

The Gods 721

Chapter 721 - Finally Meeting

Yun Che did not turn around.

Ever since he had entered Divine Phoenix Empire, the person he had feared seeing the most had been Feng Xue'er.

It wasn't that he didn't want to, but rather he couldn't... nor did he dare to.

Furthermore, with every time he stepped in Phoenix City and every additional member of Divine Phoenix Sect he killed, the more unable he became to face Feng Xue'er.

Not only was she a member of Divine Phoenix Sect, she was also the daughter of Feng Hengkong. Furthermore, she was of the apple of the eye of the entire Divine Phoenix Empire... At the same time, she also existed in the softest spot within his heart. During his current trip to Divine Phoenix Empire... she had been the biggest "obstacle" in his heart.

"Xue'er..." Yun Che muttered softly. His heart which had not fluttered or felt fear in the face of the Divine Phoenix Sect was now an utter mess.

The snow garments that Feng Xue'er wore fluttered due to the waves created by the scorching heat as her snow white hands intensely covered her mouth. Her absolute beauty which could cause even the fairies in heaven to pale in comparison was now being completely stifled by her gushing tears.

Yun Che's utter was as soft as the blowing wind as he failed to suppress his emotions any longer. However, this had caused all of the pent up emotions within Feng Xue'er to simultaneously erupt as she sobbed loudly and rushed towards Yun Che, her tears continuing to flow like the shining stars within the night sky.

At this moment, the flaming purgatory in the skies, the abnormalities within Phoenix City, and the looming threat that shadowed over the entire city... had all been forgotten by her. Within her eyes which were flooded with tears, everything vanished except for the figure of Yun Che..

"Princess Snow..."

"Xue'er, don't get near him!!"

Feng Xue'er's arrival had taken everyone by surprise. However, her incomprehensible actions caused them to feel even more shock and confusion which made them turn pale in horror.

Below, at least several thousand shocked cries simultaneously erupted, but they were unable to even slightly stop Feng Xue'er's movements. As her snow garments fluttered, she rushed towards Yun Che like a firefly approaching light and hugged him tightly from behind, tightly pressing her crying face into Yun Che's shoulders. She closed her eyes as she immersed herself in the scent and aura that only Yun Che possessed and dreamily muttered, "Big Brother Yun... Am I really not... dreaming... Big Brother Yun..."

"..." Yun Che's entire body tightened. The fiendish aura that had been pressing down upon the entire Divine Phoenix City disappeared as the cry rang out. It had burst uncontrollably like a bubble. Even his

anger, resent, hatred and desire for revenge had been wrapped up by this feeling of warmth and softness.

“Princess... Princess Snow...”

“What... Whatwhatwhat...”

“What... What is going on? Just what had happened?”

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Everyone within Divine Phoenix Sect was shocked. Stunned, they raised their heads and blankly gazed at the image of Yun Che and Feng Xue'er tightly hugging each other. Their mouths were completely agape and their eyes were opened so wide that it seemed as if their eyeballs were about to pop out.

Feng Xue'er. She was the apple of the eye of Divine Phoenix Sect, the sacred treasure and only princess bestowed upon Divine Phoenix Empire. Moreover, she was the sole remaining true successor of the Divine Phoenix Spirit and Divine Phoenix Sect's second Phoenix God!

Her talent, status, elegance, bloodline, and beauty... were all unparalleled beneath the heavens. Such a character was Princess Snow, a fairytale like existence within Divine Phoenix Empire who had received the utmost care and protection from the entire sect. Before she turned thirteen, she had been personally guarded by the Ancestral Phoenix God itself. It had been difficult even for Feng Hengkong to meet her. After she turned thirteen, even the precious princes and elders still could not get close to her.

However, right now... that Princess Snow who was like the world to them was tightly embracing a man from outside of their sect. Furthermore, she had taken the initiative to hug him, and had even cried a river because of him.

“Xue'er, get away from him now!!” Feng Ximing's eyes went bloodshot as his chest began to heave so much that it seemed like it was about to explode. Feng Xue'er's sudden return had not come as much of a surprise to him. After all, such a large commotion was definitely sufficient to reach Phoenix Perching Valley. However, never in his wildest dreams had he thought that the first thing she would do upon returning would be to embrace Yun Che.

Feng Ximing felt as if every part of his body was about to explode. A sense of indescribable rage... as well as jealousy had seemingly overtaken his brain. Not even when Yun Che had previously forced him into a perilous situation, had his hatred towards Yun Che been so extreme...

Because even he, the Divine Phoenix Crown Prince and Xue'er's oldest brother... had not managed to touch so much as her pinky before.

As Feng Ximing's extreme rage took over, he let out a guttural, savage growl and then he suddenly rose into the air, roaring as he charged forward.

Feng Tianwei's gaze sunk as he suddenly waved his arm downwards and a strong profound energy caused Feng Ximing to heavily crash into the ground, “Do you really want to die so badly!!”

“Ming'er, don't be an embarrassment!” growled Feng Hengkong as he glared at Feng Ximing, who was climbing up from the ground with a contorted face. However, his fists were also tightly clenched and his face painfully contorted as well. It did not pale in comparison to Feng Ximing.

When Feng Xue'er woke up, the tears she shed for Yun Che had caused Feng Hengkong's emotions to be thrown into confusion. Thus, when he suddenly found out that Yun Che had not died, his killing intent had tremendously surged in an instant.

Today, the matter he was worried and most afraid of had finally happened... Furthermore, it was worse and more shocking than what he had expected.

"Just what the heck... is going on?" Feng Tianwei's face was frighteningly dark. As someone who had lived hundred of years and had once been the emperor of the nation and the sect master of the sect, how would he not realise that... Feng Xue'er's current actions towards Yun Che were far beyond just simply "repaying his kindness"!

He could simply not believe that she would shed tears for a man and take initiative to hug a man herself.

She was Xue'er... the future "god" of Divine Phoenix Sect!!

"..." Feng Hengkong's twisted fingers tightly clawed at his head as he painfully replied, "This was the reason... why I had to kill Yun Che..."

"Xue'er must have been bewitched by him... Kill him... Grandfather, you must kill that bastard Yun Che. Kill him!!!" Feng Ximing reached out and grabbed the corners of Feng Tianwei's clothes. Both the sound of his voice and his expression were as if he had been stabbed thousands of times.

"..." Feng Tianwei's eyebrows strongly twitched as he deeply exhaled. Looking up into the sky, his eyebrows sank slightly and he muttered, "Xue'er's aura... Why is there such a big change..."

Within this world, there was not a single person that could bear seeing Feng Xue'er shed tears. As she sobbed, her tears constantly dripped onto Yun Che's shoulders, dampening his outer garment as they seeped through and landed on his skin, deeply touching the depths of his heart.

After being frozen for a long time, Yun Che finally decided to turn around. Stretching out his hand, he lifted Feng Xue'er's sobbing face and gently wiped her falling tears... the Feng Xue'er who was currently right by him looked exactly the same as she had three years ago. Her appearance had not changed a single bit, and her radiant snow beauty was still as dreamy as before.

"Xue'er... Have you and Chan'er been well the past three years?"

Tears muddled Feng Xue'er's eyes as she blankly stared at Yun Che. She wanted to laugh heartily, but at the same, she also wanted to tightly hug him and cry, "As long as I can see Big Brother Yun... I'll be fine forever... I... I had thought... that I would never get to see you again..."

"I have still yet to fulfill my promise with Xue'er, why wouldn't you be unable to see me again? These three years, I was just taken on a sightseeing journey by the Great Primordial Ark." Yun Che gently smiled.

"Mn..." Feng Xue'er smiled, tears still in her eyes. Her smile seemed to instantly cause all the things in the world lose their glow.

The flaming purgatory continued to hang in the sky over Phoenix City as the hearts of all the members of Divine Phoenix Clan continued to tighten below. However, the melancholic feelings they felt from Yun Che and Feng Xue'er's heated passion in mid-air had completely overshadowed all of the heat. All of the

Phoenix elders and disciples were dumbfounded. As for Feng Ximing, he grit his teeth so tightly that he bled as he tried his best to prevent himself from breaking down completely. However, he could not help but let out a beast like roar as he wildly shouted, "Yun Che... LET GO OF MY ROYAL SISTER!

"Xue'er, get away from him, hurry up and get away from him! He'll kill you!" Feng Ximing looked as though he had completely lost all sanity.

Feng Ximing's roar also seemed to have caused the dazed Divine Phoenix profound practitioners back to snap back to reality as Feng Tianwei also sternly shouted, "Xue'er, hurry up and get away from that person. Come to Grandfather's side! He's too dangerous!!!"

Feng Xue'er's snowy hands gently wiped away the trails of tears on her face as she revealed a smile which came from the depths of her heart and said, "Grandfather, royal brother, you all don't have to worry. Big Brother Yun will never harm Xue'er."

"No! Xue'er, you don't understand!" Feng Hengkong raised both his arms and shouted in a trembling voice, "He's not the Yun Che from three years ago! He's now a lunatic, a scary demon! Do you know, in just the past few days, he's killed your fourteenth brother, your thirteenth brother, as well as your ninth and eleventh brother... They were all killed by Yun Che!

"And their deaths were unbelievably tragic as not even their corpse was left behind!"

"Also, the Great elder and second elder... even Tianqi and Tianyu, two of our grand elders, were all killed by him!" bellowed Feng Ximing with all his might as he followed after Feng Hengkong's words, "Even royal father was severely injured by him! He even wanted to destroy our entire Phoenix City... That flame domain in the sky is what he was going to use to destroy our Phoenix City! Xue'er, hurry up and get away from him! He is truly a devil and the mortal enemy of our entire sect!"

Feng Xue'er had never seen Feng Hengkong and Feng Ximing scream so intensely before. With her unparalleled intelligence, how could she have failed to notice what had happened here? However, all of this had been pushed out of her mind with the appearance of Yun Che. Now, as she heard the cries and screams of her royal father and royal brother, her eyes became clouded as she shook her head in refusal, "It... It can't be. Big Brother Yun wouldn't have done such things."

Yun Che, "..."

Chapter 722 - Cruel

"Xue'er, could it be that you cannot see what he's currently doing?!" Feng Tianwei face turned green. When he faced the threat that Yun Che brought before, there was no change in his expression. However, after Feng Xue'er's arrival, each scene that he saw caused his entire body to shiver. He stretched out his finger and pointed at Yun Che, "If you don't believe, you can ask him for yourself!"

"They did not lie to you." Immediately after Feng Tianwei finished speaking, Yun Che's calm voice had already resounded, "In the past few days, I've already killed four of your royal brothers, many of your clan members... and the flame domain in the sky was also meant to destroy Phoenix City."

"No, I still won't believe it." Feng Xue'er continued to shake her head as she suddenly turned to Feng Hengkong, "Royal father, what happened? Have you all done something that harmed Big Brother Yun!"

Feng Xue'er's words caused Feng Hengkong's chest to turn heavy as he replied in a panicked and pained voice, "Xue'er... What... what kind of psychedelic soup did he feed you... He killed your brothers and even wants to destroy our entire sect. He has long since become mortal enemies with our sect... He has even admitted it himself! Why do you... insist on defending him!!"

"Would you rather believe someone who has killed your brothers and wants to destroy your entire sect over your royal father?!"

Hearing Yun Che's own confession, Feng Xue'er did not have the shock that she was supposed to have nor did she move away from Yun Che. Her first reaction was instead to question her own birth father. This was undoubtedly a huge blow to Feng Hengkong... to everyone within Divine Phoenix Sect, it was a huge blow that they could not believe or comprehend.

"Royal father is Xue'er's closest person. Xue'er would definitely believe every single word royal father says." She then shook her head in a hurt manner, "However, Xue'er similarly believes that Big Brother Yun is definitely not the 'lunatic' and 'devil' that royal father speaks of. Has royal father forgotten that back then, it was Big Brother Yun who saved Xue'er's life and even sacrificed himself and stayed within the Primordial Ark? Such a kind Big Brother Yun who loved and cherished Xue'er so deeply definitely wouldn't kill Xue'er's brothers and clan members without reason.

"Furthermore, Big Brother Yun was the same as Xue'er. Not only had he inherited the Phoenix God's bloodline, he had also inherited the Phoenix God's soul. Someone with an evil soul would never be able to receive the inheritance of the Phoenix Soul. For Big Brother Yun to do something like that, he must have a very strong reason... Otherwise, Big Brother Yun would never... would definitely never do such a thing!"

"..." Feng Hengkong opened his mouth but could not speak for a very long time. The reason Yun Che acted this way towards the Divine Phoenix Sect was something that he knew far clearer than anyone else.

Everyone present from Divine Phoenix Sect, and even all the citizens of Divine Phoenix City also knew it fully well.

Perhaps within the entire Divine Phoenix Nation, Feng Xue'er was the only person who still did not know.

Yun Che's confession did not shock Feng Xue'er. However, the sudden silence had caused her emotions to go into turmoil. Her two hands tightly gripped onto Yun Che's arm, and her eyes glinted with the helpless shine of a star, "Big Brother Yun, Xue'er would choose to believe that the entire world is lying than believe that you're an evil person. I know that there must be some reason behind this... Big Brother Yun, just what had happened? Can you tell Xue'er...."

Yun Che looked at Feng Xue'er. When he faced her, his expression seemed to soften subconsciously. He let out a deep sigh as he gently said, "In the end... I can never defeat my own heart."

Muttering to himself, Yun Che lifted his finger and tapped Feng Xue'er's forehead. This action of his also caused Feng Hengkong to become shocked as he lost his composure and shouted, "Yun Che, what are you doing!!"

When Yun Che's finger landed in the middle of Feng Xue'er's forehead, a large portion of his memories from the moment he arrived in Profound Sky Continent was directly transmitted into Feng Xue'er's mind.

Yun Che pulled back his hand and Feng Xue'er was already standing there with a dumbfounded expression. All the scenes that Yun Che saw as well as all the things that Yun Che heard upon his return entered her brain. The endless emptiness and loneliness, the ponds that had been burnt dry, the Divine Phoenix Army that marched like flooding waters towards Blue Wind Imperial City, the rivers that flowed with fresh blood, and the seemingly endless amount of corpses... She had also felt all of Yun Che's emotions at that time... his shock, fear, anger, hatred and desire for revenge...

Feng Xue'er's petite figure started to tremble, her eyes lost its focus, and she also seemed to lose all her strength as tears rolled down her cheeks... It was as though she had lost her soul.

The moment Yun Che's finger touched Feng Xue'er's forehead, Feng Hengkong's heart was extremely unsettled. As he looked at Xue'er's reaction now, his heart began to feel fear, "Xue'er, what's wrong..."

"Why did you do that! Why... Why... WHY!!!"

Even before Feng Hengkong could finish speaking, Feng Xue'er's voice pierced through his heart like needles. Her voice was exceptionally miserable, and there was even an unprecedented and uncontrollable emotion. Her face that was usually all smiles was currently filled with streaks of tears... However, the tears were different from the excited and surprised tears when she saw Yun Che. Each bead of her current tears were filled with heart wrenching pain and suffering.

"Xue'er, don't be angry and upset. Royal father had his reasons. All that he has done is for our Divine Phoenix Empire and our entire clan!" Feng Ximing hurriedly explained.

"Why did you do such a thing... WHY!!!"

Five consecutive "why", each of them bearing a soul-ripping pain. She firmly believed that there must have been a reason why Yun Che attacked Divine Phoenix Sect, but she had never expected that the actual reason would actually be so cruel. In addition, she could not believe that her closest, most respected and most relied on father would carry out such actions.

On one side, it was her father, and on the other, it was her Big Brother Yun... Since she was young, she had always lived in a fairytale-like environment, and she had never experienced such a harsh reality in her life.

"Xue'er, I..."

"Big Brother Yun used his life to save my life... Why did you do such things!" Feng Xue'er continued shouting while crying, "You previously promised me that... you'll treat Blue Wind Nation kindly, treat and repay everyone related to Big Brother Yun... But why is the truth like this... Why did you kill so many citizens of Blue Wind Nation... Why did you kill Big Brother Yun's royal father... Why... Why..."

Feng Xue'er's words became more and more sorrowful. Her trembling voice and the pain associated with it caused everyone's hearts to tightly clench, making it hard for them to breathe.

Feng Hengkong's entire body trembled; his heart was aching as though it had been stabbed by millions of blades. When he was finally able to lift his head, he did not dare to meet Feng Xue'er's gaze. Just as he was about to speak, he suddenly saw... by the side of Feng Xue'er's lips, a streak of blood had trickled down, and it appeared exceptionally eye-catching and shocking on her jade-like face.

Feng Hengkong lost all his composure, "Xue'er, what's wrong!!"

Feng Tianwei, Feng Ximing... as well as Yun Che also spotted the streak of blood on Feng Xue'er's mouth at the same time. All of them were deeply shocked. Yun Che frantically grabbed onto Feng Xue'er's waist and anxiously said, "Xue'er..."

The moment he touched Feng Xue'er's body, he could sense that the aura inside her body had become chaotic, and her breathing was also a mess... Numerous profound waves were attacking her heart veins in the chaos.

"Xue'er!!!" In his shock, Feng Hengkong could not care about anything else and shot into the sky. At the same time, the space seemed to have suddenly trembled abnormally as numerous accumulated roars reverberated from the air and the surroundings. The originally highly pressured air started to swirl in chaos, and a large number of weaker Phoenix disciples were knocked onto the ground,

"Don't get near!!!" Feng Tianwei quickly took action and grabbed Feng Hengkong down from midair. As he looked into the sky, all the veins on his body seemed to bulge...

"Shit!!" Feng Ximing revealed a frightened expression, "Grandfather, what should we do now..."

The destruction domain in the air was trembling, the bordering areas were quickly falling... obviously, the entire domain had lost control of its perimeter.

If it fell, it would signify the beginning of Divine Phoenix Sect's annihilation.

"Big Brother Yun..." For the current Feng Xue'er, there was no place other than Yun Che's arm that provided her with more warmth and assurance. However, her panic-stricken heart made her unable to look at Yun Che directly. She rested on Yun Che's shoulder, closed her eyes and softly said, "Can you let go of my royal father and the rest just this once... please... Xue'er knows that she does not have the face to request this from Big Brother Yun... but they are still my royal father and clan members... and this is still the place that I'll need to protect in the future..."

"Xue'er assures Big Brother Yun, I will definitely personally repay Big Brother Yun as well as Blue Wind Nation... alright..."

"Alright!!" Yun Che replied without even the slightest hint of hesitation.

Feng Xue'er looked up, the beads of tears shone the most beautifully in her eyes.

Yun Che released Feng Xue'er and raised both of his hands. His already lacking profound energy had been pushed to its limits following his control over the Golden Crow's Records of the Burning World... In the air, the expansion of Yellow Spring Ashes continued, but it was gradually being contained at its center.

Same situation, same conditions, if it were anyone else, even if that person held the same Golden Crow bloodline and profound arts as Yun Che, he would definitely not be able to use his remaining profound

energy to completely support and withdraw the massive destruction domain. However, Yun Che, who possessed Evil God's Fire Seed, had unparalleled control over fire. With his control, the activation of the destruction domain was slowly receding, and the world-destroying and frightening pressure was being reduced at a swift pace.

At the same time, the temperature of the surroundings had also been greatly reduced.

The Divine Phoenix profound practitioners, whose heart had originally sunk into despair, were now letting out a long sigh of relief. Undoubtedly, when the domain had been retracted, there was no way Yun Che could release it for a second time. At the same time, after using this domain, he had already spent all his energy and was no longer a threat... This meant that the dangers that Divine Phoenix Sect experienced today was completely gone.

At the same time... this was also the best opportunity to eliminate Yun Che!!

Because the current Yun Che did not even possess the strength to run!

As the flame domain shrunk more and more, the temperature of the air also fell at a much quicker pace. Unknowingly, the wind that was blowing due to the ripples in the air made them feel a little cold... It was then that everyone realized that their bodies had long since been drenched in sweat, from head to toe, and every part of their clothes were equally drenched.

Feng Tianwei continued looking at the sky without moving as he let out a huge sigh of relief. He had never felt as much relief in his entire life before. Because for the Divine Phoenix Sect, this was really akin to escaping through the skin of the teeth.

Following the flame domain receding to within three hundred meters, Feng Tianwei finally shifted his gaze onto Yun Che as an eerie killing intent flashed in his eyes.

"Grandfather!" Feng Ximing's suppressed voice rang from behind Feng Tianwei.

"You don't have to speak!" Feng Tianwei snorted coldly; his arm vehemently waved out, and a flaming profound light shot out from the tips of his fingers. Its extreme sharpness ripped apart the air and shot straight at Yun Che who was still retracting the flame domain.

He firmly believed that the current Yun Che could never avoid his attack, not to mention that the latter was even using all his powers to completely control that domain... This profound light was sufficient to separate Yun Che's brain from his body.

Chapter 723 - Reason

Facing the "pardon" Feng Xue'er exchanged using her tears, Feng Tianwei's actions were considered extremely shameless and despicable. Especially since he was the Phoenix Grand Sect Master, the exceptionally strong level six Monarch. He lost all his dignity and pride. However, everyone who witnessed this, except for Feng Xue'er, did not feel shock nor did anyone feel that it was inappropriate.

This of course included Yun Che.

The blood debt he owed after bringing chaos to the Divine Phoenix Sect, his incomparably terrifying strength, ruthless and venomous personality, and his evident irregular feelings for Feng Xue'er... Every single one of these points was enough to spur Divine Phoenix Sect to kill him, regardless of the costs!

And this, was the best opportunity to kill Yun Che!

Even if they were to be labeled by the entire world as despicable and shameless, they definitely could not allow Yun Che, who had retracted his domain, to leave here alive. Even Feng Tianwei himself was the first person to take action.

This profound light that originated from Feng Tianwei was swift and ferocious. Just the sound of the shattering space transmitted to every corner of Divine Phoenix City. However, even before everyone managed to hear the sound of the shattering space, the fatal profound light had already reached Yun Che and stabbed straight at his vitals.

As for Yun Che, he was still using his full strength to retract the Golden Crow Domain and did not react even slightly... or perhaps, in his current condition, Yun Che was no longer able to react to this swift and suddenly profound light attack.

“Yun Che... die!!” Feng Ximing stared intensely at the air as his eyes revealed a hideously ecstatic look.

Boom!!

A deafening exploding noise rang in the sky, but it was not the sound of the profound light hitting Yun Che.

Right when Feng Tianwei’s flaming profound light was within fifteen meters of Yun Che, another eye catching flaming light suddenly appeared and knocked against the flaming profound light... Instantly, the course the flaming profound light was flying largely changed. The profound light that was originally aiming straight at Yun Che had hit the space behind him and disappeared into the sky.

Yun Che had not been harmed in the slightest. Only the back of his clothes tore apart due to the violent ripples of air.

Feng Tianwei’s face instantly darkened. Feng Ximing’s expression that had distorted in ecstasy was also stuck plastered on his face.

Beside Yun Che, Feng Xue’er had moved from Yun Che’s side to his front and her back stuck closely onto Yun Che’s chest. Her snow hands stretched out and a ball of scarlet flames ignited on her palm... Before this, the flames that Feng Xue’er ignited had always been warm and gentle, but now, the mediocre sized flame was shaking exceptionally vigorously.

The streaks of tears of Feng Xue’er had not dried up. She wore an expression of pain, heartache, disbelief... and even a tinge of despair.

Vicious, shameless, evil, despicable... in her entire life, these were words that she had only used in the Primordial Profound Ark on Ye Xinghan and Feng Feiyan. These two people were the first two people that she had ever had the emotion of “hatred” in her entire life.

However, this time... it was brought to her by her loved ones.

“Why...” She muttered, uncertain whether she was questioning her own loved ones or whether she was questioning the world, “Grandfather... Why did you do this!!!”

“...” Feng Tianwei remained speechless as his heart was in a deep shock.

Although the fire profound light was a sudden action, it had not been rushed. He had patiently accumulated energy for countless breaths of time. Therefore, that profound energy was Feng Tianwei's unrestrained full strength. He strongly believed that even if it were not an exhausted Yun Che but a Yun Che at full strength, there was no way he could avoid it and he would definitely die upon being hit.

With Feng Xue'er innocence, she would not have expected that Yun Che would be suddenly attacked. Therefore, she must have reacted the instant after the attack went out, before it managed to hit Yun Che...

An action made with such haste, if she were able to use thirty percent of her powers, it would have already been the limit. Yet, she managed to deflect the fire profound light that he had sent at full strength!

"Xue'er, you're still young, you definitely won't be able to understand..." Feng Hengkong replied in pain, "However, doing this is really for the sake of our entire clan! When you grow up and understand the laws of the world, you'll be able to understand."

"I indeed do not understand... and will never be able to understand!" Feng Xue'er snow white face was filled with sadness. The Phoenix flame in her hand did not extinguish as her other hand held onto Yun Che's arm tightly. She used her entire body and flame to protect him, "I only know you have murdered countless Blue Wind citizens... I only see that Big Brother Yun chose to forgive, yet you all want to kill him and you use such... such despicable means!

"Royal Father... Grandfather... You aren't supposed to be such people!"

Upon saying her last sentence, the tears that she had fought so hard to resist fell once again. This had also caused Feng Hengkong as well as the other Divine Phoenix Sect members' hearts to wince.

"No need to speak much more," Feng Tianwei coldly said, "Xue'er won't be able to grow up in an instant and Yun Che must die today no matter what. Especially since we have already acted this way against him... With his cruel personality, if he does get to leave, he'll definitely take revenge in the future..."

Feng Tianwei's words were something that everyone knew clearly. He chose to retract his domain when he had full advantage, allowing Divine Phoenix Sect to escape from the verge of extinction. However, they had acted viciously after he had pardoned them. No matter how magnanimous a person was, he would undoubtedly bear extreme hatred... needless to say Yun Che!!

If he did not die, his revenge in the future... was something that made everyone shudder simply by thinking about it.

Feng Hengkong gritted his teeth as his crushed heart held a slight hesitation. He chose not to look Feng Xue'er in the eye again and coldly ordered, "All elders listen up, seal off all of Yun Che's escape routes. Kill him at all cost!!"

"Yes!!"

Feng Xue'er, "..."

Upon receiving Feng Hengkong's orders, all the elders rose into the air and formed a large circle which trapped Yun Che in the center... However, Feng Xue'er stood firmly in front of Yun Che, their bodies stuck closely together. All the elders looked on but none of them dared to act rashly.

"Xue'er, come to royal father's side." Feng Hengkong slowly rose into midair and stretched his hand out towards Xue'er, "Even if you were to blame me, hate me, it's fine... We definitely must kill Yun Che today. When you get older, you'll understand royal father's pains."

Feng Xue'er did not shake her head but also did not move away from Yun Che. Even her tears had stopped falling. Surrounding her, all the familiar faces that usually gave her warmth and kindness now became exceptionally frightening. All the usually gentle and caring faces and gazes were now unusually foreign and disgusting...

She finally started to understand the meaning of the words Yun Che told her three years ago in Phoenix Perching Valley...

"Big Brother Yun, I want to grow up more quickly. When I'm twenty, I'll be able to leave Divine Phoenix Nation and travel anywhere I want."

"...Xue'er, I'd rather you never grow up."

"Ah? Why?"

"Because as you get older, you will begin to understand more. However, as you understand more, you will lose even more, and these things that you lose can never be recovered... Although you'll be able to expand your horizon, the things you'll see will not be the good of the world, but instead its darkness and ugliness... Especially since you're the Divine Phoenix Princess, you'll be forced to shoulder the future of Divine Phoenix Sect."

"Hmm...?"

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"Royal father, can you give Xue'er a reason?" Feng Xue'er's voice sounded rather uncertain.

"Xue'er, he killed four of your royal brothers... and so many of our clansmen! Is this not reason enough!" Feng Hengkong shouted agitatedly.

Feng Xue'er slowly shook her head and replied softly, "There are many things that I do not comprehend. But, regarding this matter, I understand completely... the person that killed them was not Big Brother Yun but you, royal father!"

"It was precisely because royal father issued orders to invade Blue Wind Nation, trampled over the peace of the citizens of Blue Wind Nation, dyed their rivers with blood, causing even the death of Big Brother Yun's royal father... which made Big Brother Yun come to take revenge and stop the fighting! This was the reason why they'd die... royal father, do you really not understand that you're the reason behind all these?! These are all retribution for the mistakes that you have committed... They did not die because of Big Brother Yun, they died because of you, royal father."

"..." Feng Hengkong's body shuddered as his face turned completely pale. Similar voices had attacked his heart more than once in recent times. It had nearly turned into a nightmare that he could not escape

from. For Feng Xue'er to say such words, it was simply more heartbreaking than a nightmare. He hissed, "Xue'er... you don't understand... you really don't! The reason why royal father did all of this was for the future of our Divine Phoenix Sect... it concerns the life and death of our entire clan!"

"For the sake of our own survival, you can willfully trample and destroy other nations and their citizens!" Feng Xue'er shouted.

"Xue'er can't you be obedient?" Feng Ximing uttered with a pleading look, "The strong feasts on the weak. This is the most basic law of the world. The progression of Profound Sky Continent, the rise and prosperity of empires were all brought about by battles..."

"But is what we did actual battles?!" Feng Xue'er angrily cut off Feng Ximing's words, her gaze and voice trembling, "The prerequisite of battles is to ensure the safety of innocent civilians. This is something even an infant would know. The creation and prosperity of an empire's most basic and fundamental rule is stability and winning the hearts of people. However, what did the Divine Phoenix Sect do in Blue Wind... slaughter innocent lives, burn down cities, destroy land... This is simply massacre... an act devoid of any human nature!"

Feng Hengkong's lips trembled as he was rendered speechless.

Feng Xue'er placed her hand on her heart. The pain she felt there was simply heart wrenching, "I, Feng Xue'er, was born in Divine Phoenix City, and received the grace of Lord Phoenix God upon birth. Received the care of grandfather, royal father and the entire clan. I saw that no one within Divine Phoenix Nation oppressed others who were weaker than them... All these years, I had felt lucky and proud to be royal father's daughter and a citizen of Divine Phoenix Nation. I relied on royal father and respected every single clan member and even believed that royal father was the most noble person in the world and that the Divine Phoenix Sect that I was born in was the most noble sect and family. Everyday, I reminded myself that I must use all my abilities to inherit the Lord Phoenix God's will and carry Divine Phoenix Sect's future on my shoulders..."

"...Xue'er..." Feng Hengkong closed his eyes slowly.

"However, is all this... simply just a facade? For the sake of our own survival and prosperity, we kill innocent citizens like devils.... Millions of lives were lost and we turned a nation into a living hell... Even if the Divine Phoenix was able to become the world's strongest by dyeing itself with the blood of countless innocent people and carried numerous sins... It would only make me feel fear and disgust. Even Lord Phoenix God would not be able to accept or pardon this."

"..." Feng Hengkong's chest suffocated as he felt as though he had been suppressed by a heavy steel board. His mixed feelings even caused his consciousness to feel fuzzy.

At this moment, an extremely violent torrent of profound energy suddenly exploded forth from within the heavy and suppressed space. Feng Tianwei, who had stayed silent the entire time, suddenly made a move. His hand, which was burning with scarlet flames, was like a devil's blood-drenched claw as it struck straight towards Yun Che's heart.

Everyone, including Feng Hengkong and Feng Ximing who were closest to him, were caught off guard as well.

When Feng Tianwei made his move, he was merely less than a hundred meters away from Yun Che. Suddenly making a move at such a distance, forget about Yun Che, even if it was an expert at the same level, without any defenses prepared, it was still extremely possible to be severely injured with a single strike.

To Feng Tianwei, Yun Che had to die today no matter what... With him dead, future troubles could be prevented, and Feng Xue'er's feelings could be severed as well. As for other matters, they could be slowly alleviated in the future. After all, the phoenix bloodline flowed in Feng Xue'er's body. After all, she was the daughter of the Divine Phoenix Imperial Family.

At such a close distance, a level six Monarch unleashed his full strength while everyone was caught unawares. Feng Tianwei had absolute confidence that in the next instant, he could slice Yun Che into ribbons, and then burn his corpse and bones into nothingness.

However, when his hand had just reached a distance thirty meters away from Yun Che, a pressure, heavy to the point where the blood in his entire body had seemingly frozen up instantly, suddenly descended from the sky. His movements abruptly turned sluggish, and following after, his line of sight was completely shrouded by a scarlet red light that had suddenly appeared...

Chapter 724 - The Awakened Phoenix Soul Within Feng Xue'er

The flames directly struck against Feng Tianwei's chest, causing him to suffocate in an instant. At the same time, all the profound energy that welled-up within his body receded back like a tide.... This brought him great shock as he swiftly congealed all of his energy, but no matter how he tried to circulate his profound energy, he was still unable to release any of it. In the span of a single breath, even the Phoenix flames burning on his body had been completely extinguished.

This bizarre occurrence, which had never occurred before, caused him to become pale in shock and horrified as his body was swiftly and forcefully shoved away by the crushing scarlet light... Within his ears rang the sounds of Feng Hengkong and the others shouting in alarm. It was not only him who had been shoved aside by this ring of flames, but instead all the Divine Phoenix Sect members in the vicinity as well. When the ring of flames burst out, everyone else were pushed as far as where the flames went.

Not to mention the surrounding people, even Feng Tianwei himself didn't have the strength to muster a resistance against it.

A bewitchingly beautiful giant flame lotus had bloomed in the air above Phoenix City as layer upon layer of fire petals unfurled themselves. The moment a hundred layers of these flame petals had unfurled themselves, all of the Divine Phoenix Sect members who had previously been surrounding Yun Che had been pushed several kilometers away. At the center of this gigantic flame lotus stood Feng Xue'er and Yun Che.

Once the overly-rich and effusive fire light finally stopped filling his vision, Feng Tianwei quickly raised his head to look towards Feng Xue'er... And once his gaze came into contact with the all-too-real image of the Phoenix behind Feng Xue'er, his entire body froze in place as his soul began to violently tremble uncontrollably; he almost couldn't prevent himself from collapsing to his knees in order to pay obeisance to that sacred figure.

"The Phoenix... Phoenix soul... has awakened?"

The bewitchingly beautiful fire lotus did not continue to blossom, and it did not hurt anyone either, it had merely forcefully pushed everyone else aside.

Outside of the fire lotus, the gazes of everyone present seemed to have caught fire as shock was written all over their faces... but aside from the shock, there was also a deep excitement, elation and incredulity that was contained within....

Black Moon Merchant Guild.

Bang!

The cyan jade teacup in Zi Ji's fingers had broken into tiny fragments.

"Master?" The three young girls behind him quickly moved forward, their faces filled with both doubt and anxiety at the same time.

"The Phoenix God's aura... has finally appeared?" Zi Ji muttered to himself. Immediately, his eyes flickered as he said, "That's not right! This is... the eighth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm?"

"Could it be...."

The profound energy surrounding Zi Ji faintly vibrated. His body flickered, and in an instant, his body had suddenly appeared in front of his window in a ghostly manner. He focused his gaze in the direction of the Divine Phoenix Sect before continuing, "Quickly go and verify the source of that aura!"

"Understood!" A deep and low voice that was not more than a hundred meters to his right rang out in response.

The fire lotus, which had pushed everyone aside, had already begun to recede, but at this moment, everyone else's attention was no longer focused on Yun Che, instead it was directed at Feng Xue'er and the image of the Phoenix behind her. All of them could feel that the aura radiating from her body... which was clearly similar to that of their Ancestral Phoenix God!!

"Xue'er, has your Phoenix soul... been awakened!?" Feng Hengkong said excitedly as he stretched out both of his hands. Every single one of the gathered Divine Phoenix elders became so emotional that they couldn't even utter a single word while some had even begun to weep.

The significance of the Phoenix Soul awakening was something that outsiders would never understand. But for the Divine Phoenix Sect, it was akin to a heavenly order!

Both Feng Hengkong and Feng Tianwei clearly remembered the words the Phoenix God had personally left them before it passed away. Given the innate talent of Feng Xue'er, the Phoenix Soul which it had passed onto Feng Xue'er would awaken after a century had gone by. The moment the Phoenix Soul within Feng Xue'er awakened and completely fused with her body of the Divine Phoenix, it would cause her Phoenix profound energy to grow by leaps and bounds. Furthermore, in the ten years that followed, her strength would swiftly grow at a rate that could not be comprehended by any normal

means... In the end, it was possible that she could even reach the height where the Phoenix God once stood!

From then on, she would become the Divine Phoenix Sect's second Phoenix God!

And if she continued her cultivation, it was even possible for her to surpass the previous Phoenix God!

Because of that, after the passing of the Phoenix Divine Spirit, Feng Xue'er became the future of the Divine Phoenix Sect.

And they could definitely never allow the news of the Phoenix God's death to be exposed to the world before Feng Xue'er had finished growing. As such, no matter what method Feng Hengkong had to use, he had to protect the Divine Phoenix Sect. Once a century had passed, when Feng Xue'er's Phoenix Soul and Phoenix Body both underwent their respective awakenings, she would become the second Phoenix God, and the Divine Phoenix Sect would not have to fear any other power anymore... not even the Four Sacred Grounds.

But Feng Hengkong and Feng Tianwei had never thought nor had dared to even dream that... Feng Xue'er's Phoenix Soul had actually already awakened!!

That oppressive might that should only belong to their Ancestral Phoenix God and the image of the Phoenix that seemed to be completely real were the best pieces of evidence to prove this!!

And it was also clear that her Phoenix profound strength had undergone an incredible growth! Feng Tianwei was a level six Monarch, but even he could barely muster any resistance in the face of the flames that she had released!! And it was definitely not purely because of the suppressive effect of the Phoenix God's might, instead it was a suppression born of absolute strength!!

To the Divine Phoenix Sect, this was a wonderful surprise that bordered on pure fantasy.

In this case, they did not need to hold on for a century anymore... within the short span of a decade, Feng Xue'er's Phoenix profound strength would rapidly increase due to the fusion between her soul and her bloodline. Once this process was completed, she would possess power that would rival the Ancestral Phoenix God's divine strength, and their Divine Phoenix Sect would no longer have to worry about any future threats!

A century versus a decade, for the Divine Phoenix Sect, this was definitely not as simple as just having to wait ten times the amount of time; more than that, it made a huge difference in the fate of the entire clan!!

"Xue'er... the three years that you had been in comatose... was it because your Phoenix Soul was undergoing its awakening?" Feng Tianwei asked in a trembling voice, and even though he was normally an unwavering and ferocious person, he had already forgotten about his murderous intent towards Yun Che. Feng Xue'er had lain unconscious for three years, and all this while, her body had been shrouded in a peculiar Phoenix flame that even he could not approach. During this period, they had discussed innumerable conjectures and suspicions, but they had never once come to the conclusion that the Phoenix Soul was awakening.

"Yes...." Feng Xue'er, who bathed in the light of the Phoenix image while standing in the heart of the Burning Star Fire Lotus, seemed to be a fairy of divine flames who stepped right out of heavenly sacred

text; her exquisite beauty was unmatched in the world, and her hair, which was releasing the power of the Phoenix Soul, had become as crimson as flames; her eyes, manner and aura had all undergone massive changes. She paused before continuing, "Do all of you know... why my Phoenix Soul would awaken in such a short period of time?"

Why did it awaken so quickly? It was undoubtedly an answer which everyone within the Divine Phoenix Sect wanted to know. And even if this was a miracle granted to them by heaven... then there should still be a reason for the miracle to happen in the first place.

"It was because of Big Brother Yun." Feng Xue'er's gaze fell on Yun Che as she spoke softly, "Three years ago, not only did Big Brother Yun save my life, but he also bestowed the fifth and the sixth levels of the World Ode of the Phoenix to me. This not only pushed the Phoenix profound strength within my body to a whole new level, it also allowed me to completely master it while completing the laws of Phoenix flames which supported the Phoenix Soul. All of this allowed the Phoenix Soul that the great Phoenix God bestowed upon me to awaken before a century had passed..."

"Xue'er's life was saved by Big Brother Yun, Xue'er's awakened Phoenix Soul was also due to the efforts of Big Brother Yun. And the grand favor that Big Brother Yun has done for Xue'er, no, for our entire clan is so huge that we will never be able to repay him... but all of you keep on trying to harm and even kill Big Brother Yun!"

Feng Xue'er was furious, and this was the first time in their lives that everyone present had seen Feng Xue'er filled with so much anger. She slowly extended a hand and the Phoenix image behind her also spread its beautiful wings. The oppressive might of the Phoenix, which was enough to flip the world on its head, descended from the sky, enveloping the entire Phoenix City as well as all of the people within it. Facing the awakened soul of the Phoenix, even if one's profound strength was far greater than Feng Xue'er, they would also tremble and bow before the might of the Phoenix God. So there was no need to think about whether one even had the strength to resist, because no one could even form the notion of resistance in the first place. Once she had completed her transformation into the Phoenix God, then at that time, if she wanted to completely seal someone's Phoenix profound energy, or if she wanted to purge anyone's bloodline or life, she only needed to think about it, and it would happen.

"I swear in the name of the Phoenix God..." This girl, whose heart was as pure as driven snow, spoke in a grave and solemn tone that could have never possibly come from her mouth, "Within the sect, if anyone dares to try to harm Big Brother Yun again... no matter who it is, I will never forgive that person. And if Big Brother Yun dies... then I will immediately purge my own Phoenix Soul and Phoenix blood!"

"Xue'er!" Feng Xue'er's words caused Feng Hengkong to become pale in shock and fear. He was clear, very clear indeed, that if Feng Xue'er died, then the Divine Phoenix Sect was done for as well. Furthermore, they would not even have a future to hope towards. At the same time, she was his only and most adored daughter, the greatest pride and joy of his life, and he would rather die a hundred thousand times than to see her get hurt in the slightest.

Feng Xue'er's voice was extremely crisp and clear. And with these words that she had said, Feng Tianwei would definitely, under no circumstances whatsoever, dare to move against Yun Che any longer. Especially now that her Phoenix Soul had already awakened, to everyone within the Divine Phoenix Sect, her every word was like a sacred law that could not be violated.

“Okay... Grandfather will promise Xue’er, as long as Yun Che no longer bothers us from today onwards, not a single person within our clan will act against him... or against the people dear to him!” Feng Tianwei calmed his heart and spoke in an extremely sincere manner, “He destroyed the Phoenix God Statue, killed Xichen and Xiluo... and everything else he did can be written off and we will not pursue it any further. And over at Blue Wind Nation, we will immediately order our troops to withdraw... and we are even willing to compensate and appease the Blue Wind Nation up to a certain point. Is this... fine with you?”

The Golden Crow Domain had already been completely withdrawn by Yun Che. He stood in the middle of the fire lotus with Feng Xue’er as he silently attempted to perceive the aura that was being released by Feng Xue’er. Even though both of them had inherited the purest Phoenix blood and Phoenix Soul, he could still feel that the purity of the Feng Xue’er’s Phoenix bloodline was at least several hundred times more than his own. Moreover, even if everyone within the Divine Phoenix Sect were to combine their bloodline together, it would never be comparable to Feng Xue’er’s. As for the difference between Yun Che’s and Feng Xue’er’s Phoenix Soul, it was not as exaggerated; it was only two times more than the one he inherited. However, in the face of the oppressive might of the Phoenix which was produced by a Phoenix bloodline that was hundreds of times purer than his, he could feel that it was on a completely different level compared to his own.

If he did not have the Dragon God’s Soul within him, even he would not be able to control the urge to kneel in the face of the Phoenix’s oppressive might.

So it was exceedingly clear how much regard and love the Divine Phoenix Sect’s Ancestral Phoenix God had for Feng Xue’er. It had, without any reservation, completely poured its entire being into her.

After Yun Che, who had been fixated on Feng Xue’er, heard the words spoken by Feng Tianwei, his gaze turned cold. After that, a deep and cold laugh erupted from his chest as his eyes which were as sharp and cold as icy knives fixed themselves on Feng Tianwei, “Feng Tianwei! I think you’re getting something awfully wrong here! The fact that you want to kill me is indeed something that the heavens should smite all of you for! But the fact that I want to kill you is completely righteous and just! You ransacked my Blue Wind Nation, so you should face destruction as well! Even if the entire Divine Phoenix Empire was hollowed out to compensate the Blue Wind Nation, it would still be justified! To think that you actually have the face to make it sound like not attacking me and withdrawing your troops are gracious acts!”

“Yun Che, don’t you spit in the face of our courtesy!” Feng Tianwei’s face had instantly darkened as well.

“Just who is the one that is spitting in the face courtesy?” Yun Che aggressively said, his voice filled with icy contempt, “Do you truly believe that you could kill me if Xue’er didn’t get in the way just now? Do you truly believe that I would be so naive and foolish as to back myself into a corner by forgiving you without an ace up my sleeve?”

“Feng Tianwei, If I truly wanted to leave, even if there were ten of you, you still wouldn’t even be able to touch a hair on my head!” Yun Che fixed his eyes on both Feng Tianwei and Feng Hengkong as his gaze grew dark and ferocious, “If I truly wanted to destroy your entire clan, I actually didn’t even need to lift a single finger... all I needed to do was to leak a particular secret that all of you were so desperate to keep hidden to a few particular people. Perhaps, I might have also been able to reap a lot of benefits from it.”

“... You!” Yun Che’s words caused Feng Hengkong and Feng Tianwei’s expression to dramatically change—his previous confidence had stemmed from the fact that he knew about the secret! Both he and Feng Xue’er had the Phoenix Soul... so perhaps this was the reason he knew about that secret.

“So now, all of you should know... just how great a courtesy I have already shown to all of you!” Yun Che extended a finger and pointed it at Feng Hengkong’s face, “The past two times you tried to kill me with an ambush, for the sake of Xue’er, I can leave that aside for now. But all the conditions that I have mentioned before, not one of them must be left unfulfilled, and they must be fulfilled to a tee! So you must definitely remember not to... spit in the face of my courtesy again!”

The same words that Feng Tianwei had just uttered were fiercely thrown back to his face.

Chapter 725 - Atoning for the Sins of the Father

Yun Che’s words suddenly caused the atmosphere to become stifling once more as the sense of elation felt by the Divine Phoenix Sect from the awakening of Feng Xue’er’s Phoenix Soul mercilessly had a bucket of cold water splashed over it.

Today, no matter how unable Feng Hengkong was to understand and accept it, he had no choice but to realize that the fate of the Divine Phoenix Sect lay solely in the hands of Yun Che right now—at least it was for the decade before Feng Xue’er fully blossomed into her own. Moreover, because of Feng Xue’er’s decisiveness, they were now incapable of moving against Yun Che any further... in the end, the fate of this sect that had lorded over the continent for five millennia was completely in Yun Che’s hands.

However, Feng Hengkong no longer displayed the anger and discontent that he had expressed previously. After a short period of stiffness, his grim face finally relaxed because now that it had come to this, he had no choice but to resign himself to fate. He gave a great sigh before slowly speaking, “Xue’er is indeed correct... absolutely correct. All of this has happened because of us. The deaths of Xiluo, Elder Tianqing and the others, are all because of us as well... Even though we only had the good of the Divine Phoenix Empire in mind, the methods we used and the consequences that we wrought were indeed evil and terrible enough for us to have to endure this sort of retribution...”

“If not for the decision that we made three years ago, our sect would not have met with such calamity, and Xiluo and the others would not have died such miserable deaths... all of these things are the consequences we have reaped from our terrible mistake.”

“And naturally this is something that we must take responsibility for!” Feng Hengkong placed his palm against his chest, “The Phoenix Soul within Xue’er has already awakened, so the greatest wish in our life has already been fulfilled, there is nothing more that we could ask for! Today, as long as we can ensure the immediate safety and stability of our sect, you do not even need to talk about asking us to destroy our own profound art and kneel for a hundred years, because even if you asked us to end our own life right now, we would not even twitch an eyelid! Withdrawing the troops, stopping the war, paying compensation, ceding away territory... and even offering a sacrifice, we will not be remiss in making sure that all of it comes to pass!”

“I only hope that you will do as you have said!!”

Feng Hengkong gave a low yell as his palm ignited with Phoenix flames and he sent it exploding towards his own profound veins.

“Sect Master!!” The entire Divine Phoenix Sect gave a huge cry of alarm as they frantically rushed towards Feng Hengkong, but how could they possibly arrive in time to stop him.

“Royal father, don’t!!” Feng Xue’er gave a shrill cry of alarm as a scarlet flame flashed in her phoenix eyes.

Instantly, Feng Hengkong’s Phoenix profound energy was completely sealed away, and even the concentrated profound energy that had been gathered in his palm had completely dissipated, and by the time his palm smacked against his chest, even the all the flames had died out... forget about him being able destroy his own profound veins, he was not even able to inflict a superficial injury on himself.

“Sect Master!” All the gathered Divine Phoenix elders surged forth anxiously as they grabbed and restricted Feng Hengkong’s arms, “Sect Master, do not... you definitely must not do this!!”

“Xue’er....” Feng Hengkong stared dazedly at Feng Xue’er, his nose faintly crinkled and his eyes grew slightly hazy. He knew that even though Feng Xue’er was furious at him, she was ultimately still truly concerned about his wellbeing.

Feng Xue’er did not release the seal on Feng Hengkong’s strength. She turned towards Yun Che and pleaded with him with tears streaming from her eyes, “Big Brother Yun, even though my royal father has committed many grave and irreversible mistakes, Xue’er knows better than everyone that he is definitely not an evil person. If not, the Lord Phoenix God would not allow Grandfather to pass on the position of Sect Master to my royal father. As both the sect master of Divine Phoenix Sect and the emperor of Divine Phoenix Nation, my royal father had to bear a burden and a duty that normal people would be unable to even imagine, so at times, he would have no choice but to make some decisions, even if they were extreme or even cruel and merciless. But he is really not someone who is filled with evil, and Xue’er is even more willing to believe that when my royal father made that decision three years ago, he was more tormented and helpless than anyone else.... Because all of the sin, debts of blood, vilification and the souls of the departed would weigh down on him.”

“Xue... Xue’er...” Feng Hengkong’s entire body trembled and the moment those words had escaped his lips, tears began to stream down his face... Before this, Xue’er had used her own body to shield Yun Che and for the sake of Yun Che, she had raised her voice and become angry at him. At that time, the pain he felt was akin to ten thousand arrows piercing his heart. But now, after hearing Xue’er’s words, even if he were die ten thousand times over, he would no longer have any regrets.

“Big Brother Yun, Xue’er isn’t trying to explain away the sins of my royal father. It is only that no matter whether it is the Divine Phoenix Sect, Divine Phoenix Nation or Xue’er herself, all of us need my royal father. So I beg of you, Big Brother Yun, please let my royal father off and give him a chance to make amends for his actions towards Blue Wind Nation. Xue’er will replace her royal father and follow Big Brother Yun to Blue Wind Nation, and apologize and make amends towards Empress Cang Yue... and the entire Blue Wind Nation.”

“Xue’er, you... what are you saying!” Feng Hengkong’s face was filled with shock and horror, “All of this is your royal father’s fault, it has nothing to do with you at all...”

“No...” Feng Xue’er slowly shook her head. She raised her phoenix eyes as she softly continued, “I am royal father’s daughter, and as your daughter, I must definitely join royal father in apologizing and

making amendments for his mistakes. Xue'er hopes that after we have expiated our sins that royal father remains safe and unharmed and I hope even more that royal father forever remembers what has happened today, so that he will from now onwards treat Blue Wind Nation kindly and treat all those who are innocent and good kindly as well. I also hope that no matter what what happens in the future, that royal father will never commit such a grave mistake again."

"Big Brother Yun, Xue'er is willing to accompany you to Blue Wind right this day, so that I can meet Empress Cang Yue. And no matter what she says to me, Xue'er will not have any regrets or resentment... is that okay?" Feng Xue'er looked at Yun Che earnestly, her phoenix eyes misty and filled with pleading.

"Xue'er, don't say such foolish things!" Feng Hengkong was thrown into panic, he was completely panicked and even when he had been forced to the very brink of desperation by Yun Che, he had not reacted with such anxiousness, "Yun Che! Three years ago, it was us who ordered the invasion of Blue Wind, it was also us who gave the instructions for the Blue Wind Nation to be subjugated within the shortest amount of time, no matter what methods we used. And it was also us who ordered the assassination of Cang Wanhe! All of these things were orders that we had personally given! All of these were only the sins of us and us alone! Let us not even talk about your request that we cripple our profound art and atone for one hundred years, even if you wanted our life, we would give it to you right now! But all of this has nothing to do with Xue'er, nothing at all!"

Feng Hengkong struggled to shrug off the arms of all the elders who had grabbed ahold of him as he roared with widened eyes, "We are willing to go with you to Blue Wind Nation right now, and once we are there, you can do whatever you want to us! Our sins can only be expiated by us and us alone! Yun Che, you should be more clear than anyone else that this matter has absolutely nothing to do with Xue'er... nothing at all!"

It could be said that the present Feng Hengkong was filled with shame and remorse. Before this, Feng Xue'er had been desperately protecting Yun Che... but at the same time, she was also rescuing the Divine Phoenix Sect as well. He could not imagine just how much today's situation would have worsened if not for the timely appearance of Feng Xue'er.

It was Feng Xue'er who had pulled the entire sect back from the brink of the abyss. And right now, it was again Feng Xue'er, for the sake of his safety, who was willing to replace him and travel to Blue Wind Nation, in order to atone for all of his sins....

Even if there was really a medicine for regret in this world, it would still be unable to get rid of the regret that filled every nook and cranny of his soul.

Yun Che shot Feng Hengkong a casual and disinterested glance; after that he took Feng Xue'er's small hand and said with a faint smile, "Fine, then we will do as Xue'er wishes and you can replace your royal father to accompany me back to Blue Wind."

"Yun Che!!" Feng Hengkong let out a lion's roar as his entire body fiercely trembled, "You... you dare! If you dare to take Xue'er away today, if you dare to harm a single hair on Xue'er's head, we...."

"Tch!" Yun Che coldly snorted, "Xue'er saved my life, and there is nothing more that I would want to do than to cherish her. If not for Xue'er, do you actually think that you would still be able to stand there

and kick up a big fuss!? And do you think that your Divine Phoenix Sect would be let off with just these few deaths!?”

“Also, in regards to harming Xue’er, Feng Hengkong, compared to you, I am truly inferior!” Yun Che said mockingly.

“You...” Those words had caused Feng Hengkong’s face to become as white as a ghost.

“As the emperor of a country, my Cang Yue is one million times more compassionate than you; she will not harm Xue’er, and I will not allow anyone else to harm her either. Besides, when it comes to representing the Divine Phoenix Empire, in many ways, Xue’er is even more suitable than you are!”

“So you better treasure the status, freedom and life that Xue’er has guaranteed for you!! When Xue’er comes back, she will naturally tell you just what kind of amends my Cang Yue desires of you!”

“Big Brother Yun, thank you. I know that I am being very selfish... but he is, after all, still my father, I...” Feng Xue’er lightly tugged the small hand that was being held within Yun Che’s own as her voice and eyes grew hazy. She was very clear just how much Yun Che had stepped back for her sake.

Yun Che shook his head and said with a faint smile, “For me, you were even able to make that evil oath that you would ‘purge your own Phoenix blood and Phoenix soul’. So in comparison, what I have done can’t even begin to measure up up that.”

“...Mn!” Feng Xue’er nodded her head vigorously as a celestial smile appeared on her face.

“No! We definitely must not let Xue’er accompany Yun Che to Blue Wind.... Royal father, you need to hurry up and stop it!” Feng Ximing said anxiously, “This is Xue’er we are talking about!!”

Feng Hengkong did not respond to Feng Ximing. His eyes were in a daze for a while before he suddenly shouted, “Yun Che, you can bring Xue’er with you to Blue Wind... however, we must follow you! Otherwise, even if we were to die here today, we will never allow you to bring Xue’er away!”

“Royal father...” Feng Xue’er panicked, just as she was about to speak, she heard Yun Che’s exceptionally calm reply, “Sure! Or should I say even better! After all, what my Cang Yue wanted to see the most is you personally come to atone for your sins!”

“Big Brother Yun...” Feng Xue’er hands tightened.

“You don’t have to worry.” Yun Che gently replied.

“Just a few simple words settled the nerves and anxiety that Feng Xue’er was feeling previously as she replied with a simple “mn”.

Yun Che did not refuse because he knew clearly what Feng Hengkong was afraid of. He was not worried about Feng Xue’er’s safety... After all, Feng Xue’er’s current strength had already obviously surpassed that of Feng Tianwei. Within Blue Wind Nation, there was no existence that could possibly pose a threat to her. However, Feng Xue’er had never left the boundaries of Divine Phoenix City before and Yun Che was also a highly “dangerous” person. Even if it wasn’t Feng Hengkong, any ordinary father would not possibly feel safe to allow his daughter who had never left home before to follow a man to a foreign place alone.

Therefore, no matter what, Feng Hengkong had to tag along to “protect” her. Even if it meant that he himself had to remain within Blue Wind Nation’s territories.

Chapter 726 - The True Reason

Black Moon Merchant Guild, Seventh Floor.

“Master, it was indeed the Divine Phoenix Ark that had just left Phoenix City. After much investigation, we have confirmed that there are only three people onboard the Divine Phoenix Ark... Yun Che, Feng Hengkong and Princess Snow, Feng Xue’er. They are traveling in the direction of the Blue Wind Nation. If they are truly headed towards Blue Wind Nation, then they will arrive at Blue Wind Imperial City before tomorrow evening.”

“...Can we find out what exactly happened just now?” Zi Ji asked with sunken brows.

“Feng Tianwei is still here, so we do not dare to go closer, but we should be able to acquire all the information before tomorrow.”

Zi Ji let out a long and deep sigh before he continued, “The events that took place this day truly had many twists and turns.”

It could be said that every development that took place over the course of this entire affair was completely out of his expectations. For Zi Ji, who had an extremely good insight and could normally grasp any situation, this was a rather heavy blow.

“Master, this subordinate also has one more thing to report. A century ago, we sent eleven people to infiltrate the Illusory Demon Realm. We had already lost eight of them, but the last three soul imprints just vanished... not more than fifteen minutes ago. It is very likely that their identities have been exposed, and after that, their souls were searched before they were executed.”

“...” Zi Ji lapsed into a heavy silence.

“Master, you actually don’t need to be too concerned over this matter. One hundred years ago, the people we sent to infiltrate the Illusory Demon Realm only brought along seven sound transmission stones with them. One year ago, the news that they transmitted back to us just so happened to be the seventh time they have done so as well. This also means that all seven of the sound transmission stones have been used. So even if they managed to survive, they would be unable to send any more messages back to us. Although they have already lost their lives, at least they have already fulfilled their mission.”

The “sound transmission stone” he was talking about was naturally not the normal sound transmission stones that were commonly used. Instead, it was a special kind of sound transmission stones which could transmit messages over five hundred thousand kilometers; it could be used to send messages from the Illusory Demon Realm back to the Profound Sky Continent. In the entire Profound Sky Continent, only the Four Sacred Grounds who had enormous and incomparable resources possessed these sound transmission stones, and even then, there were still an extremely small amount of them in existence.

“...Before this, they had been safe and sound for all this while, but it was only recently that they were rooted out one after the other. It looks like something huge must have happened in the Illusory Demon

Realm.” Zi Ji said gently, “However, rather than their exposure and survival, what I am even more concerned about is the last piece of news that they had sent back one year ago.”

“One year ago?”

“That report detailed the current status of the Twelve Guardian Families which resided within Demon Imperial City, and when it came to the Yun Family, it was mentioned that the crippled Yun Qinghong had adopted a foster son called ‘Yun Che’...”

Zi Ji’s words stopped here. The blue-clothed man beside Zi Ji immediately furrowed his brows as he responded with a voice filled with doubt and suspicion, “Could it be that Master believes that this foster child has something to do with Yun Che? It should only be a coincidence that their names sound similar. After all...”

“At that time, I hadn’t even paid any notice to this fact, but now....”

Zi Ji did not continue speaking. In his mind appeared an image that he had seen within the Profound Imagery Stone; one of two wings spread wide open at daybreak... and also the turbulent green-colored storm that had gathered beneath those wings.

And also... the Yun Che who had managed to return alive.

“Master, could it be that....”

Zi Ji faintly shook his head and refused to make any further comment. But after that, his tone changed as he spoke in a rather gloomy manner, “A century ago, when we were attacking Demon Imperial City, we were not the only ones who took advantage of the chaos to send in an infiltration squad... Mighty Heavenly Sword Region did so as well. I wonder if they have also finished using all of their sound transmission stones...”

Divine Phoenix Ark; it was the highest-grade profound ark possessed by the Divine Phoenix Sect, and it was a national symbol of the Divine Phoenix Empire. Its appearance definitely meant that the emperor himself had come.

As the curtain of night began to fall across the sky, the Divine Phoenix Ark had already neared the borders of Divine Phoenix. As it flew past, there was not a single citizen of Divine Phoenix Nation who did not kneel from afar.

The huge Divine Phoenix Ark currently housed only three people. Yun Che, Feng Xue’er and Feng Hengkong whose expression had undergone several changes.

“Royal father said that given the speed of the Divine Phoenix Ark, by this time tomorrow, we should have already reached Blue Wind Imperial City.” Feng Xue’er sat by Yun Che’s side and her body was in very close proximity to his. When she spoke, her face had a rosy color, and it was clear that she was very excited. After all, this was the very first time she had left the Divine Phoenix Nation ever since she was born; she had been dreaming of this day ever since she was a child.

Feng Hengkong’s face uncontrollably twitched as he observed how Feng Xue’er not only lacked the slightest inhibitions towards Yun Che, but she even seemed to naturally draw close to him as she looked at him with a gaze filled with intimacy. However, the only thing Feng Hengkong could do was to silently

let out a melancholic sigh... In the few hours they had inside the Divine Phoenix Ark, he had already given the exact same sigh countless of times.

He had naturally protected Feng Xue'er as much as he possibly could; even her own blood brothers were not able to come within three steps of her, much less outsiders. If a disciple within the sect managed to see Feng Xue'er even once, it could be counted as great fortune.

But just like this...

Feng Hengkong extended a hand to grab the top of his head, and his fingers tightened up in such a way that it seemed as if he simply wanted to seize all the hair on his head... He would rather have Yun Che bring about a disaster that would smash the Divine Phoenix Sect to the ground than to see him bring disaster to Feng Xue'er.

"Were you the one who killed Feng Chihuo as well?" Feng Hengkong, who had been grabbing his head, abruptly asked Yun Che a question.

"Yes." Yun Che did not even hesitate in delivering his succinct reply.

"Haah!" Feng Hengkong did not continue after that; now that things had come to this point, nothing more was left to be said. Right now, he could only hope that Feng Xue'er's feelings towards Yun Che had not grown to the point where he wouldn't dare think to.

"I also have a question to ask you." Yun Che's eyes locked onto Feng Hengkong's, "The real reason behind the invasion of Blue Wind Nation... what exactly is it!?"

Feng Hengkong's entire body stiffened, but he did not reply.

"Royal father, Xue'er wishes to know as well." Feng Xue'er softly said, "Because the royal father I know is definitely not a cruel and merciless person, so the decision that royal father made three years ago, there must... there must be an extremely special reason for it. Can you... tell Big Brother Yun and I about it? And perhaps after knowing the reason, Big Brother Yun might soften his stance towards my royal father... even if it's just by a little bit."

Feng Hengkong's hand slowly lowered. He had no ability to reject Feng Xue'er's soft and gentle request, and he had also remembered that Yun Che clearly knew the truth of the Phoenix God's passing.... He release a feeble sigh before he began to speak, "Four years ago, as our sect's Spirit Earth Hall began to make preparations for the appearance of the Primordial Profound Ark, we had coincidentally discovered a very faint and weak reaction of a Purple Crystal mine to the extreme east of Blue Wind Nation. Never in our history had we ever recorded such a reaction to a Purple Crystal mine that was located so far away from us. So we secretly dispatched some of Spirit Earth Hall's protectorates to go investigate this occurrence, and they discovered that a extremely huge and powerful Purple Crystal mine lies deep beneath the lands to the east of a small city that was known as Floating Cloud City... If we were able to extract and refine all the crystals in this mine, we would be able to obtain a whole fifty kilograms of Purple Veined...."

"Divine Crystal!"

“Ah!” Feng Xue’er let out a cry of surprise. Just the notion of having fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Heaven Crystal was enough shake the heavens... much less having fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal!

Even the Four Great Sacred Grounds would regard fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal as incomparably huge resources.

One must know that it required at least five hundred years for a Sacred Ground to accumulate fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal! So if the Divine Phoenix Sect were able to completely obtain all of these Purple Veined Divine Crystals, it would be equivalent to gaining five centuries worth of accumulation of a Sacred Ground!

This kind of temptation was enough to entice the Divine Phoenix Sect... It was enough to even entice any power that existed within the Profound Sky Continent to go after it at all costs, even if they had to behave unscrupulously!

“So that... was the case!!” Yun Che raised his head because Feng Hengkong’s words had cleared up nearly all the suspicions and doubt in his mind.

“Big Brother Yun, did you figure out everything already?” Yun Che’s words caused Feng Xue’er to look at him with a puzzled expression.

“I have more or less understood the gist of it.” Yun Che stood up; his brow furrowed as he stared at Feng Hengkong, “But I’ll let your royal father finish his story.”

Feng Hengkong faintly squeezed his eyes shut before continuing his tale once more, “In the years after our Ancestral Phoenix God had passed away, the ones who were aware of this fact were seized with an intense sense of crisis. Because the moment this matter got out, Divine Phoenix Sect would definitely be suppressed by the Four Great Sacred Grounds... and there was even a possibility that we would be wiped out altogether. So while we fiercely protected the secret that the Phoenix God had already passed away, we were also desperately looking for a method to protect the sect in the event that the secret got exposed... or at the very least, a method to ensure Xue’er’s safety.”

“And the discovery of this gigantic Purple Crystal mine caused great joy to spring up in the hearts of us and our royal father. If we could really obtain fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal, we would be able to birth several supreme powerhouses within a short period of time, and from then on, we would have yet another layer of security.”

“It was... just for this? All of it just for the sake of obtaining the Purple Crystal mine within Blue Wind Nation?” Feng Xue’er was mystified as she shook her head in confusion, “But what does this have to do with royal father’s order to invade Blue Wind Nation... and the terrible and cruel way in which it was conducted!?”

“Of course it was for the sake of keeping everything absolutely confidential, so that the Four Sacred Grounds would not notice what they were really doing.” Yun Che said, but his eyes held a faint glimmer of mockery as well, “At all times, the Four Great Sacred Grounds always have people secretly observing the movements of Divine Phoenix Sect. The existence of this Purple Crystal mine was known only to the few core members of the sect, and it was natural that these very members would be at the heart of any spying on the Divine Phoenix Sect, so no matter how covert their actions were, there was still a huge risk

that they would be discovered. The moment the existence of this Purple Crystal mine was exposed, it would no longer belong to Divine Phoenix Sect.”

“So the real motive behind your war with the Blue Wind Nation was to cover your true intentions and divert the attention of the Four Great Sacred Grounds! In order to make this diversion as convincing and realistic as possible, you did not hesitate to slaughter innocents and raze cities. All to make it seem as if you were anxious to conquer Blue Wind Nation in the shortest amount of time possible, so that you could give the impression that you were venting your anger on Blue Wind Nation because of the loss of prestige that Divine Phoenix Sect had suffered at my hands during the Seven Nations Ranking Tournament!”

“Yes.” Feng Hengkong said as he nodded with a dull expression on his face.

“All for the sake of fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal? Heh...” Looking at Feng Hengkong’s expression, Yun Che gave a cold laugh, “Looking at you right now, it seems like you believe that you have done nothing wrong?”

“To Blue Wind Nation, we should indeed suffer the wrath of the heaven! But we are the emperor of Divine Phoenix and also the sect master of Divine Phoenix Sect!” Feng Hengkong raised his head to stare directly at Yun Che, “These fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal may just be a huge resource to other people, but to our Divine Phoenix Nation who had lost its ancestral Phoenix God, it was our last sliver of hope! The results of what happened has indeed caused us great regret... but our decision was definitely not wrong!”

“How naive! Did you really think that a meager fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal would be enough to protect your Divine Phoenix Sect once the Phoenix God’s passing was exposed to the world!?” Yun Che coldly asked.

“...At the very least, It would have given us a bit more power to protect Xue’er! As long as we can protect Xue’er for one hundred years, even if our sect was completely obliterated, we would still have boundless hope for what would happen after!” Feng Hengkong yelled back in a low voice.

“Royal father, please stop speaking already!” The moment Feng Xue’er saw Yun Che and Feng Hengkong begin to clash once more, she hurriedly threw herself in the middle of the two of them, “Royal father, no matter what the reason was, causing the death and suffering of so many innocent people is still a grave sin. Xue’er’s Phoenix Soul was awoken with help from Big Brother Yun, and I am already able to protect our Divine Phoenix Sect. Royal father does not need to continue to worry about Xue’er anymore. The only thing Xue’er wants is for royal father and I to make amends for the sins that we have committed, so that we can obtain the forgiveness of Blue Wind Nation and also the forgiveness of the spirit of Lord Phoenix God who rests in heaven.”

“Xue’er...” Feng Hengkong looked at his daughter as his eyes gradually began to mist over.

“Now that I think about it, you instructed Feng Xichen to personally come to Blue Wind Imperial City to deliver the invitation for the Seven Nations Ranking Tournament all those years ago. However, that was all a pretense. The real motive was to use his status as a Divine Phoenix Prince to pick a fight with me over the matter of my bloodline, and from there, to create a reason to start a conflict, correct?” Yun Che said with narrowed eyes.

“Yes.” Feng Hengkong did not even try to deny it.

Yun Che continued to speak, “And once the war had lasted for more than two years and the Four Great Sacred Grounds slackened their watch over you, you began preparations to excavate the Purple Crystal mine. When you were extracting the Purple Crystals, even if it was deep below the ground, there would definitely be a large amount of noise. So the purpose of making that area a training ground and instructing the two hundred thousand troops stationed at Floating Cloud City to pound the earth everyday was to completely conceal what was really going on.”

“...You are completely correct.” Feng Hengkong gave Yun Che a deep and profound look. He had only just revealed the existence of the Purple Crystal mine, yet Yun Che was able to piece together each and every piece of the puzzle flawlessly... that was just how terrifying his mind was.

“So right now, how much have you accomplished in achieving your goal?” Yun Che asked coldly. Never in his life did he imagine that such a huge Purple Crystal mine would be hidden near Floating Cloud City where he had spent more than a decade living in. A Purple Crystal mine that caused the Divine Phoenix Sect to go after it despite the enormous cost; a Purple Crystal mine that even he himself wanted.

The region around Floating Cloud City was vast and barren, and only a few of the lowest-grade profound beasts lived there. If someone had told him that a huge mineral deposit that could produce fifty kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal was hidden in the area before, even he would never believe it.

“One hundred percent.”

“ONE HUNDRED PERCENT!?” Feng Hengkong’s words caused Yun Che’s brows to sink deeply.

Chapter 727 - Kneel of the Divine Maiden

“Just about a month ago, we have finished mining all of the Purple Crystal mines, used hundreds of spatial rings to transport it secretly back to Phoenix City, and it is hidden within the forbidden grounds. Once everything is settled, we can start the refining process. The two hundred thousand army would still remain there and continue to behave the same way as before. This is to continue to confuse the Four Great Sacred Grounds, and to attract their attention,” Feng Hengkong said without evading anything. He had a feeling a long time ago that Yun Che’s eyes seem to be able to see through any lies.

“Is that so? Then congratulations that this laboring ‘great plan’ of yours was successfully carried out!” Yun Che scoffed and said.

“Hmph, since I dared to say it out loud, I am naturally prepared. Once our sect finish refining the Purple Veined Divine Crystals, we will gift five kilograms to the Blue Wind Imperial Family!” Feng Hengkong said coldly. To a small nation like Blue Wind, forget about five kilograms of Purple Veined Divine Crystal, the past generations of emperors probably had not even seen a real Purple Veined Divine Crystal. Just Purple Veined Heaven Crystals would be considered as supreme sacred item.

“Five kilograms? Hahahaha!” Yun Che laughed loudly, “These are suppose to belong to our Blue Wind Nation, and the Phoenix Sect Master actually returned as much as five kilograms, such generosity.”

“You...” Feng Hengkong’s whole face showed anger, but just as he was about to return the favor, he saw Feng Xue’er’s eyes, and he swallowed the words that he was about to say. He held his breath, and said in a low voice, “Seven and a half kilograms... This is already my limit.”

“No need, I don’t care for it. You can save it and enjoy it yourselves!”

Yun Che clearly showed disdain on his face. He showed no sign of interest towards the “Purple Veined Divine Crystal” that Feng Hengkong was speaking of, and didn’t even seem to be joking at all. This instantly startled Feng Hengkong... Purple Veined Divine Crystals were the highest, most divine existence in Profound Sky Continent, and it was a sacred item that every profound practitioner desire in their dreams. When he told the truth, he was already prepared to be “extorted” by Yun Che, but he absolutely did not expect that there was actually someone who could resist the temptation of Purple Veined Divine Crystals with contempt.

“But I want to advise Phoenix Sect Master something... You should be careful of another ‘Feng Feiyan’ appearing among the people who know about the Purple Crystal mine!” Yun Che said mockingly.

“I wouldn’t be stupid enough to allow something like this to happen a second time, you don’t have to worry about it.” Feng Hengkong responded coldly. Obviously, he was extremely confident about this matter, because the people within the sect who knew about the Purple Crystal mine were all truly his “trusted subordinates”. Besides himself, Feng Ximing, and Feng Tianwei of the sect master bloodline, the memories of other people who knew of the existence of the Purple Crystal mine were all caged just like Feng Huwei. They could not use any method to tell, write, or transmit it, and if they were soul searched, those memories would disperse immediately.

It was also precisely because of the lesson learned from Feng Feiyan that the Divine Phoenix Sect choose to use such extreme measure.

“I also have something to remind you of,” Feng Hengkong continued speaking, “The reason that things went so smoothly at Floating Cloud City was all thanks to a weirdo called Fen Juechen. He attracted more than ninety percent of focus away from us! And it was said that the reason that he appeared in Floating Cloud City was to kill you! He must already know the news that you’re still alive by now. When the time comes, you’d better not die!”

Yun Che, “...”

“Ah? He wants to kill Big Brother Yun?” Feng Xue’er jumped, but she immediately smiled and comforted, “No problem, Big Brother Yun is so strong, he wouldn’t be in danger for sure. Xue’er will also work hard to protect Big Brother Yun.”

“Xue’er, you... sigh,” Feng Hengkong’s eyebrows twitched, and felt gloomy.

Earlier when Feng Xue’er just appeared, Jasmine had told Yun Che right away that Feng Xue’er’s profound strength now had already reached the eighth level of the Sovereign Profound Realm, even surpassing Feng Tianwei. If Feng Xue’er really protected him by his side, it would basically be impossible for Fen Juechen to kill him.

The commotion that Yun Che had caused in Divine Phoenix Nation these days had been all over Blue Wind Imperial City already. Yesterday, when Yun Che sent a sound transmission saying that he would return in the evening today with Feng Hengkong and Princess Snow, Cang Yue was so excited that she didn’t sleep all night. She had been waiting in the Monarch Great Hall since after noon today.

Even though she trust Yun Che indefinitely, she was still worried the whole time during the days of which Yun Che was in Divine Phoenix Nation.

Her greatest desire was for Yun Che to return safely. Compared to that, the results didn't seem to be that important.

The sky darkened, and dusk had fallen. A large profound ark appeared above Blue Wind Imperial City like a scarlet-red flame, and it caused an uproar in the city. The Divine Phoenix Ark stopped right above the Imperial Palace and landed slowly. Because it was too large, it didn't land on the ground and instead it floated in midair as the profound aura surrounding it raised fierce currents of hot wind.

"That is the... Divine Phoenix Ark?" Qin Wushang, who had rushed here with Cang Yue, said with his face full of surprise when he saw the enormous object releasing a pressuring heat aura. Blue Wind Nation already had extremely few profound arks, and this was the first time in his life that he saw a profound ark with such momentum.

"That's right." Dongfang Xiu nodded slowly, "Back then when I accompanied the previous emperor to the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament, I was lucky to have seen it once."

"Your majesty said Yun Che, Feng Hengkong, and the legendary Princess Snow are arriving on the Divine Phoenix Ark, and there is not a fourth person... Is that true?" Qin Wushang said in a low voice and his expression showed doubt. The news that came from Divine Phoenix these days said that Yun Che made a huge ruckus in Phoenix City, destroyed the Phoenix God Sculpture, and killed several princes. It was no question that he had antagonized the Divine Phoenix Sect to the point of being absolutely irreconcilable, and only death could put an end to this... Yet yesterday, he suddenly sent a sound transmission like this to Cang Yue.

Even though the message was sent by Yun Che himself and was told by Cang Yue herself, almost no one believed that Feng Hengkong would bring only Princess Snow to follow Yun Che here. He was the emperor of Divine Phoenix, the Phoenix Sect Master, an existence that was the noblest and unparalleled of the Profound Sky's Seven Nations. Even if he was to head to the weakest Blue Wind that was shrouded by disaster, he shouldn't be this alone.

"Master told me what the Divine Phoenix Ark looked like, it can't be wrong! Brother-in-law!" Xia Yuanba's face was full of excitement. He was about to rush over watching the Divine Phoenix Ark that was stopping.

Number One Under Heaven grabbed him, "Don't go near yet, lest something unexpected happens."

"That's right... Yuanba, it is said that Feng Hengkong's profound strength is at the peak of Tyrant Profound Realm. If something unexpected happened, only you can protect her majesty," Qin Wushang reminded in a low voice.

"I understand," Xia Yuanba nodded. He kept a ten step distance from Cang Yue and stopped acting rashly.

When the door of the Divine Phoenix Ark opened, Yun Che was the first one to walk out before slowly landing. Seeing that Yun Che was safe and sound, Cang Yue's bright eyes flickered with infinite joy. She

couldn't care for the occasion or even her own identity as she moved towards him with her Phoenix robe fluttering, "Husband, you're back."

"Mn." Yun Che held onto Cang Yue's hand, and then turned over and said, "The 'esteemed guest' that I mentioned in the sound transmission is also here already."

Under the ark's door which had yet to be closed, a silhouette of a man in scarlet clothes appeared. Feng Hengkong came out of the ark's door, but he didn't land immediately, instead he looked around and smelled the smoke in the air.

His dignity as an emperor and his boundless aura was null to Yun Che, but that did not mean it did not affect the others. The moment his silhouette appeared, everyone's sight uncontrollably fell on him, but they absolutely didn't dare to look at his eyes; even their breathing and heart beat were stopped at that instant. Their chests and souls seemed to be pressed down by an iron plate as they trembled in fear under the pressure.

"The emperor... of Divine Phoenix!" Without needing Yun Che's explanation, the heavy and extremely prestigious aura made everyone instantly sure of his identity. An aloof profound strength, aloof position, aloof identity... Under this scarlet clothed man's gaze and pressure, even people like Dongfang Xiu who was at the peak plane of Blue Wind Nation felt a strong inferiority.

"Yuanba, stay alert at all times," Dongfang Xiu said in a low voice. Even though he was the Palace Chief of the Blue Wind Profound Palace, he clearly felt like a tiny ant in front of Divine Phoenix's emperor and Phoenix Sect Master.

None of them knew what exactly happened at Divine Phoenix, and they didn't know at all why Feng Hengkong was here, so every single one of them were tensed and their backs were soaked with cold sweat.

"He is the emperor of Divine Phoenix, Feng Hengkong." Yun Che said to Cang Yue, "Don't worry, he is here as a sinner and won't do anything to harm us."

Feng Hengkong's body sank from midair and landed in front of Yun Che and Cang Yue. From the moment he showed up, the smile on Cang Yue's has completely frozen, and the hand that was held in Yun Che's palms also tightened suddenly. She was trying her best to restrain... and restrain... but her body was still shaking uncontrollably. Contained within her beautiful eyes was a hatred so deep, it had engraved itself into her bones and even the depths of her soul.

He was the one who killed her father! Trampled her homeland and citizens... made Blue Wind fall into a hell-like three years! Who also made her suffer through three years of nightmare!

Even though her hatred could fill the sky and earth, her opponent was the overly powered Divine Phoenix, so she never had the extravagant hope that she'll have the chance to revenge, never thought she'll see Feng Hengkong, or even one day be able to face the culprit of everything directly...

Cang Yue's tiny hands turned cold really fast, and Yun Che could clearly feel the shivering of fear from her body and the tremble in her breaths. Yun Che held her hand even tighter and told her that he was right there by her side.

Facing Cang Yue who had lost control of her emotions voice, Feng Hengkong still did not open his mouth, and his aura didn't decrease at all. Yun Che said lightly, "Feng Hengkong, this is the Imperial Palace of Blue Wind Nation! The one in front of you is the current sovereign of Blue Wind Nation! You haven't forgotten what you're here to do, right?"

"Hmph!" Feng Hengkong scoffed softly, "I am here now, and there is not a single guard or elder with me, so how could you possibly give us a way out? Empress Cang Yue, I know that I have caused your Blue Wind Nation to suffer from calamity these three years, the entire nation was in chaos, and out of everyone in Blue Wind Nation, you are definitely the one who hates me to the bones. Your royal father was assassinated under a direct order from me! Say however you would like for me to atone for my sins, we will absolutely not twitch at all!"

Even though Feng Hengkong had already clearly stated that he was here to atone for his sins, his tone and attitude were incredibly aggressive. After all, he was the emperor of the Divine Phoenix. In his eyes, or even to the most ordinary commoner in the Divine Phoenix Nation, Blue Wind Nation was an inferior land, and it has been like this since thousand of years ago when Blue Wind Nation was founded. He could acknowledge the fault and atone for his sin, but he would not show weakness! Because the reason why things developed this way was only because of Yun Che, and not the Blue Wind Imperial Family!

"Divine Phoenix's emperor... Phoenix Sect Master... Feng Hengkong..." Cang Yue's face was slightly pale. She kept enough calm and an monarch's dignity in her expression and voice, but the hatred that was flicking in her beautiful eyes couldn't be suppressed no matter what, "In these thousand years, my Blue Wind Imperial Family has always been respectful towards your Divine Phoenix, but you actually harmed my Blue Wind in this way... I want you to give me, give my Blue Wind a reason first!"

Feng Hengkong looked away, assuming an unresponsive posture.

"He is... Divine Phoenix's... dog emperor!" Behind the crowd, the commander-in-chief of the Blue Wind Army Feng Yunlie grabbed the handle of his sword. His face was completely red with malice and the rushing rage and hatred made more than a dozen wounds on his face seem to burst open... Because of this person, the blood of so many brothers were spilled on the battlefield!!

"Don't be rash, not only is he the emperor of the Divine Phoenix, he is also the sect master of the Divine Phoenix Sect. Even if there's ten thousand of you, you won't be able to hurt a single hair of his," said Qin Wushang as he looked away.

With a soft "clang," Feng Yunlie pulled out three inches of his steel blade. He stared at Feng Hengkong, gritted his teeth and said harshly, "The dream that I've had the most was when I see this dog emperor, and personally cut him into one thousand eight hundred pieces myself! Now that this dog emperor is right before my eyes, even if he is ten thousand times stronger, I... I... I... wha... whoa..."

It was as if a large hammer suddenly slammed onto Feng Yunlie's head. His expression that was filled with hatred and his eyes that was gazing forward suddenly became sluggish; even the voice from his mouth slowly became drifty as if he was sleep talking.

Not only Feng Yunlie, but everyone's expressions and eyes all suddenly become sluggish and hazy at this moment.

Because within their sights, a beautiful, fantasy-like scenery appeared.

A young girl in scarlet clothing landed slowly from the Divine Phoenix Ark. The scarlet color on her Phoenix robes were even richer than Feng Hengkong's, and the gold color was even more noble, more eye-catching Feng Hengkong's. When everyone looked towards her, their heart and soul turned like violent waves. Because that was a face and charm that was so beautiful, it was indescribable. The second their gaze fell, their whole person seemed to have instantly fallen into a fantastical dream as they witnessed a young girl walk out from that fantasy...

Feng Xue'er landed softly and walked over slowly. In the past, she would appear occasionally in the sect, but she would be wearing her phoenix jade-glazed coronet and wouldn't reveal her face. But today, she was here with a pure, guilty, and sincere heart to atone for her sins, and she also got rid of the mask that she used to always wear.

Cang Yue, who was facing Feng Xue'er directly, was also completely stunned. The girl in front of her was so beautiful that it was as if she was a divine maiden who had walked out from heaven, causing people to not dare believe that she would actually appear in the mortal world. As a fellow woman, when she saw Feng Xue'er, her entire soul, willpower, beliefs were all uncontrollably lost; even the burst of hatred towards Feng Hengkong was completely forgotten.

"In this world, there is actually someone whose beauty... can beat Xia Qingyue..." Cang Yue mumbled absentmindedly, and almost forgot Feng Hengkong's existence.

When Cang Yue was looking at Feng Xue'er, Feng Xue'er was sizing her up as well, and even saw her attachment towards Yun Che from her movements. She walked to Feng Hengkong's side, stopped, and said softly, "Divine Phoenix's royal princess Feng Xue'er, greets Empress Cang Yue..."

Her celestial voice was as soft as the wind as it breezed across everyone's hearts, making all those present feel like their souls were being purified. Feng Xue'er's head was slightly lowered, and her knees slowly bended...

"Xue'er... What are you doing!!" Feng Xue'er's actions shocked Feng Hengkong. He yelled loudly, and he even reached out his palm in lightning speed and grabbed onto Feng Xue'er's shoulders.

However, after her Phoenix soul awakened, Feng Xue'er had the profound strength that could even defeat Feng Tianwei easily; how could Feng Hengkong's strength be enough to stop her? In Feng Hengkong's pupils that were enlarged to their largest, Feng Xue'er faced Cang Yue. Her knees touched the ground as she kneeled down properly.

"Xue'er! What are you doing! Get up now... get up! There is no one qualified in this world for you to kneel down to!! Xue'er!!" Feng Hengkong dragged Feng Xue'er's arms, wanting to pull her up, but despite using all of the strength in his body and the voice in his throat already becoming hoarse, he couldn't move Feng Xue'er's body even a little bit.

"There is no one qualified for you to kneel to in this world," What Feng Hengkong had said was not exaggerated at all. Because not only was she the only princess of Divine Phoenix Empire and Divine Phoenix Sect, she was the future "god" of the Divine Phoenix Sect! Not only that, she was the only one in the entire Profound Sky Continent to have accepted the complete legacy of a divine spirit. She was the person who possessed the most noble of bloodlines, and was the person closest to being a "god"!

When she fully matured, her power would surpass the Saint Emperor, Sovereign of the Seas, Heavenly Monarch and the Sword Master, the four unparalleled Sacred Ground's masters. The divine bloodline that she possessed was something that others would not be able to get no matter how long they worked or how bountiful their resources were.

So, after the Phoenix God disappeared, there really wasn't a more noble existence on the Profound Sky Continent than her.

As the emperor of the Divine Phoenix, all fourteen of Feng Hengkong's sons needed to greet him everyday with bended knees. But all these years, he had never let Feng Xue'er kneel before him. Even if Feng Xue'er wanted to, he wouldn't allow it, or it could be said that he didn't dare to accept it.

But now, she kneeled down... in front of the emperor of a lowly nation like Blue Wind.

The emperor of Blue Wind... for the longest time was someone that even the lowest level of the Divine Phoenix disciples would slant their eyes to despise, or even not care for at all.

Her kneeling down had already become a fact; Feng Hengkong couldn't stop it, and couldn't even make her stand up. After a long moment of panicking, he sighed in sorrow... How could Feng Xue'er not know that she herself was the second Phoenix God of the Divine Phoenix Sect, and how could she not know the nobleness of her bloodline and identity? However, she still kneeled down in front of the emperor of the small, tiny Blue Wind Nation... all to get him, the father to atone for his sins!

His pressuring aura from before was gone completely, Feng Hengkong's face was twitching... In the end, the blood debt and sin that he caused was being bore and redempt by Feng Xue'er and him together. This deep regret made this high and mighty emperor of a hundred years can't help but want to weep loudly.

Bang!!

Feng Hengkong's knees fell onto the ground heavily... In his whole life, he had only kneeled down to the Phoenix God, to his birth parents, and at this moment, he kneeled down heavily in front of Cang Yue. Seeing Feng Xue'er kneeled down to atone for his sins, how could he deserve to support his dignity as an emperor?

"Divine Phoenix's emperor Feng Hengkong, for one's own selfish desire, acted disregarding all dissent and stopped at nothing, trampling down the people of Blue Wind as blood flowed in rivers. The sins are most heinous, have aroused great fury from both men and gods, and cannot be forgiven... Today I've only come to ask for Blue Wind's emperor to denounce my sins; even if Blue Wind wishes to take my life, I shall have no complaints nor regrets!"

Feng Hengkong kept his head low, and said these words that he never thought he would say in his life word by word.

The entire Blue Wind Imperial Palace was so silent that if a needle could be heard if it fell. Xia Yuanba, Dongfang Xiu, Qin Wushang, Feng Yunlie and the others were all stunned on the spot; their brains had completely shut down and they couldn't believe what they were seeing and hearing.

Cang Yue was also stunned in place and didn't know what to do for a moment. Yun Che reached out his hand to Feng Xue'er, but once he took a step forward, he slowly stepped back... He knew that this was

too hard on Feng Xue'er. Like Feng Hengkong had yelled, there was no one qualified in this world to make her kneel, not even Feng Xue'er's father, Feng Hengkong.

But perhaps this could make Feng Xue'er feel a bit better in her heart.

Her soul was too pure and good. When she found out the truth about everything, the sin and blood debt that Feng Hengkong carried heavily pressured onto her soul. During the two day one night journey on the Divine Phoenix Ark, he continuously felt a faint aura of pressure caused by guilt on Feng Xue'er.

Chapter 728 - Cang Yue's Decision

Cang Yue had never expected that this kind of situation would actually arise. She hated Feng Hengkong to the bones, but upon facing such an unexpected situation that no one would dare believe even if they saw it with their own eyes, she felt completely lost. She could only stare at Yun Che who was beside her with pleading eyes, "Husband... what exactly is this...?"

"Let them get up first," said Yun Che, "I will explain everything to you once we're inside."

Cang Yue slightly nodded her head and gradually regained her frame of mind as she took a few steps forward. Facing Feng Xue'er, she held out her hand and said, "Little Sister Xue'er please get up. Little Sister Xue'er has a very noble, unparalleled status. Such a huge courtesy is quite terrifying to even me."

Feng Xue'er drooped her head down and said softly, "The Blue Wind Empress' words are too kind... As the one who bears sins, Xue'er is supposed to be begging for forgiveness on the knees. I can only hope that this will quell Empress Cang Yue's anger."

Cang Yue shook her head as she reached out and helped Feng Xue'er up. Upon personally seeing Feng Xue'er, she couldn't help but marvel that there was actually such a dreamlike, perfect existence in the world. If there was a single woman who could be considered favored by the heavens, then it could only be the young girl before her eyes.

"Although I have never stepped out of Blue Wind Nation, I have still heard the name of Divine Phoenix Empire's Princess Snow many times. Now that I've seen you with my own eyes, I have realized that you are many times better than the rumors." Cang Yue exclaimed.

Extreme anger and hatred towards a person could easily be spread to their love ones; however, when she faced Feng Xue'er, Cang Yue, who hated Feng Hengkong to the bones, could not feel even the slightest resentment. Or perhaps it was because there was no one in the world who could possibly hate her.

"Feng Hengkong, you get up too." Cang Yue once again turned around as her voice became calm and cold, "This is not the place for us to talk. Follow me to the Blue Wind Hall!"

Looking at the signal that Yun Che was giving with his eyes, Cang Yue said to Dongfang Xiu, "Palace Chief Dongfang, stand guard outside and prevent anyone from coming in. Also, do not mention to anyone what you have seen just now."

"Yes." Dongfang Xiu bowed slightly, then glanced at Feng Hengkong. Just as he wanted to remind Cang Yue to be cautious... he suddenly thought back to when Feng Xue'er and Feng Hengkong knelt down to show penance. He immediately swallowed back his words.

After watching Cang Yue, Yun Che, Feng Hengkong and Feng Xue'er head into the Blue Wind Hall, Dongfang Xiu and the others looked at each other; some of them were still dumbstruck, unable to regain their composure.

"What exactly is happening? Is that really the... Divine Phoenix Emperor?" Feng Yunlie stared with wide opened eyes. Even after thinking so much till his head had almost exploded, he still couldn't understand what had just transpired before him... That was the Divine Phoenix Emperor who looked down upon the world, the Phoenix Ruler!!

Although they were both rulers of a nation, Feng Yunlie, as the general of the Blue Wind Nation, couldn't help but admit that the words "Phoenix Ruler" could completely outweigh the words "Blue Wind Ruler" a thousand times! Feng Hengkong personally coming here had already shocked everyone. However, what people could have never dreamt of was that he was kneeling down in front of the Blue Wind Empress... he was even shouting with a voice that was full of regret and remorse.

"That guy really is Divine Phoenix Nation's Emperor Feng Hengkong. I've seen him three years ago." Xia Yuanba was very sure as he spoke.

"...That young woman, could she be the legendary Princess Snow of Divine Phoenix?"

"Mn, she is Princess Snow. But I didn't expect that she would also come... Well three years ago, her and Brother-in-law's relationship was very good." Xia Yuanba rubbed his head in uncertainty.

"After all, Yun Che has met an accident in the Primordial Profound Ark after saving her three years ago... Princess Snow, the heaven-sent treasure of the Divine Phoenix Empire, the most beautiful woman in the Profound Sky Continent. Her reputation is indeed well-deserved!" Dongfang Xiu heavily praised.

"As expected of Brother Yun. Within just a few short days, he had actually reversed such an extreme situation to such a degree." Number One Under Heaven spoke in an extremely hushed tone that only he himself could hear, "But what's even more unexpected is that, in this world, there exists a woman whose appearance is comparable to the Little Demon Empress..."

Blue Wind Hall was a field of silence. Feng Hengkong stood at the center of the hall and took a glance at everything around there. He had once imagined that he would personally step inside the Blue Wind Imperial Palace; however, he had never thought that it would happen under such circumstances. Similarly, even Cang Yue had never thought that she would be in such a situation with the person she hated the most.

Yun Che had already explained the situation with Divine Phoenix to Cang Yue just now. Even though the one that contributed the most was him, the ruler of Blue Wind Nation was still Cang Yue; Yun Che's each and every action was also because of her. Because of that, the decision as to how Feng Hengkong would atone for his sins would ultimately fall in her hands.

"Little Sister Xue'er, please be seated." Cang Yue's treatment towards Feng Xue'er and Feng Hengkong was vastly different. She spoke gently and softly towards Feng Xue'er, because she had already understood why this heaven-favored girl would come here and even kneel in front of her... Even if she had removed all those reasons, there was no one who could harbor resentment nor any ill feelings towards her.

“Thank you, Empress Sis.” Feng Xue’er did not take a step back, instead she just sat down beside Yun Che.

“Feng Hengkong, have you willingly come to atone for your sins?!” Cang Yue turned around. Facing Feng Hengkong, her expression instantly turned cold.

After getting down from the Divine Phoenix Ark and setting foot on Blue Wind territory, if Feng Hengkong was still unwilling to let go of his pride, then Feng Xue’er’s kneel, which had washed away all the anguish and pain in Cang Yue’s heart, would all go down the drain. Although Feng Hengkong could sacrifice himself for all the numerous blood debts that he had committed, he could only plead that Feng Xue’er should not bear them. For that, he would make every effort to atone for his sins... even if he lost his dignity as the Divine Phoenix Emperor, or even his life.

“We have come here today in order to atone for our sins! We know that we have brought a huge disaster upon Blue Wind, with crimes so many that even us dying a thousand times would not suffice... As long as we can pacify Blue Wind and Empress Cang Yue’s resentment, then we are willing to accept anything with no regrets.”

“Yue’er, during my time in Phoenix City, I have already given them some conditions, and they have also agreed to it.” Yun Che said. After which, he began narrating what had transpired above Phoenix City, him facing against Feng Hengkong and Feng Tianwei, and also the five conditions he had given them in detail.

Whenever Yun Che had spoken out his conditions, especially the last five conditions he had yesterday, Feng Hengkong’s expression would always turn livid, and he would always roar in anger, almost blowing his lungs out in the process. But now, while listening to Yun Che stating all of the conditions, regardless the compensations, annexations, crippling his profound arts, making him kneel for a hundred years, or even towards the fifth condition which stated that he had to pay tribute for several hundred years... his face remained calm and did not show any changes.

Instead it was Cang Yue, while listening to Yun Che listing down the conditions, who gradually revealed a shocked expression... She did hate Feng Hengkong and Divine Phoenix Empire very much, however, when Yun Che was done listing out all the five conditions, she realized that they were all overbearing and extremely brutal. If all of those conditions were implemented on Divine Phoenix Nation then the five thousand years of prestige it had would be ruthlessly trampled by Blue Wind, the smallest, weakest nation that had only existed for no more than a thousand years. They would always have to hide in an abyss of shame...

Not to mention in Blue Wind’s thousand years of history, even in the history of Profound Sky, these harsh conditions that were placed just to atone for their sins had never once happened before.

“All these conditions, your Divine Phoenix... especially you, Feng Hengkong, you are willing to agree to them?” Cang Yue wrinkled her brows and looked into the eyes of the Divine Phoenix Emperor without fear; she wanted to hear his affirmation from his own mouth.

“Yes.” Feng Hengkong shut his eyes and answered without any hesitation.

“Good...” As Cang Yue’s lofty chest heaved up and down, her gaze had also become sharper and deeper.

“Empress Sis!” Feng Xue’er quickly stood up and faced Cang Yue as she requested, “Xue’er knows that Royal Father has committed a grave mistake and all the compensation that Big Brother Yun Che had mention should be done. But... about crippling Royal Father’s profound arts and the matter of him staying in Blue Wind for a hundred years, I beg Sister Cang Yue to please have mercy. Royal Father has a special identity; not only is he the emperor of Divine Phoenix Nation, he is also the sect master of Divine Phoenix Sect. If he stayed in Blue Wind for a hundred years, then Divine Phoenix will be in turmoil, and the Divine Phoenix Sect will also face difficulties in maintaining its stability.

“Although everything that Royal Father had done was brought onto himself, as his daughter, Xue’er should also carry some of the burden. Therefore, I ask Empress Sis to show some sympathy to Xue’er’s selfishness and Divine Phoenix’s situation. Please let Xue’er stay in Blue Wind as Royal Father’s replacement. For the other compensation, when Royal Father goes back, he will implement it in the shortest amount of time. Empress Sis, please...”

“Xue’er, this matter does not concern you!!” Feng Hengkong said, “Empress Cang Yue, you should know that other parties should not be responsible in taking in another’s debt! Your royal father’s death and the situation in Blue Wind were all caused by us! Everything that happened has nothing to do with our daughter! During these three years, she had always been in a coma. She isn’t involved in the slightest!

“Right now, we just want to atone for our sins! No matter what you want us to do today, we will absolutely not twitch at all! But Xue’er is the reverse scale that we will never let any of you touch!!”

Feng Hengkong’s expression became serious and filled with determination. At this time, Feng Xue’er’s heart became anxious, “Royal Father, you have already agreed to let Xue’er come! Do you not care about the Divine Phoenix and the sect?”

Feng Hengkong shook his head slowly, “Xue’er, to Royal Father, your safety is even more precious than Royal Father’s life, the sect, and even everything in the whole world. If we had to choose, then we would rather destroy Divine Phoenix and the sect than let you suffer the slightest bit of injury.”

Cang Yue, “...”

Yun Che, “...”

“No, it won’t happen. I will stay here. With Big Brother Yun here to protect me, I definitely won’t be harmed in any way. I will pay respects to Empress Sis’ royal father and pray for the Blue Wind, Divine Phoenix and Royal Father everyday. After a hundred years of atonement, I will go back to Phoenix City... If Royal Father misses me, then he can come here and visit me anytime.” Feng Xue’er smiled as though she had no worries about the future, “Divine Phoenix can do without Xue’er, but it is not able to do without Royal Father. This matter concerns the entire nation and sect, Royal Father cannot afford to be impulsive.”

“Xue’er, we...”

“Royal Father,” Feng Xue’er softly interrupted Feng Hengkong’s next words, “Xue’er has always been spoiled and protected by Royal Father while growing up, and has even received Lord Phoenix God’s favor. However, I have never done anything for Royal Father nor for the Divine Phoenix Sect. Now that I can finally share some of my Royal Father’s burden, Xue’er can only feel happiness and satisfaction in her heart. I do not feel wronged or afraid... Besides, there is still Xue’er’s most favorite Big Brother Yun

here. If I can see Big Brother Yun a lot, Xue'er would be happier here than in Phoenix City. Don't forget, three years ago, Big Brother Yun risked his life in order to protect Xue'er. With Big Brother Yun by my side, Xue'er will be completely safe, and Royal Father would not have to worry about anything... right?"

"Xue'er, you..." Feng Hengkong stretched out his hand, wanting to touch Feng Xue'er's shoulder; at this moment, he couldn't prevent his eyes from turning hazy.

"Empress Sis, in my heart, Big Brother Yun will always be the nicest person in the world. Since you are Big Brother Yun's wife, you must also be the gentlest and most kind-hearted empress in the world, so please pardon my Royal Father's life and freedom and let Xue'er replace her Royal Father by staying here. In the future, Xue'er and her Royal Father will give our all to repent and redeem all the crimes that we have done during these three years... I beg Empress Sis to fulfill my wish. Xue'er will always remember Empress Sis' kindness."

Each and every word Feng Xue'er spoke dealt a heavy blow to Feng Hengkong's mind and also shook Cang Yue's mind at the same time. Gazing at her snow-like face and her eyes that were a million times more beautiful than the stars, Cang Yue's heart strongly throbbed... She was very clear of Feng Xue'er's status. Feng Xue'er had the most precious bloodline in the entire Profound Sky Continent, and in the future, she would eventually become the Divine Phoenix Sect's god; both her identity and status would excel Feng Hengkong in the future.

It would even surpass every living being in the Profound Sky Continent!!

Beneath Feng Xue'er's gaze, Cang Yue did not speak for a long time. After a while, she turned her head and looked towards Yun Che, seeking his help.

"Xue'er this matter can only be decided by you. No matter what decision you make, I will always support you" Yun Che said with a smile. He believed that, in the end, Cang Yue would make the best decision.

"..." Cang Yue slowly turned around, and step-by-step, she walked towards the emperor's throne with small strides. At the same time, the hall quieted down, and only the sound of her phoenix gown dragging across hall could be heard.

At the end of the great hall, Cang Yue stopped, raised her head and looked forward... there, the portrait of her late father, Cang Wanhe, who died three years ago was posted.

At this moment, time seemed to have stopped. As Cang Yue silently stared at Cang Wanhe's unmoving portrait, her pupils trembled and turned hazy... no one could ever know the complicated feelings in her heart nor the difficulty of the choices she was about to make.

After a long fifteen minutes had passed, Cang Yue's voice finally sounded at the great hall.

"Feng Hengkong..." She gently said, "If I was an ordinary woman, the hatred I have towards you for killing my father will definitely disable us from living under the same sky. I will not even hesitate to personally chop your body into a million pieces..."

"But even if I can borrow my husband's power and kill you right now, I can't do it." Cang Yue turned around and took a slow and heavy step, "Because I am the monarch of Blue Wind Nation... If you lose your life in Blue Wind, then Divine Phoenix will be in chaos. The disaster my Blue Wind is facing will

continue, and it might even intensify. Not even your commands before your death could prevent anything.”

“Crippling your profound arts and letting you stay in Blue Wind for a hundred years is of the same principle; once the seed of vengeance is planted, it will definitely erupt in a few decades, few centuries, or perhaps even several centuries. My Blue Wind still a weak nation after all, so once it erupts, I am sure that the only one who will suffer is my Blue Wind.”

“Therefore... I will never forgive you, but I will not kill you.”

Feng Hengkong: “...”

“I will not kill you, and I will not force you to cripple your profound arts. I will also not force you to kneel in front of my Royal Father’s tomb for a hundred years... because even if you kneel for a million years, Royal Father will never come back from the dead. Ceding Red Jade City, two hundred years of tribute in profound crystals, profound iron, Phoenix armor... I don’t want any of that!”

“...” Feng Hengkong’s brows abruptly shot up as an expression of disbelief emerged on his face.

“Ah?” Feng Xue’er covered her lips with her hand, “Empress Sis, are...are you serious?”

“...” Yun Che also had a shocked expression.

“Although I am a woman, since I am the empress of Blue Wind, whatever I say will naturally be as good as gold!” Cang Yue calmly replied, “Among the five conditions that were mentioned, I will only keep one. As for the rest, I will not insist on them.”

“The compensation of fifty billion!” Cang Yue spoke with determination, “I will only keep this one! Because right now, Blue Wind Nation is in a disastrous state and many of the citizens are left with no homes, we need all this wealth to rebuild their homes.”

“R-really?” The mere fact that Feng Hengkong did not need to self-expunge his profound arts and remain in this place had already fulfilled Feng Xue’er’s greatest wish. Her heart was filled with boundless joy, surprise, and gratitude.

Feng Hengkong mouth was wide open and he could not believe his own ears. No need to annex his land, no need to offer tributes and even the apology edicts were not needed... their Divine Phoenix could just preserve their dignity just like that...

However, I have two additional conditions!” Cang Yue’s pupils contracted as she stared at Feng Hengkong.

“Empress Sis please state it, if it can be done, Royal Father and Xue’er will definitely try our hardest to accomplish it.” Feng Xue’er joyfully said.

“First,” Cang Yue’s voice became calm and solemn as she continued, “Countless homes in my Blue Wind’s cities have been destroyed, and currently, the entire nation is in chaos. By solely relying on the power of my Blue Wind, it is very difficult to stabilize it in a short time. Therefore, in the next five years, you will send more than sixty percent of your army to aid in rebuilding my Blue Wind!”

Of the five conditions, only the monetary condition remained. This was a blessing that he didn't even dare believe even in a dream. Initially, Feng Hengkong thought that each of the two additional conditions would be difficult to accomplish, however, he never expected that the first condition that Cang Yue had mentioned would actually be so simple. He slightly nodded his head, "Alright, we promise... We will bring seventy percent of the Divine Phoenix Army to stay in Blue Wind and allow Empress Cang Yue and various regional lords to command them. Furthermore, we will also establish strict orders stating that they are not to offend the citizens of Blue Wind."

"Good." Cang Yue nodded her head as a sign that she trusted his words. Afterwards, her gaze shifted away from Feng Hengkong towards Feng Xue'er, "The second condition is even simpler, Princess Snow, Feng Xue'er, I want you to..."

"Marry my husband and become his concubine!!"

Chapter 729 - Heavy Transformation

"What did you say?!!"

Cang Yue's words instantly caused Feng Hengkong's expression to change. Along with a loud roar, the stone bricks beneath his feet instantly cracked and exploded. The entire great hall violently shook as sand and dust rustled and fell. Even though Yun Che was sitting still, the tea set beside his hand was thrown up high, and when it landed back, it had shattered to pieces.

Everyone waiting outside of the hall were all stunned by the shock. Without saying a word, Xia Yuanba was about to rush in, but just as he stepped out, he was stopped by Number One Under Heaven who shook his head and said, "Don't be rash, Brother Yun is inside."

"For the Phoenix Sect Master to react so severely, does that mean you are unwilling?" Facing Feng Hengkong's sudden outburst, Cang Yue didn't panic at all; not even a ripple surfaced in her eyes... Just this alone was something that an ordinary person absolutely wouldn't be able to do. Not only was Feng Hengkong the emperor of Divine Phoenix, he was also a level ten Overlord! The sudden burst of aura that came from him was enough to scare a Throne into limping.

"This is outrageous!" Feng Hengkong had just mentioned that Feng Xue'er was his reverse scale that absolutely could not be touched, yet the condition Cang Yue posed had directly touched his reverse scale. If it wasn't for the situation, he would have already attacked out of fury and killed whoever said these words... no matter who that person was.

"We were originally impressed by Empress Cang Yue's grace and compassion, but we didn't think that behind your grace and compassion, you are actually targeting our Divine Phoenix's most precious treasure!!" Feng Hengkong tightly clenched his fists as he said full of rage, "Xue'er is not only our daughter, but she is also the sole inheritor of Profound Sky Continent's only divine spirit and is the future Phoenix God of our Divine Phoenix Sect! How could a mere Yun Che be worthy enough for her! And you actually want Xue'er to become his concubine, this is outrageous! We'd like to ask Empress Cang Yue to stop daydreaming!!!"

"It is indeed possible that Little Sister Xue'er is the most outstanding woman in the entire Profound Sky Continent. Anyone who has seen Xue'er probably wouldn't deny it." Cang Yue said without compromising, "But this empress' husband is also the inheritor of the Phoenix God's bloodline. He

started cultivating the profound at the age of sixteen, made a name for himself at the age of seventeen, became Blue Wind's number one at the age of nineteen, and defeated the six nations at the Seven Nation Ranking Tournament alone... of which, it naturally included your Divine Phoenix! Now, he is only twenty-two years old, yet he alone made your great Divine Phoenix Sect so miserable, and forced you, the Phoenix Sect Master, to bear an enormous amount of unwillingness and humiliation to come to Blue Wind to personally atone for your sins!"

"Among the same age group, the achievements this empress' husband have attained are unprecedented in Blue Wind's entire history, and there will absolutely not be another one! How is he not worthy of your daughter?!"

Cang Yue's voice was filled with deep pride. In her eyes, there were only people who were unworthy of Yun Che in this world, and not people whom Yun Che was not worthy enough for!

"I will say it again... stop daydreaming!" Feng Hengkong said in an incredibly deep voice; he used all of his patience to suppress his anger that was about to completely lose control.

"Then I ask the Phoenix Sect Master to give a sufficient enough reason that could convince this empress!"

"...If I say he's not worthy enough, then he's not worthy enough!" Feng Hengkong's cold voice revealed anger that would lose control at any moment, "Just based on the fact that my daughter is the future Phoenix God, there is no one in this world who could be worthy enough for Xue'er!"

"What a simple excuse!" Cang Yue smiled lightly as she went head-to-head against Feng Hengkong. In terms of profound strength, the two were worlds apart, and there was a hundred years of difference between the time they took their throne. But momentum-wise, she wasn't suppressed by Feng Hengkong at all, "However, this empress has several reasons for why Feng Xue'er must marry Yun Che."

Not "should", but "must".

Cang Yue heavily emphasized the word "must".

"Hmph!" Feng Hengkong turned his head, not bothering to respond. He posed an attitude as if even if you talk your head off, he would still turn his nose up at it.

"Firstly, according to this empress' knowledge, Feng Xue'er's Phoenix blood was given directly by your Divine Phoenix Sect's Phoenix Spirit, and so her body has the most original and purest Phoenix bloodline. In your Divine Phoenix Sect, other than Feng Xue'er, there is no one else who has the original Phoenix blood! But Yun Che's Phoenix blood was also given directly by the Phoenix Spirit, so he also has the most original and purest Phoenix bloodline! With regards to this fact, this empress knows better than anyone else, because when Yun Che was going through the Phoenix's trial and inheritance, this empress was by his side!"

"Thus, based on the Phoenix bloodline, even if it's your Divine Phoenix Sect, no one is worthy of Feng Xue'er. And only the bloodline of this empress' husband, Yun Che, perfectly fits with Feng Xue'er's!"

Feng Hengkong locked his eyebrows and did not say a word... All of these, he already knew.

“Secondly, Phoenix Sect Master should not forget that today, you’re here to atone for your sins! This empress’ hatred has been burning for three consecutive years, and if it wasn’t for hundreds of millions of Blue Wind citizens this empress carries on her back, this empress really wishes to use this chance to give Divine Phoenix Nation the cruelest punishment... to the extent of personally taking your life as tribute to Royal Father!” Cang Yue’s words were very calm, but the deep hatred and anger that was accumulated under her calm tone could still be clearly felt, “However, this empress made such decision in the end... because if Feng Xue’er marries this empress’ husband, to Blue Wind, it could calm the citizen’s frightened emotions. We can rely on Divine Phoenix as protection, not fear any bullying of war, and my Blue Wind’s citizens will enjoy a long period of stability.”

“To your Divine Phoenix, you don’t need to apologize in front of the world, don’t need to cede away your territory, don’t need to pay compensation, and don’t need to be humiliated. You don’t need to lose your respect and dignity, you won’t become a joke, and the people of Divine Phoenix Nation will also not be in panic and chaos. Divine Phoenix Nation can keep its dignity and stability, and you, the Phoenix Sect Master, can keep your freedom and life! At the same time, your daughter will also find the best home in the world!”

“This is the most merciful and compassionate this empress... a woman who carries the hatred of her father being murdered and her country being destroyed, can give! If you were to agree, both nations will be satisfied. If you don’t... then this empress will take back all the grace and mercy!!”

Feng Hengkong, “...”

“Thirdly!” Cang Yue’s voice did not pause at all, her phoenix-like eyes kept staring straight at Feng Hengkong, “Since the Phoenix Sect Master keeps saying that this empress’ husband, Yun Che, is not worthy enough of your daughter, then can Phoenix Sect Master please tell me who, in the entire Profound Sky Continent, is more qualified than Yun Che for your daughter!?”

“...” Feng Hengkong moved his lips, but was speechless for a long time.

This time, it wasn’t because Feng Hengkong couldn’t bother to respond, but because he was truly speechless.

What Cang Yue said before didn’t really affect him, but as of this moment, when his mind scrutinized Cang Yue’s words, he suddenly realized that among the same age group, he really couldn’t find anyone that could compare to Yun Che.

The Yun Che who forced his Divine Phoenix Sect to such an extent was only twenty-two years old this year... At this age, the people in the same age group in Divine Phoenix Sect, aside from Feng Xue’er, he couldn’t even find someone worthy enough to carry his shoes for him!!

The strongest practitioners in the world were all gathered in Divine Phoenix Sect and the Four Great Sacred Grounds. Even if it was the Four Great Sacred Grounds, not to mention the age group around the twenties, he couldn’t even think of anyone that could compare to Yun Che in the sixties.

These days, he was immersed in the disaster brought by Yun Che, so he ignored a fact that could shock the entire continent while being heavily stressed day and night... The Yun Che who had “died” and came back three years later, among the younger generation of the Profound Sky Continent, could very possibly... fully deserve the title of number one!

Then, if there was only one person who was good enough for Feng Xue'er... it would undoubtedly be Yun Che!

"Looks like Phoenix Sect Master can't name one." Noticing Feng Hengkong finally showing a change in expression, Cang Yue smiled slightly, "That means this empress' third reason is also established!"

"Fourthly!" Cang Yue continued to speak, "I heard that Sister Xue'er grew up under the shield of Divine Phoenix Sect before she was thirteen, and after she turned thirteen, she was under the protection of the entire Divine Phoenix Sect. She has never truly stepped into the real world, so she must not know much about the relationship between a man and a woman. Therefore, Little Sister Xue'er might not understand what kind of feeling she has towards Yun Che. But I believe with Phoenix Sect Master's experience and wisdom, you must be able to tell... that Little Sister Xue'er's feeling towards Yun Che is absolutely not as simple as just the gratitude for saving her!"

"Sss..." Cang Yue's words made Feng Hengkong gnashed his teeth as his whole body shivered violently.

Yes... How could he have not seen and felt it!!

That was why his chest felt like it was going to explode when he heard that Yun Che was still alive; he lost control of his emotions, and he wanted to kill him no matter what... Because of that, when he suddenly heard Cang Yue request Feng Xue'er to marry to Yun Che, his sinking emotion and aura for atoning his sins exploded uncontrollably in an instant...

Cang Yue was always extremely curious of Princess Snow, the "Profound Sky's number one beauty" who Yun Che had willingly to risk his life to save. Now that she finally saw her, in addition to being impressed by goddess-like looks, she also saw the unusual expression Feng Xue'er had when facing Yun Che, and she also heard the different emotion in her voice when she says "Big Brother Yun"... Even though only thirty minutes had passed since she met her, Cang Yue had already saw through a lot of things.

Looking at Feng Xue'er, it was like she saw herself back then when she met Yun Che. That time, she couldn't contain her joy, happiness, warmth and satisfaction; she let go of her defenses and opened her heart completely.

"Are you done saying what you want to say!?" Feng Hengkong clenched his fists tightly.

"No!" Cang Yue shook her head and continued to speak slowly, "This empress knows that Phoenix Sect Master rejected rudely without hesitation out of the love and protective instinct of a father towards his daughter, so it is already a given that he would not be tolerant of sacrificing his own daughter in exchange for compromise. However, Phoenix Sect Master, after this empress has said this much, I believe you have a reason to reconsider whether or not Little Sister Xue'er marrying Yun Che is a sacrifice! Now only does Little Sister Xue'er have the feelings of gratitude towards Yun Che, there is also the feeling between a man and a woman. Since she is your daughter, you must see it a lot clearer than this empress! And even though this empress' husband always has a tender heart towards women, he would definitely not risk his life for any beautiful woman!"

"To find someone that she adores who is even willing to protect her with his life... Phoenix Sect Master, do you know that, to a woman, this is the greatest happiness and luck in life? Yet Little Sister Xue'er has already found someone like this... Once someone like this is found, then that someone will be unforgettable for life!"

“Phoenix Sect Master said earlier that to you, Little Sister Xue’er is more important than your own life and even the life and death of Divine Phoenix Empire and Divine Phoenix Sect! If you forcefully separate Little Sister Xue’er and Yun Che, with Little Sister Xue’er’s pure heart and soul, you will bring her an everlasting pain and trauma. The only conclusion would be you, who says that Little Sister Xue’er is more important than anything, personally giving her a lifetime of heartbreak because of your selfishness!”

“You...” Feng Hengkong’s body swayed. What Cang Yue had said had unquestionably dealt a huge blow.

"As such, this empress’ conditions are not threats, not humiliations, not sacrifices... but are compassion and fulfillment!!" Before Feng Hengkong was able to speak of another word, Cang Yue’s voice had already suppressed his, “Of course you can still choose to refuse. If you do, then you can pretend that this empress did not say any of the things from before. This empress will take back all the mercy... and not give you any leeway!!”

Cang Yue’s last sentence was said with an overbearing power that even Yun Che felt a second of heaviness from it.

When Cang Yue asked for Feng Xue’er to marry him as a concubine, Yun Che was surprised for a while. After that, he looked at Cang Yue silently without saying anything, but in his heart, there were already unappeasable waves.

Back then, his Yue’er, his Senior Sister Xueruo, was independent, strong, but was also very tame, good, and delicate. When she was before him, she would show her weakness without any reserve. After their big wedding in the imperial palace, as a princess, she changed his clothes, sewed for him, and prepared him three meals a day... Everything was taken care of meticulously. She had almost completely forgotten her identity as a princess, because she wanted to become the most perfect wife that only belonged to him with all her heart. She saw him as her whole world and did not fight for anything nor ask for anything.

The woman before him who wore a phoenix coronet, golden clothing, and an awe-inspiring emperor’s dignity was facing Feng Hengkong’s boundless pressure yet her aura was not weak or suppressed at all. Her unfathomably deep phoenix eyes were sometimes warm, sometimes cold and sometimes sharp. Her voice went straight to the soul, and her words were incredibly sharp. She was smart, calm, impeccable, and her words almost made Feng Hengkong’s aura which had exploded under his rage completely disperse...

Three years, it had merely been three years, yet she had changed this tremendously.

If it was someone else, they would not be able to change this much in thirty years, or even three hundred years... However, Yun Che was not surprised at all that this happened to Cang Yue; he only felt a heavy heartache.

Shouldering the responsibility of an entire nation’s destruction... perhaps there was nothing worse in this world that induced—no, that forced a person to change so quickly.

No person could possibly imagine the weight of the burden one carried after such a transformation... At least, what she had borne in the past three years was really much, much heavier than what the Little Demon Empress undertook under the shadow of Duke Huai.

Chapter 730 - Half Year Agreement

"I have never expected Empress Cang Yue to have such a silver tongue, you have truly impressed us!" Feng Hengkong's voice was cold; rather than complementing, it was more of being sarcastic.

"You already know what kind of identity Xue'er has, yet you still kept saying that this action could save my Divine Phoenix Empire's dignity. However, what you truly want is to make the noblest princess of our Divine Phoenix to marry your Blue Wind's prince consort as a concubine. Not only is her position lowered, she is even directly lower than you. Empress Cang Yue, your words clearly speak that from now on, our Divine Phoenix will be lower than your Blue Wind..."

"Oh..." Before Feng Hengkong finished yelling, he was interrupted by Cang Yue's drawn out tone. She said with a faint smile on her face, "So the reason the Phoenix Sect Master reacted so severely was because you are unwilling for Little Sister Xue'er to become a concubine. If so, then this empress will compromise. After Little Sister Xue'er marries this empress' husband, she will be a first wife, the same as this empress, and our positions will be equal! This has never happened in the thousand years of history of Blue Wind Nation, and this can count as this empress making an extremely huge concession on behalf of the imperial family's dignity for peace between the two nations. Phoenix Sect Master should be satisfied like this!"

Feng Hengkong's anger and his expression stiffened at the same time. Halfway through Cang Yue's words, he suddenly realized that the reason Cang Yue requested for Feng Xue'er to become a "concubine" was to conveniently "retreat for the sake of advancing" at this moment! He completely stepped into the trap that Cang Yue had set up.

Cang Yue continued to speak tirelessly, "Other than that, this empress was the royal princess of Blue Wind back then. When I married Yun Che, of course I treated my husband as someone above me. Even though I have now ascended to the throne and became the empress, I still treat my husband as my everything. And since this empress is the ruler of Blue Wind, this empress' husband, Yun Che, has the most noble position in Blue Wind and is not the prince consort he once was! The person Little Sister Xue'er is marrying is naturally not the prince consort of Blue Wind, but instead the person who has the highest and noblest position in Blue Wind Nation! How is this degrading?"

"But, Phoenix Sect Master's words seem to have reminded this empress. Since Little Sister Xue'er is at the most noble, highest position of the Divine Phoenix Nation, then she naturally has the highest right to speak for herself. If so, then about this matter, it seems that it will be more appropriate if this empress asks Little Sister Xue'er herself."

Feng Hengkong was speechless for a long time... He wasn't able to accept this all of a sudden. He, who had been the emperor of Divine Phoenix for a hundred years, was being manipulated by a weak nation's empress who had just ascended the throne for three years at the age of about twenty.

"Little Sister Xue'er, are you willing to marry Yun Che, be with him forever, and calm the hatred between the two nations?" Cang Yue turned towards Feng Xue'er; her aura that was as sharp as swords when facing Feng Hengkong transformed into a gentle smile.

When Cang Yue was going head-to-head with Feng Hengkong, Yun Che didn't speak, and Feng Xue'er was also silent. Since the moment Cang Yue mentioned for her to marry Yun Che, she had been stunned

the whole time. She blinked her crystal-like bright eyes and asked softly, "Marrying Big Brother Yun... is that forever?"

"Of course it's forever." Cang Yue smiled and said, "After you marry your Big Brother Yun, you will belong to him, and he will also belong to you. You two can have everything of each other, have each others' shoulders to lean on, accompany each other forever, and no one can stop or restrict it."

"...Then, what Empress Sis said before, are those all true?" Feng Xue'er's beautiful eyes became even more blurry.

"Of course." Cang Yue knew what she wanted to ask, "Big Sis is the empress of Blue Wind Nation. Like your Royal Father, our words are as good as gold. If you are willing to marry your Big Brother Yun, then your Divine Phoenix wouldn't need to apologize in public, cede away their territory, pay tribute, and your Royal Father would be able to return to Divine Phoenix at anytime unharmed. As for you, you can stay with your Big Brother Yun from then on, and you can be together as long as you want."

"..." Feng Xue'er was only here to atone the sins for her Royal Father. As long as she could atone for those sins, she was willing to endure any punishment. However, she never imagined that the "punishment" that Empress Cang Yue gave in the end was something like this. In her own perspective, everything that was happening before her eyes, this type of way to "atone for the sins," was just too wonderful...

"If, if it's like this," Feng Xue'er carefully turned her eyes towards Yun Che, but just as she touched the corner of Yun Che's clothing, she retreated under a strange, unfamiliar emotion. Her heartbeat sped up many times, and her voice became softer, "Of course I d..."

"Xue'er!" Feng Hengkong's low roar interrupted Feng Xue'er, "You are still young, this is not as simple as you think! This is an important affair that will affect your whole life! This is something that can't be rashly and impulsively decided for anyone in their life!"

"I know..." Feng Xue'er spoke softly, "I am rarely in contact with the outside world, but from the memories that Lord Phoenix God has bestowed me, I roughly knew about many things. I know that, if a woman was to marry a man, it would be for her whole life... But, if it was Big Brother Yun, for a lifetime, wouldn't it be wonderful?"

"Both Big Brother Yun and I own the bloodline and Phoenix Soul that was bestowed by Lord Phoenix God. Thus, my soul can clearly feel the warmth that Big Brother Yun's soul brings me. Three years ago at Phoenix Perching Valley, those days that I was with Big Brother Yun were the happiest days in my life. Not only did Big Brother Yun save my life and awaken my Phoenix soul, he has even made me feel the the greatest bliss in the world... and, my soul can feel that in this world, there will never be another person who can make me feel this way."

"Just like yesterday, when I saw Big Brother Yun once again... that was an immense joy that I had never felt before."

"If I am to atone for our sins like this, then I really am willing to spend my life atoning this way."

Feng Xue'er spoke, mumbled, and couldn't help but giggle softly. The moment that her smile bloomed, the serious Great Hall instantly became warm.

Cang Yue's expression was a little complicated, but it only lasted for a short moment. She glanced slightly at Yun Che, and then smiled with warmth. She could tell that Feng Xue'er's feelings towards Yun Che was more than just gratitude, but she had never thought that it was so deep and simple. Perhaps, towards Feng Xue'er who had the purest soul, the appearance of Yun Che was completely fatal.

Feng Hengkong's face and his whole body felt a deep sense of powerlessness... The Phoenix Soul was originally a whole, and they attracted each other under instinct. He would rather conclude that the attraction between the two of them was caused by their Phoenix Soul.

"Xue'er..." Feng Hengkong spoke, in his voice, there was a trace of pain and helplessness, "Do you remember the things that Royal Father said to you when you 'returned' from Lord Phoenix God when you were thirteen?"

"I remember," Feng Xue'er didn't think and nodded her head softly, "Royal Father told Xue'er that I cannot leave Divine Phoenix City before I am seventeen, and I cannot have any contact with anyone other than close relatives. I cannot leave Divine Phoenix Nation before I am twenty, and I must start to use my own eyes to get to know and understand the whole world."

Feng Hengkong nodded slightly. Only when facing Feng Xue'er would his eyes turn gentle and be devoid of impurities, "Xue'er, you grew up by Lord Phoenix God's side since you were young. You are far too pure and kind. Even though Royal Father wants to protect you forever, you are bound to grow up, and in the future, you will even need to be in charge of the whole Divine Phoenix..."

"So, even if Royal Father couldn't let go, my protection for you would only continue until you are seventeen. After seventeen, Royal Father planned to take you to see the world across Divine Phoenix Nation in order for you to realize the fickleness of human nature. Once you turn twenty, Royal Father would completely let go and let you get to know the whole Profound Sky Continent, and then let you decide everything for yourself independently..."

"But in the past three years, you were always in a coma. Now, even though you are exactly the same from three years ago and even though you looked like you didn't grow at all, you are already nineteen. However, Royal Father wasn't able to take you to see our Divine Phoenix Nation... And in half a year, you will be turn twenty."

"Royal Father..." Feng Xue'er mumbled softly.

"Even though three years were taken away from you, the things that Royal Father had said back then would not be taken away. Once you are twenty, you will be able to decide everything for yourself, and no one can interfere in your decisions... so, give yourself, give Royal Father half a year of time." Feng Hengkong's eyes and face were slightly lowered, "In this half a year, you will grow, get to know, and expand your horizon. More than that, you can clearly understand what kind of feeling you have for Yun Che."

"If your feelings towards Yun Che are still the same as today half a year later," Feng Hengkong's fist under his long sleeves tightened, "Then Royal Father will personally call the shots as you wish... Even if the entire sect objects, Royal Father will still do it for you. And, if you changed your mind, then, then absolutely do not force yourself. Royal Father will have a way to deal with Blue Wind."

“...Mn.” Feng Xue’er hesitated for a little bit, but she still nodded softly, “Xue’er will listen to Royal Father.”

“Empress Cang Yue, you heard it. It is not that Xue’er and I are unwilling, it’s just that it concerns Xue’er’s future; it needs to be carefully considered. I can entrust Xue’er to Yun Che... but it is not to protect the dignity of Divine Phoenix; it is because of Xue’er’s wish in her heart. But it... it at least needs to be half a year later!”

“Very well!” Contrary to Feng Hengkong’s expectations, Cang Yue didn’t use the opportunity to take advantage of him. Instead, she nodded cleanly and sharply, “Phoenix Sect Master’s words are as good as gold. With your words, it counts as this empress agreeing to your request! However, this empress will not give away half a year for nothing! During this half year in which your Divine Phoenix Empire will make your final decision, Feng Xue’er must stay in my Blue Wind Nation! As for you, you can leave anytime!”

Cang Yue’s tone was determined, stating that there was no compromise!

Feng Hengkong’s eyebrows suddenly rose... Feng Xue’er grew up by the side of the Phoenix God, and she had never left Divine Phoenix City before yesterday. How would he accept leaving her in Blue Wind this easily... and even leave her beside the extremely dangerous Yun Che? He was just about to reject it unyieldingly, but when he raised his head, he saw how Feng Xue’er wasn’t worried at all; on the contrary, she seemed to be looking forward to it. At that instant, his heart softened as he swallowed back the words about to burst from his throat, turned around and suddenly flew up towards outside the hall.

“Yun Che, come with us!”

“Give me a moment.” Yun Che lifted his head to look at Feng Hengkong; he then nodded towards Cang Yue and Feng Xue’er and also flew out after Feng Hengkong.

After Feng Hengkong flew out of the main hall, he flew in a straight line until he was in front of the Divine Phoenix Ark. He turned around, looked at Yun Che in front of him, and with a face devoid of any expression, he said in a low voice, “Yun Che... in our life, we have rarely thanked anyone. But three years ago, we did indeed want to thank you because you risked your life to save Xue’er’s life! Based on just that, if you were alive three years ago, no matter what you wanted, we wouldn’t hesitate at all.”

“What do you want to say?” Yun Che indifferently asked.

“Ever since Xue’er woke up from her three-year coma, the hatred in our heart has grown to a murderous extent... and now, our hate for you runs even deeper in our bones!”

“Xue’er grew up beside the Phoenix God, so she hasn’t seen her royal brothers that many times. Because of that, she may not feel even a slight sorrow for their deaths, and it will be even more difficult for her to hate you for it... but they were our own sons! You killed four of our sons, and even if we crush you into bone dust, we wouldn’t be able to dispel the hatred in the depths of our heart... And even with all of this, that is not what we hate the most about you. What we hate the most about you is, is that you actually... actually...”

A strange “bang” sound came out from Feng Hengkong’s mouth... Yun Che could tell that it was at least one tooth getting crushed.

What Feng Hengkong felt for him... was a true teeth gnashing hatred.

“I feel the same way towards you,” Yun Che responded coldly.

Feng Hengkong turned around. He didn’t have to look at Yun Che’s face, so he could at least slightly control his emotions and hatred, “The things that I said to Xue’er just now were definitely not because we are giving in to protect the dignity of Divine Phoenix, and definitely not because we have forgiven you. All of them are only because Xue’er’s feelings towards you are real. Heh... Empress Cang Yue has really grasped our weak spot. If we forcefully stopped it, it would indeed break Xue’er’s heart... For Xue’er, we can compromise with anything!”

“Heh, the reason you asked me to come out was just to tell me how great you are as a father?” Yun Che scoffed.

“...” Feng Hengkong wasn’t angered, instead his voice slowed down, “Just based on you saving Xue’er, I can at least believe that you won’t hurt her. Now that Xue’er’s Phoenix Soul is awakened, there are not many people in this world who can hurt her. As for having her stay in Blue Wind close to you, perhaps we don’t need to be too worried about her safety this way. And it is indeed time... for her to get to know this world.”

“However, while Xue’er stays here, you must promise me one thing!” Feng Hengkong’s voice suddenly became very harsh... from the way he spoke, it was obvious that he had already agreed to leave Feng Xue’er in Blue Wind for this half a year.

“Say it,” Yun Che responded.

“With Xue’er’s soul, after half a year, her feelings towards you shouldn’t have any negative changes. This half a year is more to give our sect some time to react. In the future, I may marry Xue’er to you, but before Xue’er’s powers are fully awakened, you must not taint her Phoenix God’s body! You should know that it will seriously hinder her powers from awakening!” Feng Hengkong harshly spoke with his back turned towards Yun Che.

Yun Che moved his eyebrows, and then he lightly said, “Don’t worry. Even though the life and death of Divine Phoenix Sect doesn’t concern me, I will not do anything that will ruin Xue’er’s future.”

“Good, we can believe you.” Although Feng Hengkong hated Yun Che to the bones, Yun Che was still a person who had risked his own life to save Feng Xue’er. As such, in the bottom of his heart, he could never questioned whether or not Yun Che cherished Feng Xue’er.

“But I also have something to say and you must remember it.” Yun Che said coldly, “In the future, even if I am with Xue’er, I will never call you Royal Father!!”

Feng Hengkong’s body slightly stiffened. He didn’t say another word anymore and just stepped out in the air towards the Divine Phoenix Ark.

Standing in front of the door of the Divine Phoenix Ark, he stopped his heavy footsteps, swung his arm behind him and threw a red jade stone towards Yun Che. Yun Che lifted his hand and caught it, and just as it touched his palm, a warm feeling spread over his body.

“With this Phoenix Stone, you can send a sound transmission to me within one hundred and fifty thousand kilometers. Within this half a year, if Xue’er is in any danger or accident...”

When the ark’s door completely opened, Feng Hengkong didn’t continue speaking. Only until he stepped into the profound ark did he finally turned around and met eyes with Yun Che.

“You’re leaving without saying goodbye to Xue’er?” Yun Che put the Phoenix Stone away and asked.

“...No matter how unwilling we are, a daughter... is eventually going to marry someone.” Feng Hengkong’s eyebrows creased as he mumbled, “May as well, at least it’s a lot better than the likes of Ye Xinghan.” It was unknown whether he was talking to Yun Che or to himself.

The ark’s door completely shut as the Divine Phoenix Ark rose into the air and shot out into the sky in the blink of an eye. A surging blast of air instantly swept across Blue Wind Imperial Palace.