

## War God 311

### Chapter 311 - Perfect Pair

The dwarves had ordered their execution. Dark clouds covered the hearts of the villagers as they saw the dwarves smiling viciously. The beast-like invaders ran towards the villagers, and some of them were at the Heavenly River Realm, so the villagers could do nothing but wait for their demise.

They didn't want things to end like this!

Even though they knew that the dwarves were strong, Chen Feng did not give up. Rather than being buried alive, he would rather fight back. The only sliver of hope for them was to fight back. They also had a small chance of killing some of the dwarves in the process.

Chen Feng's breathing was heavy and he steeled himself. He shouted with all his heart when he saw the dwarves closing in, "Villagers of Goldfish Island! The dwarves are no different from beasts! Rather than surrendering, we will fight back! Our deaths are guaranteed today! Despite that, our spirit and honor will never die!"

"Yeah!" Sensing that his father was boosting everyone's morale, Chen Lei shouted too. "The dwarves are a group of rabid dogs! They are strong, but we can fight back! We will die, but we will take them down with us! We will fight now! Show them our strength! Show them that we will not lose our honor even if we die!"

Chen Feng and Chen Lei's words inspired the villagers to stand up. They had already prepared themselves for a bitter fight. They pushed the women, elderly, and children towards the back while the men prepared themselves at the front. All of the warriors circulated their Qi while they prepared their weapons.

After just a few moments, hundreds of cultivators stood at the frontline to protect Goldfish Island. They glared at the dwarves as they prepared themselves to fight to the death.

"We will not let you sully our wives and children!"

"Yes! This is the land that our ancestors left for us! If we let a group of animals take it, we will be ashamed when we meet them in the afterlife! Goldfish Island belongs to us, not this bunch of dogs!"

"Don't compare them to dogs as an insult! The dwarves are below animals!"

"Come! Let's see who's stronger today! I will die today, but I will take some of them with me!"

"Kill them!"

Hundreds of cultivators grouped up and charged towards the dwarves with Chen Lei and Chen Feng at the lead. Their spirit managed to make some of the cultivators at the Heavenly River Realm stop in their tracks.

There were four Fifth River Stage dwarves and one Sixth River Stage dwarf representing the Harmony family. The strongest dwarf was seated in the middle; he was the one who had given the

order just now. He looked roughly thirty years old, skinny, and had an obscene face. He was looking at the women of the island with a smile on his face. Everyone around him could hear him swallowing his saliva.

The cultivators of Goldfish Island had suddenly blocked his view and started spouting bullshit. Song Zhongzhen was angered, so he shouted, "Idiots! Do it now! If you waste my time, I will kill you! I need to sleep with ten virgins today! As for the rest, I will give them to those who have killed the most!"

His words motivated the dwarves, and they all shouted with glee. Like beasts, they ran towards the cultivators of Goldfish Island.

Under Chen Feng's leadership, the cultivators did not fear death. Their strength was lacking, but the amount of Qi exploding from their dantians was higher than usual as they prepared for their last fight.

No fear of death.

Those four words aptly described them.

The groups were about to clash when an explosion rang out. Someone flew between the two groups, causing both groups to take a few steps back out of surprise. The person was so fast that neither group could see who it was; they only knew that it was someone strong.

"Stop! Everyone, get back!"

The man glared at the dwarves, his eyes fierce with authority. The dwarves took a step back unconsciously.

The place became silent.

An old man and an extremely beautiful lady followed suit and stood beside him. There was also a small, black wolf following the lady. The people from Goldfish Island recognized Ling Xi and Xiaolang. Long Chen and Ling Xi had previously saved them, and they had never expected to be saved by them again! All of them cried tears of joy.

"It's Sister Ling Xi! That must be Brother Long Chen!" Xiao Yu was happy to see them again. She ran forward but realized that the man who had frightened the dwarves was not Long Chen, but another man.

"Why is Brother Long Chen not standing beside Sister Ling Xi? Unless ..." Xiao Yu scratched her head out of confusion. No one else knew why. All of them looked at the man in the middle, some thanking him while the others were wondering where Long Chen was.

They never would've guessed what had happened while looking at Ling Xi's sour face.

Long Chen and Ling Xi had a good relationship. There was no way she would betray him, so why was she with another man? What was going on?

Ninth Prince Lin Cangtian turned around and smiled. The villagers felt relaxed when they saw him. The Ninth Prince was stronger than Long Chen, so it was natural that Ling Xi would follow him ...

The Ninth Prince's smile calmed the villagers. He then turned around and glared at Song Zhongzhen.

"Which bastard is trying to stop us? Take him ... AH! It's the Ninth Prince!" Song Zhongzhen finally saw the Ninth Prince's face, and the shock caused him to fall off his chair. He was covered in dirt, but he didn't dare daly. He quickly approached the Ninth Prince along with all of the dwarves and bowed down immediately. "I am blind to not have recognized the Ninth Prince! I am Song Zhongzhen of the Harmony family, and also the cousin of the Patriarch. I hope you remember me, my Lord."

Even though he was at the same cultivation level as the Ninth Prince, their statuses were very far apart. Song Zhongzhen had accidentally insulted the Ninth Prince out of carelessness, and his heart was beating rapidly. He looked at the Ninth Prince and hoped that he would spare him!

"Song Zhongzhen, what did you say just now?" The Ninth Prince glared at him, and the dwarf lowered his head even more. "I will remember what you said to me today. Normally, I would've crippled you, but I will forgive you since I'm in a good mood today. Take your men and leave now! Goldfish Island is now under my protection. The dwarves must never take a single step here for as long as I live!"

"Yikes!" Song Zhongzhen was surprised. Thankfully, the Ninth Prince wasn't going to kill him today. He didn't know why the Ninth Prince wanted to keep Goldfish Island, but he realized what the reason was after he saw Ling Xi. He was deceptively smart and knew that now was not the time and that the best thing to do was to scam.

He nodded and bowed numerous times. "Yes, yes, my Lord! I will leave with my men right now! We will never return! Everyone, return now! Scram!"

Under Song Zhongzhen's hurried orders, all of the dwarves ran away. None of them dared to say anything in front of the Ninth Prince as they escaped. Once they left Goldfish Island and the lake, the other dwarves finally mustered the courage to ask Song Zhongzhen, "Boss, why does the Ninth Prince want to protect Goldfish Island?"

"Don't you know that the three idiots who came to take Goldfish Island were killed by an Immortal Guard serving the Ninth Prince? I've seen the report saying that the Immortal Guard was accompanied by a beautiful girl and a wolf. The girl would never allow us to take over Goldfish Island. More importantly, there has been a rumor circulating in the capital that the Ninth Prince has been taking that woman to numerous places for sightseeing. The Ninth Prince is obviously in love with that woman! Or do you think the Ninth Prince is in love with you?" Song Zhongzhen was visibly shaken.

"But ... The people at Goldfish Island dared to touch us, the great dwarves! Should we just swallow our anger like that?"

“I don’t know, but let’s go back and report it. The Ninth Prince is obviously trying to show off to court that lady. We don’t want to get on his bad side, do we? Let’s get out of here for now.”

\*\*\*

Once the dwarves were gone, the Ninth Prince finally stopped frowning and turned towards the people of Goldfish Island. It was the first time the villagers had seen someone as strong and approachable as him.

Chen Feng had heard the dwarf referring to the man as “Ninth Prince.”

He was undeniably the youth with the highest status in the Cangyang Kingdom. It wasn’t surprising that Ling Xi was by his side, but where was Long Chen?

Chen Feng somewhat understood Ling Xi and knew that she would never betray him, so why was she with the Ninth Prince instead?

When the Ninth Prince saw that Ling Xi was approaching the villagers, he followed suit. He stood beside her, and the villagers felt like they were the perfect couple.

Chapter 312 - Don’t Call Me Xiao Xi!

Ling Xi frowned slightly when she saw what the Ninth Prince was doing. She took a side step, and Xiaolang stepped in between them, pushing the Ninth Prince to the side.

The others didn’t notice what was happening, but the Ninth Prince was angry. His anger flashed momentarily before he put on a dazzling smile.

“Hello, everyone. I am Miss Ling Xi’s friend, and also the Ninth Prince of the Cangyang Kingdom. Please rest assured, for as long as I’m alive, the Harmony family will never come here again.”

This was excellent news to the people of Goldfish Island. They didn’t care who the Ninth Prince was and thanked him for his help. Some of them even knelt on the ground, but the Ninth Prince helped them up. “No need to thank me. I am part of the imperial family, and protecting the masses is simply my duty. You should thank Miss Ling Xi instead; if it wasn’t for her, I wouldn’t have known what was happening here.”

The villagers didn’t know why Long Chen wasn’t here, but they thought the Ninth Prince was a good guy too. They had a good impression of him, but they were even more thankful for Ling Xi.

Seeing that the villagers would not be harmed anymore, Ling Xi was genuinely happy for them. She looked at their smiling faces, but she was still worried deep down inside since the Ninth Prince wouldn’t leave her alone.

*I wonder what Brother Chen is doing. I had no choice but to plead with the Ninth Prince today. But I think Brother Chen will be happy to learn that the people of Goldfish Island were saved. Ling Xi was still satisfied with the outcome.*

“Miss Ling XI, where is Long Chen?” After thanking her, Chen Feng asked the question that had been on everyone’s minds. Even though the Ninth Prince had successfully

prevented the dwarves from attacking again, they still preferred Long Chen for some reason. Long Chen was much more sincere compared to the Ninth Prince, who appeared ... fake.

“Brother Chen has gone into the Counter Essence Realm as an Immortal Guard. He will return soon.” Ling Xi was excited when they asked about Long Chen.

“Wow, the Counter Essence Realm.” The villagers sighed in admiration. The Counter Essence Realm was not a place where normal people could enter. They were naturally happy that Long Chen could become an Immortal Guard. Of course, they didn’t know that the Immortal Guards were nothing compared to the Ninth Prince.

The Ninth Prince was like a ticking bomb when he saw that he had been cast aside. He saw Ling Xi’s face brimming with happiness when she talked about Long Chen and swallowed his anger. “Xiao Xi, let’s go back now. Should I take you to the most famous restaurant in the capital? They serve many foreign dishes there.”

Ling Xi’s face turned cold. She glared at the Ninth Prince when she heard him call her “Xiao Xi.” She didn’t mince her words even knowing he was royalty. “Didn’t I tell you before to not call me ‘Xiao Xi?’ Only Brother Chen can call me that.”

The coldness of her tone startled the villagers. They looked at each other, and some of the smarter ones instantly figured out what was happening. The Ninth Prince wanted to take Ling Xi as his own! That meant that whatever the Ninth Prince had said about it being his duty to protect Goldfish Island was bullshit. He just wanted to show off his good side to her!

The admiration and gratefulness they had towards the Ninth Prince evaporated. Some of them shook their heads in disappointment after seeing what kind of man he was. They preferred the simple and hot-blooded Long Chen over him.

They whispered and discussed amongst themselves.

“I thought the Ninth Prince was a good guy. The Harmony family works for the imperial family and is their fang. There is no reason he wouldn’t know about Goldfish Island.”

“Enough. If the Ninth Prince gets angry, all of us will be fucked. He didn’t save us out of generosity, and he could kill us very easily.”

The Ninth Prince almost exploded with anger after he heard the discussions and how Ling Xi hadn’t shown any regard for his honor. His breathing got heavier and he glared at her, his eyes seething with anger. Ling Xi was not afraid and continued to stand her ground.

“So? Are you angry? It’s useless to be mad at me. The worst you can do is kill me, and I do not fear death.”

Ling Xi was adamant, and the Ninth Prince could do nothing as he stared at the beauty in front of him. He waved his arm at the villagers. “Just go on with your day. There’s nothing to see here.”

“Miss Ling Xi ...” Chen Feng didn’t know what to do. The Ninth Prince was visibly chasing them away.

“Uncle Chen, take the villagers and leave. Goldfish Island is safe. I will ask Brother Chen to bring me here to play some other time.” Ling Xi smiled at them. She was visibly friendlier towards them.

“Alright, but be careful. Goldfish Island welcomes you always.” Chen Feng sighed and took the villagers back.

Once everyone was gone, the Ninth Prince stared at Ling Xi with longing eyes. “Ling Xi, I’ve thought about many ways to make you like me. Can’t you see how sincere I’ve been towards you?”

“What’s sincerity? Can I eat it? I’m hungry and I want to eat now.” Ling Xi glared at him and didn’t back down.

“Stop changing the subject. I’m being serious here. What part of me is inferior to Long Chen? I look better, I’m stronger, and I have the highest status! Why can’t you think?” The Ninth Prince panicked, his voice choking. Normal women would’ve fallen for his sullen look out of heartbreak.

“You want to compare yourself with Brother Chen? What a joke. Let me ask you this: would you die for me? Brother Chen would,” Ling Xi said in a cold voice.

“Stop joking with me. Why would I die?” The Ninth Prince didn’t understand.

“That’s why I said you don’t know what love is. The reason why you love me is because of my beauty. Brother Chen still took good care of me even when I was a nobody,” Ling Xi said happily as she thought back to their time together.

“Nonsense. Don’t misunderstand me! Fine, I promise that I will do whatever Long Chen would. Dying for you is nothing!” The Ninth Prince was going all out just to make Ling Xi his. Naturally, he would not do something that stupid.

“Then do it. Die for me.” Ling Xi took a few steps back and stared at him blankly.

Ling Xi’s coldness shattered his heart. Staring at the beauty who thought his life was worthless, the Ninth Prince realized that his efforts for the past month had amounted to nothing.

“Fine, let me ask you one last question. Will you be with me or not? You have two choices. One, agree to it. Two, I force you to be with me and Long Chen dies!” The Ninth Prince revealed his true intention.

“So you’re finally revealing your true self.” Ling Xi was not surprised. She had expected this day to come when the Ninth Prince realized that all of his efforts were in vain; she knew that he would reveal his true colors eventually.

The Ninth Prince had always used his status and power to make others submit to him. He would never use his heart to win someone over.

Ling Xi was not an idiot. She knew that he would one day go crazy once Long Chen entered the Counter Essence Realm. She never told Long Chen about it because she wanted him to focus on finding the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit and not worry about her.

Naturally, Ling Xi was prepared for this; she had not exposed the Ninth Prince recklessly. She had been practicing her technique to communicate with Mo Xiaolang and could now talk freely. She was doing so at this very moment.

“Xiaolang, run. It’ll be bad if he uses you to threaten me. Brother Chen will find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit for me. My physical body is the root of all problems, so I can just discard it. No one can harm me again once I’m back in the Ling Xi Sword.

Ling Xi and Xiaolang had discussed that this would be the final option. The Ninth Prince was arrogant, so they knew that this day would come eventually. It was a miracle that Ling Xi had managed to delay it for this long.

How could she ever agree to letting the Ninth Prince take her out on a date around the capital?

“Sister Ling Xi, I’m still worried about you. I’m a Category four Earth-tier, so he won’t have an easy time beating me ...” Xiaolang didn’t run away but stood between her and the Ninth Prince.

The Ninth Prince clenched his teeth as he snarled, “Ling Xi, you are forcing me to do this ...”

Ling Xi took a few steps back and stared at him coldly. She was using her spirit to urge Xiaolang to run away, but he didn’t. He was not afraid of death—he acted as a barrier for her.

“My brother told me to protect you, so I will not take even a single step back before he appears!”

Chapter 313 - Long Chen’s Return

“Fine! Since that’s the case, I won’t say it again. Don’t blame me for doing this! I’ve wanted to treat you kindly, but you’ve left me with no choice—we will do it the hard way! You forced me to do this! Ling Xi, this is your fault!” The Ninth Prince’s eyes were bloodshot. Ling Xi’s adamant gaze made him explode in anger. He had destroyed his facade in just a single moment.

“What do you mean I forced you to do this? This is your problem, not mine. Stop blaming it on others! Don’t you know that being magnanimous is the best quality a man can have? Even though Brother Chen can be a pervert from time to time, he’s so much more reliable than you!” Ling Xi did not back down at all.

She hated the Ninth Prince! She was born in a much richer environment than him, and she had seen numerous geniuses beyond the Ninth Prince’s level. Ling Xi herself was also akin to royalty, and now the Ninth Prince was using his inferior status to force her to become his woman? It was nothing but foolishness!

Ling Xi loved Long Chen without taking his status and background into consideration.

“Brother Chen? Long Chen, right? He’s merely at the Second River Stage. I can just ask one of my men to kill him! I will just send a signal, and he will die in the Counter Essence Realm. Do you think I won’t?” The Ninth Prince’s eyes were obscene.

“There are no factions stronger than the imperial family! And there are no women that cannot be mine! Ling Xi, you are a bitch! Since you won’t let me take your heart, I will just take your body!” The Ninth Prince lost control and slowly approached her. Killing intent slowly seeped out of his body.

Elder Yan dared not do anything. The Ninth Prince wanted to take Ling Xi, and as his subordinate, he could only stand and watch. Mo Xiaolang was blocking the Ninth Prince, and Elder Yan knew that dealing with the wolf was his job.

“How dare you call me a bitch!” Ling Xi was angry. She had never met someone as despicable as the Ninth Prince. She didn’t even want to talk to him any further after seeing how disgusting he was.

She recalled Long Chen and how they first met. She recalled her life after meeting him, and all of the adventures they had been through, especially when he jumped into the abyss of the Star Devil Prison just to save her.

From there onwards, Ling Xi swore that her heart would belong to Long Chen. She truly believed that no one else would do something like that for someone like her, who was technically not a living person anymore.

Brother Chen, I’m not sure if we will ever meet again. I miss you so much, and I know you are working hard for me ... I’ve used up all of my luck on meeting you and going on a few more adventures before I truly die. I kept thinking that having my body destroyed by that sword was the biggest tragedy of my life, while meeting you was my biggest fortune. I’m not sure if I should be happy or sad, but at least I don’t have any regrets ...

As she longed for Long Chen more and more, tears welled up in her pure eyes.

I kept thinking that I would be able to marry you one day and live a happy life. But now I see that that’s just a dream. We have been jumping from one disaster to another. Ever since we met in Baiyang Town, we kept running into problems one after another. You’ve always stood in front of me and never backed down. You are a true man, and my father said that a true man would never be defeated ... Maybe my luck has truly run out ... I think I no longer have any way to stay by your side ...

The future was unpredictable. Even though Ling Xi had a strong heart, she was afraid of uncertainty, especially since Long Chen was not here.

When the Ninth Prince approached them, Xiaolang got close to Ling Xi and suggested, “Sister Ling Xi, I have one more idea. I can use the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire to make a cage and trap them!”

Ling Xi stopped crying. She hadn’t thought of this before.



“But that means that you will have to make a sacrifice, right? The drawback from using so much power should be quite intense.”

“I won’t be able to use the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire for ten days ...” Xiaolang sighed.

He would lose almost half of his battle strength if he used the cage. Currently, the strongest aspect of the Sun Devouring Wolf was its potential. It lacked offensive power, and the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire was currently his strongest attack.

Ling Xi shook her head. “Xiaolang, leave me. Don’t worry about me.”

Xiaolang was close to tears from being pushed to desperation. He turned around and glared at the Ninth Prince while growling. Both he and Ling Xi were very stubborn, and neither of them would back down.

“Ling Xi, you must feel very powerless right now. Unfortunately, Long Chen is not here to save you!” The Ninth Prince chuckled. He had decided to use force to subdue her, so he unleashed his strength as a Sixth River Stage cultivator. His strength was like a mountain to the powerless Ling Xi.

Her face paled when the immense pressure hit her.

Ling Xi had been pushed into a corner and had long given up. She kept telling Xiaolang to run, but he ignored her. Xiaolang increased his body size and prepared himself for battle.

The massive Sun Devouring Wolf growled at the Ninth Prince.

“My Lord, let me deal with this beast. Please enjoy your time.” Elder Yan stood by the Ninth Prince.

“Good. I will leave it to you. We will both take on one person. You handle the beast while I handle the beauty. Let’s see who’s better, shall we?” The Ninth Prince laughed.

“With your strength, you will be able to last three days and three nights,” Elder Yan said shamelessly.

The situation became even more tense when Elder Yan said that. Ling Xi could not chase Xiaolang away, making her feel very anxious. She didn’t know how she would face Long Chen If something happened to Xiaolang.

“Have you finally tasted despair? Ling Xi, come here and let me make love to you!”

The Ninth Prince’s eyes were lustful as he extended his arm towards her.

At the most critical moment, Ling Xi saw a shadow running towards them from across the lake. The shadow split the lake’s water as it ran towards the island.

With a boom, the wave crashed onto Goldfish Island and sprayed water everywhere. A crimson humanoid holding a halberd appeared. The man jumped and positioned himself in between Ling Xi and the Ninth Prince.

The impact of his landing caused the entire island to shake.

Ling Xi started shedding tears when she saw the blood-red back covered in scales and spikes. That familiar back belonged to none other than Long Chen! Ling Xi thought she was dreaming, but the pain from her arm was real when she pinched it. This was reality!

Long Chen stood in front of her once more without hesitation. Ling Xi knew she would be safe no matter what he was facing, be it the mountains, oceans, or even weapons.

He ran over as fast as he could the moment he heard that Ling Xi had been brought here by the Ninth Prince. Afraid that he was not fast enough, he had transformed along the way to arrive faster! He was ready to fight the Ninth Prince the moment he appeared!

Xiaolang stared in disbelief before feeling delighted by Long Chen's arrival! Long Chen was their leader, and Xiaolang didn't know what to do without him. Since he was here now, there was bound to be a battle to the death.

Xiaolang sensed that Long Chen was completely clouded in killing intent. He had even detected that Long Chen had reached the Fourth River Stage, possessing strength beyond the Fifth River Stage after transforming.

Both Ling Xi and Xiaolang felt the pressure dissipate after seeing Long Chen's back in front of them.

Long Chen extended his blood-red arm and slowly pushed Ling Xi backwards.

"Xiao Xi, wait here. Let me show you what a real man is." Long Chen's voice was calm, but the sense of authority behind it was undeniable. The killing intent coming off him made the Ninth Prince anxious.

Ling Xi didn't know what to say, nor did she know how strong Long Chen was. But she knew that all she needed to do was to listen to him. She slowly backed away while crying and looking at his back.

"Long Chen?" The Ninth Prince was confused. *It hasn't even been a month since he entered the Counter Essence Realm, so why is he here?*

"Why did you come out of the Counter Essence Realm?"

It was stupid for the Ninth Prince to still be discussing the Counter Essence Realm at this point.

"Do you really want to know? I will tell you for the price of your head. I've killed quite a few people recently, and today I will add you to that list. How does that sound?"

Long Chen pointed his halberd at the Ninth Prince.

His killing intent radiated outwards.

Chapter 314 - Crimson Devil Sword Technique

Most of the villagers of Goldfish Island had gone back to their houses, but two of them had decided to return to where Ling Xi and the Ninth Prince were. The duo were Chen Feng and Chen Lei. They knew that the Ninth Prince was trying to lay a hand on Ling Xi, but the latter had chosen to completely disregard him. Chen Feng was worried, so he and his son had snuck back to where Ling Xi was. They were hiding nearby when they saw Long Chen arrive.

“Long Chen? I thought he went to the capital to become an Immortal Guard. Why is he back?” Chen Feng was surprised.

“Father, I wouldn’t worry about that right now. Long Chen and the Ninth Prince are going to fight because of Ling Xi. The Ninth Prince is part of the imperial family, and all of them are talented individuals. What will we do if Long Chen dies?” Chen Lei was anxious. He had been suspicious of Long Chen’s kindness when Long Chen first arrived on Goldfish Island, but he had officially recognized Long Chen as a friend after the latter saved the island. Chen Lei was even regretting his actions back then.

“We are only at the First River Stage. Let’s watch and see if there’s anything we can do to help them, though I doubt we can do much.”

“Understood. Wait, they are fighting now!”

Once Ling Xi retreated to a safe distance, Long Chen and Xiaolang worked together. Xiaolang chose to fight Elder Yan while Long Chen chose the Ninth Prince.

“Xiaolang, Elder Yan is at the Sixth River Stage. You are only at Category Four; are you sure you can do it?” Long Chen whispered hurriedly to Xiaolang.

Xiaolang nodded, his eyes exuding an intense murderous intent. Demonic beasts were famed for their killing intent, and Xiaolang’s killing intent was almost as intense as Long Chen’s.

The Ninth Prince smiled at the insignificant Long Chen and Xiaolang.

“Elder Yan, go and distract that beast. I want to show Ling Xi how useless Long Chen is, and how much better I am!”

Elder Yan nodded and said nothing before giving Xiaolang a taunting look. He sidestepped, and Xiaolang growled before tensing all four of his legs and barreling towards Elder Yan.

Even though Xiaolang was only a Category Four, he still had a chance to win against Elder Yan thanks to two very special techniques, the Nine Devil Ancestral Fire and Divine Fire Clone!

Long Chen had shared his knowledge on Divine Fire Clone before entering the Counter Essence Realm. He took a glance at Xiaolang and saw that there were traces of Divine Fire Seeds in him. That meant that Xiaolang had learned how to use Divine Fire Clone.

Long Chen also saw that the Ninth Prince had traces of Divine Fire Seeds, and there were twenty-five of them! That meant that the Ninth Prince had cultivated Divine Fire Clone to the third stage!

Elder Yan and Xiaolang started their battle while Long Chen was still glaring at the Ninth Prince. Their auras rose rapidly, but the Ninth Prince was surprised that Long Chen was matching his!

Long Chen was an insignificant insect back in Yuanling City, but he had become so much stronger in less than two months! Long Chen could even fight the Ninth Prince today! Long Chen was a monstrous genius that brought him great fear. He had thought that he could use Long Chen, but he had decided that Long Chen would forever be his enemy once the beautiful Ling Xi appeared.

But the Ninth Prince had never expected that the day would come so soon.

“You are the second most talented genius that I’ve ever seen, except for my fourth brother, Lin Zichen. But you will die today. The imperial family is not an entity you can fight against!”

“Are all the people from the imperial family as talkative as you?” Long Chen taunted back. Xiaolang was already fighting, and Goldfish Island was near the capital. He had just killed Song Yuefeng as well, so he didn’t dare to drag this on for too long. He tightened his grip on the Azure Dragon Halberd and ran at the Ninth Prince.

“Are you trying to fight me with that weapon? You dare to flaunt a mere intermediate Earth-tier Divine Arm in front of me?” The Ninth Prince smiled and pulled a sword out of his Universe Pouch without even frowning.

This was the first time Long Chen had fought against a sword user.

Ling Xi was naturally the most anxious of them all. She knew Long Chen had less Qi than the Ninth Prince even after he transformed. Long Chen’s biggest advantage was the Azure Dragon Halberd, and if his Divine Arm was inferior to the Ninth Prince’s weapon, then his chances of winning would plummet!

“Brother Chen ...” Ling Xi watched the fight fearfully.

Long Chen took a closer look at the sword in the Ninth Prince’s hand. It was a flaming red sword that was somehow made from a jade-like material, but the edge of the sword was still sharp! The biggest feature of the sword was the nine Fire Essences embedded on it. The temperature around them rose dramatically!

“I’m sure Elder Yan has explained this to you. This is an advanced Earth-tier Divine Arm, the Fire Essence Sword. It enables me to fight those at the Seventh River Stage even though I’m only at the Sixth River Stage, much less a piece of trash at the Fourth River Stage like you.”

Long Chen was clearly not his opponent, which was why the Ninth Prince was not worried at all. He shot a happy look at the anxious Ling Xi.

“We will soon know who’s trash!” Long Chen waved his halberd, and a massive attack was launched at the Ninth Prince. Starsweep Dragon erupted with starlight and surrounded him!

This was the strongest Starsweep Dragon that Long Chen could muster with his strength at the Fifth River Stage. The Ninth Prince’s robes flapped wildly in the wind.

“Crimson Devil Sword Technique, Heavenly Rend.” The Ninth Prince chuckled and waved his sword in front of him. A crimson slash shot forward and clashed with Long Chen’s Starsweep Dragon. The sound of clashing metal caused discomfort to Long Chen.

Clang!

Long Chen was blown back by the attack. He realized that if he fought head-on, he would lose. The Ninth Prince's Divine Arm was better, and the Sword Soul residing in his sword attuned it to his body. The Ninth Prince was capable of using twice his normal battle power.

This was the strength of an Armament Warrior! A Sword Warrior belonged to this category, and was naturally good with swords!

But Long Chen was unharmed from the clash!

"So this is all that the Ninth Prince is capable of ...!" Long Chen's eyes gradually grew red. The dragon illusions in his body started howling and his mind was clouded by killing intent and the will to battle. Long Chen's body was close to exploding from it all!

He felt like he could explode at any time and kill the Ninth Prince in a single moment.

"Ling Xi is my woman. You are looking to die if you try to touch her, you toad! You have forced me to kill you!"

A blood mist slowly enveloped Long Chen.

"Are you calling me a toad? You're the toad! Long Chen, you lack the strength and background that I have. Do you think you are a good match for the beautiful Ling Xi?" The Ninth Prince chuckled and launched another attack.

The Ninth Prince was secretly shocked at the first clash. Long Chen was only at the Fourth River Stage, yet he was capable of launching an attack almost as powerful as his own.

"Azure Dragon Technique, Nine Heavens Dragon Ascension!"

"Crimson Devil Sword Technique, Crimson Land!"

Their techniques clashed again and again. The horrid sound of metal hitting metal made Ling Xi feel discomfort in her ears. Her face paled from feeling the impact of their techniques, and she retreated further. Even though she was retreating, she never once looked away from Long Chen.

Long Chen was slowly being pushed back by the Ninth Prince. It was only a matter of time before he lost!

The Ninth Prince was very powerful with the advanced Earth-tier Divine Arm and his Sixth River Stage strength. Crimson Land was also a powerful technique that launched consecutive attacks that pushed Long Chen back like an unstoppable wave!

Ling Xi failed to notice it, but the Ninth Prince did not. He knew he was pushing Long Chen into a corner, but the killing intent coming from Long Chen had not dissipated at all. The Ninth Prince was worried because a desperate man was the worst foe to fight against. He knew that Long Chen was very desperate from his bloodshot eyes.

"You are indeed a tough opponent. That makes me want to kill you more! Long Chen, I wonder, how much further have you cultivated your Divine Fire Clone? How would

you like to be killed by a Divine Fire Clone?" the Ninth Prince asked, sounding ominous.

"Divine Fire Clone ..." Long Chen finally managed to deflect the Ninth Prince's attack. He saw that the Ninth Prince wanted to end things quickly, and Long Chen had no reason to keep his Divine Fire Clone a secret.

"Let me show you what the true Divine Fire Clone is ..."

When Long Chen said this, an intense heat wave exploded from where Xiaolang was. With Xiaolang at the center, a black flame radiated outward, and numerous wolves made of black flames appeared!

"A hundred and twenty-five clones?!"

The Ninth Prince was shocked!

Chapter 315 - Ultimate Divine Fire Clone

The dwarves left Goldfish Island dejectedly. They felt unlucky as their beautiful dream had been popped like a bubble.

One of the dwarves at the Fifth River Stage was dissatisfied. "Zhongzhen, are we just going to slip away like this? There are so many pretty ladies there. Moreover, the villagers have killed members of our family!"

"Idiot! We can't afford to provoke the Ninth Prince! Don't mention this again, or you'll regret it! Understand!?" Zhongzhen scolded.

"Yes, yes!" The dwarf shut his mouth, but he was still dissatisfied. Zhongzhen was right, their family could not afford to provoke the Ninth Prince. The imperial family members were not to be trifled with.

A gust of leaves suddenly appeared in front of them along with a person. The massive aura coming off from that person pushed back everyone except for Song Zhongzhen.

"Patriarch!"

After seeing who it was, everyone immediately kneeled down except for Song Zhongzhen, who was the Patriarch's brother. Still, he dared not act haughty and asked timidly, "Brother, what are you doing here? I followed your order to destroy Goldfish Island, but the Ninth Prince prevented us from doing so. We were just about to head back ... Brother, why are you making that face?"

Song Zhongzhen was halfway through his explanation when he noticed that his brother looked extremely gloomy. The murderous intent emanating from his eyes was terrifying.

"Brother, what happened?" Song Zhongzhen felt uneasy.

"Yuefeng was killed in the Counter Essence Realm!" Song Zhongcheng spat out before running past them towards Goldfish Island. Song Zhongzhen failed to process what his brother had said until the latter completely disappeared.

“What?! Yuefeng was killed?!” Song Zhongzhen was surprised. Song Yuefeng was his brother’s most beloved son, and he was handsome too. To think a pure-blooded dwarf had been killed!

“Shit! Who’s the culprit?!” Song Zhongzhen howled and punched a tree to his side, obliterating it the next instant. The tree fell and crushed some of the dwarves.

But Song Zhongzhen did not care.

“Brother must be chasing the culprit. Everyone, follow me to take revenge for Song Yuefeng! I will dismember the person who dared to kill our young master!”

The dwarves ran back to Goldfish Island like a group of ravenous beasts.

\*\*\*

The Ninth Prince stopped attacking out of shock when Xiaolang released all 125 Divine Fire Clones. Each of them was only slightly weaker than the original, and they completely filled up the area!

“Be careful!” The Ninth Prince couldn’t react in time. He knew that Divine Fire Clone only had three stages, but the beast was clearly using a fourth stage. But more importantly, how had a beast learned a divine technique that only humans could comprehend?

If someone told him about this, he would’ve thought they were crazy, but he had no choice but to believe his own eyes.

The 125 clones appeared so suddenly that Elder Yan failed to react too.

All of them howled, causing the heavens to shake. They launched themselves at Elder Yan without any reservations. Since Xiaolang was a Category Four, each of the clones was equal to a Third River Stage cultivator!

Even someone at the Sixth River Stage would die if they were ambushed by 125 Third River Stage cultivators. The Ninth Prince tried to save Elder Yan, but Long Chen blocked him.

“Why are you in a rush? Your opponent is me. Elder Yan will die, and so will you!” Long Chen had been preparing his technique ever since Xiaolang used the fourth stage of Divine Fire Clone.

“Go away!” The Ninth Prince was short on words as he slashed at Long Chen. A whip of flame made from the Fire Essence flew at him.

It was a technique stronger than the intermediate Earth-tier technique Crimson Land!

“Nine Spinning Fire Shields!” Long Chen extended both hands and revealed a fire shield rotating at great speeds. He dispersed the Ninth Prince’s attack and used his body to block his foe again. He then thrust the Azure Dragon Halberd at the Ninth Prince’s head!

If the Ninth Prince did not stop, the halberd would pierce through his skull!

“Die, Long Chen!” Elder Yan’s life was at stake, but Long Chen was preventing the Ninth Prince from assisting him! This made the Ninth Prince truly angry! He said nothing as flames exploded from his body, forming twenty-five fiery clones. It was the same technique as Long Chen’s!

He wanted to stop Long Chen with the clones, or maybe even kill him. Elder Yan was the Ninth Prince’s most loyal subordinate, and he couldn’t allow him to die at the hands of someone like Long Chen. His reputation would be in shambles if word got back to the city.

The Ninth Prince’s clones surrounded Long Chen.

But the Ninth Prince failed to notice something. Where had the 125 fire clones of Xiaolang come from? Had the beast learned the technique on its own in the ruins?

“Did you think that the reason I cultivated Divine Fire Clone was to serve you?” Long Chen laughed, and flames exploded from his body too. The Divine Fire Seed expanded and surrounded Long Chen.

Numerous fire clones, equal in number to Xiaolang’s clones, revealed themselves around Long Chen. That meant Long Chen was equally or even stronger than Mo Xiaolang in terms of mastery over Divine Fire Clone.

Long Chen had cultivated the fourth stage while he was patrolling the Counter Essence Realm. It was his trump card and the reason why he dared to face the Ninth Prince. When Long Chen saw that Mo Xiaolang had used Divine Fire Clone to kill Elder Yan, he knew it was time to reveal his own clones too.

“The true Divine Fire Clone has four stages, and the person who obtained the real inheritance was me! Your version with only three stages was a defective one!” Long Chen laughed as he directed all 125 clones to run towards the Ninth Prince.

Even though the Ninth Prince’s clones were stronger, they could not fight against the sheer number of Long Chen’s clones.

The Ninth Prince finally learned the truth and realized that he had been tricked by Long Chen in Yuanling City. He thought he had pushed Long Chen into a corner, but now he was being pushed back instead! Feeling embarrassed because he had boasted to Ling Xi and called Long Chen useless, he let out a furious roar.

“No one has ever angered me as much as you! Long Chen, I will never stop hating you even after you die!” The 125 fire clones had surrounded him, so the Ninth Prince could no longer afford to help Elder Yan. He controlled his clones and fought against Long Chen’s clones.

Flames flew everywhere. Chen Feng and Chen Lei were stunned. They thought Long Chen and Xiaolang would be defeated; they never expected a battle of this scale to break out.

Ling Xi was surprised too.



The youth who had created miracle after miracle was currently hiding amongst the clones as he ran towards the Ninth Prince. His eyes were filled with unyielding strength, showing no hint of fear or retreat.

Long Chen's 125 clones clashed with the Ninth Prince's clones. The exploding flames hurt everyone's eyes.

Xiaolang finally managed to use his clones to suppress Elder Yan. Although they could not kill him, suppressing him was good enough. Xiaolang instantly ran towards Elder Yan and exhaled a breath of the Nine Devil Ancestral Fire, engulfing the latter as he stared in shock.

Crackle!

The sound of ice cracking sounded ceaselessly. When the Nine Devil Ancestral Fire stopped burning, Elder Yan was nothing but an ice statue. Xiaolang's clones touched it gently, and Elder Yan disintegrated into black dust.

The Ninth Prince saw that Elder Yan was dead!

His most trusted subordinate, one that was at the Sixth River Stage, was dead because of Xiaolang. The Ninth Prince finally felt fear. His scalp went numb when he saw Long Chen's cold glare and the 125 fire clones.

"Impossible!" the Ninth Prince shouted in fear and desperation. He refused to believe that Long Chen could oppose him!

"Both you and the beast must die! Ling Xi is mine!"

"Take your delusions down to hell!" Long Chen's voice came from beside the Ninth Prince. The clones had successfully brought down the defense of the Ninth Prince's clones and launched suicidal attacks at the Ninth Prince.

"You think these things can kill me?!" The Ninth Prince waved his sword around, destroying a few clones in a single slash.

But the time to kill the Ninth Prince was now!

Chapter 316 - Killing the Ninth Prince

The clones were slowly being destroyed by the Ninth Prince, but Long Chen was like a wolf. While the Ninth Prince was attacking relentlessly like a tiger, Long Chen was slowly circling him while using the large number of clones to hide himself.

The Ninth Prince had been venting all of his anger and frustration after the death of Elder Yan on Long Chen's clones. He had failed to realize that Long Chen was already behind him, and it was too late when he noticed.

Long Chen directed all of his clones to start suicide bombing the Ninth Prince. The Ninth Prince's attacks were swift, but even he could not fend off so many clones at the Third River Stage. Many of the attacks slipped past his sword and landed on his body, leaving burn marks and bruises.

The elegant Ninth Prince was soon beaten bloody; his face had swelled up from the impact. He looked exactly like a toad, which was what Long Chen had called him just moments ago.

The Ninth Prince was in a hurry to quickly destroy all of the clones before killing Long Chen and Xiaolang. He would then take Ling Xi back to Yuqin Palace. Just then, he felt a deadly threat coming from behind him!

It came at the very same moment that the clones were concentrating their attacks to the fullest. The Ninth Prince had been so focused on the clones that he failed to realize Long Chen was just behind him!

“Azure Dragon Technique, Dragon King Burial!”

A thin, red line flew towards the Ninth Prince from just meters away!

Long Chen was a patient man; he had kept his strongest technique hidden until the most crucial moment. He had already used Starsweep Dragon and Nine Heavens Dragon Ascension in front of the Ninth Prince, and the latter had deflected them easily. The Ninth Prince assumed that Long Chen only knew those two techniques. The fourth stage of Divine Fire Clone had been a surprise to him, while Dragon King Burial was most definitely the biggest surprise. Long Chen had waited for the Ninth Prince to be surrounded by the clones before using it at the last possible moment!

It was hard to comprehend how deadly Dragon King Burial was, but the Ninth Prince felt it when it was directed at him. His surroundings faded into nothingness, replaced with a blood-red color, and a howling ancient dragon charged towards him!

The dragon was so big that the Ninth Prince knew that he could not possibly block the attack. He tried to retreat and dodge it, but it was useless—there was no escaping it!

Soul Swallowing Gaze!

Dragon King Burial was an attack that could intimidate its opponent and was considered part of a dragon’s authority. Long Chen used Soul Swallowing Gaze and magnified the illusion using Seduction. That was why the Ninth Prince was looking at something completely different.

“Die!” Long Chen roared. He stabbed the Ninth Prince’s chest with the Azure Dragon Halberd and punched a hole through it. His blood and organs were blown out from his back due to Long Chen’s strength. The Ninth Prince’s torso was hollow with a hole in it even though he was fine moments ago.

Long Chen pulled out his halberd and swung it to shake off the blood as if it was nothing special.

The Ninth Prince was still alive even though his organs had been destroyed. He stared at Long Chen with pain, regret, despair, and fear with bloodshot eyes.

“All I will say is that there’s nobody I can’t kill. It’s just a matter of time. Ninth Prince, your time is today.”

Those were the final words Long Chen said to the dying prince.

The Ninth Prince understood that the youth he was facing was not a country bumpkin that came from nowhere, but a genius that defied all logic. What made Long Chen fearsome was not his talent in cultivation, but his character.

The Ninth Prince collapsed to the ground. Everything was silent afterward.

Xiaolang had just killed Elder Yan. Ling Xi was staring at Long Chen with awe while Chen Lei and Chen Feng were both stunned.

Xiaolang didn't think much of it; he had always known that he would have a hard time catching up with Long Chen. He was confident that Long Chen could defeat the Ninth Prince since he himself could defeat Elder Yan. Ling Xi clearly knew that there was a big gap between Long Chen and the Ninth Prince, but she had witnessed firsthand how Long Chen had managed to kill the Ninth Prince with flawless execution. She started crying from the feeling of absolute safety that he had given her. Ling Xi looked very pitiful when she cried, but she was still as beautiful as an angel.

Long Chen felt fulfilled when he met Ling Xi again after so long. There was a pure aura radiating from her that made him calm down. All he had to do was stare at her eyes to feel calm.

He snapped out of his trance and smiled. He used the Azure Dragon Halberd to dislodge the Fire Essence Sword from the Ninth Prince's dead hands. There were nine Fire Essences embedded in the sword, and they would help Xiaolang to grow further.

Long Chen realized that his stash of Heavenly River Pills was almost exhausted too; he had used the majority of them in the Counter Essence Realm. So, he took the Ninth Prince's Universe Pouch. Since the pouches usually had a marking of the owner, Long Chen dared not take it. Instead, he emptied the contents and poured everything into his own pouch. He did a rough count and realized that the Ninth Prince had tens of thousands of Heavenly River Pills.

This was the largest sum of money Long Chen had ever seen!

But this was nothing compared to being able to elope with Ling Xi after killing the Ninth Prince. With a hop, he appeared in front of her. He stared at the beautiful girl in front of him, and she looked at him back with tearful eyes. Long Chen felt his heart ache a little and quickly hugged her. He was enveloped in her warmth and softness as he whispered, "Ling Xi, I'm so sorry for placing you in danger. I will never leave you from today onwards. No one can touch you as long as I'm here!"

Ling Xi was so happy that she could not form words. She cried as she hugged Long Chen tightly, her face buried in his chest. When Long Chen wasn't around, she realized that she was more helpless than she had thought, and her worst fear had almost come true. She wouldn't have lasted so long if she hadn't done everything she could to delay the Ninth Prince.

"To think that that bastard dared to touch my woman. I will kill toads like him no matter how many of them pop up. If there are two of them, I will kill them both! If there are thousands of them, I will slaughter them all!" Long Chen jokingly said to lighten up the mood when he saw her crying.

"Hehe." Ling Xi felt safe and warm when she was loved like this. She raised her head and saw the conviction in Long Chen's eyes. She didn't know when her heart was filled with him. All she knew was that no one could replace him.

Long Chen had killed the Ninth Prince for Ling Xi's sake.

This was his largest victory yet. He had killed someone from the strongest faction in the Cangyang Kingdom, the Sword Emperor's ninth son. The Sword Emperor was the strongest person in the Cangyang Kingdom.

This meant that Long Chen had to flee the Cangyang Kingdom with Ling Xi and Xiaolang as quickly as possible, or they would be hunted down!

Long Chen had decided that he was not strong enough to obtain the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit yet. He would return once he became strong enough.

"Xiao Xi, I'm so sorry for not being able to bring back the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. It was much more difficult to find than I expected. I need to be at the Eighth River Stage at the very least to obtain it," Long Chen said regretfully.

"It's alright. I know you've done your best, and I think I still like the way I am. I can hug you ..." Ling Xi blushed and hugged him again.

The softness of the embrace was tempting, but Long Chen knew that now was not the time. He held her face gently in his palm. "Don't worry. I will make sure to get you the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. It's just a matter of time. I will return to the capital one day, and no one, not the Sword Devil, or the Sword Emperor, or Lin Zichen will ever stop me."

"Brother Chen, are we leaving now?" Ling Xi raised her head.

"Yes, we must leave the Cangyang Kingdom now. I've killed the young master of the Harmony family. The patriarch of the Harmony family is at the Eighth River Stage. If he comes after us, we're dead ..."

Song Zhongcheng was indeed at the Eighth River Stage. Long Chen could never hope to defeat him even if he had more limbs.

When they prepared to leave, Xiaolang suddenly froze and became anxious. Long Chen realized that something was wrong and quickly looked back. He used the third stage of the Soul Swallowing Gaze, Sight, to quickly scan the area. Everything around him faded away, and Long Chen saw an incredible soul running towards them at great speed.

"Song Zhongcheng!" Long Chen hissed.

Chapter 317 - Black Fire Lotus

Song Zhongcheng was approaching rapidly. Long Chen was caught off guard; he had not anticipated he would appear so soon.

Song Zhongcheng was at the Eighth River Stage. His arrival meant the deaths of Long Chen, Ling Xi, and Xiaolang. Long Chen had barely managed to kill the Ninth Prince, but the gap between him and Song Zhongcheng was too large. Song Zhongcheng was considered one of the strongest cultivators in the city, just below the three strongest individuals of the imperial family.

Long Chen had killed Song Zhongcheng's most beloved son, so there was zero chance he would be forgiven.

Long Chen decided what to do in an instant. He pushed Ling Xi away and held her hands tightly. “Xiaolang, this is your mission. Take Ling Xi and run away! Make sure she survives, or we won’t be brothers anymore!”

His order was irrefutable. He wanted Xiaolang to take Ling Xi to safety while he himself would stop Song Zhongcheng. He would do anything as long as Xiaolang could escape with Ling Xi.

“Did you hear me? Run away with Ling Xi right now!” Long Chen snarled, startling Xiaolang. Xiaolang looked at him but didn’t move.

Long Chen was going to shout again when Ling Xi held him back. “Wait, Xiaolang said that he could trap the people chasing us with a technique, but he wouldn’t be able to use the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire for ten days afterward.”

“Wait, what did you say?” Long Chen calmed down. If there was a technique that could resolve their predicament, he wouldn’t need to sacrifice himself. It was a perfect plan.

“How long can he trap them? Xiaolang, are you sure?” Long Chen needed to confirm this.

“Xiaolang said that he can incorporate the Nine Devil Ancestral Fire into a technique that he has used before. The Nine Devil Ancestral Fire can trap an Eighth River Stage cultivator for six hours at least due to its unique properties. It’s very durable!” Ling Xi explained.

Xiaolang wouldn’t lie, and Long Chen was relieved when he learned of that. There had been too many dangers and close calls today ...

With Xiaolang’s guarantee that it would work, Long Chen felt the pressure alleviate slightly. He was still using Sight and knew that Song Zhongcheng would arrive very soon. He also saw a group of people following him. He deduced that they were most likely dwarves too.

Long Chen’s grudge with the dwarves was too deep. His hatred for them was deep after learning what they were doing in the vicinity of the capital. Long Chen would only feel calm after eradicating their entire race!

Xiaolang was already in his battle form when Long Chen whispered to him, “Xiaolang, get ready. I will find a chance to stop Song Zhongcheng. We will escape as soon as we finish our business.”

Xiaolang nodded just as Song Zhongcheng ran across the lake and arrived at Goldfish Island. Behind him was a group of dwarves, the same ones that had threatened to eradicate the villagers earlier. They were part of the main force of the Harmony family.

The dwarves saw the two people and the wolf on the island. Most of them were staring lustfully at Ling Xi, but some of them noticed that there was a corpse not too far away. The corpse was covered in blood, making it hard to determine that it was the Ninth Prince. But they knew that the Ninth Prince was here just minutes ago, so they immediately assumed that the corpse belonged to him.

Song Zhongcheng's killing intent was about to explode when he saw Long Chen, but he stared at the Ninth Prince's corpse in shock and yelled, "Are you Long Chen? Did you kill the Ninth Prince?"

The death of Song Yuefeng was enough to rattle the entire Harmony family, and the death of the Ninth Prince would be a bombshell to the capital. The other dwarves instantly ignored Ling Xi's beauty and stared at Long Chen in shock.

Even people with high status like them had to respect the Ninth Prince, so how had someone as weak and insignificant as Long Chen killed him? The conflict of beliefs brought about by this matter was so jarring that they found it hard to believe.

"You are right. Not only did I kill that idiot Song Yuefeng, I've also killed Lin Cangtian, the despicable toad. What are you going to do about it?" Long Chen smiled.

Song Zhongcheng was speechless.

He looked at Long Chen and reevaluated him.

Long Chen was only at the Second River Stage when he first entered the Counter Essence Realm, but he had grown much stronger in merely half a month. As soon as he came outside, do something unbelievable that no one in the capital had ever heard of before.

The Ninth Prince had not been killed by the Heavenly Demon Palace faction, but by his own subordinate! If this news got out, everyone would laugh at the Ninth Prince.

Song Zhongcheng was thinking about how the imperial family would react once they received the news.

"I actually came here to kill you, but I fear that I can't do that now. Since you've killed the Ninth Prince, I will have to hand you over to the imperial family to be sentenced. You should be glad that you can live for another half a day." Song Zhongcheng approached Long Chen.

He didn't give Long Chen time to speak. He assumed restraining and bringing Long Chen to the imperial city would be a simple thing to do.

"I think the dwarves are lower than livestock." Long Chen was not afraid even while facing death. He kept taunting Song Zhongcheng. "Look at you, you are so short that you don't even reach my chest. And look at how obscene your face is. Your legs are no different than a boar's. Such a disgusting creature. I can't believe there is such an ugly race in this world."

Long Chen looked at the other dwarves in contempt.

"None of you are worth looking at."

"You mother fucker! Shut your mouth or I will tear it apart!"

“Yeah, everyone in the Harmony family is handsome, and not as bad as you are describing ...” The voice of the dwarf who said this became quieter from the lack of confidence.

“Are you trying to make me angry so I kill you myself? Are you afraid of being captured by the imperial family?” Song Zhongcheng was shameless and would not fall for such a weak taunt.

“You think too much. You’re just so ugly that I had to say it out loud. I don’t think you would mind hearing someone like me calling you guys are ugly and short. Dwarves are subhuman, and I don’t think you’ll ever be anything more than animals. Your kind must have been born from the marriage between a gorilla and a baboon.” Long Chen laughed after he said that.

“Do you want to die, you fucking brat?”

“You’re the gorilla!”

Long Chen’s taunt was so vile that many of the dwarves were itching to kill him. All of them were about to pounce on him.

Even Song Zhongcheng frowned from the taunt. He didn’t want to give Long Chen another chance to speak, so he ran forward. He was so fast that there was barely a shadow.

Long Chen could never hope to outrun him.

He stopped laughing and shouted, “Xiaolang, now!”

Xiaolang had started preparing his technique the moment Song Zhongcheng was about to run at them. When he did, Xiaolang howled and released the technique. A frigid air enveloped them, and the Nine Devil Ancestral Fire took the form of a lotus as it shot out of Xiaolang’s maw. The lotus quickly enveloped Song Zhongcheng!

“What is this?” Song Zhongcheng felt the dangerous aura of the fire lotus. He now knew why Long Chen was not afraid of him. But he was so close to Long Chen, and the fire lotus had a wide range of effect. Song Zhongcheng barely managed to attack with his fist when the fire lotus trapped him!

“Shit!” That was his final shout from within the fire lotus.

It was frightening, but thankfully, no one was hurt.

Long Chen sighed in relief when he verified that the threat was temporarily neutralized. He knew that he had to run now, but he was more than happy to sacrifice some of the precious time to kill the other dwarves.

“Xiao Xi, close your eyes. Wait for me a little bit and I will take you away. Xiaolang, I know you are tired. Control your clones and coordinate with me.” Long Chen transformed and glared at the dwarves as he brandished the Azure Dragon Halberd.

He had been relaxed when he taunted the dwarves, but now that Song Zhongcheng was trapped, killing intent started to radiate from his body.

“Brother Chen ...”

“Don’t worry. I will hold back.” He consoled Ling Xi and she closed her eyes. Both Long Chen and Xiaolang ran towards the dwarves without hesitation.

The dwarves were still in shock from seeing Song Zhongcheng being trapped in the mysterious fire lotus. They didn’t know what to do, but they were fearless since they had the numerical advantage against Long Chen and Xiaolang.

“Capture that brat!” Song Zhongzhen ordered.

Long Chen was already prepared.

“Blood Devouring Domain!”

Chapter 318 - Risky Journey

A blood-red mist enveloped all of the dwarves once the Blood Devouring Domain was activated. Everything around them was dyed in a blood-red color.

As Long Chen’s cultivation level increased, so did the power of the Blood Devouring Domain. No one beneath his cultivation level could resist the power exerted on them!

The strongest person in the battle was Song Zhongzhen at the Sixth River Stage. Even though he was not as strong as Elder Yan and the Ninth Prince, he was still barely able to fight in the domain. Still, the blood going wild inside of his body was new to him. The dwarves below the Heavenly River Realm exploded into clouds of bloody mist the moment they were trapped in the domain.

“I can’t absorb their blood ...”

Blood was an irresistible resource to Long Chen. Ever since he used the Nine Heavens True Fire Beast’s blood to advance into the Fourth River Stage, the killing instinct of the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon had slowly gripped his heart. There were times where he even lost control of himself. He had told himself that he wouldn’t use Blood Transmutation for the time being, especially on humans.

Long Chen did not use Blood Transmutation, but the dwarves were still terrified. Not only had he incapacitated most of them, he had even caused many of the dwarves to outright explode into nothing. To them, Long Chen was a demon!

“Impossible! This is the technique of a god!” Song Zhongzhen was surprised too. He saw that the dwarves around him were pale as their blood thrashed wildly in their bodies. Once he determined that there was no hope, he shouted as loud as he could, “Everyone, retreat! Retreat now!”

He kept shouting while trying to escape from the effect of the Blood Devouring Domain.

But Long Chen would never let them go.



“Xiaolang, use your clones to stop him. Kill him if you can. I will kill the others first. We need to kill all of them as quickly as possible!”

Long Chen howled and became a shadow of blood. He appeared amidst the dwarves and started his slaughter. Painful shrieks filled the air.

None of them could fight back, especially under the effect of Blood Devouring Domain. Long Chen’s hatred for them was so intense that he showed no mercy. If he didn’t kill them now, they would extend their disgusting arms towards even more innocent people. The dwarves were creatures that harmed others for the sake of fun!

Xiaolang did not hesitate. He had only used up a few clones to defeat Elder Yan. There were still more than a hundred left, and all of them were currently chasing Song Zhongzhen! They leaped through the dwarves and focused on their prey.

The clones were not affected by the domain, while Song Zhongzhen was heavily suppressed. He couldn’t circulate his Qi without resistance, and he had a feeling that his attacks would be interrupted halfway due to his berserking blood.

“Nooo! NOOOOO!” Song Zhongzhen shouted in despair. As long as the domain was in effect, he could not use his full strength. Long Chen wanted this to end soon, so he told Xiaolang to use any means necessary to subdue Song Zhongzhen. Soon, the numerous clones engulfed their target.

Within the fiery lotus that Xiaolang had created, the Eighth River Stage Song Zhongcheng was still capable of listening to what was happening outside. He became desperate when he heard the dwarves crying out in pain.

“Long Chen, what are you doing?! Are you killing the dwarves?! You will die today!”

“I’ve already killed so many. Do you think I’ll just let them run? Oh, this one looks as ugly as you. Must be your brother. He has probably killed even more than me, so I’m doing the heavens a favor by killing him. Now that he’s dead, I will do the rest to the others too.”

Long Chen taunted Song Zhongcheng while the latter was jumping up and down inside the fire lotus out of anger. Song Zhongcheng almost broke down in tears when he saw the dwarves outside dying left and right. He could do nothing while he was trapped in the fire lotus. He tried breaking it apart from the inside, but his efforts were futile.

The only thing he could do was wait until the fire lotus disappeared. He saw that the fire lotus’s strength was diminishing very slowly.

“Long Chen, you will die! Not only you, but all the people around you! I will skin all of them! They will never reincarnate again!” Song Zhongchen shouted like a madman from inside the fire lotus.

“Really?” Long Chen chuckled as he waved the Azure Dragon Halberd wildly. Every time he did, he killed another dwarf. With the help of Xiaolang’s clones, the number

of dwarves was quickly diminishing. The painful cries never stopped. The villagers of Goldfish Island heard the shout, but none of them stopped him. They knew that Long Chen was slaughtering the despicable dwarves, and all of them were secretly happy.

The sinful dwarves were culled by Long Chen like a farmer harvesting the fields. None of them managed to escape with the domain suppressing them. Even those at the Fourth River Stage could not escape.

Long Chen ignored Song Zhongcheng's threat and continued killing the dwarves. When all of the dwarves were finally dead, Long Chen's body and weapon were covered in fresh blood.

Song Zhongcheng was the only living dwarf in the vicinity. The rest had been killed.

Long Chen jumped into the lake and washed the blood off his body. He then approached Ling Xi and Xiaolang in a hurry. "We need to run now."

He was still cloaked in a murderous and gloomy aura, and it frightened Ling Xi. She held his arm carefully. "Brother Chen, are you alright?"

Long Chen was slowly breaking free of the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon's influence and becoming more rational. Seeing the care and worry in Ling Xi's eyes helped him calm down. For some reason, looking into her eyes made him calm down very fast.

"Time to go." He placed Ling Xi on Xiaolang's back. Since he was in his battle form, carrying Ling Xi on his massive body was not an issue. Long Chen sat behind Ling Xi to make sure she wouldn't fall off.

Xiaolang howled excitedly.

Even though he had used the fire lotus and lost his ability to use the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire for ten days, the backlash on his body was not as terrible as he had thought. He was more than capable of carrying both Long Chen and Ling Xi.

All three of them were excited to leave the capital behind.

Hope was in front of them.

"You think you can leave peacefully? You are too naive, Long Chen. You've underestimated the power of the imperial family. As long as you are in the Cangyang Kingdom, you will always be under the surveillance of the imperial family. You are an idiot if you think you can leave the kingdom after killing the Ninth Prince! Even I couldn't do it!"

Song Zhongcheng howled angrily from inside the lotus.

Long Chen was well aware that it would be very difficult to escape the kingdom after killing the Ninth Prince, especially since Ling Xi was just a normal human now. She was weak and vulnerable and would require more time to rest than normal cultivators. As a result, they would only be able to travel at a third of their potential speed.

"This is a risky journey, but we will be safe as long as we can escape. I can live peacefully with Ling Xi as long as we're careful!"

Long Chen carefully hugged Ling Xi and whispered to Xiaolang, "Let's go. Run as fast as you can."

Xiaolang howled and shot forward like an arrow. He was soon a dot on the horizon.

Once Xiaolang completely disappeared, Chen Feng and Chen Lei stared at each other in shock.

"Lei'er, if I'm not mistaken, the death of the Ninth Prince will shake the entire Cangyang Kingdom! The Patriarch of the Harmony family will definitely seek us out to vent his anger after so many dwarves died. We need to leave Goldfish Island now!"

"But Goldfish Island is the land our ancestors left for us. How could we run away just like that?" Chen Lei was uncertain.

"And what other choice do we have? The ancestors would rather us protect our lives and not get eradicated. We have to run now so we can live to see another day. The situation has changed now. Before this, the dwarves wanted to take over Goldfish Island. But now that Long Chen has killed so many of them, they will be focusing their resources on Long Chen instead of taking over a small place like Goldfish Island. We need to escape while we can!"

Chen Lei agreed with his father after listening to his explanation. Both of them ran as fast as they could back to the village to inform the others.

Ever since the dwarves first came to the village, everyone had made preparations to escape at a moment's notice. As soon as Chen Feng told them to leave, the villagers immediately took their belongings and escaped their ancestral home.

Song Zhongcheng was howling like a beast inside the lotus, his voice reverberating in the skies.

Even though Long Chen had escaped, the news of him killing the Ninth Prince would soon reach the capital. Once it did, there would be many people hunting him down. Numerous life-or-death battles awaited Long Chen.

Could Long Chen at the Fourth River Stage defeat so many enemies?

Chapter 319 - Journey To The West

"Are you cold?" The wind howled past them, but Long Chen blocked it with his back. He was sitting backwards on Xiaolang to shield Ling Xi from the cold wind. She was huddled inside his embrace, her face pale. She was indeed cold.

"Emm ..." Ling Xi nodded listlessly, staring at Long Chen tearfully.

"Xiaolang, is there a way to raise your body temperature?" Long Chen shouted at Xiaolang.

He soon felt Xiaolang's body temperature rise. Ling Xi felt much better, but the cold wind was still biting into her body. All Long Chen could do was use his body to block as much of the wind as he could.

It had been half a day since they started fleeing, so the imperial palace must have learned of the Ninth Prince's death. He was certain that there would soon be people chasing after them. Long Chen dared not slow down and asked Xiaolang to continue running!

But if he ran any faster than this, Ling Xi would not be able to hold on with her mortal body.

"Brother Chen, where are we going?"

"To Yuanling City. We need to go back. Since the Biyang Imperial Capital is at the center of the Cangyang Kingdom, it doesn't matter which direction we run towards. We need to head west for now." Long Chen patted her head lovingly.

"Why west?" Ling Xi was confused. Her inquisitive nature and cute face were nothing short of breathtaking.

If it wasn't for her beauty, Long Chen wouldn't have had to risk his life along with Xiaolang to escape. Thankfully, Xiaolang was more than happy to do so since the imperial family were the people he wanted to kill the most. Long Chen had killed the Ninth Prince, a member of the imperial family, and Xiaolang was more than happy about it. He hadn't even gotten a chance to thank Long Chen yet.

"The only faction capable of fighting against the imperial family is the Heavenly Demon Palace. Their headquarters is located towards the west, at Demon Emperor Mountain. The closer we get to them, the weaker the influence of the imperial family. If we can get past Demon Emperor Mountain and enter the Western Sea Kingdom, we will be safe," Long Chen explained calmly to Ling Xi.

"Can we really escape?" Ling Xi wasn't sure. She saw the Biyang Imperial Capital becoming smaller in the horizon as she doubted their fate.

Fate worked in mysterious ways. They had just arrived at the capital no more than a month ago, and Long Chen had already killed the Ninth Prince because of Ling Xi's beauty. Now they were on a path of no return. They would either survive or die.

"Of course! Don't worry about it. You can sleep for now. I fear that the journey ahead will be arduous to you. I can't let you fall sick and become ugly because of that." Long Chen pinched her nose and chuckled.

"Brother Chen, you are so mischievous." Ling Xi gently pushed away Long Chen's mischievous hand. Even though he had assured her that nothing would happen, her doubt wasn't dispelled at all.

"Sorry. This is my fault. If it wasn't for me, you would've obtained a lot of resources for your cultivation. And you wouldn't have had to suffer so much because of me. Our lives are so uncertain now." Ling Xi was sad.

“Stupid girl. What are you saying?” Long Chen huffed and raised her head gently with his hands. He looked at her with conviction, and Ling Xi felt for the first time that everything would be alright.

“Ling Xi, never say those words again. You did not make me suffer. Your troubles are mine too. I’m a man, and I will protect my woman. If you say anything like that again, I will just treat them like the fart of a dog[1], understood?”

“You’re the dog fart! Hmph!” Long Chen was uncouth to use such vulgar words to describe a lady. She extended her arm to pinch his cheeks, but she didn’t have the strength .

“I’m so useless.” Ling Xi sighed.

“You are thinking too much. The skin on my face is thick, so you can’t do anything to it,” Long Chen said with a laugh.

Even though they were running for their lives, Ling Xi felt better after Long Chen cracked a few jokes. She soon smiled from his antics. She was like a blossoming lily that radiated a pure and sacred energy in Long Chen’s eyes. He swore to himself that he would never let her get injured.

He wanted to spend all his life protecting the most important person to him. She was the sanctuary for his soul, and his other life. Anyone who dared to lay a hand on her was crossing his bottom line.

Long Chen did not regret killing the Ninth Prince and escaping.

Now that Ling Xi was feeling better, Long Chen felt the weight of the future on his shoulders. He just didn’t show her that.

The imperial family, the strongest faction in the Cangyang Kingdom ... Long Chen had killed the Ninth Prince and essentially declared war on the entire kingdom. There were so many strong cultivators in the capital that served the imperial family. How could Long Chen fight all of them?

What would he do if they chased after him?

Many of the smaller demonic beasts that excelled in passing information and speed could easily catch up to Xiaolang. Long Chen was certain that his warrant had already started spreading to many of the cities. All of the cities were now like beasts waiting for Long Chen to enter their trap.

That was he did not enter any city while they were running. He was worried that his tracks would be discovered. He and Xiaolang chose the quiet roads and tried their best to stick to places where they couldn’t be seen. They even took numerous wrong turns that delayed their escape.

There were many issues that complicated their escape. For example, Ling Xi needed to eat now that she was a normal human. Her frail body could not accept the intensity of their escape. She needed to eat, drink, sleep, and stave off the wind, or she would fall ill. All of the issues were like maggots that stuck to Long Chen’s body and increased his ever-growing list of worries.

Three days and nights had passed. They could not run as fast as they could due to Ling Xi’s body. Without her, their escape progress would’ve been three times faster.

Even so, Ling Xi's body could no longer withstand the tiresome journey. Her face was growing paler and her body weaker; even her voice was becoming softer. She said that she was fine, but Long Chen definitely noticed the changes in her body.

Long Chen could not find a proper meal in the wilderness, so he could only feed her the beasts that he had caught. She had been eating roasted meat for more than three days, and she had even vomited once. Long Chen felt like his heart was being cut up when he saw her vomiting. He wanted to stop and let her rest, but he knew that if the people from the capital caught up, they would be dead.

"Brother Chen, don't worry, I'm fine. Let's continue," Ling Xi said powerlessly.

Long Chen hesitated before he finally chose to continue their journey. Riding on Xiaolang's broad back, the wind howled around them. It was nighttime, and Nine Heavenly Rivers covered the night sky and showered the land in faint starlight.

Xiaolang ran tirelessly across the wilderness under the starlight.

"... ugh." Ling Xi had a nightmare and woke up in shock. She saw that Long Chen was still beside her and sighed. Cold sweat covered her pale face.

"What's wrong?" Long Chen was worried when he saw Ling Xi like this. He tried his best to make her even more comfortable in his embrace.

"Brother Chen ... I saw you dying in my dream." She cried in his embrace. Her sobs were like ants crawling into his ears.

"I'm afraid of being alone after you die. There are enemies everywhere, and I don't know what to do ... I don't want you to die! Uuuuu ..." Ling Xi was helpless.

"Xiao Xi!" Long Chen hugged her tightly. His eyes were resolute and filled with starlight, and there was not a single hint of fear in them.

"You need to trust me. No one can kill me, and I cannot die! I will not die! You can sleep in peace and rest now. I will hold you while you sleep until you are tired of me. I won't let you go."

Long Chen's words showed how much conviction he had. Of course, he wasn't sure of it himself, but he would continue to shield Ling Xi no matter what dangers they would have to face.

"Okay ..." Ling Xi's eyes were wide and she nodded.

"Go to sleep. I won't die," Long Chen said once more while wiping off her tears and smiling.

The sky lit up when Ling Xi finally fell asleep. Long Chen looked at the wilderness around him with uncertainty.

"Xiaolang, we need to find a smaller city. Let's see if we can find a map of the Cangyang Kingdom, as well as some daily necessities for Ling Xi."

## Chapter 320 - Crescent City

After dawn, Xiaolang started to head towards a place with signs of civilization, and soon, a small city appeared ahead. It was almost the same size as Yuanling City and its satellite city, Yuanyang City. It was considered smaller than Yuanling, so the strongest cultivators there were at the Heavenly Core Realm.

Since they did not know if there were informants of the royal family within this city, Long Chen did not plan to let Ling Xi and Xiaolang enter. He hid them in a secluded area of the forest outside the city gates, gave them a few reminders, and then went up to the gates himself. There were characters carved above the city gates, and from them, he learned that the city was named Crescent City.

However, this was not important to him. When he saw that the guards at the gates were much stricter, he was privately shocked. He did not enter immediately, but focused on listening to their conversation from far. Since he had super hearing, he could faintly hear what they were talking about despite the distance.

“There is such a huge commotion! Where in the world has Long Chen run to? They’ve already mobilized people throughout the whole Cangyang Kingdom looking for him. I heard that he has a woman without any cultivation with him, so he can’t travel very fast. So why hasn’t anyone heard anything yet?”

“Maybe he escaped? Long Chen’s famous now. He committed a serious crime; he was bold enough to kill the Ninth Prince! That’s ridiculous.”

“Escaped? That’s impossible. The commander said that the imperial capital has mobilized many people, and most of them are heading west, which is our way. Long Chen is a tiny brat that no one had heard about before; how could he escape their tight web?”

“I hope he gets caught soon. We’ll have to stare at nothing all day long until that happens. And they scold us whenever we lose focus for even a moment.”

Long Chen’s heart sank. Indeed, the royals were coming.

His strength had recovered over the past few days, and he had completed his Divine Fire Clone preparations. Although Xiaolang could not use the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire for the moment, he had reached Category Five Earth-tier and gained extraordinary strength due to the nine Fire Essences. However, fighting against the imperial masters was the same as striking a rock with an egg.

His heart was heavy. However, Long Chen would not give up so easily. Now that he knew they were coming, he had to think about his retaliation plan. He could not enter Crescent City through the entrance right now, but how could a small city, whose strongest cultivator was only at the Heavenly Core Realm, stop him? He moved towards the city wall and slipped inside.

It was early morning, so the main streets were silent. Long Chen took out his hooded cloak and covered his face. There were many people unwilling to reveal their faces in this era, so he did not stand out.

At Crescent City, Long Chen used the divine jades left from his time at Yuanling City to buy daily necessities used by most normal people, preparing for all common scenarios. The basic necessities were clothing, food, shelter, and transport. He knew that while he could not provide shelter and transport, at least he could make the necessary preparations for Ling Xi's food and clothing.

"Boss, do you have a map of the Cangyang Kingdom for sale?" he asked casually after making a payment and putting his goods in his Universe Pouch.

The shopkeeper was a rich-looking middle-aged man. His figure was similar to that of Li Wudi of Yuanling City's Dawn Trading Alliance, but he was only at the Draconic Realm.

Since he could tell that Long Chen was likely an expert, the man was a little terrified. Worried that he could not serve Long Chen well, and Long Chen clearly needed it, he thought for a moment and quickly said apologetically, "I'm sorry, we do not sell maps here. But ..."

"But what?" Long Chen blurted.

"I personally have one. If you'd like, Sir, I can give you mine. You did buy a lot of stuff after all." The fat boss smiled widely.

"Thank you so much."

After receiving the map from the shopkeeper, Long Chen left. He was already drenched in sweat when Long Chen walked out. He trembled as he looked in the direction Long Chen had gone in, then stuttered, "W-w-will I really receive one million divine jades ..."

\*\*\*

After he left Crescent City, Long Chen dashed straight for the forest. He had an excellent memory and also the Soul Swallowing Gaze, which allowed him to see souls, so finding Ling Xi and Xiaolang was easy. However, his killing intent rose when he noticed that there were bandits surrounding them. Since they had not attacked, it was clear that they had just arrived.

Xiaolang had not transformed into his combat state. The bandits were only at the Earthly Core Realm at most, so they were nothing to him. He was waiting for them to talk a bit more, thus revealing more information, then he would attack.

"This woman is beautiful! I've gone through many women in my lifetime, but I've never seen one this pretty!"

Most of the bandits had the same comment. However, when they saw Xiaolang, they recalled the shocking one-million-divine-jade bounty.

Long Chen had killed the Ninth Prince and fled. The imperial family had stated that whoever found them would immediately receive a million divine jades. That was more than what the most powerful person in Crescent City had! And that was enough for the bandits to enjoy the rest of their lives without worry.

"Big Brother, the beautiful girl and the young black wolf are here. Aren't these the people who killed the Ninth Prince? But the main culprit, Long Chen, still hasn't appeared yet."



Everyone was naturally excited with this realization. Only the leader suddenly frowned and shouted, "Scatter now! Run!"

His mind was racing. This person was an expert who could kill the Ninth Prince, so he was definitely powerful! They were mere bandits from a weak region, so they would be no match for him at all.

The moment he gave the command, shrieks of pain came from behind him. He turned around and saw a blurry silhouette moving at speeds barely visible to the naked eye! The bandits died everywhere he went. No one survived one punch from him!

In just a few breaths' time, more than a hundred bandits collapsed and died. This person was very fast. The leader's mind went blank. All the hard work he had put in throughout the years had been completely destroyed! All turned to nothing!

But that was not all. In front of Long Chen, he was no different than the rest of the bandits. Long Chen punched his abdomen, and he could not defend himself at all. The clothes on his back were torn to pieces from the force, and that was the end of his life.

Gently pushing the corpse away, Long Chen arrived in front of Ling Xi. He had made the purchases and received some information, so there was no reason to stay here.

"I was worried they would leak our location, so I killed them all. The whole Cangyang Kingdom is searching for us, so we must be extra careful. Xiaolang, maintain this state. I will carry Ling Xi on my back and rush to the wilderness for now. You'll attract attention if you're too large!"

After giving instructions, Long Chen crouched and said to Ling Xi, "Xiao Xi, get up here, I'll carry you."

"Huh?" Although she was often in his arms, this was her first time on his back, so it was a little unnatural.

"What are you waiting for? Come here," Long Chen said with a frown as he looked back.

"Alright ..." Ling Xi was hesitant. Before she was ready, he grabbed her legs and supported her on his back.

"Let's go." He then dashed towards the wilderness. Based on the map, there was a vast forest to the left of Crescent City. If they could make it there, they would be safer.

Although Xiaolang was in his small form, it did not affect his speed. As they quickly disappeared into the forest, the sun rose.

Despite having Ling Xi on his back, Long Chen did not feel burdened. Instead, he felt comfortable. She was soft, and she was leaning on his back with arms around his neck. Feeling her soft chest on his back, he relished this almost skin-to-skin contact. Even when danger was looming, he would not forget to take advantage of her whenever he could.

What he was most affected by was the lotus fragrance coming from her body due to the Heavenly Profound Jade Lotus. It was refreshing and elegant.

As for Ling Xi, she could hardly move since he was holding her tightly. She could only hug him tightly, and his muscular back made her swoon. Color finally returned to her pale face because of this strange feeling.

“You jerk.” After he grabbed her, she shyly stuck out her neck and gently bit his ear. Then she quickly retracted back onto his back.

“What’s the matter, Ling Xi?” he asked, pretending nothing had happened.

“I want to bite your ear off so you’ll remember me forever. And then you’ll carry me forever,” she whispered.

“I’ll remember you for the rest of my life regardless. You don’t need to bite my ear,” he said, feigning fear.

“Perhaps ...” Ling Xi was not so sure about the future.