

The Gods 411

Chapter 411 - Great Kindness

"She fainted." Yun Che stated.

Hua Minghai trembled all over and clenched his teeth, using all his might to suppress the tears that were about to burst forth. He turned around with both hands clutching his head and said painfully: "I know how painful it was for her these past few years. To her, dying is actually a kind of freedom... but... but how could I possibly watch her leave me without doing anything..."

"This is a cruel decision you have no choice in. No matter which one you pick, they would both be right and wrong... Without personally experiencing this kind of feeling, it would never be understood." Yun Che sighed, then changed his tone: "However, because you met me, your choice and perseverance is right."

"Ah!?" Hua Minghai suddenly lifted his head to look at him.

Yun Che turned around and looked him straight in the eye: "I've only very rarely seen your wife's symptoms before, and I more or less understand them. Go stand guard outside, don't let anyone in. Aside from me giving you permission, you cannot come in. You ought to know that the more dangerous of a state a patient is in, the more reason there is for the treatment to not be disturbed."

Seeing Yun Che's undisguised expression, Hua Minghai said excitedly: "Could... could it be, that you have a way... to save Xiaoya... You really have a method to save Xiaoya?!"

"I can't say with complete certainty." Yun Che glared at him: "If you can disappear from my sight right now, the chance of success can roughly go up to ninety nine percent."

Swish! Bang!

A fierce wind was raised before Yun Che's eyes, and Hua Minghai had already vanished from his sight as the sound of the door being hastily closed echoed.

This kind of speed was absolutely world shocking, would make ghosts weep, and stunned Yun Che for a long while before he recovered his senses.

This fellow, what kind of movement skill did he cultivate!?

His profound strength was more or less at the late stage Sky Profound, yet his movement skills were terrifying to such an extent!

The reason why Yun Che made Hua Minghai go out was obviously not because he was afraid to be disturbed, rather, he was afraid of him seeing the way he was going to treat Xiaoya. After all, if he were to expel the poison in the shortest time possible, he had to use the Sky Poison Pearl. If he didn't use the Sky Poison Pearl, Yun Che had to use ten million times the effort to dispel the cold poison... because the cold poison had already existed for as long as five years, and had long fused with the blood and meridians in her entire body. Not only would it be extremely troublesome to completely dispel it, it would also be accompanied by an extremely high risk.

Aside from the poison, she also had very heavy internal injuries... due to the cold poison's existence, not only did these internal injuries not heal, they had instead worsened day by day. To Yun Che, her internal failures were more problematic than the cold poison.

Yun Che extended out his left hand in front of Ru Xiaoya's bed, placing it on her chest. Sky Poison Pearl's green radiance slowly shined, then gradually spread through her entire body. Under the Sky Poison Pearl's power, the cold poison that had been wreaking havoc in her body for a full five years was quickly being eliminated without any resistance.

Like ants on a hot pan, Hua Minghai paced back and forth outside, but did not dare to make any stepping sounds.

A burst of a slightly cold night wind blew over, somewhat instantly clearing Hua Minghai's mind. He was usually an extremely careful person, otherwise, he would not have kept Ru Xiaoya up till now. Yet today, he had actually brought a person he had only met for the very first time into their present hiding place, and even let him approach Ru Xiaoya alone. Now that he thought about it, he felt that it was inconceivable... perhaps it was the mysterious aura on Yun Che's body that allowed the bottom of his heart to give birth to an indescribable hope.

An entire hour passed by, and not a peep of noise came out from inside the house. This made Hua Minghai feel extremely uncertain, he wanted to pull open the door many times, but every time he felt that, he would do his utmost to hold himself back. At this time, Yun Che's not light, yet not heavy voice came from inside: "Come in."

Like lightning, Hua Minghai pulled open the door and dashed in. He saw that the medicinal ingredients in the room had not changed. Ru Xiaoya still laid in place, she had not even been moved. He quickly stepped forward and said with emotion: "How is Xiaoya...?"

As soon as he said that, his pupils suddenly enlarged... because he shockingly saw that the dark blue color on Ru Xiaoya's forehead had already disappeared.

Hua Minghai's entire body trembled with excitement. He held out a hand, pressed it on Ru Xiaoya's chest, and carefully probed with his profound energy... He no longer felt the slightest trace of the cold poison anywhere... not even a remnant was found.

"The cold poison in her body has already been completely dispelled." Yun Che said. How could it possibly take an hour for the Sky Poison Pearl to remove the cold poison in Ru Xiaoya's body? However, if it were too quick, it was unavoidable that it would be too shocking, so Yun Che sat for a while, dragging the time to last an hour.

Hua Minghai was so moved that he couldn't control himself. The two were tormented by this cold poison for an entire five years, it was their most terrifying nightmare, and they knew more than anyone how dreadful this cold poison was, even so much that they had given up long ago about having the extravagant hope of curing this poison. When Hua Minghai brought Yun Che along, he also did not have the excessive hope that a miracle would occur, it was just that he was unwilling to abandon this last strand of hope... He never expected that a miracle would truly and honestly appear before his eyes.

"Xiaoya... Xiaoya..." Hua Minghai clasped Ru Xiaoya's hand and was so emotional that he spoke incoherently: "Did you hear that... your poison's gone... completely gone... Xiaoya... did you hear that..."

“Alright, don’t bother her, let’s go outside.” Yun Che said: “Even though the cold poison has been removed, due to the cold poison’s five years of erosion, her profound strength has completely collapsed, her internal organs are severely exhausted. If not for the large amount of Purple Veined Heaven Crystals’ nourishment all these years, she would’ve inevitably died once the cold poison was removed. At present, she has not completely left the dangerous condition. In order to fully recuperate, she needs a really long time to do so. What she needs right now is proper rest.”

Hua Minghai immediately restrained himself from talking as he properly tended to Ru Xiaoya’s bedding and blankets. Then, he followed Yun Che out with light steps.

Yun Che took out a small bottle and gave it to Hua Minghai. Inside the bottle was a small amount of scarlet color liquid: “This is the blood of a fire attribute Emperor Profound True Dragon, it can disperse the cold energy that had filled her body during those years and also restore her vitality. There are a total of ten drops of dragon blood. You must drip one drop into three liters of water, then feed her three drops of that everyday starting tomorrow. Every time a month passes, you must add in an additional one drop... Remember, you must not add more drops, otherwise, her body would not be able to withstand it.”

Even though it laid inside the jade bottle, with Hua Minghai’s strong awareness, the pure dragon aura was completely perceived. He also knew that for a weak body like Ru Xiaoya’s that was filled with cold energy, a True Dragon’s blood, even a fire attribute Emperor Profound dragon blood, was no different than a heavenly pellet.

Hua Minghai took the dragon blood and was so moved that he couldn’t say a single word out.

“You have looked after her for five years, so you should be very clear on how to gradually cure her internal injuries and restore her vitality. You don’t need me to talk excessively. But I have one thing to remind you about, within a period of three months, you cannot remove her from the Purple Veined Heaven Crystals. Her vitality is at an all time low at the moment so if she were to leave from the Purple Veined Heaven Crystals, any sort of mistake could possibly end her life.” Yun Che said seriously. Saving the dying and healing the injured... was what he always did back then, and he had always been happy about it. But now, he no longer had that kind of mindset anymore, because compared to the number of people he had killed, the amount of people he had saved... was too far removed.

“Thank you... Benefactor!” Hua Minghai choked with emotion, then suddenly kneeled... This kneel, had more force than the previous kneel. The previous kneel was filled with endless unwillingness, but this kneel was filled with willingness: “I, Hua Minghai will remember your great kindness throughout my entire life. May I ask Benefactor for his great name? I, Hua Minghai will definitely use all my power to repay you.”

“No need, I only occasionally do a doctor’s duty.” Yun Che said with a little sigh: “As for my name... I’ve already told you this before, my name is Ling Yun.”

Toward this name, Hua Minghai was unmoved. Instead, he asked: “Could Benefactor’s true name be... Yun Che?”

“...” Yun Che’s brows violently twitched... Shit! What’s this? I’ve only announced my name twice, and I said that it was “Ling Yun” both times, yet the other party all call out my real name... Could it be that my

name has already been spread to such an extent that everyone within Divine Phoenix Empire knows me?

Seeing that Yun Che had not said anything for a long time, Hua Minghai knew that his guess was right. He quickly continued: "When I infiltrated Divine Phoenix Sect, I just happened to hear the name 'Yun Che', and they mentioned that 'Yun Che' was from Blue Wind Nation. He wasn't a part of Divine Phoenix Sect, yet he possessed the phoenix bloodline. Benefactor is from Blue Wind Nation and can use phoenix flames... so I always thought that Benefactor was this 'Yun Che'.

So that's why... Yun Che was finally relieved. It was evident that the name "Yun Che" wasn't much, but people would pay attention to "someone outside of Divine Phoenix Sect who possesses the phoenix bloodline".

"Yes, I am the Yun Che you speak of. I came to Divine Phoenix City this time to settle this matter with Divine Phoenix Sect. That is also why I wasn't willing to give you the Phoenix Helianthus." Yun Che glanced at the night sky, then helped Hua Minghai up: "Okay, go back to look after your wife. You don't have to think about thanking me. After she recovers her strength, you should take her away from Divine Phoenix City and go to a safer place."

Hua Minghai said unhesitatingly: "Even though I am a thief, I will never forget how to repay a debt of gratitude. I've said it before, as long as you are able to save my wife, my life is yours. From now on, if Benefactor needs me for anything, don't hesitate to open your mouth. Even if it is extremely dangerous, I won't even wrinkle my brows! Especially if Benefactor wants something... Even if it's in the sacred grounds, I will still be willing to charge in for Benefactor."

Hua Minghai's last words stirred Yun Che's heart. He opened his lips, but before he could speak, he swallowed them back... In Divine Phoenix City, the thing he wanted the most was undoubtedly Divine Phoenix Sect's 《World Ode of the Phoenix》. If he could obtain the fundamental formula and the first four stages of the 《World Ode of the Phoenix》, he would completely master and comprehend his phoenix profound strength.

But 《World Ode of the Phoenix》 was Divine Phoenix Sect's core art. It was also 《World Ode of the Phoenix》 that allowed Divine Phoenix Sect to become the number one sect in the Profound Sky. The protection Divine Phoenix Sect would have for 《World Ode of the Phoenix》 would certainly be extremely tight. If Hua Minghai goes in to steal it, it was extremely possible for him to lose his life... That was after all, Divine Phoenix Sect's 《World Ode of the Phoenix》, normal things absolutely cannot compare to it.

He had just removed the cold poison from Ru Xiaoya. If Hua Minghai actually plants himself within Divine Phoenix Sect because of him, that would be the same as harming the two.

Seeing the distinct flash of hesitation in Yun Che's face, as well as him withdrawing his words, Hua Minghai quickly said: "Benefactor, is there something you want? Don't hesitate to ask, I'll definitely help you get it... If I don't repay this kindness, I won't ever be at ease."

Yun Che pondered for a while, then said: "Can you tell me what movement skill you use?"

Hua Minghai was somewhat stunned, then said after a slight hesitation: "It is my Hua Family's hereditary movement skill — 'Extreme Mirage Lightning'."

Chapter 412 - Hunted

"Extreme Mirage Lightning... This movement skill, can it be transferred to another person?" Yun Che asked earnestly.

"Ah..." Hua Minghai stilled his expression, then shook his head in fear and agony: "Sorry, Benefactor. I'll never hesitate in whatever you want me to do, but only this... Extreme Mirage Lightning is my clan's treasure bestowed upon us by heaven, and also our biggest taboo that can never be passed on to others. I..."

"I understand." Yun Che nodded: "A clan's profound techniques are originally not supposed to be spread out, I was being rude. Take proper care of your wife."

After he finished speaking, Yun Che turned, leaving with slow steps.

"Benefactor... I..." Hua Minghai looked at Yun Che's departing back, gritting his teeth with a face full of shame... What Yun Che had given him was no doubt a favor as big as the sky. He could easily accomplish the only thing he wanted, yet he just couldn't do it... He was a man who hated owing a debt of gratitude to another, let alone such a great kindness. This kind of feeling made his heart feel unbearable pain.

"Don't take it to heart." Yun Che executed a backward wave: "You should be using all your energy on your wife at the moment, don't be distracted by something that doesn't matter. Saving a life can also be considered to be for the purpose of redeeming a bit of my sins. If you really want to repay me, then work hard to help your wife recover faster, which would not make me saving her be in vain."

As his voice fell, Yun Che's figure had already disappeared into the dark of night. Hua Minghai looked up ahead, not uttering a single word for a long while, with a complicated, indescribable expression on his face, as though he was struggling intensely about something.

"I never thought that you, someone who treats human life like grass, who would annihilate an entire clan without blinking, would actually waste energy to save someone who has nothing to do with you." Jasmine said with an extremely indifferent tone of voice.

"This proves that I am still inherently a good person, right?"

"..." Jasmine snorted.

By the time Yun Che returned to the inn, it was already the middle of the night. When he went back in his room, just as he was intending to push the door open while standing right at the doorway, his hands suddenly stiffened as both his brows sunk. All the nerves on his entire body had also instantly stretched taut.

Because he clearly felt that there was someone in his room!

The person hidden in his room was superb at concealment, if it was only by his profound strength and not spiritual sense, it would be impossible for him to discover his existence... Once he perceived this person's existence, a kind of hair raising, chilling sensation came right after. This kind of sensation told him that not only was the person inside terrifyingly strong, this person was here to kill him.

“Quickly, leave! It’s someone at the eighth level of the Emperor Profound Realm! He has already detected you!”

Under Jasmine’s quick warning, Yun Che no longer had time to think as he Star God’s Broken Shadow’d out of the inn and quickly dashed out.

Crash!

The door and walls being completely smashed sounded behind him as a scorching wave of wind also screamed from behind... This kind of burning sensation was clearly... phoenix flame!

Someone from Divine Phoenix Sect!

Yun Che’s heart grew heavy... why was it someone from Divine Phoenix Sect? And this killing intent clearly wanted to put him to death. Could it be... Feng Xichen!?

Yun Che’s heart turned... Looks like it was due to the events back then, when he had revealed his phoenix flames in broad daylight in Falling Flame Merchant Guild and was mistaken as a Divine Phoenix Sect disciple, which allowed Divine Phoenix Sect to obtain news of him. They followed the clues to then find where he resided.

Seems like he had been too careless then. He was too preoccupied with noticing Hua Minghai that he had subconsciously forgotten this key fact... In Divine Phoenix City, Divine Phoenix Sect spies were everywhere!

Yun Che’s speed obviously could not match a strong practitioner at the later stages of the Emperor Profound. In less than ten breaths, he had already chased to the point where there was only sixty meters between them. A violent wave of phoenix flame broke through the air at him.

RIIP!!

The phoenix flame that had been violently ignited in the air was especially luminous in the night sky. Yun Che quickly dodged, avoiding the phoenix flame. Then, his heart steeled as he stopped to turn around... The person chasing him also stopped without overtaking him, because before his eyes, was his pitiful prey that simply could not escape his grasp.

“Who are you?” Yun Che asked with sunken brows.

The other party’s gaze swept across his body, then laughed coldly: “You do indeed have the aura of phoenix profound strength. You are indeed the rumored bastard... Yun Che. I never thought that you would actually arrive so early.”

“Heh,” Yun Che coldly laughed in turn: “Look like your Divine Phoenix Sect is scared of me.”

“Scared of you?”

“Right!” Yun Che ridiculed: “I came to Divine Phoenix City with the intent to settle the bloodline dispute with your Divine Phoenix Sect openly and honorably at the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament, but you Divine Phoenix Sect are actually using such an unpresentable method like assassination. Seems like the so called Divine Phoenix Sect is only this much.”

“Haha,” The middle aged man laughed disdainfully: “In our Divine Phoenix Sect’s eyes, you are merely a little reptile that had stolen our sect’s bloodline. My sect is scared of a pathetic little reptile? Truly a joke as large as the heavens. Today is just because Thirteenth Prince wants your life.”

“As expected...” Yun Che’s gaze became even colder.

“A mere reptile from Blue Wind actually dares to offend Thirteenth Prince. Even if the Blue Wind Emperor kneels to beg for forgiveness on your behalf, you should not even think of living past tonight... However, dying in my, Feng Chihuo’s hands, is enough to brag about when you go to the netherworld and enter the reincarnation cycle! Calmly meet your maker!”

Feng Chihuo’s figure swayed, then he suddenly charged at Yun Che with phoenix flames ignited on all five of his fingers, aiming for Yun Che’s chest. It was evident that he wanted to kill him in one strike... Eighth level of the Emperor Profound Realm, a genuine high level Throne, against one at merely the Earth Profound Realm. If an instant kill was impossible, even he would feel that it was funny.

Yun Che’s gaze flashed as he stepped a Star God’s Broken Shadow, instantly splitting out three false images, dooming Feng Chihuo’s grab to miss. Sucking in a deep breath, he gathered all the profound energy in his body and quickly fled toward the south.

The moment he grabbed empty air, Feng Chihuo was stunned. He was actually unable to clearly see how Yun Che had dodged with his eyesight, and the rate in which Yun Che had fled right after had shocked him even more... He clearly was only at the Earth Profound Realm, but his speed was no less inferior to that of a low level Throne!

“Hmph! As expected, he has some skill.” Feng Chihuo snorted coldly, as a trace of anger surfaced in his heart. Even though Yun Che’s speed was way faster than what he had expected, this kind of speed still could not escape the palm of his hands. Besides, Yun Che only had profound strength at the Earth Profound Realm. It was impossible for him to fly, so he had no other choice but to run on ground, which meant that he could never escape his line of sight, nor his perception.

“Brat, let’s see where you’ll run to!”

Feng Chihuo growled. His entire body flew after Yun Che like an arrow from a bow, the shocking speed brought along the exceptionally ear-piercing sound of air being broken. Under the distinct difference in speed, within several tens of breaths, Yun Che was once again chased to sixty meters of difference. Yun Che, who was on the run, suddenly turned around again and tossed a pitch-black thing at the Feng Chihuo in midair.

The waning moon in the sky was completely hidden from view by the Primordial Profound Ark, making the night as black as ink. Feng Chihuo heard a sharp whistling sound in front of him, yet couldn’t clearly see what it was. He didn’t dare to use his body to obstruct it, for fear that the other party had tossed out a toxic poison. He quickly dodged to the side, and once it had brushed past him, did he clearly see that it was only an ordinary stone... It was probably a random stone Yun Che had casually picked up during his escape.

“Whoosh!”

The sound of something breaking through the air resounded once more, and Feng Chihuo's gaze grew disdainful. Casually slapping the stone into pieces, he sneered: "Truly a hilarious struggle, are you still dreaming about escaping the palms of your lord's hands!?"

After a few breaths, Yun Che had already been chased to a distance of forty five meters apart. His expression was still, and he turned around again as a pitch-black object flew out of his hands once more.

Forty five meters of distance was already inside Feng Chihuo's attack range. He began to condense profound energy in his hand, and directly met that object. Without even looking at what it was, he casually slapped it away...

BOOM!!!!

The sound of profound thunder from the nine heavens resounded within Divine Phoenix City's quiet midnight. An enormous energy storm violently exploded in midair. From far away, it was as though an extremely magnificent firework had exploded in the sky.

The first two stones were merely a pretense tossed out by Yun Che.

But the third one, was the Heaven Decimating Orb Yun Che had obtained from the body of Xiao Wuyi!

Heaven Decimating Orb's might was incomparably large, enough to severely injure a low level Throne. With Feng Chihuo's abilities, if he had used all his strength to defend, it might actually be difficult for the Heaven Decimating Orb to bring about substantial injuries. However, in the cat chasing mouse game-like manner he used to pursue Yun Che, he simply did not defend at all. Inside the blaze brought about by the Heaven Decimating Orb, his entire left arm had been completely fried inside out, dripping with fresh blood. His entire phoenix robe had been burst into pieces, it was so powerful that even his chest, both arms, and face were littered with wounds all over. His hair had even been half bombed, changing into a field of rough disorder.

He looked miserable to the extreme.

As for Yun Che, he had fled long ago, not a trace of him could be found.

Even though there were many wounds, they were all just minor injuries, only the injury on his left arm was a bit severe. Compared to his external injuries, Feng Chihuo's chest had nearly burst from rage. He looked at his arm with a vicious expression as his entire body shook... He, a grand, high level Throne of Divine Phoenix Sect had actually been reduced to such a miserable shape by a mere junior of the Earth Profound Realm... This was the biggest humiliation of his entire life!

"Yun Che... I'm going to rip you into ten thousand pieces!!" Feng Chihuo's hair stood erect as his entire body combusted with a violent blaze. With a loud roar and a towering fury, he used his greatest speed to chase forward, his perception, had also been released to its maximum.

After running in his quickest speed possible for a distance, Yun Che had instead slowed down, then used all his power to control the fluctuation of his profound strength. To an escapee, night time was the best time for hiding, but at the same time, in the completely quiet night, even the most minute of movement would echo through the silence.

Feng Xichen had indeed ordered someone to kill him before the ranking tournament, and his mobilization was actually this fast... He had already been discovered, and Divine Phoenix City was also full of Divine Phoenix Sect's spies. In that case, Divine Phoenix City was no longer a suitable place for him to stay before the ranking tournament. Before dawn, he had to stay hidden from Feng Chihuo's pursuit and leave Divine Phoenix City at the same time.

As he was currently being hunted, Yun Che's mind would find itself at its most clearest state. Inside the darkness, in Divine Phoenix City, a place he was not at all familiar with, he was displaying his concealing and evading abilities to their peaks. Going along a strange and unpredictable route, he quickly approached the southern part of Divine Phoenix City.

Time slowly passed by in the night, and the milky white color of twilight began to emerge from the eastern sky. Yun Che could already see Divine Phoenix City's tall, majestic southern gate in his field of vision... And in this boundless night, Feng Chihuo, who was crazily searching for him overhead could not find any trace of him.

Yun Che took in a deep breath, made himself look completely natural, and then walked toward the city gate. Just as he approached, he was obstructed by two heavily armored city guards:

"Orders from the Imperial Palace! Before seven in the morning today, no one is allowed to exit the city! Violators will be arrested on the spot."

Chapter 413 - Profound Handle Exposed

The Seven Nation Ranking Tournament was in more than ten days, and the influx of people coming in Divine Phoenix City could be said to be increasing day by day. At this time, how could the city gates suddenly be sealed off?

The greatest possibility was that Feng Chihuo was angry that he couldn't find him through the entire night. Since he was angry to the point where he would have fainted and revived several times, he contacted Feng Xichen to pass down an order to temporarily seal off the city gates, allowing people to enter but not leave.

Yun Che moved two steps back. A few ideas quickly flashed through his mind, then, he suddenly accelerated, forcefully knocking the two city guards aside as he charged forward.

"Stop him!!"

Yun Che's action was no different from poking a hornet's nest. Several tens of city guards nearby immediately rushed over. Yun Che lifted Dragon Fault and swept across without even looking at his surroundings. The might of the berserk heavy sword was like a Doomsday windstorm that ruthlessly scattered the besieging city guards flying. They couldn't get up for a long while, and even the weapons in their hands had been instantly destroyed.

The fact that the sky was only slightly bright, added to the fact that no one would dare be impetuous in Divine Phoenix City, meant that the city guards were relatively weak. Even though they had received the order to blockade the city, the city gates were still wide open, not shut. After Yun Che swept away the obstacles, without waiting for them to react, he had already rushed out of the city gates with an

extremely fast speed. As he stepped outside the city, he summoned the Snow Phoenix, then flew off into the distance.

“Quick... notify Lord Chihuo.” A city guard yelled out with all his strength.

Fifteen minutes later, a current of heat hurtled above the city gates, directly chasing in the direction Yun Che had fled. It was precisely Feng Chihuo. The order Feng Xichen gave him was for him to assassinate Yun Che secretly. Not only was no one to know about it, he wasn't suppose to leave behind any traces. But it was clear that Feng Chihuo was already muddled by his anger. In order to thoroughly kill Yun Che, he had even brought about such a commotion. After all, being played with by a mere Earth Profound junior to a battered and exhausted state was a humiliation he had never suffered before. If he didn't kill Yun Che, it would be difficult for him to eliminate the hatred in his heart!

The Snow Phoenix Beast's speed was naturally faster than Yun Che by several fold. Even if Feng Chihuo went searching in the right direction, it was impossible for him to catch up in a short while. However, Yun Che was completely unfamiliar with the terrain outside Divine Phoenix City. The map Cang Yue had prepared for him only contained the route from Blue Wind Imperial City to Divine Phoenix City, as well as Divine Phoenix City's basic composition. There were no marks or anything about the topography outside Divine Phoenix City. Whether or not he was able to find a place to completely throw off Feng Chihuo was entirely left up to fate and luck.

And it was inevitable that Feng Chihuo, as a member of Divine Phoenix Sect, was extremely familiar with this region. At the same time, even though the Snow Phoenix's speed was fast, wherever it went, it would leave behind a sliver of cold air that would very likely turn into a trail that could be followed.

Under Yun Che's urging, the Snow Phoenix's speed finally reached its peak. Like a streak of lightning, it rapidly flitted across the sky. In the blink of an eye, it was already several tens of kilometers away from Divine Phoenix City.

On the way forward, Yun Che's expression was tranquil yet dark. Most of the space around Divine Phoenix City was spacious, it was hard to find somewhere to hide. After an hour, the feeling of being pursued still did not come from behind, but Yun Che did not relax at all. He was certain that Feng Chihuo would not give up in his chase. The reason why he had not been overtaken was because the Snow Phoenix was not slower than Feng Chihuo by much.

Yun Che couldn't help but think of Hua Minghai... In terms of profound strength level, he could not amount to even one tenth of Feng Chihuo, however, in terms of speed, he was much more faster than Feng Chihuo. If he could cultivate that “Extreme Mirage Lightning”, he could effortlessly throw off Feng Chihuo.

The only profound movement skill he possessed was Star God's Broken Shadow. Even though Star God's Broken Shadow was incomparably mysterious, it was limited to combat. Its existence perfectly made up for the heavy sword's largest flaw, allowing Yun Che to still wield a heavy sword that was several tens of thousands of kilograms in weight like a phantom. But Star God's Broken Shadow's activation was only an instantaneous short displacement, it was absolutely not used for normal high speed movements.

An endless range of mountains appeared on Yun Che's southwest side. Inside the mountain range were innumerable mountain peaks, the highest mountain was at least three thousand meters high. His heart

stirred as he changed direction, speeding toward the row of mountains. Soon enough, he charged into the mountain range like a shooting star.

Once he entered the mountain range, an abnormal scorching sensation blasted forward, startling a few birds, scattering them about... These birds were completely red in color, and their bodies released a fiery aura.

As soon as he entered the mountain range, what he should've seen was green grass everywhere while feeling a slightly cold mountain wind, but once Yun Che went deeper in, he'd actually sensed that the air had distinctively gotten hotter. Every sort of vegetation also grew everywhere, but most of the plants here were red in color. Furthermore, they all released the smell of ignited flame. Ninety percent of the profound beasts he encountered on the way, were also all fire attribute profound beasts.

Don't tell me it's because this place is close to Divine Phoenix City, and has something to do with the strong fire element within Divine Phoenix City?

After flying around for two hours, there still was no trace of Feng Chihuo coming from behind, as though he had completely thrown him off. Yun Che slowed down and the Snow Phoenix dropped from the sky, continuously descending until they were not even three hundred meters high, to hide in the many layers of mountains. Jasmine's low voice suddenly resounded within Yun Che's mind: "This place is somewhat different than usual."

"Different from usual? Where are you talking about?" Yun Che immediately asked.

"I thought that this place's heat came from the volcano nearby, or is from a high concentrated fire element zone. But when I probed earlier, I discovered that this place has exceptionally active fire elemental particles that actually come from an enormous, hidden profound formation that's extremely deep underground... The entire mountain range is enveloped in this profound formation. If I'm not mistaken, this enormous profound formation ought to have been set up by Divine Phoenix Sect around eight thousand years ago. At the same time, it also means that this mountain range is Divine Phoenix Sect's territory..."

"It seems like... you came to a place that you really shouldn't have entered!"

"Brat, let's see where you'll run off to this time!"

Just as Jasmine's voice fell, a loud angry roar resounded near Yun Che's ears. This voice came from... up ahead.

Yun Che raised his head. Feng Chihuo stood on a low mountain top in front of him with both hands behind his back.. Even though there was a great difference between them, he could still sense the surging fury released from his body. At first, Feng Chihuo thought that sending him, a Throne at the eighth rank, to personally assassinate him was like killing chicken with a butcher knife for cows. It was simply an insult to his status and ability. If not for the fact that Feng Xichen had personally ordered him, he absolutely wouldn't be willing to do so. However, once he found his target, such an extremely simple mission that insulted his rank had not gone smoothly at all. Instead, he had been dirtied by the other party's Heaven Decimating Orb... Within these several hours, Feng Chihuo's fury had not ceased. If not for the fact that his body was resilient, his chest would've burst open several tens of times due to his rage.

Yun Che was secretly shocked, if he had been overtaken by Feng Chihuo from behind, he would not be this shocked, because not only was Feng Chihuo's speed faster than the Snow Phoenix's, his familiarity with this Divine Phoenix region had far surpassed his. However, what shocked him was that Feng Chihuo appeared in front of him at such a close distance, but he had never detected him.

Jasmine knew what Yun Che was thinking, and said in a low voice: "Looks like there's big trouble up ahead. This profound formation that's at least eight thousand years old is not that simple."

Yun Che's brows sunk. Then, he clutched at the Snow Phoenix's snowy feathers on its back and yelled: "Little Chan... Go!!"

The Snow Phoenix Beast rapidly turned around, changing into a streak of an extremely fast white silhouette as it wildly flew in the opposite direction. From behind, came Feng Chihuo's loud roar: "You still want to flee! No matter where you go, even if you have a hundred lives, don't even think about escaping!"

The Snow Phoenix's speed reached its pinnacle as it quickly dove down, and the mountain range on the side quickly drew back, forming two long and narrow ravines.

Yun Che glanced backwards with clenched fists, urging the Snow Phoenix to suppress its aviation, to not fly higher than thirty meters. As they approached the ravine, he channeled Frozen End Divine Arts, instantly activating "Frozen End Illusory Mirror". At the same time, it enveloped him and the Snow Phoenix within, isolating their auras to a great extent. Then, he extended an arm, and allowed the Profound Handle to fly off into the other ravine.

This was a trick he used to disorientate those who chased after him... it was well-trying and had never been defeated before.

Behind him, Feng Chihuo pursued with a speed that wasn't too fast, and in front of him was a bizarre, slowly revolving, fire-red profound formation. A white dot slowly moved inside the profound formation. As he looked at this white dot, Feng Chihuo exposed a ridiculing sneer... Right at this moment, his brows suddenly moved, because he suddenly felt that the direction in which the white dot in the profound formation was moving, was not the direction that Yun Che's aura went. A huge discrepancy had actually appeared...

"What happened? How could a discrepancy appear on the Great Phoenix Formation?"

Feng Chihuo stared blankly for a while. As he raised both his hands, the hovering red colored profound formation in front of him slowly enlarged. Along with the phoenix profound strength Feng Chihuo poured into the profound formation, it spun quickly. Then, two distinct scenes slowly appeared...

In one image was Yun Che flying really fast on a Snow Phoenix...

In the other, was shockingly... an extremely fast, flying orange yellow stream of light.

Yun Che's aura Feng Chihuo sensed... had actually come from the stream of light. Its aura and Yun Che's aura, were exactly the same!

Seeing the orange colored stream of light, Feng Chihuo was first stunned, then, his pupils slowly contracted as his face revealed an expression of deep shock and incredibility. After a while, two words containing deep astonishment came out of his mouth...

“Profound... Handle!!”

The Snow Phoenix quickly passed through the ravine. As he looked onward, the highest mountain peak was already before his eyes, it was no less than four thousand five hundred meters tall. Feng Chihuo did not chase over, but Yun Che still did not sigh in relief. Instead, he felt that something was fishy.

He felt as if a pair of eyes had continuously been staring at him all along... how could that be possible?

Was I wrong?

“Run, keep running, let me see how far you can run to.”

Feng Chihuo’s voice suddenly resounded, and it still came from up ahead. Yun Che’s complexion slightly changed as he raised his head... Not even ninety meters up ahead was a leisurely floating Feng Chihuo with an amused expression. However, Yun Che unexpectedly did not feel any killing intent from him, and even his anger had dissipated by a lot.

This time, Yun Che was completely certain that the feeling of being watched was not his misconception. The Feng Chihuo before him was obviously using some sort of method to lock onto his movements, and what helped him, was most likely the “profound formation” which covered the entire mountain range that Jasmine mentioned.

This time, Yun Che didn’t flee at once. He coldly stared at Feng Chihuo: “Are you using this place’s profound formation to track me?”

“Oh? You are actually able to sense the Great Phoenix Formation here? Oh... I almost forgot, you are also someone with the phoenix bloodline. Otherwise, you would not have been able to enter.” Feng Chihuo walked closer and laughed coldly: “Your concealment abilities were truly unexpected, to actually make me search for you without finding a single trace of your shadow until dawn. If you fled to some other place, you might have been able to escape me, but you just happened to rush here... I’ve lived for a hundred years, and have never seen such a perfect example of the saying ‘walking straight into a trap.’”

“Great Phoenix Formation? What exactly is this place?”

“This is Phoenix Mountain Range, a place Divine Phoenix Sect uses to evaluate disciples of the young generation.” Up till here, Feng Chihuo was no longer worried about Yun Che escaping the palms of his hand. He continued calmly: “And only those with the phoenix bloodline may enter. Other humans that approach would be repelled by the Great Phoenix Formation. Since it’s an appraisal ground, we obviously have to monitor each and every disciple’s movements. And I, just happen to be one of the supervisors of this Phoenix Mountain Range. With the help of the Great Phoenix Formation, I can control everything here, even so much that I can travel through the space here using the Great Phoenix Formation.”

Yun Che: “!!”

"I had already known where you were the exact instant you entered the Phoenix Mountain Range. It's just that you were more crafty than I thought you were, so I didn't immediately take action to avoid you fleeing the Phoenix Mountain Range. Instead, I allowed you to go deeper in... all the way to here." Feng Chihuo gazed straight at Yun Che, then extended a palm: "You are now like a turtle in a jar, even if you dream about it, you should not think about escaping. But don't you worry, I suddenly don't feel like killing you anymore, because something that would greatly interest Sect Master, and even the Four Great Sacred Grounds has appeared on your body... I didn't expect that not only are you a bastard of our phoenix bloodline, you're also a demon from Illusory Demon Realm! I've clearly seen the profound handle you used earlier!"

"!!!" Yun Che's expression immediately sunk as an extremely strong killing intent flashed through his eyes.

Yun Che's overall strength had no doubt increased exponentially after awakening his profound handle, but he'd actually never used his profound handle in real combat before. Even when he had nearly been forced into a dire strait by Ling Tianni, he still did not think about using his profound handle. This was because while ordinary people might not recognize the profound handle, Heavenly Sword Villa, which was linked with Mighty Heavenly Sword Region in countless ways, might recognize it.

And the profound handle was a godly technique possessed only by Illusory Demon Realm's Yun Family. As head of the Illusory Demon Royal Family's Twelve Guardian Families, the Yun Family was no doubt one of the Four Great Sacred Grounds' greatest enemies. And Illusory Demon Realm had long been made into demons by the Four Great Sacred Grounds. Once the profound handle was exposed, not only would the Four Great Sacred Grounds come at him, everyone within the Seven Nations would regard him as a "demon".

If that happens, there would not be a single place in the entire Profound Sky Continent that he could seek shelter.

The consequences were ten million times more grave than exposing his phoenix flame.

Both of Yun Che's hands tightened as his eyes became bone-piercingly cold. Previously, he'd used all his might to escape, but now, he absolutely could not run anymore! This person, who recognized his profound handle... he had to die!

No matter what, no matter how large of a cost he had to pay, he had to kill him!

Chapter 414 - Trading a Life for a Life

"Run, why aren't you running? Have you resigned to your fate, or have you already been scared witless?" Feng Chihuo laughed wildly: "Forget it, I ought to end our game of cat chasing mouse by now. Even though I spent so much time on you, with such an unexpected harvest, I can't say that I've suffered any losses. I've even heard that you're the Blue Wind Emperor's son-in-law... Tsk, tsk. If that damned emperor of Blue Wind Nation and the other inferior nations were to know that a mighty prince consort was a demon from Illusory Demon Realm, I'm not sure how marvelous of a reaction they would have... Haha..."

After laughing to his content, Feng Chihuo's face suddenly became darkened: "Even though I'm not going to kill you, once I give you to Sect Master... I'll make you live a life worse than death! The debts you incurred after playing tricks on me... I'll properly calculate them now!"

Feng Chihuo suddenly swooped down from the sky. With a sudden wave of his arm, a six meter wide column of fire instantly shot downwards. Just as it was about to approach Yun Che, it changed into a fire phoenix that danced in midair. As the temperature boiled, it nearly melted the ground.

Yun Che was not the least bit afraid of phoenix fire, but the profound energy attack of a high level Throne was still within the flame. Yun Che's complexion grew grim as he instantly raised Dragon Fault. With a loud roar, the heavy sword force swung upwards against the air, straight for the fire phoenix.

Whoosh!!

Phoenix flame and the heavy sword's windstorm directly clashed head-on. Yun Che's hair had been blown up by the chaos as a distorted expression appeared on his face. The heavy sword force only lasted for half a breath before it had been completely smashed apart. The fire phoenix crazily descended, charging at Yun Che and the Snow Phoenix.

The sound of phoenix fire exploding roiled like surging thunder, as the incomparably terrifying heat suddenly inflated the surrounding space. Yun Che's groans and the Snow Phoenix's mournful cries came from within the blaze. One was knocked to the east while the other was knocked to the west....

"Little Chan!"

The Snow Phoenix lost its balance, as though it was a dead leaf that was being swirled inside a gale, it fell several hundred meters away... Two stretches of ghastly blood red had quickly spread on the originally snow white pair of wings. After landing on the ground, it no longer made another sound. It was, after all, only a Sky Profound Beast, how could it withstand an attack from a high level Throne?

Bang!

Yun Che also heavily fell down, the fierce attack smashed two enormous holes on the ground. After he fell, the clothes on Yun Che's entire body were broken into pieces, dyed all over with bloodstains. All four of his limbs twitched unceasingly, and it seemed as if he used all his strength to lift Dragon Fault. While struggling to finally stand, he panted with his mouth open in huge coarse breaths.

"Jasmine, with my current body, what is the maximum time I can maintain 'Purgatory'?" Yun Che asked grimly.

Jasmine was also very clear that since Feng Chihuo recognized Yun Che's profound handle, he had to die no matter what. If he wanted to kill Feng Chihuo, he had to forcibly open Purgatory's gate. She said carefully: "Fifteen breaths... as for the most extreme limit, it cannot exceed twenty breaths. Otherwise, all the blood vessels in your body will rupture, even your Great Way of the Buddha won't be able to save you!"

"Tsk tsk, not bad. No wonder our prince had specially sent me to kill you. You do have some ability, after receiving a move that contains thirty percent of my strength, you actually had not been beaten half dead, and can even stand up."

Feng Chihuo casually dropped from midair toward Yun Che. The disdain in his eyes was as though he was looking at lamb about to be slaughtered. He moved his wrist, as malice flickered in his eyes: "You made quite a bit of blood flow from this arm of mine, there are even a few cracks that have appeared in my bones. In order to repay this favor of yours, tell me, should I snap every bone in your body, or pinch each and every one of them into pieces?"

Yun Che clenched his teeth and forcibly lifted the heavy sword as his entire body tottered on the verge of collapse: "Even if I die, even if I have to risk my life, I'm still going to... leave a few more injuries on your body!"

After he finished speaking, Yun Che roared. Swinging the heavy sword up, he smashed toward Feng Chihuo, who was only three steps away from him.

"Hahahaha!" The incoming heavy sword did not have the least bit of imposingness, rather, it seemed as if it was about to fall from Yun Che's grasp any moment. Feng Chihuo laughed out loud as he extended a hand to grab at Dragon Fault: "You alone, can actually injure..."

Just as Feng Chihuo's hand was about to touch Dragon Fault, Yun Che's expression suddenly changed. "Purgatory" opened, and Yun Che, who was on the verge of collapse, seemed like a ferocious beast that had suddenly awakened from the abyss as his entire body bursted with a incredibly frightening strength.

"Falling Moon Sinking Star!!"

A sky tremoring dragon cry came from Dragon Fault as the ground beneath Yun Che's feet suddenly shook. Cracks resembling spider webs crazily spread... this sudden variation greatly changed Feng Chihuo's complexion. At such a close range, even if he was a deity, he would still not have time to react... That one strike brimming with all of Yun Che's power ruthlessly smashed on his arm.

Boom!!

The cracking sound of bone disintegrating was drowned within a world-shaking explosion. The surrounding mountain stones were all twisted upwards by the heavy sword tornado, then, they were all crushed into the most minute of fragmented dust. Feng Chihuo's left elbow bone had been directly smashed broken. Under the enormous attack, his entire person flew like a spinning top as he was smashed three hundred meters away, firmly ramming into a large mountain boulder, crushing it into smithereens.

With Yun Che's strength, defeating Ling Tianni at the sixth level of the Emperor Profound Realm required the joint help of Xia Qingyue. In normal instances, prevailing over Feng Chihuo at the eighth level of the Emperor Profound Realm was something he had no chance of ever doing! If he was able to sustain Purgatory, he might be able to confront Feng Chihuo, but it was also near impossible... Besides, he could only maintain the Purgatory state for at most fifteen breaths. After fifteen breaths, he would be toying with fate, and after twenty breaths, he would be courting death.

And the only hope he had to kill Feng Chihuo... was to utilize all his strength and willpower, so much that he had to overdraft his life force! At the same time, he had to use any kind of tactics and tricks — no matter how shameless and despicable they were.

With Yun Che's current body strength, Feng Chihuo's attack that contained thirty percent of his strength was still a fire attribute attack, it was impossible to place him in too miserable of a state. Even the utterly tattered clothes and those numerous little wounds were all devised by him... they were all for this one moment. And the results were even better than what he had anticipated... directly crippling one of Feng Chihuo's arms!

Facing Feng Chihuo, who only had one arm left, his chances had naturally gotten better!

Feng Chihuo got up from the crushed rocks with an extremely angry snarl. His entire left arm dangled, its shape appearing to be hideously twisted. His right arm grabbed onto it as he felt intolerable pain. With most of the bones in his left arm broken, he howled, as if insane: "Yun Che... I'm going to tear you into ten thousand pieces!!"

Feng Chihuo had lived for over one hundred years, his combat experience was incomparably rich, so he was definitely not one of those who were arrogant and condescending. On the contrary, even when facing an opponent weaker than himself, he would still be very cautious... However, Yun Che was just too weak. Earth Profound Realm was two great realms weaker than him, how could he possibly be on guard? A fierce tiger going up against a wounded wolf might be on guard, but how could a tiger be on guard against a wounded young rabbit?

The acute pain in his arm was unbearable, yet far beneath the shock in his heart... The power Yun Che suddenly exploded out with just a while ago was only a strength a high level Throne could put forth, how could it appear from a profound practitioner at the Earth Profound Realm?

Just as he let out a howl, the figure before him swayed, and Yun Che had already attacked again, bringing along an imposing force not weaker than before. His eyes especially, flickered with a blood red radiance.

"Die!!" Instantly submerging in his anger and hatred, Feng Chihuo roared as his right arm shot out. The palm he poured his berserking profound energy in directly grabbed at Yun Che's chest... with the intent to immediately tear Yun Che's heart into pieces. Due to the arm that had been smashed broken, why would he care whether or not Yun Che was a demon from Illusory Demon Realm? Under his extreme fury, he only wanted to tear him into pieces.

RIIIP!!

Feng Chihuo's palm struck empty air, as four Yun Ches appeared around him at the same time. Since Feng Chihuo had plenty of experience, even though he was shocked, his mind had not been thrown into disorder. Instead of locking onto Yun Che's position, all the phoenix profound energy in his body rushed forth, launching out in all four directions.

Bang!!

Yun Che quickly dodged behind Feng Chihuo, then firmly smashed Dragon Fault on Feng Chihuo's back. At the same time, Feng Chihuo instantly ignited his profound energy and also firmly struck Yun Che's chest.

The two different forces exploded simultaneously, causing so much shaking that even the surrounding mountains violently trembled. A bloody flower burst out of Yun Che's chest as he was ruthlessly knocked

flying. Feng Chihuo was even more miserable, he had been fiercely smashed to the ground by Dragon Fault, and then rolled far away like a gourd. A groove half a finger deep was smashed out onto his back. He used a palm to pound the ground and suddenly jumped up. Before he had time to stand firm, he suddenly discovered that the Yun Che he had sent flying was actually floating in midair. Then, Yun Che's entire body combusted with flame as he dove down like a shooting star.

Empyrean Dance of the Phoenix Wing!!

"Wha...What!?!"

Feng Chihuo widened his eyes, not daring to believe the fact that Yun Che was actually in midair, and was even borrowing the power that knocked him into the air. His gaze darkened as a ball of extremely powerful phoenix flame ignited on the palm of his right hand... Contained in this palm, was the unrestrained accumulation of all his strength, and he shot it at Yun Che within his raging roar.

Facing against Feng Chihuo's attack, Yun Che's descent had not diminished in the slightest, even the direction in which he was diving toward had not changed, as if he was willing to risk his life to receive Feng Chihuo's attack in order to smash out a strike of his own... Once his all out attack had come out, it was too late to retrieve it even if Feng Chihuo wanted to. Facing Yun Che's fighting style that was entirely trading a life for a life, Feng Chihuo's eyes fixedly stared wide, and he explosively roared: "You're courting death!!"

BOOOM!!!!!!

Yun Che's Dragon Fault and Feng Chihuo's palm heavily struck the other party's body at the same time... Numerous blood vessels on Yun Che's arm ruptured instantly as a huge expanse of blood burst from his chest. Several bones in his ribs and sternum broke apart, and several lines of gaps had even appeared on his internal organs. His entire person had been smashed over a height of three hundred meters.

While the sternum and ribs of Feng Chihuo's left side were all jolted into pieces, the position of his heart directly shifted by an inch as streams of blood sprayed out of the wound like a geyser. He was unable to believe that he had actually been severely injured to such an extent by a strike from a junior at the Earth Profound Realm, while his own all out attack had not smashed the other party into pieces. In fact, his power had not even entered the opponent's internal organs, and had actually been firmly resisted against.

That kind of power, that kind of body... how could it only be at the Earth Profound Realm... How was that possible!!

In this brief exchange, the two were both completely covered in blood and injuries. This was because what Yun Che wanted was not an exchange, the preservation of his own life, nor Feng Chihuo's defeat, rather, he wanted his death! In order to kill Feng Chihuo, he had to throw out all his power into his attacks in these short dozen or so breaths instead of dispersing his power and time to defend or evade.

"Sky—Wolf—Slash!!"

Without attending to his internal and external injuries, the midair Yun Che didn't wait for himself to regain his balance as he placed all his strength on his heavy sword once more. The silhouette of the Sky Wolf howled as it charged toward Feng Chihuo, furiously ramming onto his chest... Feng Chihuo

conjured all the strength within his body to rigidly block the sky wolf silhouette, but due to the extremely fast propelling force of the attack, he was pushed backwards. It was only after both his legs instantly plowed two ditches over thirty meters long across the ground did he barely offset Sky Wolf Slash's might. However, before he had time to gasp for breath, Yun Che had already fallen from the sky, blasting a strike over.

Feng Chihuo let out a loud cry as he condensed his flame into a sword. But this time, he didn't attack Yun Che, rather, he put all his strength on the phoenix flame sword to suppress Yun Che's heavy sword... Each one of Yun Che's moves were executed without any concern to his own life, but how could Feng Chihuo willingly trade lives with Yun Che? Against such a terrifyingly large power and the lunatic Yun Che, who was trading injury for injury, his anger had already been rapidly replaced by dread and fear.

With every single sword strike Yun Che smashed out, several tens of blood vessels on his arm would burst open. Both his arms were instantly dyed with blood, as if they had just been submerged in a pool of blood. The wounds on his body endlessly spewed out blood, and the internal injuries in his body continually grew more severe as he attacked without reserve. But he didn't mind it at all; every single sword strike was vicious to the extreme.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom...

Chapter 415 - Brutal

Each strike from Yun Che that Feng Chihuo blocked felt as though a mountain was ruthlessly ramming him, directly shaking him so hard that his internal organs felt like rupturing. Facing Yun Che's blood red eyes and the terrifying impact that passed through his arms, he began to genuinely grow fearful... At this time, under the suppression of Yun Che's heavy sword, let alone retreating to escape, he couldn't even let out a single word.

Yun Che's vision had already changed into a field of hazy red, and only Chihuo remained in this red colored world. The only thing in his heart was an abundant amount of killing intent. However, Feng Chihuo was still a high level Throne, even if it was Yun Che's attack in his strongest state, they were still blocked one after the other. Yun Che's expression grew more overcast as a streak of cyan suddenly emitted out of his left arm.

The lowest level profound handle was red, it became orange after possessing the Dragon God's bloodline, then yellow under the Evil Soul state. Under the Burning Heart state, it became green, and now that he was in the "Purgatory" state...

It had shockingly become the same cyan Yun Canghai possessed! Cyan colored profound handle was equal to one half of the user's strength!

Under the state where he pushed himself to the limit, utilizing the profound handle would undoubtedly accelerate his energy consumption by a substantial amount and cause an intense battering of impact which would lead to unpredictable consequences. However, in order to thoroughly suppress Feng Chihuo, Yun Che nevertheless decided to use the profound handle.

Bang!!

Feng Chihuo was already barely managing to withstand the heavy sword. Once the profound handle came out, he no longer had any energy left to obstruct that, and was firmly hit on the head with the profound handle... The sound of an explosion instantly came from his head as his entire person was knocking off flying. Then, he fell one hundred fifty meters away on the ground, he smashed out a large hole several meters deep with his head and upper body buried at the bottom of the large hole.

“AH!!! You bas...”

Feng Chihuo released an animal-like roar as he ferociously lept out of the large hole. His entire face was filled with blood, his complexion, an even brighter red. On his forehead was shockingly a bloody dent the size of a fist. He was discomforted to the point where he appeared insane but before had time to let out a flurry of curses, the figure before his eyes flashed. An ash colored heavy sword ignited with phoenix flame once more appeared within his pupils, along with the cyan profound hand that had changed into a heavy sword.

Feng Chihuo’s eyes became scarlet as both hands clutched his sword. He threw in all his power into the flame sword before greeting Yun Che’s heavy sword and profound hand.

BOOM!!!!

In that instant, three short mountains near the two had simultaneously crashed down from the shaking. The mountains that had been reduced to level ground was as if a blood moon had risen. Inside the blood moon, all the boulders and trees had all been demolished into fine powder. The two people were dead leaves that had been caught in two separate storms as they lightly fluttered down in two different directions.

Bang!!

Feng Chihuo’s body fiercely smashed onto an ancient tree. He fell flipped over on the ground and violently coughed. Every cough would bring along a large amount of blood clots as he nearly coughed out the smashed pieces of his internal organs out... However, even at such a state, he still didn’t have time to gasp for breath because Yun Che’s silhouette emerged before his eyes like a ghost once more.

Yun Che’s current condition looked even worse than his, his entire body was bloody, there wasn’t a single spot on his face nor limbs that had not been dyed blood red. Especially the heavy sword he was grabbing onto with both hands, streams and streams of blood flowed and dripped down. However, his imposing aura and demonic speed had not decreased in the slightest. Just as Feng Chihuo’s gaze captured him, in the next instant, Yun Che Star God’s Broken Shadow’d to his front.

“You... lunatic!!” Feng Chihuo’s eyeballs were shocked to the point they had nearly burst out. Even though he had received Yun Che’s heavy strike, Yun Che had obviously also received the strike that contained all his power. He also could see how gravely injured Yun Che was currently... but under such a conditions, he actually was not suppressing his wounds, rather, he was continuing his assault!

Feng Chihuo had lived for over one hundred years. It wasn’t as if he had never seen a lunatic before, but he had never seen a lunatic that had become crazed to this extent.

He tightly gritted his teeth. Just as he was about to gather up all the profound energy within his body, his eyes suddenly enlarged... reflected on his eyes was an azure blue dragon roaring up at the sky.

Dragon Soul Domain!

The soul shaking dragon cry resounded through the skies of the Phoenix Mountain Range, making numbers fire profound beasts all crouch on the ground while trembling in fear. Feng Chihuo's entire body began shivering as deep fright continually condensed atop his face. The profound energy he had just conjured had quickly scattered under his fright...

Yun Che's maintaining of the "Purgatory" state was also quickly approaching its utmost limit. If he could, he really wanted to use "Destroying Sky Decimating Earth" to obliterate Feng Chihuo, but due to the severeness of his internal injuries, his body was on the edge of collapse. If he used "Destroying Sky Decimating Earth" his body would perhaps explode instantly.

Using Dragon Soul Domain would overdraft his remaining power, making an enormous tear appear within his mental state. But under the circumstance of not being able to use Destroying Sky Decimating Earth, even if the price was huge, in order to put an end to this accident and completely eliminate Feng Chihuo, he opened Dragon Soul Domain without hesitation. Not only would Dragon Soul Domain allow him to hit his target, the most important thing it did was forcing all of the opponents profound energy defense to completely disintegrate.

If it was under normal circumstances, as a high level Throne, the effects of Dragon Soul Domain would lessen by a great amount to Feng Chihuo. But due to all the injuries on his body had greatly disorientated Feng Chihuo. With his mind mostly crushed, Yun Che suddenly charged in with the last of his gathered power condensed on top of both his hands.

"Falling Moon Sinking Star!!"

The heavy sword lifted, phoenix flame rose. Dragon Fault, which bore the last of Yun Che's strength, brought along the aura of a death god as it smashed toward Feng Chihuo's heart... Confronted with the fast approaching death, Feng Chihuo instinctively extended both his hands to protect his front within his trembling terror, barely managing to set up a profound energy defensive barrier.

Boom!!!!

The ground burst open. Under his crumbling state of mind, Feng Chihuo's constructed defense popped like a weak soap bubble. In the midst of the world shaking sound, lines and lines of cracks rapidly spread beneath his feet, directly extending to more than three hundred meters. As for Feng Chihuo, he had completely disappeared from his line of sight... it was not known how deep his body had been sunk deep into the ground.

Pitter-patter...

Pitter-patter...

Fresh blood flowed from the webs of Yun Che's fingers like pearls from a broken string, quickly trickling drip by drip onto the ruins underfoot. His previous all-out attack made countless cracks appear on his entire body. Blood dyed his body, making him resemble a bloody demon god, an Asura coming out of the battlefield. Even the wind brushing past his body carried the pungent smell of blood.

Finally... over...

Bang!!

Dragon Fault powerlessly dropped from Yun Che's hands. In the midst of its heavy landing sound, the red light in Yun Che's eyes disappeared. The profound handle had also return back in his arm as his eyes slowly closed. After his entire body swayed, he finally heavily fell onto the ground... When he had decided that he had to kill Feng Chihuo, he knew that this battle would be a terribly brutal one. Because with his current strength, wanting to kill a high level Throne required him to pay an extremely large cost. He had finally succeeded... An Earth Profound killing a late stage Emperor Profound, he could be said to have created a never before seen legend in the Profound Sky Continent.

This outcome's crucial point stemmed from the very first time he had caught Feng Chihuo off guard and destroyed an arm. Otherwise, even in a state where he forced himself to the limit, it would be difficult for him to suppress Feng Chihuo.

"Have to... quickly... leave... this place..."

Yun Che struggled to stretch out an arm. Pressing the dirt before him, he had to exhaust almost all his strength to crawl a few inches forward. What he ought to do now should be tending to his wounds, but this place was Phoenix Mountain Rage, Divine Phoenix Sect's territory! Below him, still existed the Great Phoenix Formation. The sounds of his battle with Feng Chihuo was extremely loud, it was quite possible that it had already alerted a few members of the Divine Phoenix Sect. If he didn't leave right away, the consequences would be unthinkable. Forget about whether the person who came over was a Throne, even the lowest level disciple in Divine Phoenix Sect could take his life.

He looked at his left hand and continuously summoned for the Snow Phoenix. However, even though the profound seal had flashed a multiple number of times, The Snow Phoenix still had never appeared. The profound seal had not disappeared, proof that the Snow Phoenix had not died yet. However, Feng Chihuo's attack was enough to make it seriously injured to the point of near death.

"Huff... Huff... Ugh..."

Heavy moans of pain suddenly came from the direction where Yun Che held out his hand. Furthermore, it sounded far, yet near. Yun Che's complexion changed. Little by little, he turned his head around. A hand suddenly appeared from the very edge of the ravine carved out by a Sky Wolf Slash... Then, a completely bloody figure slowly crawled up.

Feng Chihuo!!

"Drats... he's not dead yet!" Jasmine said in a low voice.

It could be said that the current Feng Chihuo was at his most miserable state. His entire body had been badly mutilated, not the least bit of a human's appearance could be seen, but he was actually clearly alive. Moreover, judging by how quick he was climbing out of that ravine, it was clear that his condition was at least comparatively better than Yun Che's.

Impossible... Under Dragon Soul Domain... He basically had no power to defend... How could he not have died...

Feng Chihuo, who had climbed up, swayed as he stood up. Seeing the bloody Yun Che sprawled on the ground, he continued to sway as he let out a coarse yet crazed laughter: "Ha... Haha... Hahahaha... How... could a little... bastard... like you... kill me..."

He advanced forward. As he stepped closer to Yun Che, a terrifying maliciousness surfaced on his face: "I'm going to... tear your entire body... bit by bit... thoroughly into shreds..."

Right at this time, an enormous silhouette suddenly swept over from overhead accompanied by a somewhat frail long cry. Yun Che struggled to lift his head. After that, wild joy rose within his eyes: "Little Chan!!"

Half of the snowy feathers on the Snow Phoenix had become the color of blood, but it still strongly flew over. As it flew above Yun Che, both its wings swatted and three streaks of gleaming cold icicles launched straight at Feng Chihuo.

Pew pew pew!!

If it was in normal circumstances, how could the Snow Phoenix's attack possibly harm Feng Chihuo? But Feng Chihuo's body was currently utterly broken, even his steps were unstable, so it was simply impossible for him to defend against the Snow Phoenix's attack. The three icicles easily pierced right through Feng Chihuo's body. Included among them was one that struck a fist sized bloody hole through his throat.

Feng Chihuo's eyes rounded. Under the icicle attack, he heavily fell backwards and moved no more. Beneath his body, was a quickly expanding large pool of blood... This time, he was dead to the point where he could no longer die. He had perhaps thought about how his life would end, but he never would have thought that he would die so tragically, nor would he have imagined that he would die under the hands of a profound practitioner of the Earth Profound Realm and his contracted Sky Profound Beast.

Yun Che let out a deep breath of relief. As his mind relaxed, the side effects of using Dragon Soul Domain violently surged up, making his greatly impacting his consciousness into a muddled state. He extended a hand at the Snow Phoenix and said in a hoarse voice: "Little Chan... Let's... go... the higher the better... the farther the better..."

The Snow Phoenix conjured up a light breeze, lifting Yun Che up on its back. Then, it flapped his wings, flying high into the skies.

Yun Che's heart was at long last settled somewhat, and it was just at this time that Jasmine's cold voice suddenly sounded: "You'd best stay conscious.... You should know why it had not immediately arrived after you had called it so many times, it's inevitable that its wounds are extremely severe, not only that, it had been injured in the wings. Even though it managed to fly now, I doubt that it could fly far."

Yun Che "..."

Jasmine definitely didn't say that just to scare him. Yun Che bit the tip of his tongue, allowing himself a brief period of consciousness. He immediately felt the Snow Phoenix's entire body tremble acutely. Usually, when it encountered a large gale, it would still fly smoothly, but now, a casual mountain breeze blowing over would cause its body to violently sway.

“Little Chan... You can do it!” Yun Che yelled softly. If he could not fly out of Phoenix Mountain Range, he would definitely die.

However, he had obviously underestimated the Snow Phoenix Beast’s injuries. After struggling to fly over a few kilometers, a strong breeze came head-on. Under this strong breeze, the Snow Phoenix immediately let out a painful cry as both wings suddenly spasmed before it dropped down.

“Little Chan!!”

In front of Yun Che’s shout, the Snow Phoenix didn’t react at all because it had already fainted in midair. Yun Che possessed the Phoenix bloodline, the Dragon God’s bloodline, the protection of the True God’s profound arts, and a completely changed body, so no matter how serious of an injury he obtained, he could still endure. But the Snow Phoenix was different, it was only an ordinary Sky Profound Beast. Struggling to fly for so long with its grave injuries was already its limit.

Following the Snow Phoenix’s midair collapse, Yun Che didn’t even have the energy to clutch at its snowy wings and was slowly separated from the Snow Phoenix as they fell... Not long after they fell, Yun Che’s body heavily smashed into soil that wasn’t even that hard... It was apparently a huge slanted slope, because after he fell, he quickly rolled downwards with the Snow Phoenix Beast. As he rolled, his half conscious vision saw the place they were tumbling toward. It was actually... an extremely steep cliff!! He saw various mountain peaks over the cliff... and none were higher than the mountain peak he was currently rolling down from.

In that split second, he immediately understood that he and the Snow Phoenix had fallen on top of that highest mountain peak in Phoenix Mountain Range. They were currently tumbling down from highest summit... from an altitude of over four thousand five hundred meters...

His body had finally tumbled down the cliff, then, his tumbling changed into a sharp drop... With his head facing upwards, he couldn’t see the ground beneath him. He didn’t know if the upper part of the mountain or the middle of the mountain was beneath him... or if he would directly drop to the bottom of the mountain.

The whistling of the wild wind swept over, with his mind and body severely overspent along with his grave injuries, he was unable to control his body that was currently in midair, so much that he was unable to conjure up any profound energy defense... He wasn’t sure if the bloodline he obtained from gods and his powerful natural defense could withstand the force of impact he would receive from falling under a state in which he had no profound energy defense... Whether or not his body and bones would directly be torn and crushed...

The howling of the wind drowned out all other sounds. Aside from the whistling of the wind, there was nothing in Yun Che’s consciousness, he didn’t even have the strength to scream. After several tens of breaths passed, the sound of the wind beside his ears still screamed out. Until finally...

Bang!!!!

He heard the enormous sound of himself falling and the barely discernable fearful cry of a girl...

All the painful sensations in his entire body quickly faded away along with his fuzzi consciousness... Half of the last scene he saw was the tall mountain cliff, and the other half was the blue sky... then, the face

of a girl that was as beautiful as a dream appeared from the blue sky. Her wide eyes were even brighter than the stars gazed at him. These eyes were as pure as the bright moon, brimming with sincerity, horror, astonishment, and curiosity... Yun Che had seen many beautiful women, but this illusory beauty in front of him still caused his mind to uncontrollably shake...

So beautiful...

Is it a fairy... from the heavens...

This image of a beauty that should not belong in the mortal world became the last thing Yun Che was conscious of. After that, he completely lost consciousness.

Chapter 416 - Princess Snow

Not long after, Yun Che finally recovered some of his consciousness, and pain could be felt through every part of his body. In order to kill Feng Chihuo, he had paid a large price, one that was larger than he had expected. Nearly half of all his blood vessels had ruptured, seventy percent of his muscles received various levels of harm, and several tens of various sized gaps appeared inside his internal organs. If these injuries were on any ordinary profound practitioner's body, they would long since been dead.

The painful sensation told Yun Che that he had not died, as his bodily functions also began to recover. He vaguely sensed a current of warm profound energy slowly flowing through his body... This was not his profound energy, rather, it was someone else's. This stream of profound energy was gentle and careful, as if it wanted to heal his injuries, yet was also afraid of accidentally injuring him. This cautious and hesitant activity proved that the owner of this profound energy had never used profound energy to heal injuries.

Who could it be...

Who's saving me...

At this moment, the scene he saw before he lost consciousness appeared inside Yun Che's mind... That was a beautiful and pure face that should not exist in the mortal world. Even though he only had a glimpse of it in the extremely short instant before he lost consciousness, it still left a long lasting mark and had been engraved in the depths of his soul. No matter who saw it, that kind of beauty was impossible to forget for an entire lifetime.

Was it a dream... or a painting on a scroll? No... even in a dream, even if it was the best artist in the world, that kind of peerless beauty was impossible to portray.

That beautiful dream-like face made Yun Che's consciousness that had just awakened feel an uncontrollable hazy intoxication, even the pain in his body had been forgotten. That current of warm profound energy slowly disappeared, and Yun Che's consciousness went silent.

Not long after that, Yun Che's consciousness awakened once more, and still felt that warm and gentle profound energy. The time after that, his consciousness continuously woke and slept. Every time it recovered, he would feel that stream of profound energy... or perhaps every time that stream of profound energy came over, his consciousness would awaken for a short period of time.

In the end, at some moment in time, the fingers on both of Yun Che's hands twitched, as his incredibly heavy eyelids opened bit by bit under the urging of his willpower.

What entered his eyes was a bright light and the blue sky. Yun Che's body had an astonishing recovery rate. As soon as he opened his eyes, he felt the existence of his body and four limbs. Even though they were heavy, he distinctly felt that he could control their movements. A bit of profound energy also had collected inside the originally empty profound veins. These profound energies also helped his body recover its bodily functions, so much that they allowed him to move in the simplest of actions... including standing up.

Yun Che grabbed the ground, gritted his teeth, and struggled to sit up...

"Ah, you're awake!"

The sound of a girl's voice came over to his ears, this voice was young and tender, a sound so ethereal that it seemed to not be from this world. When he heard this voice, an uncontrollable shudder came over Yun Che's soul, as well as a kind of crazy, unsuppressable longing... a longing to know the owner of this voice, to know what kind of girl could let out such a pure, ethereal voice.

He turned his head to look at the girl who was standing beside him... It was a girl that seemed to have walked out of the fairy realm. Once he clearly saw her face, Yun Che's consciousness suddenly blanked out for an instant, not daring to believe the image before his eyes... because he didn't dare to believe that such an incomparably beautiful face existed in this world. Yun Che searched his own memories, yet still couldn't come up with any words to describe how this face looked like.

The girl wore a luxurious red garment, embroidered on top was a flying phoenix. This was not the first time Yun Che had seen a phoenix robe, but her phoenix robe was even more gorgeous than the one Yun Che had seen before. No matter the red or the golden color, both glistened brightly, as though every thread and every decoration was made of the world's most expensive material. However, this phoenix robe was like cosmetics on jade, overshadowed by her snowy creamy skin. If this extravagant outfit was seen someplace else, it would leave one dumbstruck, yet would never attract any of Yun Che's attention. His eyes fixed on the girl's face, incapable of moving away. Especially her beautiful eyes... they seemed to billow like blue ripples, condensed inside her dreamy, illusory pupils, becoming a illusory, poetic, fairy-like dream.

This was that fairy he saw before he lost consciousness... and not from his imagination, nor an illusion. She stood there quietly as her silky eyelashes fluttered, with not a single bit of impurity, her eyes had a joyous expression of clear mountains and springs. Then, she looked at him with somewhat nervousness. The gently wind lifted the corner of her skirts, bringing about a simple elegance, yet the most beautiful poem of this world could not describe it.

She looked to only be around fifteen or sixteen, her beautiful dreamy, liquid eyes were young. In terms of appearance, she couldn't compare with Xia Qingyue, but in terms of how delicate and perfect her complexion was, even Xia Qingyue, number one fairy of Blue Wind, was inferior. In Yun Che's two lifetimes, out of all the females he had encountered, in terms of complexion, only Jasmine could stand shoulder to shoulder with her. It was as if the heavens favored her, and gave her this fairy-like complexion before his eyes.

If he was an ordinary man, he believed that his heart would definitely be lost, but he wasn't an ordinary man. In the entire Profound Sky Continent, it was perhaps impossible to find a second who could make him forget himself like that just with their complexion. He suddenly moved his gaze away, slightly bent his head as he calmed his heart. When he lifted his head to look at her fairy-like face again, it was still indescribably beautiful, but he was no longer distracted.

He opened his dried lips, speaking with a hoarse and rough voice: "Was it you... who saved me..."

"Um... It seems like it." The girl slightly perked her flowerlike lips and spoke as though she was uncertain: "This is the first time I tried to save someone, so I'm not sure if I did it right. It's been many days, and I wasn't sure if I should tell royal father, but good thing you woke up. Oh right, what's your name? Which elder are you under? Why did you fall down from Absolute Phoenix Cliff?"

The girl's casual "royal father" caused Yun Che's heart to violently tremble.

Royal father...

Extremely luxurious phoenix robe...

Around fifteen to sixteen years old...

And a face so beautiful to the point of being illusory...

Was she actually the one Hua Minghai spoke of, the "Princess Snow" known as Profound Sky's number one beauty!?

Originally, Hua Minghai had used an exaggerated tone of voice when mentioning "Princess Snow", so he never believed it. But this girl in front of him, it was indeed adequate for her to be titled "Profound Sky's number one beauty" because of her face.

However, if she really was Princess Snow, the most treasured pearl of Divine Phoenix Sect, the entire Divine Phoenix Empire's treasure bestowed by the heavens... then why was she here? When she said "many days", it meant that he had lost consciousness for several days. And in these past "many days", she had always been here! What exactly was going on? What exactly was the current situation he was in?

Yun Che's mind quickly spun as every kind of possibility rapidly flashed in his mind. He shifted his body, his cordial tone of voice containing a hint of terror: "My name is Feng Lingyun, under Nineteenth Elder. I was training alone inside Phoenix Mountain Range and encountered an extremely terrifying profound beast, then was forced to jump off Absolute Phoenix Cliff... I thank Princess Snow for saving my life."

The girl's eyes were clear, and as bright as early morning. In front of these beautiful eyes and this girl who had saved his life, it was no doubt an enormous sin to lie. But since he had not recovered from his grave injuries, what he had to do right now was to protect his own life, no matter what. He knew the reason why this girl had saved him, and the reason why she wasn't on guard with him was because he possessed the same phoenix aura she did.

"Ohhh..." Princess Snow innocently tilted her delicate head. Then, her fine brows bent, as she started to laugh lightly: "As expected of what royal father said, you knew who I was in an instant. Royal father said

that within the sect, even though there aren't many who have seen me, as long as it's someone within the clan, even if they've never seen me before, they would recognize me instantly.

The girl laughed with sincerity, it was as if her laughter was heavenly music that came from between the clouds which could rinse the most evil of thoughts from the world. Yun Che opened his mouth, and uttered: "Your Highness is the most beautiful girl in the world, no matter who it sees Princess Snow, they would never recognize falsely... This place, where is this? Have I... disturbed Your Highness's secluded cultivation?"

"This is Phoenix Perching Valley, a place that I've played in since childhood." Princess Snow was not on guard with Yun Che at all as she casually replied. Perhaps it was his phoenix bloodline, or perhaps it was because she had always been this pure, and never had contact with any sin, nor had to be on guard at all: "Royal father has been really busy lately and is afraid that I'll be hurt by others, so he allowed me to come here to concentrate on cultivating World Ode of the Phoenix. Aside from me and royal father, usually no one is allowed to enter, you're actually the first, you know."

"...Your Highness, then why didn't you tell... Sect Master about me? Your Highness is not afraid that I... could be a bad person?" Yun Che clasped his chest, checking the condition of his injuries.

"I did think about telling royal father." The girl stuck out her white, graceful, jadelike nose: "But if I tell royal father, he'll definitely kill you. You fell from such a high place, and is already this injured. If you're killed by royal father, that would be too pitiful, and Little White would be sad. Bad person? ...You're the same as me, a descendant of the Phoenix, how could you be a bad person? Besides, Little White is so beautiful and docile, its owner would never be a bad person."

What saved Yun Che was not only her profound energy, but her soft heart — even though he used such an abrupt method to enter her territory. Only... Little White? What did that mean?

By his ears, a somewhat weak, yet still resonant cry of a bird sounded. This sound made Princess Snow softly "ah" as she turned around, then lithely ran like a sprite toward a magnificent, snow white silhouette: "Little White, your injuries have not recovered, you're not allowed to move, otherwise, that means you're not being obedient... even if you see that your owner is awake, you still can't move rashly."

On the ground not even thirty meters behind Yun Che was the Snow Phoenix Beast. Its wings were unfolded, and the bloodstains on its wings had been washed clean, without any trace of a bloody color. Princess Snow stood by its side and used her little snow white hands to lightly stroke its soft, ice-cold, snowy feather. From an agitated state, she made it obediently calm down as it carefully withdrew its wings.

Yun Che was shocked... it was the Snow Phoenix! It was actually okay! His own body could barely resist falling from such a high place, but the Snow Phoenix had already lost consciousness mid flight, unable to fully make itself float and use any defensive abilities. From such a height, it had sharply fallen down, so its bones and body ought to have been crushed. Why did it seem that its injuries were much more lighter than his own?

Could it be that this girl had saved the Snow Phoenix before it fell?

Then, the "White" she spoke of, was... Snow Phoenix Little Chan!

Chapter 417 - Snow Dance (1)

“You’re the one... who saved Little Chan?”

Seeing the Snow Phoenix safe and sound, with injuries already largely healed, Yun Che felt much more at ease.

“That’s right.” Princess Snow turned around and said happily: “It fell down after you and I had to support it with my strength. Otherwise, Little White would have fallen to death already. Eh? Little Chan? That’s her name? Ehhh... What a weird name. I think that Little White sounds so much better, isn’t that right, Little White?”

Scree... Snow Phoenix lowered its head and let out a clear low cry. From how it acted, it seemed as though... It agreed with Princess Snow.

Through the profound seal, Yun Che felt that the Snow Phoenix’s injuries had already healed to about seventy percent. Flying out of the Phoenix Mountain Range would not be a problem at all. Even though its conditions were still extremely poor, staying at such a place would be too dangerous. Now that he had regained consciousness, he would have to leave immediately.

Yun Che gathered all the strength within his body and stood up unsteadily. As he stood up, Princess Snow’s beautiful eyes stared wide as she exclaimed worriedly: “You... Why did you stand up. With such serious injuries, you shouldn’t move around.”

Yun Che shook his head gently and said: “I thank Princess Snow for saving me and Little Chan. I will forever remember your kindness towards us. However, this place is Princess Snow’s territory. Me dropping down here is already an unforgivable crime. I do not dare... to disturb Your Highness... Little Chan... Let’s go... Ugh!”

A sudden intense pain came from his chest and Yun Che face paled immediately as he spat out a mouth of blood mist with a “puu”. His body staggered and he half knelt to the ground.

“Ahhhh!” Princess Snow screamed in shock and rushed towards Yun Che, instinctively wanting to go forward to lend him a hand. However, as she neared him, she suddenly stopped and even retracted the hand that she had offered. She’d even retreated a few steps and said nervously: “You... How are you? I already said, with such serious injuries, you shouldn’t be moving around. Hurry up and rest. I... I will try my best to use my profound energy to help you recuperate your injuries.”

Yun Che supported himself by placing his hand on the ground. After a while, he finally calmed down. He shook his head and persisted: “It’s alright, I do not dare to continue to interrupt Your Highness. Furthermore, if Sect Master were to find out, I would definitely... Cough... Cough cough...”

Yun Che’s chest rose intensely and he continuously spat out several blood clots. Even though he had regained consciousness, his internal and external injuries were still extremely severe.

“No worries,” Princess Snow waved her snow white petite hand: “I won’t blame you, nor will I tell my royal father so you can just be at ease and stay here to recuperate your injuries. If you were to persist any more, your injuries will worsen. Also... Also, I like Little White a lot. She’s the most beautiful profound beast that I have ever seen. If you were to leave, Little White would have to leave with you... I really cannot bear it.”

“...” Yun Che finally understood why Princess Snow was unwilling to let him leave. She even promised not to tell her father about it. Half of the reason was due to her soft personality, and the other half was no doubt due to... the Snow Phoenix!

Princess Snow said previously that this was a place that only she and her father could enter. Now that she had promised not to tell her father, it would mean that this place was practically the safest place within the entire Divine Phoenix Empire. Furthermore, looking at Yun Che's current situation, he was not suited to escape... Thinking about this, he instantly calmed down, calming his mind and blood. He sat down on the floor: “Then... Your Highness, pardon my intrusion...”

When he finished speaking, he closed his eyes and started to channel Great Way of the Buddha, using the vital energy of heaven and earth to help recuperate his body... The passive recovery of the Great Way of the Buddha could not compare to when he actively channeled it. Once his regained consciousness, the speed at which he recovered was largely increased.

Seeing Yun Che willing to stay made Princess Snow heave a small sigh of relief. She carefully looked at Yun Che for a while before hopping over beside the Snow Phoenix and pouncing on it. Her whole body was on its body as she happily said: “That's great, Little White. We can play together now. Wahh~~~ Your feathers are so soft, so cooling... Why are you so pretty...”

Although Yun Che kept his eyes closed while treating his injuries, he could still hear what was happening. The fairy like voice drifted into his ears along with the wind, causing his mind to waver... Such good looks, such a great voice, so pure and flawless... Was she really a human child? Or was she someone born from gathering all of the world's most beautiful objects...

Phoenix Perching Valley was surrounded by mountains on three sides and the remaining south side, was the three thousand meter Absolute Phoenix Cliff. This place seemed to gather all the spiritual energy from the whole of Divine Phoenix Mountain and at one glance, it was all a pure clean green unlike other places which were dried and wilted crimson. Even the wind seem exceptionally clean and gentle. In the middle of Phoenix Perching Valley was a calm and clear lake. Beside the lake was a completely snow white and strikingly beautiful Snow Phoenix drinking from the clear lake water. Beside it was a girl that seemed as though she was a fairy from a painting.

The girl wore an elegant phoenix robe, but it was overshadowed by her glistening jadelike skin. Her back view, side view were all like a fairy from dream. Without even looking at her face and just by her back view, one could tell that her beauty was one only deities possessed.

The young girl breathed in the clean lake air for a while, and then let out a melodious laughter. She raised her jade fingers and gently released her hair tie, letting her shimmering long black hair scatter like a broken dam. Each strand of hair seemed as though it had its own life and danced in the air before falling onto her shoulder.

As her jade hand lowered, the straps on her robe were gently released as well. The golden colored phoenix robe embroidered with a golden phoenix gently slid off her shoulders... Without the clothes, she was so perfect that it was hypnotizing. Her soul shocking jade body was exposed within the accompaniment of the gentle mountain breeze, along with her flawlessly snow white back, her thin

waist, and her slender and flawless legs... and all of these could only generate the word "perfection" in anyone's mind. This view of just her back, was able to make a man lose control and go crazy.

She removed her golden shoes and revealed her snow lotus-like feet. She waved at the Snow Phoenix, and gently stepped into the lake with a flawless smile. Even without her jade feet in the pool water, they were already mesmerizingly glistening.

"Little White, do you want to bathe together? This is where where I bathe everyday."

The entire Divine Phoenix Mountain Region was scorching hot except for this place, which was quiet and clear. Even the lake water was slightly cool. The young girl scooped up lake water, allowing it to flow from between her fingers. The edge of her lips twitched slightly as she silently looked at the water flowing from her jade arms to the snow humps in front of her chest.

The lake water was extremely clear, so clear that the smallest grains of sand underwater could be seen. Her beautiful figure was even more distinct, but unfortunately, no one was there to appreciate this great scenery. With her, was only a beautiful profound beast whose greatest interest was drinking in the sweet lake water.

"Little White, do you really not want to bathe together... Ugh, why do you already have an owner... I really like you... Because I like the color white, which is also the color of snow... When I was thirteen, Divine Phoenix City had a huge snowfall and that was the most beautiful scenery I have ever seen. I felt that all of me was fused with the white snow... However, after that day, I have never seen snow again..."

The young girl supported her beautiful face with her hand as she looked at the Snow Phoenix. Within her beautiful eyes was a blurred light. As she muttered to herself, her jade shoulders were exposed on the water's surface, its outline was pure beauty personified, the scene was extremely attractive.

"Ahhh..." The young girl suddenly shouted as she turned towards the south and gently said: "Little White, I think your owner has already woken up. Let's go find him."

She lightly flew out and put on the elegant phoenix robe back onto her mesmerizing jade body. She landed on the broad back of the Snow Phoenix as she shouted happily: "Let's go."

The Snow Phoenix cried happily as it stretched its wings and flew in Yun Che's direction.

This time that Yun Che went into meditation, was another two whole days. By the time he regained consciousness, his internal and external injuries had already recovered by about thirty percent, his profound strength had also recovered by about twenty to thirty percent. In less than a week, he should more or less be completely healed as long as he does not engage against anyone in the meantime. Otherwise, his injuries would no doubt become worse... As such, this place, where he was never interrupted, was the best place to stay.

The prerequisite for him being here was to not let anyone know he was here, and this decision laid with Princess Snow, who thought that he was a Phoenix disciple.

A white figure flashed past the sky and circled above his head before slowly landing in front of him. Princess Snow jumped down from the back of the Snow Phoenix and looked at him with a blossoming smile: "You're finally awake. Otherwise, Little White would be worried to death. Do you feel that your injuries are better?"

The girl's smile was simply too mesmerizing. Yun Che lost concentration for a moment before frantically saying: "I've recovered a lot. I thank Princess Snow for her concern. Look."

As he spoke, he stretched out his limbs which were already able to move freely.

"Wah! You actually recovered so quickly. I still thought you would take a long long time." As she said this, she took a look at the Snow Phoenix, and her tone suddenly turned rather sheepish: "However, your injuries have not completely recovered. You shouldn't move around too much. Stay here for more days, I won't let royal father know."

"Thank you, Your Highness." Yun Che smiled. He now knew that the reason Princess Snow was willing to let him stay was because she really liked the Snow Phoenix. The Snow Phoenix was a pure white elegant beast. Furthermore, it was an ice type, which was rarely seen in Divine Phoenix Empire. Within the fire elemental Divine Phoenix City, it could be said to be extinct. Therefore, it would make her curious and envious. Or perhaps, it was because she was too lonely and its arrival meant that she now had a companion to play with.

Having not eaten for days with a body full of injuries, waves of hunger pangs attacked Yun Che as he sat down. He took out his dragon meat and cooked it using his phoenix fire. Despite the huge body that the Flame Dragon possessed, there was not much meat left due to Yun Che replacing it for his meals. At the moment, up to ninety nine percent of the meat had already been eaten by him. Within his Sky Poison Pearl, there was only a pathetic twenty five kilograms left. However, during this process, his skills at barbecuing the dragon meat increased by folds. Using what degree of fire, for how long, and using what seasonings to cook the most savoring of meat was now easy for him.

Chapter 418 - Snow Dance (2)

Dragon flesh was originally the world's most delicious meat. This, added with his expert roasting technique, still made Yun Che, who had almost eaten all of the Flame Dragon's flesh, secretly gulp.

"Waah... Smells good! Something smells good!"

The fragrant aroma of the dragon meat lured over Princess Snow, who had always been playing with the Snow Phoenix. She stood there, staring unblinkingly at the skewered dragon meat in Yun Che's hands. Once she came closer, the intensity of the scent assaulted her nose, causing her to unconsciously gulp a few times.

"What is it? It smells so good... This is the first time I've smelled something this good."

Princess Snow was Divine Phoenix Sect's most precious pearl, the environment she grew up in was one an ordinary girl could never imagine. Accompanying her everyday was the most extravagant of meals. He never knew that the dragon meat he roasted due to his hunger would lure her over, and even made her secretly gulp cutely a few times. Yun Che's heart throbbed uncontrollably. He stopped burning his phoenix flame, and lifted up the already roasted dragon meat: "This is dragon meat, has Your Highness never eaten it before?"

"Dragon meat? I think I ate it before." Princess Snow was a bit uncertain: "But, I've never smelled such fragrant dragon meat... Can, can you let me have a bit of it? I really want to know how such a fragrant meat tastes."

Even though she was currently talking with Yun Che, her clear eyes continuously stared at the dragon meat in his hands. That hungry expression caused Yun Che to have an urge to pounce over to kiss her. At the same time, he was a bit sad... In her eyes, it's fine if I, the number one beautiful man in all of Blue Wind Nation, oh no, all of Profound Sky Continent cannot compare to the Snow Phoenix, but it seems like I can't even compare to roasted meat...

Toward her hopeful, longing expression, even if Yun Che's heart was ten times more firm, he still wouldn't have the power to refuse. He handed over the already roasted dragon meat to Princess Snow, and said magnanimously: "Of course. If Your Highness likes it, you can eat all of these, I still have quite a lot leftover."

"Really... Thank you."

Princess Snow happily extended her white arm. Then, when she was a few seconds away from the dragon meat, she withdrew her hands back, and asked embarrassedly: "Can you... throw it over to me?"

"...Why?"

"Because royal father said this before, no one is allowed to touch my body, especially men. I can't not listen to royal father's words, so... so..."

Yun Che was slightly stunned... Hua Minghai said that during the time before and after Princess Snow turned thirteen, she had never appeared anywhere. This meant that Divine Phoenix Sect was extremely protective of Princess Snow. But he'd never expected that no one was allowed to even touch her body... The protectiveness Divine Phoenix Sect had for her was simply at an incomprehensible extent.

Then, him intruding into Princess Snow's territory, talking to her at such a close range, being in contact with her for so many days... If Divine Phoenix Sect were to know of this...

Yun Che immediately realized that he had touched upon Divine Phoenix Sect's huge... it's greatest taboo yet, one that was several times more taboo than him possessing the Phoenix bloodline!

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Since he had already committed such a huge taboo... Then, committing it a little longer is fine! Besides... his grievances with Divine Phoenix Sect was getting progressively harder to dispel!

Yun Che smiled. Without saying anything, he pushed out with his palm, and the dragon meat slowly floated toward Princess Snow. Princess Snow stretched out a hand to take it while shooting Yun Che a light smile: "Then I'm going to eat it."

As her sweet voice fell, she gently sniffed it, then slightly opened her lips and bit into it with her pearly teeth. The deliciousness instantly made her eyes glow: "Waah~~ So good... too good! So there's actually such tasty meat in this world..."

The first swallow made the girl react exaggeratedly. She began to take consecutive bites. Her eyes blurred with intoxication as she became completely absorbed in the deliciousness that she had never tasted before. Even though she ate quite impatiently, her table manners were still pleasing, each and every small bite was graceful. As he watched her not wolfing down the food, Yun Che's gaze gradually

became dumbstruck, even his stomach's hunger was forgotten. On this girl, no matter where on her body, and no matter what she did, she possessed a dazzling, irresistible charm that no one was able to resist.

More than a large half of the dragon meat had quickly been eaten. At this time, the young girl suddenly thought of something. She looked at the remaining dragon meat, then jogged over to the Snow Phoenix: "Little White, I'll give you something really yummy to eat, this is the best thing I've ever eaten, you know!"

Yun Che: " ! # ¥ %....."

Princess Snow placed the dragon meat near the Snow Phoenix's beak, yet the Snow Phoenix faced up, expressing its refusal. Yun Che walked over and said with a smile: "The Snow Phoenix Beast was born from an extremely cold place and only eats ice, snow, or rain. It doesn't like eating meat."

"Oh, so it's like that." Princess Snow took back the dragon meat, tilted her head, and then asked quite earnestly: "Snow Phoenix Beast? This name is even weirder sounding than Little Chan. Little White still sounds the best, right, Little White?"

"Then I'll eat the rest all by myself!"

The young girl sat , leaning against the Snow Phoenix's soft body and slowly enjoyed the delicacy in her hand. With each bite, an incomparably beautiful smile blossomed on her snowy face. Seeing her like this, Yun Che was once more dazzled. He couldn't help but uncontrollably blurt out: "If you like it, I can roast it for you every day."

The young girl blinked her beautiful eyes, then began to laugh happily. Her brows bent into two crescent moons as her eyelashes softly fluttered like butterflies: "Hehe, you're so nice. I just knew that someone who's able to become Little White's owner must be a really good person."

"...Your Highness, why do you like Little Chan so much?" Yun Che asked.

Without even bothering to think, Princess Snow smiled sweetly in reply: "Because Little White is so beautiful. The most beautiful profound beast I've ever seen. Look, Little White's entire body of white is the same color as my favorite snow."

"You like... snow?"

"Mn!" After the word "snow" was brought up, Princess Snow lowered the delicious food in her hands. Lifting up her face that was even more fair than snow, she said somewhat absent-mindedly: "I've only heard of 'snow' from my royal brothers, but I've never seen it before. Snow had also never fell upon Divine Phoenix City before, but when I was thirteen years old, a huge snow storm suddenly fell upon Divine Phoenix City... That was when I finally realized how beautiful snow was. The sky fluttered with white snowflakes, making me feel like I was in another world, and when snowflakes landed on my body, they were like beautiful fairies..."

"That day was the happiest day, most exciting day of my life, it was as though I had a beautiful dream. But very quickly, the snow melted. After that, I've always longed for snow, but have never seen it ever again. Royal father said that only the north of Divine Phoenix Empire has winter, where people can see

snow. But royal father has told me many times that before I turn twenty, I'm not allowed to leave Divine Phoenix Sect... I really don't know when I can see snow again."

The young girl sat in a daze, her longing and thirst were distinctively printed in her eyes and expression. Yun Che didn't know why she would like snow that much, perhaps, only the purest of snow could stir her pure spirit.

"Your Highness, please close your eyes." Yun Che stood up, and suddenly said mysteriously.

"Ah? Why do I have to close my eyes?" Princess Snow looked at Yun Che in puzzlement.

Yun Che stretched out a hand, with the hollow of his palm facing upwards: "Your Highness doesn't need to ask. When you open your eyes, you'll understand."

"Mn, okay." Princess Snow apparently thought it was something fun as she closed her eyes with a smile.

Yun Che raised his head, then activated Frozen Cloud Arts... Even though he still had severe injuries on his person, his profound strength had recovered to about thirty percent, he still had enough energy to use Frozen Cloud Arts to make a little snow. Immediately after, a gust of cold wind rose as the surrounding water elements quickly assembled, fusing with the profound energy Yun Che released, transforming into snow that fluttered in the sky, and slowly fell down.

"Your Highness, you can open your eyes now." Yun Che withdrew his hand and said softly before staring at her jade face, awaiting her reaction.

Princess Snow opened her eyes as a stretch of snowflakes also softly fluttered down on top of her nose. Then, even more snowflakes descended, brushing past her long hair, cheek, and hands... In that moment, Princess Snow went dumbstruck. Her lips opened and her expression grew misty as she stared blankly at everything, as though she had found herself inside a dream.

"It's snow... snow!"

Princess Snow happily stood up, both her hands cupped the unceasingly falling snowflakes as she happily jumped about in the snow, as though she was a fairy that had found home. Her happiness even seemed to have infected the atmosphere as the breeze became even more gentle.

"It's really snow... so cold, so beautiful."

She happily exclaimed in excitement, each sound she made was like the sweetest music in the world. Immersed within the snowflakes and a thin layer of recently accumulated snow, she faced upwards as happiness blossomed on her smiling face, as if she had unrestrainedly released all her joy within the snow.

"Are you the one who made it snow? How did you do it?" Princess Snow tossed the snow cupped in her hands at her own face. She looked at Yun Che with an emotionally moved and thankfulness. But even more so, there was a kind of faint admiration in her gaze.

"Secret." Yun Che smiled mysteriously. Seeing that she was this overjoyed, a sense of satisfaction rose in Yun Che's heart.

“Thank you!” Princess Snow smiled in elation. Even though she was curious, she didn’t really want to know the answer that much because she was already submerged in happiness and contentment. She spread out both arms and lightly spun inside the flying snow. Then, she adorably yelled at Yun Che: “I’ll dance for you, okay?”

Without even waiting for Yun Che to respond, or perhaps Yun Che had forgotten to reply, Princess Snow let out a heavenly laughter as she picked up the corner of her skirt. She tossed aside her small exquisite shoes and her flawless ankle and feet immediately appeared in Yun Che’s line of sight. The pair of delicate feet that were pure and translucent, snow white and tender, stepped onto the white snow that was unexpectedly less fair than her delicate skin. Each of her toes were like the world’s purest of pearls and jade, they were dainty, and glistened with the luster of gems.

Snowflakes still continued to float down. A small portion had also fallen onto Yun Che’s body. Inside the world of snowflakes, Princess Snow began to gracefully dance. The lower skirt portion of her beautiful phoenix robe fluttered with her elegant movements. Crystals of jade, one after another, let out an enchanting brilliance. Even the golden colored phoenix on her clothing seemed to be gracefully dancing... But, how could the dance of the phoenix even match Princess Snow’s beauty that made one breathless? Her delicate and tender body was like duckweed rippling on the surface of the water, like the willow branches swaying in the wind, and was so fantastical that it was like a dream... Even the dance of goddesses in the Heaven’s palace, perhaps wouldn’t be any greater than this.

Yun Che watched on dumbfoundedly, his gaze fixated without moving for a long time... Her laughter resounded beside his ears and inside his heart. The picture of her lithely dancing within the snow, every single moment was deeply imprinted inside his memories and soul.

He knew, that in his entire lifetime, he’ll never be able to forget this graceful dancing silhouette.

Chapter 419 - Changes in the Profound Ark

Unwittingly, the snowflakes had practically all floated down. The young girl also stopped dancing as she looked unbearingly at the quietly melting layer of snow beneath her feet. She looked at Yun Che, and said in a pitiful lovely voice: “My dancing, was it good?”

“Good...” Yun Che nodded with a hazy expression. He sounded as though he was sleep talking, his mind was still immersed within the dancing earlier.

Princess Snow had heard this sort of praise too many times in her life, but she still laughed happily: “Then... Make a little bit more snow, okay? I can continue dancing for you. When I watch the snowflakes fall, I can’t help but want to dance with them.”

“All right...” How could Yun Che possibly decline? She was like a celestial being, seeing her for even an instant would be an indescribable pleasure and luxury. It was a beautiful scene an ordinary person would never be able to see in their entire lifetime. He stretched out his hand toward the sky and condensed profound energy...

But as soon as Frozen Cloud Arts activated, a tearing pain immediately came from his chest. Yun Che groaned and quickly used his hand to press against his chest, forcibly swallowing the surging blood back down. However, his complexion was still deathly pale.

“Ah!!” Princess Snow exclaimed in surprise. Without even bothering to put her shoes back on, her delicate ice lotus-like feet left the layer of snow, stepping onto soft grass. She extended both hands, withdrew them once more, and then asked nervously: “Are... Are you all right? It’s all my fault, only focusing on letting myself see snow, and forgetting about your injuries... I’m sorry... I’m so sorry...”

The treasure of Divine Phoenix Empire was currently panickedly apologizing to him, an “ordinary disciple”. Her beautiful eyes trembled slightly, filled with worry and self-blame. A spot in the depths of Yun Che’s heart was touched, he did his best to smile: “Don’t worry, I’m okay. I just accidentally stirred my internal injuries, I’ll be better after a short rest.”

When he finished speaking, Yun Che had already carefully sat down. He closed his eyes, slowly calmed his breathing, and the uncomfortable sensation quickly disappeared.

Only after hearing Yun Che’s words and seeing his complexion gradually regain its color, did Princess Snow’s worry and self-blame quietly scatter. Then, without being completely reassured, she sat in front of him as her eyes stared at him unblinkingly. She also didn’t know why she wanted to have a proper look at this man, perhaps, it was because of some kind of hazy and mysterious feeling that came from him... This was the first time in her entire life that she had taken a meaningful look at a single person.

When the stirred internal injuries were pacified, Yun Che opened his eyes, directly meeting with Princess Snow’s gaze. Being found out that she was peeping at him, Princess Snow blinked, and laughed sweetly, suddenly blossoming into a smiling expression that stirred Yun Che’s soul. He also laughed, and said regretfully: “Your Highness, this is my fault for being wounded. Not only can I not make it snow for you, I even made you worry... My injuries would be much better tomorrow, at that time, I’ll make it snow a lot for you.”

“Okay!” Princess Snow readily agreed, then slightly tilted her head: “But, can you not call me Your Highness? It feels kind of awkward.”

“Then... What should I call Your Highness?”

“My name is Feng Xue’er, you can call me Xuexue, or you can call me Xue’er. I really like those two names, ‘Your Highness’ doesn’t sound good at all.” Princess Snow said with a laugh.

If a Divine Phoenix Sect member swapped places with him, they would instantly be terrified. But Yun Che naturally did not care as he smiled: “Alright, then from now on, I’ll call you... Xue’er.”

“Mn!” Princess Snow smiled lightly as she nodded, her star-like pupils gazed at his face: “Then can I call you... Big brother Lingyun?”

“Of course you can... but I’ll like it even more if Xue’er calls me Big brother Yun. Because I feel like it’s even more intimate than “Big brother Lingyun.” Yun Che smiled... Even though they were missing one word, “Big brother Lingyun” and Big brother Yun” were two completely different concepts. Because the former... totally benefited that Ling Yun guy!

“Mn!” Princess Snow nodded in elation: “Big brother Yun... Big brother Yun... Big brother Yun... heh!”

Princess Snow called out three times in a row. That extremely sweet voice made all the bones in Yun Che’s body go soft.

Divine Phoenix Imperial Palace, Phoenix Main Hall.

“This son and subject greets royal father.” Feng Ximing said deferentially as he stood in front of Feng Hengkong.

With the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament getting ever so closer, it was still only secondary. What was most important, was that the Primordial Profound Ark’s doorway was about to open. Even though no one had discovered the secrets of the Primordial Profound Ark in these several thousand years, there was no doubt that it contained a world-shaking treasure. Therefore, even after every failed attempt, the appearance of the Primordial Profound Ark was still be regarded as an enormous occasion for Divine Phoenix Sect. Everyone within the Divine Phoenix Sect believed that if they discovered the Primordial Profound Ark’s secret, and obtained its treasure, Divine Phoenix Sect’s strength would be on an equal footing with the Four Great Sacred Grounds in the true meaning... even surpassing them was a possibility.

When Feng Ximing arrived, he didn’t even lift his head, as he faintly said: “What is it.”

Feng Ximing’s head was slightly bent, his posture humble: “Reporting to royal father, we’ve just recently received news from Spirit Earth Hall, a change has occurred on the profound seal on the ark door of the Primordial Profound Ark this morning. According to our past written accounts, this kind of change signifies that the ark door will open twelve days from now, a full four days earlier than we expected.” Preparing for the Primordial Profound Ark was the reason why Feng Hengkong had very rarely appeared in public during this time frame.

Feng Hengkong raised his head, his face heavy: “Four days earlier?”

Feng Ximing nodded: “Yes. We have originally set the day after the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament as the profound ark’s opening, but now, the profound ark’s door is four days ahead of schedule, conflicting with the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament. And even if we shift the ranking tournament to an earlier date now, we still won’t have enough time. Thus, in regards to how we’ll handle this matter, I ask royal father for judgement.”

Feng Hengkong stood up as his brows slowly pinched. The Primordial Profound Ark’s doorway would only open for twenty four hours, every minute and second was incomparably precious, and it definitely could not be wasted. However, when he sent the invitation letters to the six nations previously, he explicitly indicated that the top three of the ranking tournament would be entitled to board the Primordial Profound Ark. If the competition was unfinished, how could the top three even board the Primordial Profound Ark when they didn’t even exist? As for shifting the date of the ranking tournament to an earlier time, that was even more inappropriate.

Feng Hengkong muttered, his voice low and dignified: “The ranking tournament’s original schedule is for a time frame of five days. The Primordial Profound Ark’s matter cannot be delayed, and the competition also cannot be shifted ahead of time. Since the opening of the Primordial Profound Ark’s has been shifted four days ahead of time, then we can only compress the ranking tournament to last one day!”

“One day? This...” Feng Ximing’s face revealed shock. This was unprecedented in all of the history of the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament. Making the battle between seven nations last only one day, was indeed too tight, or perhaps it should be said that it was fundamentally impossible to accomplish.

“This is the only way. As to how to arrange that, the decision is yours.” Feng Hengkong’s gaze concentrated: “There must be no mishap in the exploration of the Primordial Profound Ark, and the ranking tournament matter is related to our Divine Phoenix Sect’s prestige, it also must not have any errors. Deciding how to set that up will depend on your ability, this can also be considered a test for you. Any questions?”

Even though Feng Ximing was nervous, he still obviously did not have the courage to refuse as he promptly lowered his head: “Yes, this son will properly handle this according to royal father’s wishes and will not disappoint royal father.”

“Mn.” Feng Hengkong nodded: “Since that’s the case, if you have no other matters, you may withdraw. Remember to inform every Great Elder and Pavilion Master about this, so they can make preparations earlier.”

“Yes... This son also has another matter to speak about, royal father. This matter is not big nor small, but this son and subject still thinks that it’s best if he tells royal father.”

“Speak.”

Feng Ximing said cautiously: “A few days ago, huge sounds of activity suddenly came from Phoenix Mountain Range. When we came over, we discovered Thirteenth Brother’s personal bodyguard Feng Chihuo there, and he died extremely miserably. The area around him had also been widely destroyed, evident of him going through a desperate battle.”

With regards to Feng Chihuo’s matter, Feng Hengkong was naturally aware of it, but he clearly didn’t put it to heart as he said indifferently: “Only our sect members can enter Phoenix Mountain Range. Since he died there, then he had been killed by someone in our sect. We’ll instantly know once we investigate it.”

“Royal father speaks thusly. After some investigation, Feng Chihuo was pursuing someone who charged out of the southern gate in the early morning of that day. Going by what the city guards have stated, the sky had not brightened yet, so they did not get a good look at the person’s face. They only vaguely distinguished that the person had not reached thirty yet, and...”

“No need to say anymore!” Feng Hengkong impatiently swung a hand: “We don’t have the time to pay attention to such small matters. Since Feng Chihuo was murdered by someone within the sect, then it means that he’s unskilled. Are you saying that we have to personally investigate who murdered that good-for-nothing trash?”

“Royal father, quell your anger... Feng Chihuo’s tragic death is but a small matter, but... but...” Feng Ximing sucked in a breath, as a distinct nervousness appeared on his face: “The place where Feng Chihuo died is not even five kilometers away from Absolute Phoenix Cliff, and the place just to the side of Absolute Phoenix Cliff is Phoenix Perching Valley, where Xue’er is. Royal father has ordered guards to defend twenty five kilometers east, west, and north of Phoenix Perching Valley, yet no one is guarding the south side. This son and subject is worried that Xue’er might be disturbed, and perhaps that person might dare to intrude Phoenix Perching Valley...”

Before he had even finished talking, his entire body suddenly felt a chill, and he didn't continue his sentence. Feng Hengkong's eyes narrowed as his glowering eyes released a thick, ice-cold raidance.

"So... are you saying that you want to go over to Phoenix Perching Valley to see if Xue'er is safe?"

"No, this son absolutely did not have that intention, it's just... it's just that this son is afraid someone might disturb Xue'er." Feng Ximing said in terror. He had long anticipated that Feng Hengkong would react this way, but he still couldn't help but say it... Feng Hengkong was currently just too busy at this time, so perhaps he really might allow him to go over there to have a look... Even if it was a one in a millionth chance, letting him have a look at Xue'er was enough. However, it was evident that this was still an extravagant hope. Feng Xue'er was Feng Hengkong's biggest landmine... a landmine that absolutely could not be touched.

"Hmph! Absolute Phoenix Cliff is not the only thing south of Phoenix Perching Valley, there's also the Great Phoenix Formation. Aside from my sect members, no one is able to enter. In our Divine Phoenix Sect, there's still no one with enough guts to dare charge in Phoenix Perching Valley!! Xue'er can also immediately sound transmit to us as well. If she really has been disturbed, she would certainly notify us immediately. No need for you to worry... Scram!"

"Royal father, calm your anger, this... this son was worrying too much. This son and subject shall take his leave."

Feng Ximing withdrew in a panic... Once he exited Phoenix Main Hall, he turned around with firmly clenched teeth as a cold, resentful light flashed through his eyes.

Chapter 420 - Promise

A scene of fluttering snow had shrunk down the distance between Yun Che and Feng Xue'er by an extremely great extent. Feng Xue'er's mood had also become extraordinarily cheerful; because to her, the fluttering snow as far as one's eye could see, had always been the most beautiful dream she had yearned for.

"Big Brother Yun, the snow you made, is a type of water attribute profound art, right?" Feng Xue'er cupped her charming cheeks with her hands, looking at him with a glimmering gaze. This pure and untainted sprite, all of her feelings were displayed on her snow-like face without any hesitation. At the same time she spoke these words, she also expressed her curiosity and yearning for this kind of profound art.

"Mhm, it's called 'Frozen Cloud Arts'. To be precise, it's a type of ice attribute profound art." Yun Che answered without concealment, because he believed that Feng Xue'er definitely had never heard of this profound art's name before. But he still casually added on: "Xue'er, have you ever heard of this profound art?"

"No." Feng Xue'er lightly shook her small head, and asked curiously: "But, why would you know ice attribute profound arts? Our Phoenix bloodline can burn the most ferocious phoenix flames, but wouldn't the power of fire attribute and ice attribute profound art conflict with each other? I had never heard of anyone in the sect that actually practiced water attribute profound arts. Royal father seemed to have said that there isn't even anyone in the entire Divine Phoenix City."

Water and fire suppressed one another, and could not have common grounds. Even if one cultivates them, when one type of profound energy is used, the other type must be suppressed to the utmost, otherwise, the two types of profound energy would cancel out by themselves, or even become chaotic. This was the most fundamental common sense of the profound way. Thus, practicing profound arts opposite of one's own attribute, other than wasting energy and fruitlessly increasing the risk that one might stir up just by mere carelessness, it could be said to be completely useless. Divine Phoenix Empire's fire elements were extraordinarily lively, and was an extremely fitting place to practice fire attribute profound arts. The profound practitioners there all basically practiced fire attribute profound arts as well. Other than occasional foreigners, profound practitioners who practice water profound arts simply couldn't be found at all. Even foreigners, because of the fire element's activeness, their bodies and profound veins would feel discomfort of various degrees if water attribute profound arts were the only thing they practiced.

So, Feng Xue'er naturally had such a question.

Yun Che said calmly: "Xue'er, did you know that our Divine Phoenix Sect's force isn't merely limited to Divine Phoenix Empire? There are many clansmen who are sent to other nations since childhood, then conceal their phoenix bloodline and join the relatively powerful and prestigious local sect or force, thereby obtaining information and intel, making up our sect's information network."

Feng Xue'er's charming lips slightly opened, then, she lightly nodded: "Mn, this I know. Father has told me about this before... Big Brother Yun, are you someone who was sent to the outside since childhood?"

Feng Xue'er naturally wouldn't doubt Yun Che's words. Because constructing information networks, was one of the things that every single powerful sect had to do, and information networks, were even one of the lifelines of a sect. Heavenly Sword Villa, Xiao Sect, and even Blue Wind Profound Palace all had disciples planted into other great sects, not to mention the colossal Divine Phoenix Sect.

"Yes, the place I was sent to, is called Blue Wind Nation, and I've only returned to the sect this year." Yun Che nodded. He answered with extreme calmness without any undulation; it was almost impossible for even a person who was extremely experienced to notice the traces of a lie within his gaze and expression. But when these words left his mouth, his heart and soul was violently clutched and pulled.

In these years of two lifetimes, in order to achieve a certain purpose, or for survival, he had spoken concealing and misguiding words countless times, and had been long trained to the point that his heart wouldn't change its rhythm and the expression on his face wouldn't alter in the slightest. But this time, the person he was facing was a girl who was more pure than even the snow itself, and had moreover saved his life... Such a lie, was only for concealing and achieving his purpose, and absolutely didn't have any intention to harm her; yet the sense of guilt and sin in his heart was record-breakingly intense.

"Blue Wind Nation..." Feng Xue'er knew this country, and also knew that it was the smallest nation of the continent. Her charming eyes blinked once, as she continued asking: "Then is Big Brother Yun's Frozen Cloud Arts, learnt from there? Since there are ice attribute profound arts, then would there be a lot of snow?"

"Mhm." Yun che nodded: "That is a place called the Snow Region of Extreme Ice. The entire five hundred kilometers over there, are all white snow."

“Five hundred kilometers... White snow?” Feng Xue’er’s cherry lips opened up in surprise. She couldn’t imagine just what kind of marvelous scenery that would be.

“An entire five hundred kilometers, all covered by snow, moreover, very very thick snow. Even if one shatters a dozen feet of the snow layer, what’s beneath is still snow.” Yun Che said while smiling. He believed that the Snow Region of Extreme Ice must be a heaven-like place for Feng Xue’er who likes snow. He narrated earnestly: “Because that place is very cold, the ice and snow over there wouldn’t even melt in tens of milleniums... Look, all these surrounding mountains are all soil and stone, but at the Snow Region of Extreme Ice, even the ridges and peaks are covered by layers of snow and ice. The sky at where we are is blue, but over there, even the sky is projected to a pure white by the reflections of the endless snow. In that entire world, there is only a stretch of white without bounds. The sky and earth can’t be distinguished, it’s so pure and quiet that one could hear the sound of their own heartbeat.”

“Wah...” Fen Xue’er’s hands had unwittingly covered her lips, her gaze as misty as fog: “Is there... really such a place... Snow Region of Extreme Ice... Snow Region of Extreme Ice...”

“Not only that, even though it’s all snow, there are also many flower and plants. And the flowers there, are all ice flowers similar to crystals, and even the grass and trees are sparkling with the glimmer of ice. There are also very beautiful ice corals, and natural ice sculptures of various shapes. These, are all unable to be seen at other places. Because once these things leave the Snow Region of Extreme Ice, they would all very quickly melt. Also...” Yun Che pointed toward the Snow Phoenix: “Little Chan was also nurtured up at the Snow Region of Extreme Ice, so its feather is just like the white snow. In the entire Profound Sky Continent, Snow Phoenix Beasts only exist there. To have left that place with me, Little Chan has worked hard.”

Snow Phoenix Beast uttered a light cry.

Feng Xue’er’s entire person became stupefied there. She felt as if she had fallen into an illusory world that hadn’t ever appeared even in her dreams. The beauty of that place, surpassed the most beautiful heaven she had fantasized about... Even with all of her knowledge, she couldn’t draw how just how beautiful of a picture scroll that would be... Endless spanning snow, snow-white mountains, snow-white skies, sparkling and translucent trees and flowers, as flocks of birds as pretty as Little White fluttered and danced in the sky...

“Snow Region of Extreme Ice... Snow Region of Extreme Ice...” She muttered this name as if deliriously raving, feeling as though her heart and spirit had already melted.

“Does Xue’er want to go there?” Yun Che asked a question that he could completely be sure of the answer just by the look of her expression.

“Mhm!” Feng Xue’er very strongly nodded, her white and glossy cheeks were adorned with a bit of excited blush: “So in this world, there’s actually such a beautiful place. I really want to go, if I can arrived at that kind of world, and live over there... Wah~~ How blissful would that be.”

“But...” The light in Feng Xue’er’s eyes grew somewhat dim again: “Royal father has said that before I turn twenty, I can’t leave Divine Phoenix City. Royal father is always so busy too, and also haven’t left Divine Phoenix Sect in many many years. Even after I’m twenty, Royal father probably wouldn’t have the time to take me there...”

“Then I’ll take you there.” Yun Che didn’t even think, and uncontrollably blurted out.

“Ah...” Feng Xue’er let out a light cry, and at the same time revealed a deep surprise that made Yun Che feel unexpected: “Really? You’re really willing to take me there?”

Toward his words, she believed them so firmly without any doubts, and was so unguarded against him; instead, due to the snow he made, a scene he described, hints and threads of a young girl’s reverence was arisen toward him. A surge of complication emerged in Yun Che’s heart, yet there was also the feeling of warmth. He nodded with strength: “Of course I’m willing. If you are still willing to recognize this “Big Brother Yun” when you are able to leave the Divine Phoenix City, as long as you want to, I’ll definitely bring you to the Snow Region of Extreme Ice. I came to Divine Phoenix Empire from over there, and I very clearly know how to return. If we set off from the Divine Phoenix City, we’d arrive in half a month if we hurry.

“Hooray!” The girl uttered in high spirits. All of the slight disappointments from before vanished like smoke in thin air. Looking at Yun Che, she joyfully smiled like a most exquisite and beautiful doll: “Big Brother Yun, thank you, you are so nice... To be able to meet you, I am really very happy.”

“To be able to view snow with such a beautiful girl like Xue’er, I am the one that’s the luckiest.” Yun Che said heartfully. However, he didn’t know whether or not there would be a day that this promise could be realized... If, she was still willing at that time, then no matter the hinderance, he’d still use all his power to realize it... Perhaps it was to make up for the guilt in his heart, or perhaps, he wished to stand by her, shoulder to shoulder, in the depth of his heart.

“Heh, then it’s a deal. After I’m twenty, Big Brother Yun will take me to Snow Region of Extreme Ice to see the endless fluttering snow... You definitely can’t lie and take your word back, okay.” Feng Xue’er said with a happy smile.

“Mn!” Yun Che nodded, and extended his pinky toward Feng Xue’er: “Let’s pinky swear.”

“Ah?” Feng Xue’er looked at the pinky Yun Che reached out, then looked at her own finger, as a puzzling expression revealed on her face: “Pinky swear... what does that mean?”

Yun Che lightly shook his finger, and said: “It lets us buckle our pinky together in order to prove that the words we speak will definitely be kept. No matter how many years pass, they will never change.”

“Uu...” Feng Xue’er timidly extended her finger as lustrous as the fine jade, and said in a low voice: “As long as Big Brother Yun doesn’t forget, I’ll definitely keep my promise, but... but...”

But, her body, even if it was the pinky, had never made contact with men before. Because in Feng Hengkong’s eyes, every single inch of her skin was the most precious treasure of the Divine Phoenix Sect. Anyone’s touch, would all be an unforgivable tarnish. Even he, the father, couldn’t touch either. In fact, if he were to choose between Divine Phoenix Sect and Feng Xue’er, he would unhesitatingly choose Feng Xue’er.

And the reason within this, was not merely that type of a father’s radical love and protection toward his sole daughter; the even more important reason was only known by a few within the Divine Phoenix Empire... Other than Divine Phoenix Empire, even the Four Great Sacred Grounds had gotten

information from who knew where, and also noticed Feng Xue'er a long time ago. This also made Feng Hengkong's protection toward Feng Xue'er prudent to the point that made one unable to comprehend.

If he was to know that a man would actually sit so close to Feng Xue'er, and even engage in sweet talk... and even wanted to pinky swear with her, let alone that this person being the "bastard" he wanted to get rid of from the start, even if it was his own son, he'd unhesitatingly smash him into mincemeat with a palm under a flight of rage.

"Oh, I understand now." Yun Che seemed to only have realized just now: "Your royal father doesn't allow anyone to touch you, and you are afraid of your royal father's scolding, right?"

"Mn..." Feng Xue'er lightly nodded: "I can't disobey royal father's words. I'm more afraid... that after royal father knows, he'll be angry at you. Just last year, Twelfth Brother accidentally touched my shoulder, and was discovered by royal father. Royal father got so angry, and directly broke Twelfth Brother's wrist, and even said that he'll cripple him... I begged for mercy for Twelfth Brother, royal father usually complies with me a lot, but he really was very angry, and still confined Twelfth Brother for an entire half a year... It's my fault that Twelfth Brother is harmed. I don't want Big Brother Yun to be harmed because of me, too."