

Unparalleled 351

Chapter 351: Yes, Your Majesty, Chu Kuangren Does Not Hold Back

At the banquet.

Chu Kuangren could not help but notice Gu Changge. He was the supposed Crown Prince of the kingdom and was ought to be the next descendant to the crown.

Yet, Princess Linglong was now the one who was about to be crowned.

Chu Kuangren would not be surprised if Gu Changge was furious and unwilling to accept such a decree. However, Gu Changge was currently smiling and chatting away with several other princes. There was no shred of anger written over his face at all.

Chu Kuangren could not believe his eyes.

They had not met each other for years now. Had Gu Changge turned over a new leaf throughout this period?

Chu Kuangren did not think about it much.

The Royal Azure Dynasty Ruler had probably long informed Gu Changge about Princess Linglong taking over the throne, which was why he was not caught by surprise.

Soon, the banquet ended.

One by one, the royal relatives began to exit the palace.

“It’s such a shame. The throne was supposed to belong to the Crown Prince. Who would’ve thought that Princess Linglong would just appear out of nowhere and take it away from him?”

“That’s right, but we must also remember that Princess Linglong is an unprecedented woman of character and abilities. Otherwise, there’s no way she would’ve gotten the blessings from Father.”

“More importantly, her fiancé is none other than Chu Kuangren, her greatest source of power. No wonder Father would pick her.”

“Tsk, that’s too bad. Although the Crown Prince seems fine on the outside, I bet he’s suffering deep down.”

Two princes grabbed each other’s shoulder as they walked drunkenly out of the palace.

Suddenly, they bumped into someone.

The duo looked up to see that it was Gu Changge who was standing before them.

The princes immediately turned serious as they bowed hastily.

“Greetings, Crown Prince. Our apologies, we aren’t that great of a drinker and have bumped into you in our drunken haze. Please forgive us.”

“Don’t worry.”

Gu Changge smiled and said.

“If there’s nothing else, we shall take our leave.”

The duo did not dare linger any further.

Who knew how much of their conversations had been heard by Gu Changge?

If Gu Changge began asking questions, the princes would have a tough time ahead.

“It’s getting dark now. Since you both aren’t good drinkers, you should be more careful around here.”
Gu Changge seemed to be genuinely concerned for the safety of his siblings.

“Thank you for your reminder, Crown Prince. We’ll be careful.”

The duo then left the scene.

Without doing anything further, Gu Changge began to take his leave too.

Not far away, Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu were observing the scene that had just unfolded.

“Looks like Gu Changge has changed a lot. Do you think he’s just pretending, Master?” Lan Yu said with a slight frown.

Chu Kuangren shook his head. “I have no clue.”

There was indeed a massive change in Gu Changge’s personality. It was almost as if he was walked in by someone else.

Using his Eye of Revelation, Chu Kuangren did not notice any significant changes in Gu Changge aside from some decent improvements in his cultivation, and neither were there any signs of anomaly.

“I guess it doesn’t matter if his change is genuine as long as he doesn’t become a threat to Princess Linglong. Come, let’s head back,” said Chu Kuangren.

“Alright.”

In the royal palace, the Royal Azure Dynasty Ruler had arranged specific rooms for Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu.

These rooms would always be ready for them during their visits. In their absences, the rooms would be maintained and looked after.

On the eve of Linglong's coronation.

A servant came to Chu Kuangren's room.

"Royal Fiancé, the Princess wishes to invite you to her room."

"What's it about?"

"I'm afraid I don't know."

"Alright, no worries."

Chu Kuangren nodded.

Then, he followed the servant to Linglong's residence and saw her standing before a large bronze mirror.

She was dressed in an elegant set of royal robes that complemented her demeanor as the upcoming queen.

"My fiancé, this is the ceremonial attire for tomorrow's coronation. Do you think it looks good on me?" Princess Linglong spread her arms wide and asked.

The royal robe was embroidered with depictions of mountain sceneries and mythical beasts as a red skirt trailed on the floor behind Princess Linglong.

Princess Linglong's hair was secured with a pair of ornamental phoenix hairpin as the smooth, pristine piece of silk was draped over her back. The ruqun that wrapped her chest was secured with an elegant peony, further highlighting the novelty and beauty Princess Linglong possessed.

"Noble and breathtaking. You have the demeanor of a female Queen."

Chu Kuangren smiled as he gasped at the beauty before him.

Delighted to hear Chu Kuangren's remark, Princess Linglong smiled and proceeded to eye the servant near her door.

The servant immediately understood Princess Linglong's intention as she bowed and stepped out of the room.

Princess Linglong could now enjoy complete privacy with Chu Kuangren.

"My fiancé, it's all thanks to you that I'm able to become the Queen of my kingdom. Allow me to toast to you."

"Princess, you're over-complimenting me." Chu Kuangren smiled.

The couple began to drink away as they reminisced about their past.

In the comfort of being alone with Chu Kuangren, Princess Linglong opened up to him about many of her past stories that were unknown to most outsiders.

Indeed, most outsiders only saw her glories, not knowing how much effort Princess Linglong had invested for her upcoming role.

From a young age, Princess Linglong had started studying the various scriptures, memorizing the countless arts of war, dealing with many high-ranking officials, all while improving her cultivation...

"I'm glad that I can finally ascend to the throne tomorrow. I pledge to maintain peace in all corners of my kingdom for eons to come..."

Princess Linglong lamented her desires.

When the alcohol began to take over, Princess Linglong did not use her cultivation to remove its effect. As her cheeks turned red, Princess Linglong started to behave more coquettishly.

"There's something that makes me even happier."

Princess Linglong stared at Chu Kuangren and said with a smile, "And that's getting to know you. Although I don't get to spend much time with you, each second with you by my side has brought me much joy and happiness."

She walked across the table to Chu Kuangren and twirled her delicate finger around Chu Kuangren's chest. At this point, Princess Linglong's eyes were dreamy and distant. "My fiancé, I was wondering if you feel the same for me?"

Chu Kuangren could feel his heart beating at the sight of his tipsy fiancée. He grabbed onto Princess Linglong's arm, pulled her into his embrace, and began to lift her.

"Ahh..."

Princess Linglong was surprised to be lifted off the ground.

Chu Kuangren looked into Princess Linglong's eyes as he let out a playful grin. "Of course I do, especially now more than ever."

Princess Linglong wrapped her arms around Chu Kuangren's neck as she whispered into his ears, "Stay here for the night."

"Yes, Your Majesty."

Chu Kuangren carried Princess Linglong to her bed.

Then, he began to do away with her attire.

However, Chu Kuangren was feeling mildly frustrated at this point. “Why’s this robe so troublesome? It’s like one layer of clothing after another.”

“Heh. My fiancé, why are you so desperate?”

“I can’t wait any longer.”

After much intense effort, the robes were completely removed.

As the bead curtain rustled, the bed began to rock back and forth...

It was also accompanied by their incessant moans.

From one end of the bed to another, the couple embraced each other...

The cycle went on again and again...

Until finally, dawn came.

...

“Princess, the coronation’s about to begin.”

The servant's voice could be heard outside the door.

Princess Linglong awakened in a haze. She smiled at the sight of Chu Kuangren who had fallen asleep while cuddling with her. Princess Linglong got up to get into her attire, and that was when she could feel her body aching at several spots.

As if remembering what had happened, she blushed and looked at Chu Kuangren, who was still asleep, and murmured, "This guy sure doesn't hold back at all."

Chapter 352: Linglong Is Crowned, Gu Changge Steals The Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl Away, Craggy Ocean Tower

Chu Kuangren's eyelid fluttered a little before he gradually woke up with a long yawn. It was a rejuvenating sleep.

Princess Linglong was already dressed up with the help of her servant. Chu Kuangren looked at her from the side and could not help but radiate a bright smile across his face.

Princess Linglong wanted to act as if she did not notice Chu Kuangren's reaction at first. Alas, she was still charmed by her fiancé.

Her fiancé was just so endearing.

Princess Linglong could feel her heart melt especially at that glowing smile of her fiancé.

“My fiancé, what’re you still looking at? Quickly get changed.”

“Princess, you’re looking a little unusual today.”

“Unusual?”

Princess Linglong looked into the mirror and asked, “What do you mean unusual?”

“You’re unusually beautiful.”

Speechless, Princess Linglong burst into laughter. She did not expect that the dignified Black Heaven Sect Leader would have this side to him.

“You may return first,” said Princess Linglong to the servant.

“Alright.”

After the servant left, Princess Linglong looked helplessly at Chu Kuangren and said, “Well, you’re lucky she’s my most loyal personal servant. Otherwise, if words about your mischievous behavior spread, your reputation as a Sect Leader will be tarnished.”

“So what if it is? I don’t care.”

Chu Kuangren said nonchalantly.

Then, with help from Princess Linglong, Chu Kuangren put on his attire and the couple exited her residence, heading to the coronation venue.

“Welcome, Your Majesty!”

A group of royal officials greeted Princess Linglong at the venue.

Donned in her royal robe, Princess Linglong carried herself in a dignified manner as she made her way to the entrance, with two servants carrying the train of her robe behind her.

Watching from aside, Chu Kuangren was puzzled by the designs of such ceremonial attires. To him, it was unnecessarily complex.

He had spent much effort in removing the attire last night. If it was not for the coronation, Chu Kuangren would have ripped it apart.

“Light the incense and pray to the heavens!”

“I, Gu Linglong, the Seventeenth Ruler of the Royal Azure Dynasty, hereby plead for the heavens to bless the Royal Azure Dynasty for many years to come...”

After a short prayer, the Royal Azure Dynasty Ruler passed a royal seal over to Linglong as a symbolic gesture of passing the rulership over to his daughter. With that, the coronation was concluded.

“Greetings, Your Majesty!”

“Greetings, Your Majesty!”

The group of officials bowed, signifying Linglong’s position as the kingdom’s new ruler!

...

“What do you mean the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl is gone?!”

After the coronation, Linglong and the former Royal Azure Dynasty Ruler received some rather grim news.

Chu Kuangren was also stunned.

“Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl? What’s that?”

“Royal Fiancé, the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl is one of the Royal Azure Dynasty’s treasures. It was forged from the soul of Nine-Headed Snakelet, an ancient ferocious beast. The item has always been sealed in the depths of this palace.”

At that, Linglong frowned. “Since the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl is gone, where’s the protector of the item?”

“Your Majesty, Elder Liu is... he’s dead.”

The patrol guard who raised the alarm replied.

Elder Liu was the projector of the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl and a cultivator of the Supreme Honorable realm. As such, not many within the Royal Azure Dynasty Palace were capable of killing him.

“Hurry up and investigate who’s the culprit behind the scene.”

Linglong said as she began to crack under pressure.

It was only her first day as the newly throned queen of this kingdom.

This was a huge blow to her reputation.

If Linglong did not settle this matter promptly, it would severely affect her reputation as the new ruler of the kingdom.

“There’s no need to investigate further. The culprit is Gu Changge.”

At that moment, an elder walked into the palace.

The former Royal Azure Dynasty Ruler hastily walked up to him and asked, "Sage, you're here. Why did you say that Changge did it?"

The elder was one of the Sages in the Royal Azure Dynasty.

"Not long ago, Gu Changge breached into the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pagoda and took the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl away, killing its protector in the process. I immediately set out on capturing him when I found out, but unfortunately, Gu Changge used a mysterious item to escape under the radar."

The Sage reported solemnly.

"Betrayal, that betrayal!"

The former ruler was fuming with anger. He was about to bolt out of his palace to search for Gu Changge when the Sage halted him.

"Calm down."

"Don't stop me, Sage. I must bring this b*stard home," said the former ruler angrily.

"Father, please calm down. There are still some questions in this story that we don't have the answers to yet."

Linglong said.

“What else is there to ask? This b*stard must’ve taken the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl away in defiance of not becoming the next ruler of this kingdom.”

“First of all, even if Gu Changge was dissatisfied, why did he resort to such a method to retaliate? Secondly, there are so many treasures in the palace. What makes the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl so special?” At that instance, Chu Kuangren finally spoke.

The former ruler and Sage immediately looked at each other.

Then, Linglong’s eyes turned solemn as she said, “Could it be related to the Nine Head Clan?”

“Nine Head Clan, the arch-enemy of the Royal Azure Dynasty?”

“Precisely. The beast that the Nine Head Clan worships is none other than the Nine-Headed Snakelet. Over the years, they’ve tried several times to infiltrate the palace and steal the pearl but to no avail,” Linglong explained.

“In that case, is it possible that Gu Changge will take the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl to the Nine Head Clan?” Chu Kuangren suggested.

“That’s definitely possible.” Linglong nodded. “I’ll send a troop into the Nine Head Clan and bring Gu Changge home.”

“That won’t be right. You’ve just been crowned and your kingdom’s foundation has yet to stabilize. You’re almost guaranteed to lose in a war with the Nine Head Clan,” said the former ruler.

“I’ll pay them a visit then.”

Chu Kuangren said calmly.

The rest turned to look at him.

“It’s not like I have much better things to do anyway. Let me go have a look. If Gu Changge is indeed in their clan, I’m sure they’ll do their best to entertain me.” Chu Kuangren laughed as he said.

The rest looked at each other silently

“Well, Brother Chu, if it’s you, then it definitely won’t be a problem. In that case, I’ll be in your debt for this one.” The former ruler of the Royal Azure Dynasty bowed and said.

“No worries.”

Chu Kuangren smiled.

Without loitering for too long around the palace, Chu Kuangren set out on his journey the next day.

...

In the Nine Head Clan.

A young cultivator in black clothes was inspecting a pearl that was glowing with radiant light. Inside the pearl was a nine-headed serpent that would occasionally let out an audible shriek.

It was the lost Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl that had been taken from the Royal Azure Dynasty's palace.

"Brother Li, the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl is now in your hands. So, if you don't mind, I wish to discuss my enrollment into the Craggy Ocean Tower..."

Behind the black-clothed cultivator was Gu Changge.

The cultivator let out a peal of laughter and said, "Brother Gu, since you've helped me this much, be rest assured that you'll be joining the Craggy Ocean Tower in no time. I'll even speak to the Sect Leader to make you a Daoist upon your entry. I believe this will be far better than becoming some snobby ruler."

Upon hearing his offer, Gu Changge's eyes lit up. He almost could not contain his excitement. "Thank you, Brother Li!"

The Craggy Ocean Tower was in one of the unknown lands. It was a location that wielded far more power than the Royal Azure Dynasty.

To Gu Changge, decimating the Royal Azure Dynasty was just a matter of time once he became a Daoist in the Craggy Ocean Tower!

“Once I become a core figure within the Craggy Ocean Tower, the Royal Azure Dynasty will be under my control. Hmph, to hell with the rulership. Who gives a sh*t!” Gu Changge grunted.

Chapter 353: To The Nine Head Clan, Resurrecting The Nine-Headed Snakelet

On his journey to the Nine Head Clan, Chu Kuangren held a piece of painting that he had purchased from a merchant. On it was the depiction of a strange nine-headed serpent with all its intimidating features.

“The ancient beast, the Nine-Headed Snakelet!”

“Legend has it that the beast wields both water and fire elements masterfully. Hah, I didn’t think the Nine Head Clan would worship such a beast. How interesting.”

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

Lan Yu was curiously studying the depiction too.

“What an unsightly beast. It’s nowhere as majestic as Lil Red,” said Lan Yu.

“Of course. Lil Red is a prosperous godly beast, whereas this is a ferocious beast. They can’t be compared, but the Nine-Headed Snakelet should not be underestimated. According to its bloodline, its hierarchy is just below that of the godly beasts.”

Chu Kuangren said.

Then, he looked across the distance to the barren land and said, "Only four hundred kilometers to go before we get to the Blackwater Prefecture. That's where the Nine Head Clan is."

"Let's go, we should be able to reach today."

...

Inside a Nine Head Clan tent.

"Everyone, when Young Master Li awakens the Nine-Headed Snakelet, we shall finally expand our territory!" The Nine Head Clan Leader cheered with several elders as they indulged in alcohols and delicacies.

The elders were equally as excited.

Boom!

At that instance, thunder could be heard from the outside.

As dark clouds gathered, the tents were immediately washed by a heavy downpour.

“Damn it, I’ve had it enough with this stupid place. It’s always raining heavily out of nowhere,” complained an elder.

The other elders were scowling too.

Although this was the land that they grew up in, they did not have any sentimental values for it, only endless complaints.

“Once we invade the Royal Azure Dynasty, the enormous prefecture is ours. By then, don’t we have all of the resources we need?”

“That’s right. This is all thanks to the Young Master. It’s with his foresight that if Gu Changge is compromised, then the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl is ours.”

“I can’t wait to mess around in the Royal Azure Dynasty Palace.”

The elders were laughing heartily.

Just then, one of the Nine Head Clan members rushed in.

He was panicking as he said in terror, “Clan Leader, we’re in deep trouble!”

“What happened? Why’re you so frightened?”

“Chu Kuangren’s here!”

Upon hearing this, the looks on the elders’ faces changed.

The Nine Head Clan Leader became stern. “Why’s he here? Hold on, could he be here for Gu Changge?”

The clan leader and the elders only now remembered that aside from being the Black Heaven Sect Leader, Chu Kuangren was also the fiancé to Linglong, which made him the de facto king of the Royal Azure Dynasty.

“Come, let’s go meet this person!”

The Nine Head Clan Leader said after he pondered about it.

With that, the group exited the tent.

Amid the thunderstorm stood two people, a man and a woman who looked out of this world, and around them were a forcefield that separated them from the heavy outpour.

The ground was covered in muddy water as the wind howled ferociously.

Yet, the two people remained pristine, as if they did not need to pander to the physical boundaries of this world. It was a fascinating sight to behold.

A strange look flashed across the Nine Head Clan Leader's eyes before he approached the duo. He smiled and greeted them, "Welcome, Sect Leader Chu. It's my honor to host you as our guests!"

"Alright, enough with the polite words. Hand the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl and Gu Changge over," said Chu Kuangren firmly.

The Nine Head Clan Leader seemed dumbfounded. He uttered, "Sect Leader Chu, what're you talking about? Gu Changge is the Crown Prince of the Royal Azure Dynasty, why would he be here? And what in the world is a Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl?"

"Your attempt at playing the fool here doesn't hide the truth. I'd advise you to fulfill my demands before I resort to more violent measures."

"Sect Leader, I truly don't..."

Before the clan leader could finish his words, a breeze of cold intent manifested within the thunderstorm, covering half of the Nine Head Clan's territory.

"I'm running out of patience, Clan Leader. Please get to the point."

Chu Kuangren said.

Although Chu Kuangren's voice was not as loud as the pattering of raindrops, the Nine Head Clan Leader could hear his words clearly. Meanwhile, he felt a cold chill spread across his heart, as if his blood was about to freeze.

“Sect Leader Chu, isn’t driving the Nine Head Clan to a corner like this a bit too much?” At this point, a frail voice rang out.

An elder in a clothed robe suddenly appeared in the void as he stared unhappily at Chu Kuangren.

Chu Kuangren glimpsed at the elder.

It was the Sage of the Nine Head Clan, who possessed a Three-Step Sage cultivation base.

Chu Kuangren gently lifted his hand and summoned an enormous golden palm that charged fiercely towards the elder.

Under the rainwater, the strike was immediately blasted into a mist that covered the sky.

“What?!”

The elder was caught off-guard as he did not expect Chu Kuangren to attack so abruptly. He hastily channeled his spiritual energy and converged the surrounding rainwater into a gigantic water pillar that launched itself outwards.

The two opposing forces collided!

Then, the water pillar disintegrated as the remaining violent energy swept out and landed a direct hit on the elder’s body.

In a split second, the elder was blasted off his feet, sustaining heavy injuries before he fell onto the floor. His once pristine robe was now tainted by the muddy water on the ground. By looks, there was no difference between the majestic Sage and an average street beggar.

“Chu Kuangren, you’re too much!”

The Nine Head Clan Leader was fuming.

Unfortunately for the clan leader, a devastating Sword-based Daoist Rhyme emanated and now enshrouded the entire Nine Head Clan.

Every clan member, including the clan leader and the Sage, could feel their scalps numb. With the Daoist Rhyme, pouring rainwater now manifested into a hail of daggers, as if ready to slice their heads off at any time!

“I’ve told you not my patience is wearing thin. If you speak another word of nonsense, I bet that none of you can make it out alive even if each of you has nine heads. I’ll ask this one more time, where’s Gu Change and the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl?!”

Chu Kuangren snorted coldly.

The Nine Head Clan leader and the Sage were already green to the face, shivering in fear. However, there was nothing they could do.

‘This person is an insanely violent person!’

‘Did he just threaten to annihilate the entire Nine Head Clan?!’

‘How can he resort to such a threat?!’

However, the Nine Head Clan Leader did not doubt Chu Kuangren’s ability to follow through with his words. After all, Chu Kuangren’s past was filled with many cautionary tales.

Chu Kuangren had once created a huge mess within the Scaled Clan of the deep sea. The Nine Head Clan was nowhere near as strong as the Scaled Clan.

How could they possibly defend themselves against Chu Kuangren?

“The Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl and Gu Changge were indeed here, but not anymore,” said the Nine Head Clan Leader.

He surrendered to Chu Kuangren’s demands.

“Oh, where did they go then?”

“To the Blackwater Swamp!” The Nine Head Clan Leader gritted his teeth and uttered.

“What’re they doing there?”

“To help the Young Master in awakening our Lord, the Nine-Headed Snakelet!”

Chu Kuangren was a little confused. “Awakening the Nine-Headed Snakelet... You mean they want to resurrect the Nine-Headed Snakelet?”

“That’s right.”

The Nine Head Clan Leader then revealed the entire story.

It turned out that an empyrean walker had recently come to the Nine Head Clan, and this particular empyrean walker carried the bloodline of the Nine Head Clan!

As such, the empyrean walker was conferred as the Young Master of their clan. In order to resurrect the Nine-Headed Snakelet, he had bribed Gu Changge into stealing the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl from the Royal Azure Dynasty...

Chapter 354: The Nine-Headed Snakelet Resurrected, Craggy Ocean Curse, Li Ze Tamed The Nine-Headed Snakelet

The Blackwater Swamp was a forbidden territory of the Nine head Clan. The area was a wetland and the swamp gas around was so toxic that it could make any cultivators below the Honorable Realm suffer greatly.

At this moment, two individuals were trekking along this area.

One at the front and the other at the back.

The individual leading the way was the empyrean walker from the Craggy Ocean Tower, Li Ze, and behind him was the Crown Prince of the Royal Azure Dynasty, Gu Changge.

The duo ventured deep into the forested wetland.

Within it laid a terrifying beast with multiple heads growing out of its body which was measured more than several hundred meters in size... It was the Nine-Headed Snakelet!

Although the Nine-Headed Snakelet looked like it had been dead for a while now as it laid on the ground, its gruesome aura was still lingering on its body. Due to this, no living beings dared to step into the entire swamp.

In fact, the Blackwater Swamp was created from the leakages of this being's aura.

"An ancient beast indeed. It still possesses such a terrifying aura even though it has been dead for so many years." Li Ze's eyes were beaming with excitement.

By taming this beast, they were sure to gain all the advantages they needed to ascend into the Emperor Realm in this Era of Great Battle.

Even the legendary Chu Kuangren would not be his opponent!

The more Li Ze thought about it, the more impatient he became.

“This trip to the Nine Head Clan is well worth it.”

Buzz...

At that moment, the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl began to jerk violently as if it had sensed the presence of the corpse before it. The Nine-Headed Snakelet’s soul fragments in the pearl began to let out a howl that resembled an infant’s shrieks.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet’s corpse had also begun to move a little.

Its soul and body were calling out to one another.

Gu Changge was in awe. “No wonder the Nine Head Clan was so determined in getting this pearl throughout all these years. They’ve had the corpse of the Nine-Headed Snakelet in their territory all along!”

“But where did the Nine-Headed Snakelet come from?”

“It’s because the founding Emperor of the Royal Azure Dynasty led his army to surround the Nine-Headed Snakelet dozens of millennia ago. He used a spell to extract his soul fragments and refine it into this pearl!”

“In the end, the Nine-Headed Snakelet used the last bit of its soul fragment power to break through their formation. It fled to the Blackwater Prefecture and collapsed into a river, where it tainted the water with its blood.”

“At that time, there was a settlement down the river stream. So when the residents drank from the river, the blood of the Nine-Headed Snakelet coursed through their veins. Eventually, they found the great corpse of the Nine-Headed Snakelet and hauled it back to their settlement to worship. This is how the Nine Head Clan came about, and that’s also why the Nine Head Clan will always remain the arch-enemy of the Royal Azure Dynasty.”

“Apart from their constant battle for resources, this is another reason.”

Li Ze narrated the clan’s history before hurling the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl out. The pearl proceeded to fuse with the corpse as Li Ze’s eyes burned with passion. “Today, the God of the Nine Head Clan, the Nine-Headed Snakelet, shall finally be reborn!”

As the pearl fused into its body, the Nine-Headed Snakelet’s scales began to shake. Then, its body straightened up majestically and it let out a howling wail that unleashed a destructive aura, marking the rebirth of the ancient beast!

“So strong!”

Under the Nine-Headed Snakelet’s aura, Gu Changge could not help but tremble in fear.

After taking a sniff, the Nine-Headed Snakelet opened its nine pairs of blood-red eyes which glowed like nine pairs of lanterns as it fixated themselves upon Gu Changge and Li Ze.

“Little ones, the auras that you radiate are so strange. One of you belongs to my bloodline, and the other... belongs to the bloodline of my enemy!”

A frightening amount of ferocious qi surged out, crushing Gu Changge into the ground.

Li Ze remained in his spot. He simply looked at the Nine-Headed Snakelet and said, "Congratulations on your resurrection, Nine-Headed Snakelet!"

"So you're the one who brought my soul fragment back to my body. Very well, seeing that you share my bloodline, I shall grant you a favor. Speak your desire."

The Nine-Headed Snakelet's voice was neither male nor female. However, it was so sharp that it could pierce through anyone's eardrums.

Li Ze did not hesitate and said, "That's great. I want you to be my mount. Together, we shall conquer the world!"

Appalled by such a request, the Nine-Headed Snakelet let out a furious screech, releasing even more ferocious qi to his surroundings.

"You should know your place, little one!"

The Nine-Headed Snakelet possessed the purest of bloodlines, so it thought it was ridiculous for an average clansman to ride him as their mount. After all, he was an ancient legendary beast!

"Hmph, guess you should be the one to know your place."

Li Ye pulled his focus together as he cast a technique. Immediately, the Nine-Headed Snakelet could feel an intense pain growing in its skulls, sending it and its nine heads rolling on the ground in pain.

The Blackwater Swamp shook under its force.

“You b*stard!”

“Ahh, it hurts!”

Li Ze was still in his position as he uttered calmly, “The Nine Head Clan worships you like a God. But unfortunately, I’m not like them. I’m an empyrean walker from the Craggy Ocean Tower. I’m destined to rule the world!”

“Nine-Headed Snakelet, the only option left for you is to bow before me!”

Seeing how proudly Li Ze stood and how superior he sounded, the Nine-Headed Snakelet became more furious than ever. It roared, “What did you do to me?!”

“The Craggy Ocean Curse, one of the secret beast-taming techniques of the Craggy Ocean Tower. By planting my curse into your soul fragment, I can crush your soul with the force of the mountain and ocean with just a mere thought. It’ll be excruciating and unbearable. Did you really think that I’ll return your soul unconditionally?”

Li Ze said.

Then, he withdrew the power of the Craggy Ocean Curse.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet gradually recovered from its pain. He looked at Li Ze fearfully and said, "I've never heard of the Craggy Ocean Tower. Are you from one of those unknown lands, empyrean walker?!"

"Nine-Headed Snakelet, the times have changed. The Great Dharma Emergence has caused the Era of Great Battles to begin. Soon, many forces from the unknown lands shall emerge and various sky-prides will appear. I'm offering you one last chance. You shall bow before me, and together, we shall sail this world. When I've ascended into the Emperor Realm, you shall become stronger too!"

The Nine-Headed Snakelet seemed indecisive at first. However, worried about the Craggy Ocean Tower's power, it could only helplessly nod in agreement.

"A wise choice!" Li Ze said.

"However, my body hasn't been used for a long time. It might not have rotten, but my energies have long been drained. I need a huge amount of meat to replenish my energies. And since this b*stard belongs to my enemy's bloodline, I wish to devour him!"

The Nine-Headed Snakelet looked at Gu Changge and snarked coldly.

"Brother Li, save me!"

"As you wish!"

Gu Changge looked at Li Ze in terror.

Not only did Li Ze break his promise to bring Gu Changge into the Craggy Ocean Tower, but he was now sending the latter directly into the beast's mouth too.

Gu Changge made a desperate attempt to flee but was attacked from behind by a mixture of fire and water elements that sputtered from the beast's mouth. His organs and bones were instantly ruptured.

All it took was one attack and Gu Changge was heavily injured by the Nine-Headed Snakelet!

Then, the Nine-Headed Snakelet opened one of its mouths and swallowed Gu Changge directly into its tummy while he was screaming in terror.

"Oh, I didn't know this was a Daoist Physique. It has replenished a decent amount of my energies. Now, I can sense that many of my bloodlines are just over there. If I could devour them all, my recovery would be faster." The Nine-Headed Snakelet looked across the distance at the Nine Head Clan's settlement and smacked its lips.

Li Ze initially frowned at such a suggestion, but it was not long before he agreed. "Sure. After all, I don't have much attachment to this clan. If it makes your recovery quicker, I guess their deaths are not in vain."

Chapter 355: The Nine-Headed Snakelet Devours The Nine Head Clan, Take Both Your Lives Instead

"Shrieks..."

A long shriek was accompanied by a surge of ferocious energy.

In the Nine Head Clan, the members recognized the aura. The Nine Head Clan and the rest were extremely overjoyed as they looked towards the direction of Blackwater Swamp in anticipation.

“He did it. The Young Master has revived our Lord, the Nine-Headed Snakelet!”

“Haha, that’s wonderful!”

“The glory days of the Nine Head Clan are finally here!”

The Nine Head Clan members stared excitedly into the horizon. Some of them even knelt in that direction as they began to worship the beast.

Chu Kuangren was completely unmoved.

“Looks like we’re too late now. The Nine-Headed Snakelet has reborn. Judging from its aura, it’s indeed different from the norm. Perhaps its power is near the level of a Great Sage too.”

Chu Kuangren murmured.

After a while, the devastating ferocious qi approached.

The Nine Head Clan Leaders and the elders hastily rushed out of their tents and knelt in a formation, preparing to welcome the arrival of their lord.

An enormous shadow encroached from afar.

The shadow belonged to a serpent-like being that had nine heads. Its length measured across four hundred meters, while its body was covered with black scales and its menacing heads glowed with pairs of blood-red eyes...

To the Nine Head Clan, it was a majestic and sacred beast that deserved all of their worship!

“Long live our Lord!”

“Long live our Lord!”

The Nine Head Clan Leaders and several members knelt as they worshipped loudly.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet was puzzled.

‘What’s going on?’

‘Did my food just arrange itself on my platter?!’

“Heh, in that case, I should start digging in then!”

The Nine-Headed Snakelet chuckled before he proceeded to gape at the dozens of worshippers and bit into the Nine Head Clan members who were kneeling before it.

A copious amount of blood splattered across the area...

The Nine Head Clan Leader was splashed by his own clansman’s blood. The sheer amount of shock was enough to incapacitate him from reacting at all.

It was only when he heard the cries of his clansmen that he now realized what was going on. The Nine-Headed Snakelet was devouring his members!

“Haha! Delicious!”

“It’s been a while since I indulged in such a great meal.”

The Nine-Headed Snakelet kept extending its heads. One by one, it bit onto the clansmen, chewed them apart, and swallowed them. Meanwhile, his stomach glowed with a faint red light as blood splatters tainted his scales.

Having been denied nutrients for several millennia, the frail body of the Nine-Headed Snakelet was craving for every blood and flesh it could consume to recover its energy.

In a split second, the Nine Head Clan descended into living chaos as incessant howls and wails filled the entire atmosphere.

The members were at the peak of despair.

They were desperate not because they were facing certain death, but that their entire belief system had collapsed!

They had never imagined that the Lord they once worshipped so devoutly would turn upon them at the instance it awakened.

They were merely fuel sources for the Nine-Headed Snakelet that they saw as their God!

“Why’s this happening, why’s this happening...”

The Nine Head Clan Leader was in denial at such a sight.

With his eyes red in anger, the Nine Head Clan Leader charged towards the Nine-Headed Snakelet and loudly questioned the beast, “My Lord, why are you doing this to us? Why?!”

The only response he got was the opening of one of the Nine-Headed Snakelet’s jaw.

/strong>

The Nine Head Clan Leader abruptly dodge the sweep. Just when he was about to say something, he was greeted by darkness as he felt himself falling into a damp hole that was covered in slime.

Then, unbearable pain took over his body before he lost all of his senses.

From another point of view, the Nine-Headed Clan Leader had dodged one of the beast's heads, only to be swallowed by another.

The two heads of the Nine-Headed Snakelet looked at one another.

"What did that fella say?"

"I don't know?"

"Who cares. Let's just eat."

The Nine-Headed Snakelet ignored it and resumed its rampage on the fleeing clan members.

At that moment, a palm qi that was forged out of rainwater struck the Nine-Headed Snakelet on one of its heads.

The head was smacked heavily to one side. The beast then looked into the distance to see an elder in a cloth robe staring back furiously.

“A Sage?!”

“Hehe, he’ll surely make a much more delicious meal.”

The Nine-Headed Snakelet did not care.

In fact, the head that was just attacked simply shook the pain off. The Sage’s palm technique did not do significant damage to the beast at all.

Its physical power amused Chu Kuangren who was witnessing the scene not far away.

“Monster, die!”

The Nine Head Clan Sage roared, unleashing a continuous streak of palm techniques that mostly revolve around water and fire elements.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet was a master in both elements, and since the clansmen shared its bloodline, their techniques also revolved around these two elements.

The water and fire palm struck the Nine-Headed Snakelet’s body. Each attack was enough to split an entire mountain. However, the dozens of attacks were only enough to dent the beast’s scales slightly. It could not inflict a meaningful amount of damage.

The Nine Head Clan Sage was now hopeless.

Suddenly, he noticed a black-clothed and cold person standing above one of the Nine-Headed Snakelet's heads. It was Li Ze.

Seeing him had given the Nine Head Clan Sage a glimmer of hope, and so, he yelled, "Young Master, hurry up and stop this monster!"

To his surprise, Li Ze merely returned him a cold glare. "Why should I do so? The Nine-Headed Snakelet has just awakened. It needs a huge amount of blood and flesh essences to recuperate. Don't all of you worship it like a God? What's wrong with serving your flesh to it?"

The Nine Head Clan Sage was filled with disbelief. "Young Master, how could you say such words? You're also a Nine Head Clan member!"

"So what if I am? Honestly, I've left this clan a long time ago and have been with the Craggy Ocean Tower all this while. I don't really care what happens to this clan. After all, my career is more important than your measly lives!"

Li Ze said crudely.

"Y-you filthy traitor!"

The Nine Head Clan Sage burst in anger.

Li Ze's eyes turned cold as he gently lifted his palms. Then, he concentrated a frightening amount of Daoist Rhymes in its center, and when he released it, it transformed into a ferocious beast conjuration in the air.

The Sage, having exhausted most of his energies in attacking the Nine-Headed Snakelet, could no longer defend himself.

Cough...

Blasted by the force, the Sage spat out a mouthful of blood as he was blasted away.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet extended its neck and swallowed the Sage in one go. Its aura was now intensified even further, and blood mist around his body had thickened as well.

Soon, half of the Nine Head Clan members were devoured by the Nine-Headed Snakelet. It was then when Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu finally made their appearance, approaching Li Ze and his beast after they had spectated for a while.

Li Ze had noticed their presence as well. "Oh, you have quite a unique aura. Judging by your looks and that sword, you must be Chu Kuangren."

"That's right."

"I'm guessing you're here for Gu Changge?"

“That’s right too.”

“I’m afraid you’re too late. That pest has been swallowed by the Nine-Headed Snakelet. By now, he should be completely digested,” said Li Ze.

“Is that so? What a shame then.”

However, there was no trace of sadness on Chu Kuangren’s face. He merely looked at Li Ze and the Nine-Headed Snakelet and said, “I was sent here to look for Gu Changge and the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl, and it seems like both of these are no longer available. But I can’t just return empty-handed.”

“So how about I take both your lives instead?”

Chapter 356: Destroy Him, Thousands Of Sword Qi Clones Against The Nine-Headed Snakelet

“How about I take both of your lives?!”

Chu Kuangren said emotionlessly.

As soon as he finished speaking, a layer of chill enveloped everything between heaven and earth, seemingly turning the rainwater into a sky full of blades.

At that, Li Ze flashed him a cold eye. “You want to kill me? Do you know that I have the unknown lands backing me?!”

“I do, but what’s the issue if I kill one?”

“I’d like to see you try.”

Li Ze scoffed.

The moment he raised his arm, an immense amount of spiritual qi amassed at the very heart of his palm and turned into a giant spiritual qi bird that swooped out with great speed!

There was even terrifying lightning energy that circulated above this bird.

“Thousand Beasts Art, Thunderbird!!”

Chu Kuangren merely lifted his hand nonchalantly when he saw that.

He battered out a palm attack fiercely. With this blow, the sky full of rain instantly dropped downward, pulverizing that so-called Thunderbird!

This power made Li Ze squint in terror.

“What incredible power!”

“He’s indeed the famed Chu Kuangren.”

Li Ze muttered to himself in shock.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet underneath him also let out a high-pitched yowl, and the rain around suddenly converged into a water spike that struck out.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet may not have recovered his full strength, but since he could control water and fire energy and it was currently the monsoon season, this unusual water spike was something anyone could block off that easily.

Chu Kuangren lifted his arm again, summoning the earth qi which formed into a Godly Mountain and smashed its way out. In a split second, it crushed the water spike into nothing but water mist.

“Is that all of the Nine-Headed Snakelet’s power?” Chu Kuangren supported himself to stand up with one hand and said, with a hint of mockery in his eyes.

An almighty ancient wild beast would never endure such torment. As such, the Nine-Headed Snakelet howled angrily in response. Suddenly, the rainwaters of the huge storm froze into countless water spikes, and along with the raging wind, they swooped towards Chu Kuangren’s direction.

Chu Kuangren then took out the Lingering Song guqin.

He plucked on the strings, and with a loud zing, the guqin Daoist Rhyme was unleashed. In the face of this guqin music, the water spikes that swept across the whole sky shattered, one after another!

“Profound Carillon Resonance!”

Chu Kuangren plucked on one string and an incredibly terrifying sound wave spread out, brutally smashing onto the heads of the Nine-Headed Snakelet.

One of the Nine-Headed Snakelet's heads was struck so hard that it became dizzy.

The remaining eight heads stared at Chu Kuangren fiercely. As if enraged by his act, they charged at him viciously with their teeth flashing.

Seeing the beast going berserk, Li Ze, who was standing atop of the Nine-Headed Snakelet's head, had no choice but to rise and retreat some distance away to sit this one out.

He glanced at Chu Kuangren, who was being attacked by the Nine-Headed Snakelet, and sneered. "Chu Kuangren, you're too full of yourself. The Nine-Headed Snakelet may not have recuperated most of his strength, but his combat strength is still a force to be reckoned with. Even a peak Great-Sage would find this very difficult to deal with."

"As for you? You're definitely going to die!!"

The Nine-Headed Snakelet was an ancient wild beast that had extraordinary strength. Although its body had been dead for several hundred thousand years, it had gained half its original power after absorbing a massive amount of blood and flesh essences from the Nine Head Clan.

From Li Ze's point of view, there was no way Chu Kuangren would be able to fight the beast.

In fact, Chu Kuangren kept on playing the guqin music, releasing waves of guqin Daoist Rhyme that continuously bombarded the Nine-Headed Snakelet. Although he was able to block off the beast's vicious bites, he had still exhausted quite an immense amount of his spiritual power.

"Lan Yu, you stand down first."

"Alright."

Lan Yu nodded gently before he started to retreat about several thousand meters back.

Chu Kuangren stashed away his Lingering Song guqin.

In a split second, the Descendant Self Sword unsheathed itself. An incredibly dazzling purple sword ray surged skywards and struck the Nine-Headed Snakelet's head.

The moment the sword ray rubbed against the scales, numerous sparks ignited...

Eventually, the sword ray's sharpness sliced through the snake scale's defenses, and a large amount of blood spurted out like a geyser. It was as if it was raining blood.

One of the Nine-Headed Snakelet's eyes was slashed open right there and then. The pain was so intense that it made the Nine-Headed Snakelet howl in anguish.

"I'll eat you up. Eat you up!"

“I’ll make sure that I devour you!!”

The Nine-Headed Snakelet growled loudly. The excruciating pain triggered his ferocious qi, and all nine heads started to swing in the air. In an instant, the weather started to change and the whole place was shrouded by an ominous Daoist Rhyme.

One of the Nine-Headed Snakelet was spouting flames, and another was spouting black jets of water. No matter fire or water, its power was extremely scary. Even normal sages would be seriously injured if any of those brushed against them.

Chu Kuangren cast his Phantom Light Strike Technique, evading those attacks with incredible speed. Then, by activating his thought, surges of sword qi began to spread, interweaving high up in the air, and form many sword qi clones.

Before long, hundreds and thousands of sword qi clones had surrounded the Nine-Headed Snakelet.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet was baffled.

“Is this an Emperor Technique? An Emperor Technique that makes clones?”

Not far away, Li Ze felt astonished too.

He could clearly feel the power of those sword qi clones. Every one of them was least an Honorable. With the combined forces of these thousands of sword qi clones, it was only a matter of time before the beast would be dissected into pieces.

"I can't believe Chu Kuangren has such a cultivation technique. No wonder he was able to beat four empyrean walkers in one breath. Such power is indeed beyond imagination."

"How is it possible for there to be a sky-pride in the outside world with this level of power?!"

Before he met Chu Kuangren, everything that Li Ze heard about the outside world was all sourced from various rumors or the intel that was gathered.

However, after today's meeting, he realized that Chu Kuangren's combat strength was way more terrifying than what he had imagined. It was absolutely horrifying!

"Destroy him."

Chu Kuangren said calmly as he looked at the Nine-Headed Snakelet.

At that command, the thousands of sword qi clones dashed towards their target instantaneously and a huge amount of sword qi was blasted at different points of the Nine-Headed Snakelet's body.

"D*mn this, d*mn you!!"

The Nine-Headed Snakelet was so cheesed off that its nine heads constantly spouted flames and water.

Despite that, ferocious sword qi waves were constantly blasting its body too. The Nine-Headed Snakelet's body may be extremely sturdy, but the sword qi clones that Chu Kuangren had cast were not weak either. Moreover, each sword qi clone held a treasured sword in their hand.

Each sword was the most top-notch Honorable weapon!

Some of them were even Sacred Swords.

After all, these swords had been left in the Emerald Sword Case to refine for so many years. So coupled with Chu Kuangren's ever-increasing cultivation base, any iron would turn into an Honorable weapon.

This was the scary part about the Emerald Sword Case!

A normal cultivator could only foster two or three weapons, but with the Emerald Sword Case, Chu Kuangren was able to keep an infinite number of swords. As long as the swords stored were not above the Emperor-Grade, Chu Kuangren could keep as many swords as he wanted!!

Soon, gashes of bloodied cuts were found on every inch of the Nine-Headed Snakelet's body. Although the cuts were not deep, there were way too many of them and they covered the Nine-Headed Snakelet's body almost entirely, painting his snake scales in bloody red color.

Facing the combined attacks of the thousands of sword qi clones, the Nine-Headed Snakelet was reminded of the time when he was laid siege by the Founding Emperor of the Royal Azure Dynasty.

The reminiscence of this moment infuriated the Nine-Headed Snakelet to its limit. The ferocious qi on his body spread open in successive waves like the tide as appalling surges of fire and water Daoist Rhyme erupted!

Under the sheer force of this Daoist Rhyme, the sword qi clones in the sky all disintegrated like bubbles, and the longswords that were held in their hands dropped onto the floor.

Not far away.

Li Ze breathed a sigh of relief. “Indeed, even with Chu Kuangren’s strength, he cannot kill this Nine-Headed Snakelet. The Nine-Headed Snakelet may look distraught now, but the injuries that he sustained were only small. It wouldn’t affect his combat strength too much.”

At that thought, he looked toward Chu Kuangren’s actual body.

Chapter 357: Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul, Kun Whale, My Sage Spirit Is About To Leave Me Again

Chu Kuangren was sitting on a giant emerald rock at the moment while he held a cup of wine that nobody knew where he got it from, drinking it enjoyably.

Only after the Nine-Headed Snakelet had destroyed all his sword qi clones did he slowly lift his chin. “Oh, you’re finally done. What a wild beast indeed.”

The corner of Li Ze’s lips twitched at that.

It seemed to him that this Chu Kuangren was not even taking the Nine-Headed Snakelet seriously. No matter what, he was dealing with an ancient wild beast!

Could he not show it some respect at least?!

“B*stard, I’m going to eat you up!!”

The Nine-Headed Beast growled fiercely as it charged toward Chu Kuangren, wanting to rip him apart.

It was at this moment when countless sword qi abruptly emerged from the ground and interweaved in the sky to form a sword qi wall!

The Nine-Headed Snakelet’s head bashed against the sword qi wall and it rebounded backward.

“What is this?”

Li Ze’s expression shifted.

Then, he stared at the longswords that were scattered all over the ground.

These longswords were now vibrating. It turned out that the sword qi wall that came out of nowhere was the doings of these swords. Although there were no sword qi clones, terrifying sword qi still emitted from the surface of these swords!!

“Sword formation, activate!”

Chu Kuangren simply said.

Those swords that laid on the ground suddenly leaped into the air and hovered around the Nine-Headed Snakelet, forming an extremely mystical sword formation!

There were a total of three hundred and sixty-five swords!

It was the Four Seasons Sword Formation!

“How does this guy have so many tricks up his sleeves?!”

First, the Eight Celestial Demonic Chords, then the sword qi clones, and now this sword formation. Each one of these tricks was not just anything but Emperor-Grade techniques!

How could Chu Kuangren, someone who was barely at the level of a Sage, have so many Emperor-Grade techniques up his sleeves? This was absolutely ridiculous. Not even those from the unknown lands would have this many Emperor-Grade techniques!

The moment the Four Seasons Sword Formation was initiated, surges after surges of sword qi seeped in and out of the sword formation. Emanating with the energy of the inter-changing four seasons and endless mysterious Daoist Rhymes, even the Nine-Headed Snakelet was feeling the pressure under such power!

“This is my first time using this Four Seasons Sword Formation ever since I broke through to the Supreme Honorable Realm, so let me just test its power on you.”

Chu Kuangren smiled gently.

The sword qi kept drifting in and out, placing the Nine-Headed Snakelet's body under a barrage of attacks. This power was much more ruthless than using thousands of sword qi clones.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet spouted flames and water to attack the sword formation!

However, no matter what he did, the sword formation did not look like it was about to be damaged. With Chu Kuangren's current strength level, no one below the level of a Sage Ruler would stand a chance at cracking open this sword formation.

This sword formation could even hold Sages Rulers back for quite a long while.

In his prime, the Nine-Headed Snakelet might have been able to break open this sword formation. However, now that he had just returned to his body and devoured a huge amount of blood and flesh essences, his current strength was still a good distance away from that of a Sage Ruler.

The four seasons interchanged, and the natural phenomena shifted. Inside the sword formation, the endless sword qi had formed an enormous rainbow-colored sword shadow high up in the air. With the magnificent power of nature, the sword shadow smashed down brutally at the Nine-Headed Snakelet!!

This sword shadow directly landed a terrifying blow onto one of the Nine-Headed Snakelet's heads and chopped it off!

Boom...

The giant, molehill-sized head fell onto the floor, sweeping up a small gust of debris.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet yelled in agonizing pain!

Li Ze, who was watching the scene unfold from afar, shuddered in fear.

'Is the Nine-Headed Snakelet... about to lose?!'

"No way, no freaking way!"

"I've spent so much time and effort on him. I've even cast an insanely difficult Craggy Ocean Curse technique on him. How could he just die like that?!"

The Nine-Headed Snakelet was an ancient wild beast that had exponential potential.

The Sage Ruler Realm may not even be its limit.

As long as he continued to cultivate, there was a huge chance that he could become an Emperor in the future. How could Li Ze be willing to let go of such a useful assistant?

"Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul, Kun Whale!!"

Li Ze let out a loud cry and spiritual power coursed through his entire body. An incredibly magical Daoist Rhyme surged out and interweaved in the air, forming an extremely unique image, which looked like a giant whale.

The Craggy Ocean Tower was a very ancient orthodoxy. Their cultivation techniques were derived from their observations of the various strange mythical beasts that existed in the world.

The higher-leveled cultivators of the Craggy Ocean Tower even had an item called the Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul. It could be used to capture different types of rare beasts by extracting their souls and then refining using some sort of secret technique.

Each person could only have one bestial soul in their life, and Li Ze's Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul was a mythical beast named the Kun Whale!

This was a very ruthless ancient strange beast, in which its potential was not that far off from an ancient wild beast like the Nine-Headed Snakelet.

In the Craggy Ocean Tower, there were only a handful of bestial souls that were of this grade!

In the void, the image of that beast named Kun Whale slowly materialized. An ancient strange beast that was ever so domineering then leaped out from thin air.

"Woo..."

An odd howl reverberated in the void.

Sounds of wave splashing could be heard vaguely as well.

“Go!”

Li Ze yelled out, commanding the Kun Whale to charge at Chu Kuangren.

Chu Kuangren was bewildered.

“Oh? I didn’t know that you’re a conjurer too.”

Just as he was preparing himself to face that strange beast, Kun Whale, a silvery-white figure suddenly put itself before him. Tremendous amounts of Light-based Daoist Rhymes poured out like a waterfall, and a huge white shield appeared out of thin air.

When the Kun Whale collided with the shield, a rumbling sound erupted.

The rainwater all around them shattered.

Lan Yu’s face was a little pale, but she had managed to block off this giant Kun Whale’s hit. “Master, you go take care of the Nine-Headed Snakelet. You can leave this empyrean walker to me.”

Chu Kuangren looked somewhat puzzled.

He was just about to say something when he saw the determination on Lan Yu’s face. Hence, all he did was nod. “Be careful then.”

“Surely.”

The Scepter of Light appeared in Lan Yu’s hand, and silvery-white armor covered her body. The dense Light-based Daoist Rhyme once again burst out. She stared at Li Ze with her sapphire-like eyes, which was bone-piercing cold.

“Empyrean walker, come. Show me what you’ve got!”

“Oh, Young Emperor Lan Yu. I know you. But with your standard, how many of my attacks do you think you can endure before you fall?!”

Li Ze sneered coldly before he redirected the Kun Whale at Lan Yu again.

“Holy Incineration!”

Without entertaining him further, Lan Yu unleashed a big chunk of her spiritual power onto the scepter, which now burned with huge white flames. Then, she struck it toward her enemy.

Lan Yu was sent flying amidst the collision, but the white flames did land on that Kun Whale bestial soul too. Caught in the flames, the invisible bestial soul squealed miserably in pain.

Since Li Ze was mentally connected to the bestial soul, he too felt that and his expression changed. “This fire can actually burn the bestial soul. This is not an ordinary flame. In fact, it contains a Light-based Daoist Rhyme that could purge all impurities.”

This one hit made Li Ze take Lan Yu seriously.

The two of them dueled once again.

Chu Kuangren, on the other hand, was controlling the Four Seasons Sword Formation as he continued to attack the Nine-Headed Snakelet. Very soon, his enemy had sustained an unprecedented degree of damage.

Of his nine heads, three had been chopped off.

Chu Kuangren moved his thoughts and a pitch-black chain suddenly appeared in his hand. It was the item that he had not used for a long time, the Soul Retriever!

“Go!”

The Soul Retriever glided across the sky and went through the sword formation.

For the Soul Retriever which specialized in attacking the soul, that sturdy body of the Nine-Headed Snakelet was like nothing as it immediately found its way in and hooked onto its target.

Lost in a trance from sustaining all the heavy injuries, the Nine-Headed Snakelet howled in despair as if it could feel a sense of tremendous dread.

“This feeling... My soul!”

“My Sage spirit, it’s about to leave me again!! Ahhh!”

Chapter 358: Slaying Li Ze, Bestial Soul Essence, The Craggy Ocean Tower’s Reaction

“My soul, my Sage spirit is about to leave me again!”

“N-no!!”

The few remaining heads of the Nine-Headed Snakelet yelped in horror.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet’s Sage spirit had already been reaped once before to refine into the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl. Although his Sage spirit had fused into his body again, there had yet been enough time for it to fully integrate, and coupled with being heavily wounded by Chu Kuangren, the Nine-Headed Snakelet was now half-conscious. Hence, he had no chance to resist the Soul Retriever’s attack!

A giant Nine-Headed Snakelet’s Sage spirit was pulled out of his body crudely by the Soul Retriever. The only thing Chu Kuangren could feel right now was the intense drainage of spiritual power inside his body. Very soon, one-sixth of it had been exhausted.

“Indeed, using the Soul Retriever to pull out a soul of this level really drains a lot of spiritual power,” Chu Kuangren thought to himself. Thankfully, he was now an Honorable Supreme. If he was still an Honorable, he had no guarantee that he could successfully extract the Nine-Headed Snakelet’s Sage spirit out.

The Nine-Headed Snakelet Sage spirit struggled for quite some time but at last, a bright light radiated on its body. Then, numerous mysterious runes hovered above the Nine-Headed Sage spirit's body before turning into a huge sphere that locked him inside.

"No, no!!"

"D*mn it. I've waited so long to regain my freedom. I don't want to go back to that Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl again and become a slave. Never!"

However, no matter how much the Nine-Headed Snakelet Sage spirit growled in fury, his Sage spirit just kept shrinking under the restraint of the runes.

In the end, it turned into a colorful pearl that was the size of a fist.

Chu Kuangren stashed away his Soul Retriever.

"Oh, this is what they call the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl?"

Chu Kuangren was rather surprised.

It had never crossed his mind that the runes that were responsible for refining the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl would still be present after the Nine-Headed Snakelet's Sage spirit had returned to its original vessel.

When the Nine-Headed Snakelet's Sage spirit was extracted, the effects of these runes were reactivated to refine the Sage spirit into the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl once again.

"The skills of the Royal Azure Dynasty's Founding Emperor were truly extraordinary."

Chu Kuangren praised and withdrew the sword formation.

He held the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl up and watched the Nine-Headed Snakelet throw a fit inside before he deposited the pearl into his Yin and Yang Ring.

Then, he turned his gaze to a point not far away. Lan Yu, who was battling Li Ze, had made astonishing improvements, especially after her painstaking cultivation throughout this period. Even Chu Kuangren felt a little ashamed of himself.

Although there was a gap between Lan Yu's combat strength and the empyrean walker's, she was not much weaker. In fact, she was battling Li Ze with great grit and prowess.

"D*mn it, the Nine-Headed Snakelet Sage spirit has been turned into the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl again!!

Li Ze's expression was extremely glum. He could no longer elicit a reaction from the Craggy Ocean Curse that he had planted in the Nine-Headed Snakelet's Sage spirit. It must have been suppressed by the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl's runes.

"Since the Nine-Headed Snakelet is now gone, it serves no purpose to me anymore!!"

Li Ze inhaled sharply. After he had guided the Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul Kun Whale to throw Lan Yu off her course, he wanted to retrieve his bestial soul and then flee the scene.

Yet at this moment, a black chain suddenly flung out and hooked itself onto the Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul, Kun Whale firmly, rendering it no means of escape.

To a certain extent, this Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul was like a Sage spirit. They were a similar kind of astral body.

As long as it was an astral body, the Soul Retriever would be able to pull off its effect!

“What’s going on?!”

Li Ze’s expression sank. He kept on channeling the spiritual power inside his body, but he still failed to summon his Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul, Kun Whale.

“Heh, this Kun Whale is quite fascinating. It’s like some sort of summoner’s item. Let me have a closer look at how it works.”

Chu Kuangren activated his Eye of Revelation and began to analyze this bestial soul.

“The Kun Whale, one of the extinct species of ancient strange beasts. Its soul was captured by the Craggy Ocean Tower. Using a secret technique, they had refined it into a bestial soul...”

After taking a good look at it, Chu Kuangren came to a sudden realization. "It seems the Craggy Ocean Tower has quite a lot of these things. Why don't you take out a few for me to play with?"

"Hmph, bestial souls are our Craggy Ocean Tower's precious treasures. You're not allowed to access it if you're not a core member. How do you suppose I give it to you?!"

Li Ze sneered back at him.

"If that's the case, then what use is there for me to keep you alive?"

Chu Kuangren said bluntly.

He slowly lifted one arm, where a tremendous spiritual power erupted instantaneously and turned into an enormous golden hand. It was the Giant Palm of Exorcism!

With his bestial soul restrained, Li Ze had no idea how to react. He channeled whatever spiritual power he had left within his body and struck out a fist.

"Thousand Beasts Art, Manticore!!"

Growl!

A fierce tiger-like strange beast leaped up into the sky.

The Manticore's momentum struck onto the giant gold hand. Nevertheless, with a loud boom, the Manticore's figure was reduced into countless fragments of spiritual power that dissipated.

"Present in its vessel, but empty in its soul. So, this is as far as your Craggy Ocean Tower's Thousand Beasts Art can get," Chu Kuangren said nonchalantly. He had already fully understood Li Ze's cultivation technique through the Eye of Revelation.

The Thousand Beasts Art was not at all weak. As a matter of fact, it was very close to the level of an Emperor Scripture, but alas, it was not an Emperor Scripture.

Boom...

The enormous hand slammed onto Li Ze's body, smashing its victim deep into the ground!

The horrifying power instantly crushed Li Ze's bones.

"You... you have the audacity to kill me?!"

Li Ze said, completely terror-stricken.

"Why won't I?" Chu Kuangren replied with indifference.

Unlike the few other empyrean walkers who came to the Black Heaven Sect not long ago, his vendetta with Li Ze went way deeper.

Ye Xin, Feng Yaorao, and the gang merely lost to him in a challenge

However, Li Ze tricked Gu Changge to steal the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl and sabotaged the Royal Azure Dynasty. Now that he had painstakingly killed off the Nine-Headed Snakelet, Chu Kuangren reckoned that Li Ze would not let him off so easily.

Since that was the case, he might as well end him right now.

Chu Kuangren threw out another slam, delivering Li Ze a killing blow!

It was right at the moment of Li Ze's death that the Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul, Kun Whale, which Chu Kuangren had hooked onto with the Soul Retriever, transformed into countless little spots of light. They gathered in the sky and formed a fist-sized... egg?!

Chu Kuangren stood on the spot and caressed his chin as he pondered. "This must be that bestial soul's essence. If I refine it, I'd be able to summon the Craggy Ocean Bestial Soul, Kun Whale again. Wow, who knew that I'd stumble upon this accidental discovery?"

He put away this bestial soul essence before he used the Glutinous Devouring Technique to exhume and refine Li Ze's remains. After that, he threw it into his Yin and Yang Ring along with the Nine-Headed Snakelet's dead body, cleaning up the scene completely.

Besides, the thunderstorm was still ongoing.

As long as they left the place, nothing would point towards them being here before.

“Cleaning up the scene and destroying the evidence. Mission accomplished!”

Chu Kuangren clapped his hands.

There was nobody left at the scene. Those from the Nine Head Clan had long fled the scene, and some unfortunate ones had been devoured by the Nine-Headed Snakelet. After the wanton destruction wrought by the Nine-Headed Snakelet, it was safe to say that the Nine Head Clan was gone. They would never invade the Royal Azure Dynasty ever again.

“Let’s go.”

Chu Kuangren took Lan Yu away from the scene.

In the Craggy Ocean Tower.

Incredibly ruthless energy erupted on the top of a mountain.

“Who is it?!”

“Who murdered our Craggy Ocean Tower’s empyrean walker?!”

At a mountaintop, an old man was extremely infuriated. There was violent murderous qi in his eyes, and because he was so angry, tightly-knit dragon-scale-like furrows would also appear on his face.

In his hand was a broken jade scroll.

That was Li Ze's life jade scroll.

If Li Ze died, the life jade scroll would break as well.

"Investigate it. Send someone to investigate it!"

"Honorable Teacher, why don't I go?"

At this moment, a green-robed man walked up to him and said, "With Senior Brother's death, the Craggy Ocean Tower would need to send out a new empyrean walker. While I bring fame to our sect in the outside world, I'll find out how my Senior Brother died."

"Sounds good. Yuan Xian, you're almost as strong as your Senior Brother, so I have full confidence in you. However, you need to be more cautious during your journey to the outside world. Pay extra attention especially to that guy named Chu Kuangren. Don't mess with him if you can." The old man took in a deep breath and said slowly.

"Understood, Honorable Teacher."

Chapter 359: Visiting The School Of White Lotus, Chu Kuangren's Sculpture, A New Religion

After settling the matters with the Nine Head Clan, Chu Kuangren returned to the Royal Azure Dynasty and handed the Nine-Headed Snakelet Pearl to Linglong.

Along with that, he also delivered the news of Gu Changge's death.

Upon hearing this, Linglong and the Royal Azure Dynasty King fell into a moment of silence.

Only after a long while did the Royal Azure Dynasty King sigh helplessly, "Defiant child, oh my defiant child! Why did you have to do this?!"

However, he said nothing else. Death was a one-way thing. Even if he wanted to do something, there was no way to return a person who was already dead.

Chu Kuangren left after staying in the Royal Azure Dynasty for several days, but he did not return to the Black Heaven Sect right away.

On his way back, he passed by the School of White Lotus. Since they were allies, he decided to pay them a visit.

"I should buy some fruits before I get to their place."

Chu Kuangren should not show up empty-handed anyway.

Thus, he headed to the streets.

It had been almost two years since the underworld's three-headed hound broke free of its seal. So by now, the Full Moon Kingdom's capital had finished their rebuild.

There were so many people on the streets, the whole place looked very lively.

"Master, look at that." Suddenly, as if Lan Yu had stumbled upon something, she tugged on Chu Kuangren's sleeve and pointed to a spot in the very middle of the street.

Chu Kuangren looked toward that direction curiously.

What he saw were two sculptures that were situated at the center of the street. One of them was a female, who was the School of White Lotus's founder, the White Lotus Sage Ruler.

Beside that sculpture was another one.

A man who had an ancient sword strapped to his waist.

At that moment, an old man and a little girl were standing beside that other sculpture. There was a hint of reverence in the old man's eyes when he looked at that sculpture.

"Grandpa, who is this guy? Why do you always stop here every time you pass by?" The little girl asked curiously.

The old man looked at the sculpture and said, "Little Lan, you must remember this person. He's the School of White Lotus's mighty Bachelor Sage."

Then, the old man suddenly stopped. "Wait, I think he's not a Bachelor Sage. I heard that he's now the School of White Lotus's Supreme Elder. But no matter a Bachelor Sage or an Elder, he remains a hero of the Full Moon Kingdom."

"He was the one who saved you, Grandpa. The one who saved the entire Full Moon Kingdom."

The little girl nodded her head, seemingly understanding it all now. Then, she looked toward the sculpture and said, "Grandpa, he's very handsome. I shall marry him when I grow up. What do you think, Grandpa?"

"Haha, sure sure." The old man laughed in response.

Chu Kuangren was now very close to the sculpture. He touched his chin and said, "This person is quite handsome, but he looks very familiar"

At the side, the little girl noticed him and gasped in surprise. She pulled on the old man's shirt and said, "Grandpa, it's the great hero. The great hero."

"Little Lan, don't be silly."

The old man did not take her seriously. Hence, when he looked up and saw Chu Kuangren, he was utterly astonished. In a flurry, he immediately knelt on the floor.

"Greetings, my honorable Bachelor Sage."

Upon noticing this scene, the people on the street looked toward them too.

The moment they saw Chu Kuangren, all of them were as emotional as the old man. They knelt on the floor, their faces full of reverence.

“Honorable Bachelor Sage.”

“Honorable Bachelor Sage...”

Chu Kuangren was quite taken aback by the scene in front of him.

He had indeed been a Bachelor Sage at the School of White Lotus, but do all Bachelor Sages get this kind of worship?

Do people always kneel whenever they see a Bachelor Sage?

“Everyone, please stand up. There’s no need for this.”

Chu Kuangren waved his sleeve and a pleasant spiritual power gushed out like a refreshing breeze. It felt as if a giant hand had helped the crowd back up to their feet.

“Many thanks, Bachelor Sage.”

“Thank you, Bachelor Sage.”

The crowd was still looking at Chu Kuangren fanatically.

Chu Kuangren, on the other hand, took another look at the sculpture. Only then did it dawn on him why the sculpture looked familiar. That was a sculpture of him!

The School of White Lotus had built him a sculpture?!

“The Maiden Sage is here.”

A lady in a white dress walked into the crowd. It was the White Lotus Maiden Sage.

She came before Chu Kuangren and smiled gently. “Supreme Elder, what a pleasant surprise to see you here. Why didn’t you tell us that you were visiting us? We could’ve made the preparations and welcomed you properly.”

Chu Kuangren smiled and said, “I just happened to pass by, so I thought, why don’t I pay you all a visit. I’m just here as an outsider, you don’t need to make such a grand affair of it.”

His words prompted the people around him to gossip.

“The Bachelor Sage is really humble.”

“He’s no longer just a Bachelor Sage. He’s a Supreme Elder now.”

“No matter a Bachelor Sage or a Supreme Elder, he remains an icon in our hearts. He’s a big hero that we respect and love.”

“That’s right...”

Chu Kuangren started to feel embarrassed when he heard what the people around him were saying.

This was way too kind of them.

The White Lotus Maiden Sage brought Chu Kuangren back to the School of White Lotus’s headquarters, explaining to him what had changed in the past two years while they were on their way back.

Amongst everything, the thing that interested Chu Kuangren most was why the people worshipped him so much.

The reason dated back to when he came to the School of White Lotus to vanquish the three-headed hound. The almost god-like techniques that he used had left a deep impression in the people’s minds. Many regarded him as a reincarnation of the White Lotus Sage Ruler.

The Ruler of Full Moon Kingdom had even made a sculpture of him and placed him beside the White Lotus Sage Ruler, signifying their equal level.

Coupled with the School of White Lotus's preaching of his greatness, Chu Kuangren had become a religion in the Full Moon Kingdom and close to a dozen countries nearby.

His prestige could be compared to that of the White Lotus Sage Ruler.

Only then did Chu Kuangren realize something.

A strong and faithful religion could garner the School of White Lotus better and more effective governance of the southern countries.

The School of White Lotus's founder, the White Lotus Sage Ruler was a tale of several thousands of years ago. There may be a lot of people who worshipped her, but it remained a difficult task to further strengthen that faith.

Chu Kuangren's emergence was a turning point for the School of White Lotus.

The School of White Lotus had intentions to forge a new religion to safeguard their rule and governance over the southern countries.

As long as they branded Chu Kuangren as a reincarnation of the White Lotus Sage Ruler or her reborn, it would not contradict the School of White Lotus' original faith.

After all, Chu Kuangren did use the White Lotus Light of Purification too.

“You’ve made me into your brand ambassador now. I might just request for an endorsement fee from you guys, you know.”

“Ambassador? Endorsement fee? What does that mean?”

The White Lotus Maiden Sage was rather confused.

“Oh, it’s nothing.”

Chu Kuangren simply laughed and did not add onto anything else.

There would be no downsides for him if the School of White Lotus wanted to make him into some kind of religion, and since that was the case, he had no objections.

“Elder, you’re here.”

Once he entered the headquarters, Chu Kuangren was met with a familiar face.

It was one of his Protectors back in the day, Honorable Qing Lan.

“Senior Qing Lan, long time no see. I hope you’re doing fine.”

“Hey, Elder, I can’t still be a Senior to you, can I? I don’t think you should call me that again next time.” Honorable Qing Lan smiled bitterly.

Did they know who Chu Kuangren was now?

Black Heaven Sect Leader, Royal Azure Dynasty’s Ruler Matrimonial, School of White Lotus’ Supreme Elder... Any of those identities would put her below him.

However, those facts aside, the most important point was his strength — his power was so much stronger than hers. If the Sages would not agree to be greeted ‘Senior’ by him, what more a meager Honorable like herself.

“Heh. Sister Qing Lan, I trust you’ve been well?”

“That’s much more like it. School Leader, the Sages are still waiting for you guys inside,” Honorable Qing Lan said.

Once they entered the great hall, Chu Kuangren saw Immemorial Sage and a few others who were gathered there, chit-chatting about the stories from the past.

Among these, they also brought up the events that happened at the unnamed islands. Immemorial Sage would still shudder upon mentioning the Headless Woman.

“That Headless Woman was way too terrifying. Even the mere thought of her now makes my heart race,” Immemorial Sage said.

Seeing Immemorial Sage's terrified look, it suddenly crossed Chu Kuangren's mind that he had that Headless Woman's head right inside his Yin and Yang Ring.

If he were to pull it out and let the Sage see it, he wondered how scared she would be.

Chapter 360: Universal Cauldron Physique, Everyone's Here For Dead Bodies, Acheron Manor's Empyrean Walker

"Congratulations Host for drawing the God-tier Physique, the Universal Cauldron Physique!"

On this day.

Chu Kuangren got up to draw a gacha.

His eyes lit up at the prize that he had drawn.

It was yet another God-tier prize.

Moreover, it was a God-tier Physique like the Immortal Body.

He opened his inventory and looked at the introductory information regarding this Universal Cauldron Physique. The more he read, the more surprised he was.

This Universal Cauldron Physique was insanely powerful. It was a type of physique that could convert all the world's energy into energy that suited one's realm.

In other words.

With this physique, Chu Kuangren now had more options for when he would want to increase his spiritual power. He was no longer limited to conventional methods like absorbing heaven and earth spiritual qi or consuming pills.

The options include solar and lunar essences, uncommon flames in the world, cultivator souls, or even demonic qi sourced from the underworld...

All these could be converted into spiritual power that was suitable for him to wield.

This was undeniably an extremely appalling thing. With this physique, Chu Kuangren could increase his combat strength by engulfing strange sources of energy that no other cultivators in this world could.

He could now turn himself into a cauldron and refine the whole world!

"I was just worrying the other day that I won't have enough resources to help me solidify the Supreme Sage Foundation Level. This Universal Cauldron Physique has arrived at just the right time!"

A joyful smile etched out on Chu Kuangren's face.

Without speaking another word, he withdrew this physique from his inventory,

He stayed in the School of White Lotus for several days. Occasionally, he would mentally spar with the Immemorial Sage, and sometimes, he would provide teachings to the bachelor sages and maiden sages of the White Lotus School...

However, on this day.

A few uninvited guests suddenly showed up at the School of White Lotus.

One of them came from... the Outer Seas!

Inside the great hall of the School of White Lotus.

A black-robed, spirited old man with an aquiline nose stared at Immemorial Sage and said, "Immemorial Sage, may I request that you hand out Ravenblade's corpse? Otherwise, don't blame me for what happens next."

"As I said, I don't have his corpse."

"That day, at the unnamed islands, somebody saw you battling Ravenblade. When I got to Ravengale Island, his soul lantern was already extinguished. If it wasn't you who killed him, who else can it be?!"

"Even if it was really me who killed him, I wouldn't have his corpse either. If I did, it would've surely been exhumed long ago," Immemorial Sage said coldly. Her words were laced with a deep hatred for the person it was meant for.

Upon hearing this, the old man with an aquiline nose could not help but raise an eyebrow. "After all, Ravenblade was a Sage. His Sage body would be a valuable relic to any cultivator below the Sage level. You might not have a use for it, but there must be someone in your White Lotus School who might find it handy, right?"

This was the reason he came to look for Immemorial Sage.

Casualties were usually unavoidable when two Sages fought.

Besides, Immemorial Sage had a personal vendetta with Ravenblade Sage. If it was really her who killed Ravenblade Sage, the old man knew that he could not just exact revenge however he wanted. Things were not that simple, where he could do whatever he wanted.

He must first locate Ravenblade Sage's corpse before he could proceed with anything.

It was not that he had a close kinship with Ravenblade Sage. In fact, it would soon be time to offer a sacrifice for the Snake Deity. Ravenblade Sage may be dead, but that Sage body of his would still be a top-grade sacrificial offering.

That was right.

He was here to take Ravenblade Sage's corpse back and use it as an offering.

"I said no, means no." Immemorial Sage scoffed coldly. Ravenblade Sage's corpse had already been refined by Chu Kuangren using the Avarice Technique. Nothing was left of him.

The aquiline-nosed old man frowned.

Immemorial Sage was adamant that she did not have Ravenblade Sage's corpse, and neither did he have any proof that she had it. There was really nothing more he could do in this situation.

Immemorial Sage stopped heeding this old man.

She looked toward the other two people in the great hall. One of them was a black-robed teen, while the other was an old man in a cloak. She did not know why, but these two gave her an uncomfortable feeling.

"You two, why are you here at the School of White Lotus too?"

"I heard that the School of White Lotus' founder, the White Lotus Sage Ruler had sealed an underworld three-headed hound. And not long ago, the three-headed hound freed himself, but then people said it got killed. We're here for this demonic beast's carcass."

The black-robed man said calmly.

Upon hearing this, Immemorial Sage could feel her head began to spin.

'What is going on?'

‘Why is everyone here to look for dead bodies?’

“We don’t have the three-headed hound’s carcass too.”

“That’s a Sage Ruler-grade being. His flesh body is extremely valuable. There’s no way the School of White Lotus would not have preserved it.”

The black-robed teen said with resolute as he stared deadly at Immemorial Sage.

“I told you. It’s not here.”

Be it Ravenblade Sage’s corpse or that three-headed hound’s carcass, Chu Kuangren had already refined them using the Avarice Technique.

How was Immemorial Sage supposed to dig them out now?

“The three-headed hound’s carcass has a great utility for me. I’m willing to part with two hundred million Top-tier soulstones in exchange for it. Otherwise, I’ll make sure the School of White Lotus will be damned,” the black-robed teen said in a threatening tone.

Immemorial Sage was now agitated.

“So many people are here at the School of White Lotus to look for dead bodies. Do you guys take the School of White Lotus as a funeral parlor now?” Just then, a white-robed figure, accompanied with a nonchalant voice, strode slowly into the great hall.

Upon seeing this person, the black-robed teen and the rest were stunned. Even a Sage like the aquiline-nosed old man could feel the fear growing inside him.

This person was Chu Kuangren.

“Chu Kuangren...”

The cloaked old man behind the black-robed teen raised his head to glance at Chu Kuangren. There was a sense of hostility in his eyes.

Then, he retracted his gaze, for fear of being exposed.

Nevertheless, Chu Kuangren had already seen through his identity long ago.

“King Yanluo of the Underworld, you think you can conceal your identity even in front of me?” Chu Kuangren exposed the cloaked old man’s real identity straight away.

The aquiline-nosed old man did not react.

On the other hand, Immemorial Sage was shocked. “People from the Underworld!”

She never had pleasant feelings toward the Underworld Palace. Before this, it was King Wuguan from the Underworld Palace who enabled the three-headed hound to break the seal.

“Sect Leader Chu, you truly have a bright eye. I wonder what gave it away?” King Yanluo inquired, with no intention to continue his act either.

The black-robed teen beside him also stared at Chu Kuangren curiously.

“You Underworld people always reek of a foul stench. I could smell it from miles away,” Chu Kuangren said bluntly.

He had quite several encounters with the Underworld Palace before. In fact, a few of the Ten Hellion Temple Kings of the Underworld Palace had died in his hands. Even without using the Eye of Revelation, just the energy of the techniques on the other party’s body was able to give away his identity.

“Since you’re here, you might as well stay.”

Chu Kuangren remarked before he lifted his hand and grabbed King Yanluo.

Tremendous Buddhist Light emerged and transformed into a giant golden hand. In face of this immense energy, King Yanluo, who was only an Honorable Supreme, had no means of defending it. He was caught off guard, not expecting that Chu Kuangren would make a move right there and then.

Right beside him, the black-robed teen jeered coldly. “Presumptuous!”

The black-robed teen took one stride forward, and a black skeleton emerged from his body. It emitted bouts of eerie energy that gushed towards the giant golden hand.

With a loud explosion, the giant golden hand dissipated, while the skeleton disintegrated. The black-robed teen immediately brought King Yanluo back several meters to safety.

However, Chu Kuangren remained rooted to his ground, not making a single movement, looking as sturdy as a mountain.

“Heh, to be able to block off my hit, I must say, you truly didn’t disappoint as an empyrean walker of the Acheron Manor,” Chu Kuangren said with a smile.

Immemorial Sage and the aquiline-nosed old man looked at that black-robed teen in surprise. It had never crossed their minds that he would be an empyrean walker.