest of strength... much less the Dragon Monarch himself!

One human and one dragon's power clashed violently amidst countless gazes.

All the space within fifty kilometers of the point of impact warped, distorted, and finally exploded into countless shards, leaving behind countless shuddering black scars.

Yun Che and Long Bai were frozen at the center of the distortion. Their strength looked to be equal, and neither had backed a step away from the other.

"Wh... what ??" every western region profound practitioner exclaimed in shock.

"What... What the hell is going on?" The Jade Dragon God growled. "This is impossible! This is absolutely impossible!"

Yun Che had endured Long Bai's strength head on with just pure profound energy!?

Not only that, the mist of blood hovering around his chest and back area... reminded everyone that he had accomplished the feat after having injured himself!

Long Bai's eyebrows were twitching slightly. At this point, even he couldn't maintain a lofty and indifferent appearance any longer.

Rumble!

The two separated only when a spatial storm descended, and the colliding energies reached the final stage of the explosion. At the same time, a soul-stunning dragon's roar cut through the air.

The thick, white image of a dragon's talons appeared behind Long Bai's arm. Then, Long Bai made a swipe for Yun Che's solar plexus.

The fact that the pale image appeared meant that Long Bai was going all out this time.

Yun Che's expression darkened, and he clenched his fingers tighter. Energy flooded his right arm as he punched a second time.

BOOMCRACK!

It sounded like the crack of a million thunder bolts. Hundreds of kilometers away, half of the Divine Masters watching the fight abruptly lost control of their bodies and fell to the ground. The world also shuddered visibly to the impact.

Even so, Yun Che and Long Bai were still frozen in the middle of the gigantic spatial storm.

The Dragon Gods and the Dragon Sovereigns felt like their hearts were tearing apart in shock.

Yun Che... still hadn't taken a step backward after receiving a furious, full-powered attack from Long Bai!

"Hehehe..." Yun Che finally cracked an icy, malicious smile at Long Bai and said, "This cannot possibly be your full power, right Long Bai?"

"..." For the first time, Long Bai's features warped a little at the taunt.

"I thought the dragon god race is supposed to be unparalleled in both strength and body in all of the Primal Chaos?" Yun Che continued to taunt him, "You're a three hundred thousand year old dragon, and you cannot even beat a thirtyish year old human in your best area? You call yourself the Dragon Monarch? Even I have to feel embarrassed on your behalf!"

BANG!!

A loud bang abruptly separated the two. Yun Che was able to catch himself after a backflip, but Long Bai slid at least several kilometers through the air before he was able to stop himself.

ROAR!!!!

This time, there was no pause between exchanges. Before the spectators could collect themselves, an even greater roar shook the world, and the image of a pale dragon appeared behind Long Bai. The draconic pressure he exuded was stunningly powerful in the first place, but now it was outright suffocating.

The half-transparent talons covering his hands became more solid as well.

The entire god realm was engulfed in the pressure of the Dragon Monarch. When Long Bai rushed Yun Che again, it felt like the world itself was falling on him.

"My lord... is truly angry now," said the Pure Dragon God.

"What is up with Yun Che's energy?" The White Rainbow Dragon God sounded like he still hadn't recovered from the shock.

Yun Che looked up at Long Bai with icy eyes. Although the Dragon Monarch had unleashed his full power, the Devil Master still didn't use anything besides pure profound energy and strength.

BANG!

BANG!!

BOOM-

Power clashed against power. Holes appeared in the sky, and the ground gave way. The clash between the fully unleashed Dragon Monarch and the Devil Master who was only employing pure profound energy and strength ripped even greater chunks from the already ruined Ten Directions Deep Sea God Realm. Even the tiniest breeze from the storm of energy was capable of sundering the world like paper. It was terrifying to say the least.

One... two... ten... a hundred...

Hundreds of rays of profound energy cut through the sky. Hundreds of explosions rocked the star realm and deafened the ears. Both combatants were still fighting, however.

The Dragon Monarch had failed to crush the self-handicapped Devil Master despite going all out!

"Back off... we need to back off some more!"

There were too many northern region profound practitioners who were seriously injured during the earlier battle. They were already pretty far away from the battle, but the shockwaves were still too dangerous.

Chi Wuyao spread her devilish aura and urged everyone to back off another a hundred and fifty kilometers but her dark, shining eyes never left the two profound practitioners doing battle in the sky. It was around this time Qianye Ying'er murmured, "His cultivation obviously hasn't progressed by much, but... why is his power so much stronger than before?"

She was one of, if not the most knowledgeable people regarding the limits of Yun Che's profound cultivation and strength.

However, she couldn't explain how he was like a whole new person despite spending less than three years in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm and not having broken through to the Divine Master Realm.

Shui Meiyin whispered, "Big brother Yun Che was able to reach the absolute peak of Divine Sovereign Realm just a year after he entered the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm. However, he wasn't able to progress further after that. He told me that the Heretic God had set up some sort of seal inside his profound veins because his stepping into the Divine Master Realm would absolutely surpass the ability of this world's laws to withstand it."

"In other words, big brother Yun Che at level ten Divine Sovereign Realm already stands at the absolute peak of the Primal Chaos. There is no one and nothing in the world who can surpass him."

Shui Meiyin continued with a smile, "Since he couldn't progress further in his profound cultivation, he went on to study two types—actually, they're both the same—of power during the final two years inside the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm. He was able to master them completely."

"His complete mastery over this power allowed him to ascend his profound strength, physical strength, and soul strength to a whole new level. This is especially true when he goes up against a member of the dragon race. To put it simply, his power against any dragon is absolutely... crushing."

Shui Meiyin's final word left Qianye Ying'er, Mu Xuanyin and Chi Wuyao shaking.

The Dragon Monarch was someone who could blow away the combined might of the Yama Ancestors with his physical strength alone.

However, Yun Che was able to trade blows with Long Bai evenly even though the pressure of his profound energy—impressive as it might be—was obviously weaker than Long Bai's.

Now, they finally knew why.

BOOM!!

Yun Che's fist met Long Bai's talons in the collapsing sky.

Long Bai had lost all control of his expression at this point. His features were scrunched up together in a volcanic visage of fury, and his eyes had lost all their calmness.

Meanwhile, Yun Che was still sneering the same sneer he had worn from the very beginning.

"I guess this really is your limit." Yun Che's tone was tinged with disappointment. "I really thought you had something more when you put your hands behind your back, puffed up your chest like a cock and stared like you were the almighty god of the Primal Chaos or something. But no, you're just a clown whose sole purpose is to entertain the masses."

BANG!

Great strength erupted from Long Bai's arm again, but Yun Che received it without giving an inch.

Yun Che's eyes narrowed as he stared at the mysterious white light enveloping Long Bai's arm and body. "The Dragon Monarch, strongest Dragon God in the history of the Dragon Gods! It was such a bright and shiny title, wasn't it? In that case, do you remember who was the one who granted it to you in the first place? The one who extended your piss-poor life three hundred thousand years longer than it should've been?"

"..." Yun Che's words thrust right through the weakest and most untouchable part of his heart and soul. His pupils shrank like they were pricked by a needle.

"Even this special light draconic energy that protects you is a gift of hers, not a product of your own efforts." Yun Che's eyes grew even colder. "For three hundred thousand years, she blessed you with her powers; tempered your body with the Divine Water of Life and made you far stronger than any one of your peers could possibly hope to achieve. Not only that, the power of the Divine Miracle of Life inside the liquid eventually merged with your draconic energy to form this impenetrable shield of divine power, the one thing that turned your legend of invincibility into reality."

"You could've kept her safe for another one hundred lifetimes, and you still wouldn't be able to repay everything she did for you!"

"But... you..."

The killing intent that Yun Che had kept under tight rein up until this point abruptly pierced Long Bai's pupils as his fist stretched into a claw and grabbed Long Bai's shielded talons. "You think you deserve her power of protection!?"

Bang...

There was a near imperceptible noise, and the white energy surrounding Long Bai's body vanished without warning... just like that time he was sent flying by Yun Che's punch.

The root of his unnatural protection aura was his continuous usage of the Divine Water of Life, and accumulating the power of the Divine Miracle of Life in his body for thirty thousand years.

To everyone else, the barrier was practically the barrier of despair. Even top-tier profound practitioners like Chi Wuyao had to use every trick in the book before they were finally able to dispel it, and then only temporarily.

For Yun Che, the man who had fully mastered the Divine Miracle of Life... it was something he could dispel with the flick of a finger.

An odd gleam flashed across Yun Che's eyes after the white light surrounding Long Bai had dissipated. At the same time, the Dragon Monarch's draconic aura abruptly withdrew like a tidal wave.

CRACK!!

All five of his fingers and his wrist were snapped just like that. The sound of breaking bones was so crisp that it nearly shattered a couple of eardrums.

At the same time, he fell from the sky and hit the ground like a meteor.

Yun Che vanished temporarily into the clouds during this time. When he reappeared, his profound energy was no longer the colorlessness of pure profound energy. It was black, so black that it frightened the soul.

His expression had also changed from a cool sneer into a murderous snarl. He looked like he was possessed by a cruel devil.