

War God 401

Chapter 401 - Eldest Prince

After a few days, Long Chen finally saw the Biyang Imperial Capital once more. The beautiful city had not changed. The jade on the walls, buildings, and roofs reflected the sunlight beautifully in the distance.

Long Chen was standing a kilometer away from the capital as he looked at the thronging crowd entering the city. He was ready to risk his life, but before that, he had something to do first.

“Come, Ling Xi, we need to enter the Counter Essence Realm to get the Nine Heaven Immortal Fruit. Once we have that, we can focus on defeating the imperial family.”

Long Chen headed towards the Counter Essence Realm.

“Brother Chen, must we get it first?” She was hesitating.

“Huh? Are you hesitating now? We came all the way here and went through a lot of difficulties to obtain it. Do you not want the fruit?” He was puzzled.

“No, I’m just afraid that you’ll get hurt.” Ling Xi hid her worries away and bluffed. He failed to notice her bluff.

“Don’t worry. The only one capable of stopping me is the Sword Emperor. Even then, I’m certain that I can escape with my life. The Sword Emperor is at the center of the capital, while I will be heading towards the Counter Essence Realm. He will not be able to get there in time.”

Ling Xi became quiet when she heard that. She was not worried about his safety, but whether using the fruit was a good idea.

It’s fine. Let him get it before I decide if I should use it or not. I will tell him the truth once he gets it, and I hope he won’t blame me ... Ling Xi made a bitter decision.

Long Chen and Ling Xi walked towards the Counter Essence Realm. He had only been there once, but he was familiar with the path. Last time he was following the Heavenly Wolf Gang, but now he was going there alone.

Halfway through the journey, he heard someone fighting on the road. Long Chen hid himself and slowly approached the fight between two groups of people. One of the groups appeared to be from the palace as they wore the uniforms of the guards. There were seven of them, and each of them was quite strong. They were all protecting someone who looked to be twenty-five years old. The man looked similar to the Ninth Prince, and Long Chen heard the guards refer to him as “Eldest Prince.”

“Xiaolang, do you have a grudge against the Eldest Prince?” Long Chen whispered.

Long Chen remembered that Xiaolang had said that the ones he had a grudge against were the Sword Emperor, the Sword Devil, and Lin Zichen.

Xiaolang shook his head.

“No one in the imperial family is good. I will kill him today, but it seems that he’s losing?” Long Chen continued observing and saw that the other group of people were covered in black clothes. They appeared to be expert assassins and were being led by a strong middle-aged man who was about to break through the imperial guards. The man was at the Eighth River Stage, and he was going to kill the Eldest Prince!

Looks like he has the same objective as me. Long Chen decided to ignore them.

Just then, the Eldest Prince howled in anger. “Were you sent by Lin Zichen? That damned bastard. Father just said that he was going to choose a successor, and he actually sent assassins to get me?! Does he think Father is an idiot?”

“Eldest Prince, you are right. We belong to Lin Zichen’s faction, but the idiot is not the Emperor—it’s you. Our lord has always been decisive, and the Emperor loves that. As long as we kill you, no one will stop our lord from ascending to the throne!” The men in black thought they would be able to kill the Eldest Prince here, so they admitted it with ease.

“Lin Zichen is a martial maniac! He doesn’t know anything about ruling the country! I, Lin Batian, have led the military for so long to secure the borders and remove the country’s threats! I’m also educated and know how to introduce policies to the country. I am the most suitable heir. Lin Zhichen should just focus on his cultivation! If he ascends, the citizens will suffer!”

“Sorry. Our orders were to kill you. You can continue talking to the ghosts in hell.” The Eighth River Stage assassin killed the two guards that were blocking Lin Batian and attacked.

“Sky Dragon Sword Qi!” Lin Batian swung his blue sword, and the Qi transformed into a dragon that forced the assassin back!

“Sword Warriors are indeed strong, but you will still die! Goodbye, Eldest Prince!”

The man roared and his speed doubled. The other guards couldn’t even stop him when he appeared in front of Lin Batian. He punched the sword away before he attacked Lin Batian.

If his fist collided with Lin Batian’s chest, the latter would die instantly!

“Eldest Prince!” If Lin Batian died, they would all die too! The assassins would leave no witnesses.

But they couldn’t reach him in time.

Everyone shouted in despair, but the punch never reached Lin Batian. His fist stopped just ten centimeters away even though he was still holding onto the Prince.

“What happened?” Everyone ran over and saw that a sword had pierced through the assassin’s heart and came out from the back. Blood was gushing out of the wound!

The Eight River Stage assassin had been killed without warning!

Everyone was shocked. Lin Batian thought he was dead. He was in despair when he realized the killing blow never came. He opened his eyes and saw that a blade was under his armpit and was lodged inside the body of the assassin. The assassin looked down in shock too.

But his life ended right then and there. He didn’t even manage to see who had killed him.

The sword retracted and the assassin slumped to the ground slowly. Lin Batian felt a gust of wind blow past him before a flurry of shadows zipped past the remaining assassins. They all cried out in pain and collapsed in just a few seconds. The man finally stopped moving.

It was Long Chen.

Long Chen put the Star Sword away and looked at the Eldest Prince.

The reason why he had saved the Prince was because he had heard what they were talking about. Long Chen had a rough guess of what was going on in the capital. He had no idea that the imperial palace was looking for a successor to the throne at the same time as the Heavenly Demon Palace was looking for the next Palace Master. On the one hand was the strong Lin Zichen, and on the other was the talented Lin Batian.

Lin Batian could not catch up to Lin Zichen in strength, so he had decided to learn a lot of things that Lin Zichen could never excel in. Long Chen had a daring thought. All Lin Batian needed was someone strong to protect him. This could give him a chance to slip into the palace and kill some of the stronger individuals to create chaos.

“Thank you for saving my life! May I know your name?” Lin Batian was secretly happy to be alive, but he needed to stay calm and suppress his excitement. He intended to recruit Long Chen.

“No need to learn my name. I like helping others, and I can’t accept that Lin Zichen is killing others just because he has a little bit of power. Just don’t tell anyone else about me! Goodbye!” Long Chen then turned around.

“Wait, since you don’t like Lin Zichen, could you help me? He only knows how to cultivate and is clueless when it comes to ruling a kingdom. If he takes the throne, everyone will suffer. I hope that you consider my offer and help the kingdom!”

“I cannot afford to help everyone I come across. I’m sure you understand. Goodbye!” Long Chen was bluffing.

“Please help me. Once it's done, I will give you anything you want as long as it's within my capacity!” Lin Batian knelted on the ground and begged him. If the lives of others could not attract Long Chen, then he would use riches.

Lin Batian knew Long Chen was an expert after seeing him kill the Eighth River Stage assassin in one attack. Lin Batian would regret it if he let someone like that leave his grasp.

Chapter 402 - Sneaking Into the Counter Essence Realm

Hearing Lin Batian's earnest begging, Long Chen pretended to think about it. "Fine, I will think about it. Once I've decided that I will help you, I will head to the Red Sun Inn in the capital. You just need to look out for me there. If I'm there, that means I've accepted your offer."

Long Chen didn't even give him time to talk and disappeared without a trace. Lin Batian looked up and was surprised to see that Long Chen was gone! The only thing on his mind was the Red Sun Inn.

Lin Batian took a deep breath and called for the strongest guard. "Chen Xiong, come here."

"My Lord, what is it?" The youth called Chen Xiong approached the Prince.

"Do you know of anyone in the Cangyang Kingdom at that age who is very close to the Ninth River Stage? That man was incredibly strong, but I've never heard of him before."

"My Lord, there is only one who has reached the Ninth River Stage before the age of twenty-five, and that's the Fourth Prince. There seems to be one more person called Yang Danfeng who's at the Eighth River Stage, but he doesn't look like the man just now. Yang Danfeng would also never appear here."

"He's mysterious, but his strength is the real deal. Chen Xiong, do you think he would help me?"

"My Lord, he will most likely help you. He would've just left if he didn't want to, but he talked about a meeting place."

"That's good. My brother is cocky because of his strength, but that's all he has. If I can find someone to match his strength, he will be at a disadvantage! We need to return now. This place is too unsafe!"

"My Lord, what should we do to them? Should we show them to the Emperor and blame the Fourth Prince?"

"No! Let him be surprised. Let him know that it's not that simple to kill me. We can't be too obvious. I am weak, so my father never considered me as important as Lin Zichen. If my name gets too famous, he will feel revolted. We will wait until that man joins us!"

Lin Batian was not a fool.

"My Lord, you are too wise!"

“Brother Chen, are you planning on slipping into the palace using the Eldest Prince?”

“I haven’t decided yet. I’m only preparing just in case. I have a completely different identity, so I can do whatever I want as long as I don’t reveal myself. But let’s see if I can get the Nine Heaven Immortal Fruit first. I might be confident, but I’m also very prudent.”

Long Chen soon arrived at Counter Essence City. It was still the same—normal people had difficulty entering and exiting due to the large number of guards.

I’ve already shown my face to Lin Batian. There’s a chance that I will expose myself if he learns that I came here, so I need to hide my face. Long Chen took a piece of cloth and covered his face. It was the same piece of cloth that was worn by the assassin.

He then changed his outfit.

“Xiaolang, you can’t follow me this time. It’s too risky because you are too recognizable. You don’t have to stay here either. Instead, you should wait for me in that direction, ten Li away. Can you do that? I can escape with Blood Warp, so don’t worry about me.” Long Chen pointed in a direction.

He could indeed escape, but he couldn’t bring Xiaolang with him if he used Blood Warp. It was safer for Xiaolang to hide somewhere further away.

Xiaolang nodded and disappeared in the direction. Long Chen then focused on the city.

“Xiao Xi, let’s go. I couldn’t get it last time, but I will get it this time.” He was ready.

“Okay!” Ling Xi nodded, but Long Chen couldn’t see how worried she was because she was in the ear stud. The Nine Heaven Immortal Fruit was something she had coveted in the past, but now it was the object of her worries.

Long Chen took a deep breath and approached the city. Rather than using the main entrance, he used Traceless Demon Shadow to scale the wall. He used it in conjunction with the Soul Swallowing Gaze to find the weakest part of the wall before entering, so no one noticed him.

He found a section of the wall where there were no guards and entered the city from there. He then quickly hid himself in a house. When he came out, he was wearing the uniform of an Immortal Guard as well as the token. Long Chen had kept his identity token, and he was certain that no one would bother checking it.

Long Chen walked on the street and found Sorrow Moon Lake. He then plunged into it without any hesitation.

There were numerous exits, but he chose the one that led to Area Eighteen of the Elementary Zone. The exit that led to the Advanced Zone was being guarded, and they would always check the identity of those entering, so Long Chen avoided it like the plague.

The flowing water enveloped him and surged forward. When he opened his eyes, he was once again in the Counter Essence Realm. The fragrant scent of herbs reached his nose.

Long Chen noticed that the destruction left by the previous stampede was completely cleared away and the elementary-tier spiritual herbs were growing again. Yellow-tier herbs were everywhere, while Black-tier herbs could be found every few steps. The Earth-tier herbs were being guarded too.

This was where he had killed Song Yuefeng, and also the start of his escape. Rather than staying here, Long Chen used his fastest speed to zip past the guards while avoiding them using the Soul Swallowing Gaze. He headed straight towards the Advanced Zone, where the herb he needed could be found.

He realized that the Soul Swallowing Gaze was too strong. He could see all of life within a single Li and could use it to avoid everyone. With it, he moved undetected towards the Advanced Zone.

But the deeper he went, the more bizarre he felt. Something was trembling in the space, but he didn't know what it was. The closer he got to the center, the stronger the trembling got.

"What is happening ..." Long Chen stopped and checked his body, but he found nothing.

Looks like something deep in the Advanced Zone is affecting me, but what is it? Is it the Nine Heaven Immortal Fruit?

He thought that it was very likely.

"Xiao Xi, do you feel something strange?"

"No, everything is fine."

Maybe I'm overthinking. He continued his advance until he reached the Intermediate Zone. He proceeded further until came across a narrow river separating the Intermediate and the Advanced Zone. The river was projecting a wall of light that blocked him.

"Looks like a seal that separates the zones ... Maybe the Advanced Zone is protected by it." Ling Xi looked at the seal and was even more excited than how Xiaolang was when he saw the Fire Essence.

"How can I break it?" All seals were useless in front of Ling Xi.

"It's simple. You can just break it with your Demon Emperor Sword, but it will sound the alarm and everyone will rush here. I need to let you slip in without breaking it."

"Can you do it?" Long Chen frowned. There were people guarding the exit to the Advanced Zone, and now there was a wall of light. He would've never been able to slip past it quietly without Ling Xi here.

"Of course. Wait here patiently and give me some time." She started working on the wall. Some time later, she shouted, "I did it!"

She had created a small opening around a meter in diameter. Long Chen ran through it without a second thought and reached the Advanced Zone. He looked back and saw that the hole was slowly closing.

"Am I incredible?"

“Not bad. You are indeed my little Ling Xi. Once you get your body back, I will make sure to reward you for your efforts! Haha.” Long Chen laughed.

“Idiot ...” Ling Xi blushed.

Chapter 403 - Bloodseal Lotus

Long Chen looked at the zone after he teased Ling Xi. The spiritual energy in the air was denser here than in the Intermediate Zone. The mist in the sky was thicker too. There was even white mist on the ground. It was very similar to the land of the immortals as depicted in legends.

But what marked the place to be different from the lower two zones was that there were fewer herbs. Most of them were advanced Earth-tier herbs.

Long Chen also felt the trembling increase in intensity. He had a feeling that something was calling out to him, but he didn't know what it was.

I need to find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit no matter what. The rest can be done after I get it. He wasted no time and used Soul Swallowing Gaze to find his way around the place. There were a lot of intermediate Earth-tier spiritual herbs that no one was watching. Only the advanced Earth-tier ones were being guarded. Long Chen avoided several groups of guards and decided it was not worth it to pluck the advanced Earth-tier spiritual herbs. They were not that important to him in the first place.

But it would be different if he found a Heaven-tier spiritual herb, as those were very valuable.

“Xiao Xi, what tier is the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit?” Long Chen suddenly asked.

“Elementary Heaven-tier.”

“If that's the case, there should be a lot of people guarding it.” Long Chen nodded. It was as he had expected. Only a Heaven-tier spiritual herb could recover her body.

Long Chen approached the places with a lot of guards carefully after knowing what to look for. He was now deep inside the Advanced Zone. Thanks to the Soul Swallowing Gaze, he was able to see everything. He zipped around before seeing a group of people towards the south.

There are two Eighth River Stage cultivators and several Seven River Stage cultivators there. Looks like the imperial palace is stronger than I thought. The three noble families were ants compared to the imperial family.

Most of the strongest Immortal Beasts inside the Counter Essence Realm, the Category Nine Heavens-tier beasts, had been killed by the Sword Devil and Lin Zichen, so it was highly unlikely one would appear again. Two Eighth River Stage guards were considered one of the strongest groups, and it was likely that they were guarding the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit.

Long Chen had seen that one of the advanced Earth-tier spiritual herbs with strong medicinal properties was only guarded by a few Seventh River Stage cultivators.

He slowly approached them.

"I've smelled it. It's not the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, but it's definitely an Elementary Heaven-tier spiritual herb," Ling Xi suddenly said when they were two hundred meters away.

"What is it, then?" Long Chen frowned. Still, a Heaven-tier spiritual herb was a good thing even if it was not the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit.

"It's a Bloodseal Lotus. It's a spiritual herb that, after ingestion, can greatly enhance one's vitality and physique. While it doesn't increase one's strength directly, it nurtures one's organs and greatly boosts all aspects of their physical fitness. Consuming it basically gives one the powerful vitality of a demonic beast," Ling Xi explained in detail.

"So it's really good?" Long Chen asked softly.

"Indeed, the Bloodseal Lotus can enhance your physique and even greatly increase your explosive power. Of course, it must at least be paired with a Heaven-tier Body Tempering technique, though I don't know if there are any Heaven-tier martial techniques in the Cangyang Kingdom!"

"Xiao Xi, how long until the Bloodseal Lotus matures?" Long Chen was more concerned about this.

"It matured long ago. However, Heaven-tier spiritual herbs have the greatest effect if ingested directly after harvesting. The efficacy will decrease if it's plucked. If consumed several years after, the effect will be reduced by at least half. The imperial family treats the Counter Essence Realm as their backyard, so they left the Bloodseal Lotus here. It's also possible that other Heaven-tier spiritual herbs are already mature, including the Nine Heavens Immortal Spirit Fruit," Ling Xi said.

"So you mean I can harvest it?" Long Chen's eyes lit up.

"Brother Chen, do you want to harvest it? Aren't you afraid of causing a commotion?" Ling Xi asked.

Long Chen thought for a moment and said, "Well, let's wait until I find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit first. Then we can come back. Let's go."

Ling Xi knew that Long Chen wanted the Bloodseal Lotus, but his priority was the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, which made Ling Xi feel even more appreciated.

But what would happen after they obtained the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit?

Ling Xi was confused.

They would never meet again.

She was afraid of that.

While she was lost in thought, Long Chen continued scouting the area. He noted the location of the Bloodseal Lotus and then decided which direction to go next.

It's that direction ... Something is attracting me. I hope it's the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, Long Chen thought in his heart as he subconsciously headed in that direction.

The direction he was heading in was actually the center of the Advanced Zone.

Thanks to the Soul Swallowing Gaze, Long Chen didn't have to worry about being discovered. He ran past many advanced Earth-tier spiritual herbs along the way, but he didn't see any Heaven-tier spiritual herbs again. It seemed there were not more than five of them in the Counter Essence Realm.

The closer he got to the center of the zone, the stronger Long Chen's trembling became. He felt something strange about his body, but he couldn't figure out exactly what it was.

"Xiao Xi, do you feel anything wrong?" Long Chen was really confused.

"I really don't, Brother Chen. Do you feel something? Tell me about it."

"I'm not sure. It's just ahead. Let's keep going!"

Long Chen continued on his way. After about half an hour, he once again used the Soul Swallowing Gaze to see that there were many Immortal Guards ahead guarding another spiritual herb. This time, there were no Seventh River Stage guards, but three Eighth River Stage guards!

Three Eighth River Stage guards ... It's very likely to be the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit! Long Chen was excited and hurried ahead. The temptation of the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit made him forget about that strange feeling.

About two hundred meters away, Long Chen nervously asked, "Xiao Xi, do you feel it? Is it the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit?"

Ling Xi frowned for a while before answering, "It's not the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, but another Heaven-tier spiritual herb called the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit! The Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit is said to grow at the place where the ancient dragon, the Eight Desolate Fire Dragon, died. It grows by absorbing the essence of the Eight Desolate Fire Dragon. Not only does it contain the essence of the ancient dragon, which can enhance one's physique and comprehension, but the fire attribute energy within it can enhance the fire power of whoever consumes it. If Xiaolang ate it, he could reach the Category Nine Earth-tier!"

"Another amazing herb! And it also has great benefits for Xiaolang. Unfortunately, I can't steal it before getting the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit." Long Chen sighed.

Upon discovering that it was the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit instead of the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, Long Chen felt somewhat disappointed. Just at this moment, he suddenly felt a powerful force pressing down on his head. He quickly looked up and saw the dense, white clouds in the sky dispersing. In just a few breaths, the vast sky was revealed just above him!

"What's going on?"

Long Chen was confused. He then saw a large, translucent rune appear in the empty sky!

The rune was strange. He looked closely and saw that it was shimmering with white light.

Following that, a dragon roar shook the heavens and the earth. Then the rune rotated rapidly and transformed into a huge, translucent ancient dragon!

It didn't look very different from the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon, but Long Chen could tell that they were two completely different dragons! The Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon was ferocious and bloodthirsty, while this dragon gave people a strange illusory feeling!

Long Chen's mind shook when he saw the dragon.

"Xiao Xi! Did you notice that the dragon shadow in the sky is exactly the same as the dragon-shaped rune I found before?!" Long Chen was horrified. He finally realized why he felt like something was trembling. It wasn't him, but the mysterious stone talisman in his Universe Pouch!

"It seems so..." Ling Xi was also stunned at this moment.

While Long Chen was shocked, the dragon in the sky suddenly looked towards Long Chen. Two illusory rays of light burst out of its eyes and entered Long Chen's eyes!

Long Chen suddenly felt a tremor in his mind! At this moment, the mysterious Dragon Jade Pendant in his sea of consciousness trembled!

Chapter 404 - Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit

The Dragon Jade even reacted to it. This indicated that there was something special about the dragon illusion in the sky! When the dancing dragon's eyes projected a ray of light into Long Chen's eyes, Long Chen felt the entire world disappear. He looked around in shock and found himself in the middle of a river. The substance flowing in the river was not water, but strange, invisible ripples. The invisible ripples were like gusts of wind rushing past him, never to return.

As the ripples flowed past him, Long Chen felt his body rapidly aging. Wrinkles gradually appeared on his skin, his back became bent, his white hair turned pale, and his strength disappeared. It was a completely irresistible force!

Long Chen was a helpless bystander, unable to stop his rapid aging. The river flowed quickly, and he soon aged beyond recognition. His body weakened and his last breath left his body before he realized he was dead.

"Ahh!"

Long Chen woke up in shock, looking around to find himself back in the Counter Essence Realm. The strange river around him had disappeared. He quickly checked his body and found that there was no change at all. He was still fine! He hadn't aged at all, and everything appeared to be just an illusion.

However, it was quite a terrifying experience.

At this moment, Long Chen noticed that the translucent dragon in the sky was no longer looking at him but was flying around above his head. Due to its presence, the three guards protecting the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit, who were at the Eighth River Stage, all noticed Long Chen!

This earth-shattering anomaly was very likely related to Long Chen. They immediately rushed over, and one of them looked at Long Chen and shouted, "Who are you? Show me your identity token!"

If these three guys weren't killed, it would cause a huge commotion. Long Chen used the Soul Swallowing Gaze to see that there was no one within a single Li. He quickly made up his mind. Now that the dragon had exposed him, the only way out was to kill them all.

Without hesitation, Long Chen unsheathed the Demon Emperor Sword and rushed towards one of the guards. At this moment, even without using the Dragon Soul Transformation or the Demon Seed Planting Technique, he had about four times more Qi than them, so his speed was far beyond theirs!

"Demon Emperor Sword Qi!" Long Chen's eyes were cold as he wildly lashed out. The Immortal Guard at the front was taken aback and hurriedly defended himself. However, he couldn't stop the

Demon Emperor Sword Qi. His Intermediate Earth-tier defensive technique was instantly broken by Long Chen. The Demon Emperor Sword Qi directly hit him and cut him in half!

He died instantly.

"The Demon Emperor Sword! You are from the Heavenly Demon Palace!"

"Brother Zhang!"

The two Eighth River Stage warriors shouted. They cooperated with each other to take down Long Chen. One of them used all his techniques to attack while the other took out the horn from his waist. Since Long Chen refused to show his identity token and was wearing a mask, he was obviously not from the imperial family! The guard needed to alert the others.

"Shadow Sword Technique!" Long Chen didn't give them a chance. He used Traceless Demon Shadow and disappeared. The two Eighth River Stage warriors couldn't resist Long Chen's fierce attacks, so he easily killed the one fighting him. The one who was about to blow the horn suddenly saw a black shadow flash in front of him. Horrified, he punched out to defend himself, but it was too late. Long Chen's Demon Emperor Sword pierced through his horn, stabbed into his throat, and cut through his neck!

The three Eighth River Stage guards had been killed before they could blow the horn. Long Chen didn't stop there though. He immediately picked the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit!

"With the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit, Xiaolang will definitely be able to reach the Category Nine Earth-tier. No one will be able to stop us when we storm the palace." Long Chen carefully placed the hot and fiery red fruit into a jade box and then into his Universe Pouch.

Just as he was opening his Universe Pouch, a ray of light flew past Long Chen's eyes. He had forgotten about the dragon in the sky because he had been focused on killing the three Immortal Guards. The ray of light flew out of his Universe Pouch and rushed towards the dragon in the sky!

The translucent divine dragon let out an earth-shattering roar, and its huge body swiftly wrapped around the mysterious stone talisman. It rapidly spun and gradually turned invisible. At this moment, Long Chen had a feeling that the translucent dragon and the mysterious stone talisman were actually related.

"Brother Chen, I know what's going on. I said before that the stone talisman lost its spiritual energy and became useless. Now I understand. The dragon just now is actually the spirit of the stone talisman. They were separated by some force, and now they are fusing again. If the fusion is successful, you might obtain another treasure!" Lingxi exclaimed excitedly!

"Is that true?" Long Chen was also very surprised, but he had his worries. He had caused such a big commotion but still hadn't found the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. Although he had the stone talisman, no matter how precious it was, it was not as important to Long Chen as the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit!

Well, since it's already caused such a commotion, let's just make it bigger. It's not like anyone in the Counter Essence Realm can beat me. I'm sure I'll find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit or even the Bloodseal Lotus if I just search the entire place! Long Chen decided not to be stealthy anymore.

The fusion of the stone talisman and the dragon-shaped rune exceeded Long Chen's expectations. He would never have thought that such a situation would occur!

Lingxi had said that it was a treasure, and the mysterious Dragon Jade Pendant in his sea of consciousness was still reacting to it. The Dragon Jade Pendant was the most mysterious object on Long Chen's body, with the ability to suppress even the Inherited Blood Essence of the Dragon Ancestor. It was the most incredible gift he had received from Long Qinglan.

He still needed to keep his identity a secret even though he was going to cause a ruckus. That meant he needed to kill anyone who recognized him.

Long Chen had no mercy for the imperial family. He would have died countless times during his escape from the capital if it weren't for his luck. Now he was here for revenge against the imperial family, and the first step was killing the Sword Devil!

Just as Long Chen thought of the Sword Devil, a figure swiftly approached him. He knew that it was the Sword Devil. Long Chen had always intended to go to him, but he had come instead!

Just a few breaths later, the Sword Devil appeared in front of Long Chen. His eyes were like sharp swords. He first looked at the mysterious situation in the sky, then immediately shifted his gaze to Long Chen. His voice was filled with killing intent when he asked, "Kid, who are you?"

"Someone who's here to take your life!" Long Chen smirked and attacked the Sword Devil!

"A mere Eighth River Stage cultivator actually dares to be arrogant in front of me? What has this world come to?" The Sword Devil chuckled coldly. His arms shook and his Universe Pouch opened. Numerous black swords shot outwards and floated in front of the Sword Devil.

Long Chen saw a total of nine black swords!

"Surprised, aren't you? This is my exclusive technique, the Nine Heaven Battle Swords! I can control nine swords to attack you. How could you possibly oppose me?" the Sword Devil explained with a chuckle.

He held one sword in each hand, while the other swords were suspended around him. This method of controlling swords in midair was extraordinary!

It seemed that the Sword Devil's Qi was lacking, but his control over the swords was extraordinary since he could control so many using only his Qi!

Since the guy claimed to be a devil, there had to be something amazing about him!

Long Chen had put away the Demon Emperor Sword after he killed the three guards earlier. This time, however, he didn't take out the Demon Emperor Sword, but the Star Sword. He wanted to try killing the Sword Devil without exposing himself. If he had to reveal his identity, then he had to kill the opponent without fail!

"You want to fight all nine of my advanced Earth-tier swords with one advanced Earth-tier sword? Let me tell you, the Nine Heaven Battle Swords is the strongest technique in the Cangyang Kingdom. Apart from the Emperor Sword, other sword techniques are nothing compared to the Nine Heaven Battle Swords!"

"You'll find out soon enough whether I'm weak or not." Long Chen smirked. He estimated that the entire Counter Essence Realm knew what was happening at this point. However, people from the Elementary and Intermediate Zones couldn't come over, so there was no one within a Li radius of

Long Chen. His goal was to kill the Sword Devil before anyone showed up and extract information about the Nine Heaven Immortal Fruit from him!

Time was of the essence!

With this in mind, Long Chen didn't hesitate anymore. He held up the Star Sword and suddenly attacked the Sword Devil!

Chapter 405 - Nine Heavens Battle Sword

"You insolent fool!" Seeing that Long Chen dared to provoke him and even killed three Eighth River Stage Immortal Guards, the Sword Devil was truly angry. However, he also had a very important question in his mind: who exactly was Long Chen?

As long as I kill you, I can find out who you are. Do you think you can hide your identity from me? The Sword Devil did not hold back.

Long Chen had already approached him. The Star Sword instantly rose and turned into countless images that slashed towards the opponent. The residual images shrouded over the Sword Devil's head and ripped through the air.

"A trivial trick." The Sword Devil sneered. His eyes flickered, and his nine swords moved vigorously and emitted sharp whistling sounds. The swords arranged themselves in a circular formation in front of the Sword Devil!

"Let me show you my technique! Let's see if you survive this!" The Sword Devil laughed madly, and his Ninth River Stage Qi erupted. Streams of Qi extended from his body and connected to the nine swords, which started to rotate violently!

"Nine Heaven Battle Swords!"

He used his Qi to position the rotating swords to form a huge cone, and the tip was aimed at Long Chen's Star Sword!

Clang! Clang! Clang!

The sound of weapons clashing erupted wildly. Long Chen could feel the impact shattering the Star Sword. The broken shrapnel exploded and shot outwards!

"Die!" All of this was within the Sword Devil's expectations. He had planned to shatter Long Chen's sword using the nine advanced Earth-tier swords. As long as continued his attack, Long Chen would die.

However, he had underestimated Long Chen.

Losing the Star Sword made Long Chen realize that he wouldn't be able to kill the Sword Devil without revealing his identity. If he wanted to survive, he had to expose who he was. Also, he had to kill the Sword Devil in a very short time!

Watching the nine swords about to pierce his body, what Long Chen felt was not despair but rather excitement. His body suddenly swayed and he avoided the attack of the Nine Heaven Battle Swords. The swords circled back to the Sword Devil. During this time, Long Chen's body rapidly transformed. Blood-red scales quickly covered his body and he assumed his strongest form.

"Soul Beast Transformation, blood-red dragon scales?" The Sword Devil was extremely surprised when Long Chen evaded his attack, and seeing Long Chen's transformed form reminded him of something. He rapidly searched his memories and was stunned when he remembered who Long Chen was.

The events that took place three months ago. Although the Sword Devil was stationed in Counter Essence City, he was well aware of what had transpired. More importantly, he had seen Long Chen before. Long Chen had killed the guards and escaped from the Counter Essence Realm, and what he had done during his escape had astonished the Sword Devil. He only knew that Long Chen had been rescued by the Heavenly Demon Palace, and now he was back?

The Sword Devil actually felt a slight chill run down his spine.

"You are Long Chen! What you just used looked like one of the three secret techniques of the Heavenly Demon Palace, Traceless Demon Shadow!" The Sword Devil's mind was filled with unimaginable horror.

Long Chen didn't answer him. Instead, he immediately followed up with the Demon Seed Planting Technique. His Qi soared again, surpassing that of the Sword Devil!

"Demon Seed Planting Technique!" This time, the Sword Devil was truly shocked. Long Chen had only fled to the Heavenly Demon Palace three months ago, yet he had already learned two of the Heavenly Demon Palace's secret techniques. Accomplishing so much in such a short time was unheard of! What kind of cultivation had Long Chen gone through?

"Long Chen, you came back to the Biyang Imperial City for revenge, right? Unfortunately, you ran into me first! Even though you know Traceless Demon Shadow and the Demon Seed Planting Technique, your attacks are only at the level of the Eighth River Stage. Now that your identity is exposed, you are doomed to die!" The Sword Devil laughed wildly.

"Is that so? Then here's something even more surprising..." At this moment, Long Chen opened his eyes shrouded in black mist. He had far more Qi than the Sword Devil!

"More surprising?" The Sword Devil didn't know what to expect, but then he saw Long Chen gradually pull out a Divine Arm enveloped in demonic energy! When the Sword Devil the sword, his mind went blank, and he muttered in a daze, "Demon... Emperor... Sword..."

When Long Chen took out the Demon Emperor Sword, the Sword Devil's heart fell from heaven to hell. The Heavenly Demon Palace had three secret techniques, and the most precious was the Demon Emperor Sword Technique. Long Chen had proven that he was capable of utilizing two of them, and he had the Demon Emperor Sword in his possession. The Sword Devil refused to believe that Long Chen didn't have the Demon Emperor Sword Technique!

In other words, Long Chen had received the complete inheritance from the Heavenly Demon Palace. He only needed to elevate his cultivation level to the Heavenly Passage Realm, and he would be another Heavenly Demon Palace Master like Zhao Qingyun!

Long Chen was undoubtedly supremely talented, or he wouldn't have accomplished so much in so little time. And now that he had been given adequate resources and power, the Sword Devil didn't know what would happen. He stared at the terrifying Demon Emperor Sword, unable to utter a single word!

When Long Chen took out the Demon Emperor Sword, he was ready to take the Sword Devil's life!

"You destroyed my Star Sword just now. I've used that sword for some time. So..." When Long Chen said this, he suddenly used Traceless Demon Shadow. Instantly, his body split into a million shadows, making it impossible to distinguish which was real and which was fake. His attacks instantly descended upon the Sword Devil's head!

"Impossible!" The Sword Devil refused to accept that he would lose here, but that didn't stop him from desperately trying to save himself. At this moment, he suddenly focused on the Nine Heaven Battle Swords and circulated his Qi. The swords howled as they swirled around furiously and lunged towards Long Chen.

"Nine Heavens Battle Swords, Heaven and Earth Evisceration!"

The swords flew towards Long Chen with great force one by one. Each of them was like a massive claw that threatened to tear him apart.

Such a fierce attack! Even the First Demon Elder might not be able to withstand it!

Long Chen secretly admired the technique. Although there were only two members of the imperial family at the Ninth River Stage, both were extraordinary individuals. With the Sword Devil's strength, he could probably match the First Demon Elder. The First Demon Elder excelled in the Demon Seed Planting Technique, while the Sword Devil was obviously skilled in attacking!

However, Long Chen was so strong that he overwhelmed the Sword Devil in every aspect!

"Demon Emperor Sword Qi!" After evading the Sword Devil's attack, Long Chen suddenly swung his sword, and black Sword Qi collided with the Nine Heaven Battle Swords. The tremendous power even caused an explosion!

Clang! Clang! Clang!

This time, the situation was completely opposite to the last time. Long Chen's Star Sword had been shredded in the previous clash, but now four of the Sword Devil's swords were shattered by Long Chen's Demon Emperor Sword. If the Sword Devil hadn't hurriedly withdrawn the remaining five swords in a panic, they would probably have all been destroyed!

"Long Chen, these swords are even more important than my life! You actually destroyed them!" The Sword Devil cherished his swords as much as his life. After Long Chen destroyed four of them, he let out a roar in rage. At this point, he quit trying to figure out how Long Chen had become so powerful and focused only on killing him!

"Die!" The Sword Devil's eyes were bloodshot now, and his Qi surged violently. To Long Chen's surprise, the five swords merged into one!

"My swords can fuse into a Divine Arm at the Elementary Heaven-tier. Long Chen, it's all your fault. You made me lose my Heaven-tier Divine Arm. You will pay with your life! Let me show you the Heaven-tier sword technique of the imperial family!"

The Sword Devil let out a roar. Now with only a single sword, he shot towards Long Chen. He swung his sword violently, and a sky-rending ray of Sword Qi surged forth. The Qi slashed toward Long Chen diagonally! This massive attack was at least ten times stronger than his previous one!

This was undoubtedly the Sword Devil's most powerful move!

"Die! Imperial Heaven Sword!"

The overbearing Sword Qi seemed powerful enough to tear the heavens and earth apart. Long Chen could feel that the entire Counter Essence Realm trembling!

"You only know a single Heaven-tier sword technique?" Long Chen chuckled and took a few steps back. While retreating, black mist began to envelop the Demon Emperor Sword. It gradually transformed into a long snake entwining the Demon Emperor Sword. At this moment, Long Chen's expression remained calm and his aura erupted with a loud bang, then he suddenly swung his sword!

The world instantly lost all color and the heavens were turned upside down!

"Demon Emperor Sword Technique... Supreme Emperor Sword!"

With this move, an even more terrifying Sword Qi erupted, and it was aimed directly at the Sword Devil's Imperial Heaven Sword!

The Supreme Emperor Sword was the first technique of the Demon Emperor Sword Technique. Since Long Chen had almost as much Qi as a cultivator the Heavenly Passage Realm, the attack was exceedingly strong!

Chapter 406 - Supreme Emperor Sword

When Long Chen used the Supreme Emperor Sword, despair flashed in the eyes of the Sword Devil. But soon, it was overshadowed by his madness. He roared furiously and used all of his Qi. He wanted to take Long Chen down with him!

This kid is only at the Eighth River Stage. How could he unleash such a powerful technique? The momentum of the Supreme Emperor Sword is even more terrifying than my Imperial Heaven Sword!

As this thought flashed through the mind of the Sword Devil, the Imperial Heaven Sword and the Supreme Emperor Sword clashed, causing the entire Counter Essence Realm to tremble violently. For a moment, the world lost its color. The dense, white clouds in the sky dispersed and all the spiritual herbs around them turned into powder in that instant!

"Break!" Long Chen roared. The black sword Qi emitted by the Demon Emperor Sword shattered the Imperial Heaven Sword. With a loud explosion, the sword in the Sword Devil's hand turned into fragments. Long Chen's attack forced the shrapnel into the Sword Devil's body, covering him in cuts and blood. Then the attack of the Demon Emperor Sword finally descended upon the Sword Devil and violently sent him flying backward. Although Long Chen didn't kill the Sword Devil immediately, the attack had inflicted a life-threatening injury!

In a real showdown of strength, the Sword Devil was no match for Long Chen. Long Chen had suppressed him completely!

When the dust settled, Long Chen caught the Sword Devil and pressed him onto the ground. The Sword Devil's vision was blurry and his whole body was in excruciating pain. His internal organs were almost shattered, and there wasn't a single intact bone in his body. The pieces of his broken sword were pushed deeper into his body and heavily mutilated him.

"Long Chen..." With one remaining eye, the Sword Devil looked at Long Chen. He had never imagined that he would die at the hands of such a young man. Seeing the cold expression on this young man's face, he realized how terrifying Long Chen truly was.

This young man had killed Song Yuefeng, the Ninth Prince, the six commanders, and even Song Zhongcheng! Long Chen seemed like a legend, and another accomplishment had been added to the list. The Sword Devil shuddered to think what kind of conflict would erupt in the imperial city.

The Sword Devil felt that he was just the first. In the future, Long Chen would kill many more people. With Long Chen's current strength, he could confront Lin Zichen, who was even more powerful than the Sword Devil. Long Chen was indeed powerful, but Lin Zichen couldn't be written off. No one knew who was stronger ...

The only thing the Sword Devil didn't understand was why Long Chen hadn't killed him immediately.

At that moment, Long Chen pressed him down and leaned close to the Sword Devil. "Tell me, where is the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit?"

"No way..." Although he didn't know what Long Chen wanted to do with the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, there was absolutely no way he would give him what he wanted.

The phrase "no way" indicated that there was definitely a Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit here. Otherwise, the Sword Devil wouldn't have said that.

"Think carefully. Tell me the location of the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. Otherwise, I will take away all the spiritual herbs and kill all of the Immortal Guards here until I find it. I will get my hands on it one way or another. Choose," Long Chen threatened.

The Sword Devil's lifelong duty was to guard the imperial family's Counter Essence Realm. If Long Chen really did that, the Counter Essence Realm would be destroyed. Before dying, the Sword Devil weighed his options and said, "It's useless even if I tell you. The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit is something my brother wants. You came at the wrong time. He took the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit a month ago..."

"What?!" Long Chen was stunned.

"You can continue your search If you don't believe me. I discovered the anomaly in the Counter Essence Realm, and I warned my brother about it immediately. If you have the guts, search the place all you want..." After saying this, the Sword Devil didn't give Long Chen a chance to kill him as he succumbed to his injuries.

"Shit!"

Long Chen didn't believe the Sword Devil's words, but he didn't want to risk it. What if the Sword Emperor really came here? Long Chen would be done for. He didn't want to die right now.

"Brother Chen, look at the sky! They finished merging. Take the stone talisman! It might be an amazing treasure!"

Ling Xi only spoke after the Sword Devil was dead. Now was an important time, and every single second counted.

Long Chen realized that Ling Xi knew he would defeat the Sword Devil, so her attention had been focused on the stone talisman. Now that the fight was over, she quickly updated Long Chen on the situation. Long Chen looked up and saw that the stone talisman had resumed its original appearance.

Without any hesitation, he jumped up, grabbed the talisman, and placed it in his Universe Pouch. At that moment, he only had time to discover that the stone tablet seemed to have a life of its own. However, after holding it for a while, it seemed to have accepted Long Chen without any resistance.

Long Chen planned to study this thing after he was out of this place. For now, he decided to find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit as quickly as possible. He had decided that if he couldn't find it within fifteen minutes, he would believe the Sword Devil's words and leave the Counter Essence Realm!

Thinking of this, Long Chen headed towards the Bloodseal Lotus using his fastest speed. The Soul Swallowing Gaze made everything much easier for him, so it didn't take long for him to arrive. Most of the guards had been attracted by the commotion and were currently heading to where Long Chen had fought the Sword Devil. He had avoided them using the Soul Swallowing Gaze.

An Eighth River Stage and several Seventh River Stage guards were not enough to stop Long Chen. He was a blur of red when he swept through them, and the Demon Emperor Sword instantly took away all their lives!

"Bloodseal Lotus acquired!" Long Chen put the Bloodseal Lotus into a jade box and quickly stored it in his Universe Pouch.

"Xiao Xi, we have less than fifteen minutes left. If we can't find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, we will leave!"

"Brother Chen, forget about the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. It won't be good if the Sword Emperor comes here!" Ling Xi was still hesitant about acquiring the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, so she didn't want it as much as before.

"No, I must try again!" Long Chen said decisively and quickly moved. With the Soul Swallowing Gaze highlighting every single living being within a Li, Long Chen planned to search the area in a carpet sweep!

He guessed that when the Counter Essence Realm experienced abnormalities, the Sword Devil would send a signal to the Sword Emperor. When the Sword Emperor received the signal, it would take roughly fifteen minutes for him, with his Heavenly Passage Realm strength, to arrive at the Counter Essence City. Long Chen had killed the Sword Devil in less than fifteen minutes, so he had less time than that to find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit!

He didn't pause for even a moment, only getting faster and faster! Whenever he discovered the location of a strong individual, Long Chen swiftly approached them just like how he had done with the Bloodseal Lotus. Even though a huge commotion had kicked off in the Counter Essence Realm, there would still be at least one Eighth River Stage guard guarding each spiritual herb!

Time passed as Long Chen combed the area. He found several Eighth River Stage experts, but they were not guarding spiritual herbs. More than half of them were heading towards where the Sword Devil had died!

"Brother Chen, time's up. I think what the Sword Devil said is true. We haven't detected a single trace of the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, so it must've been taken by the Sword Emperor. If we don't leave now, we won't stand a chance once the Sword Emperor arrives!" Ling Xi urged him anxiously.

"Fuck!" Long Chen punched the ground and cracked it!

"Fine! Since the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit is with him, I'll kill him and take it if he hasn't used it. I'm sure I'll be able to kill him once I reach the Ninth River Stage and transform into my dragon form!"

In the end, Long Chen failed to find the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. He had searched through most of the Advanced Zone of the Counter Essence Realm, and he had no choice but to give up and head towards the exit!

On the way, Ling Xi saw Long Chen's gloomy face and tried to console him. "Brother Chen, don't be angry. I am not in a hurry. The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit can wait. Moreover, we found two Heaven-tier spiritual herbs and also the mysterious stone talisman ..."

"I know, Xiao Xi. You don't need to comfort me," Long Chen said when he reached the entrance of the Advanced Zone. He had located it earlier when he was searching. Long Chen changed back to his previous appearance and became a twenty-five-year-old man again.

Someone will definitely stop us at the exit once we head out of here. I will use Blood Warp and escape to where Xiaolang is! Long Chen took a deep breath and ran out of the entrance. Sure enough, countless attacks descended on him in an instant, including attacks from Eighth River Stage warriors. However, Long Chen had anticipated this. He instantly activated Blood Warp and disappeared in front of everyone. He was nothing but a blur of red.

The people looked at each other in shock.

"Where did he go?"

Chapter 407 - The Sword Emperor's Appearance

Blood Warp was the least used technique that Long Chen had obtained from the Inherited Blood Essence, but it was by no means weak.

He had used it to escape the Category Nine Earth-tier beast even though he was only at the Fourth River Stage. Now that he was at the Eighth River Stage, his speed had increased dramatically to the point that he disappeared the moment he used it.

Everyone was stunned by his disappearance. "Where is he? Wasn't he here just now? Where did he go?"

"Did he escape?"

"Probably. He's probably a peerless individual if the Sword Devil had to go in himself. It's impossible that all of us were hallucinating at the same time. He must be so strong that he managed to escape all of us!"

"We need to enter the Counter Essence Realm and see what has happened! Since he managed to escape, does that mean the Sword Devil lost to him?"

The leader barked orders after ascertaining what had happened.

“Impossible! He must’ve escaped from the Sword Devil! Chase him! Leave three people guarding the entrance and the rest of us will search around the area with me! He could be hiding nearby!”

“Sir, do we need to send someone inside? We don’t know what’s going on in the realm.”

“Yes. You, and you! Enter the Counter Essence Realm to discover what the situation is inside. Ask for a report there!”

“Yes, Sir!” Two cultivators ran into the Counter Essence Realm while three of them stood guard at the entrance. The rest followed the leader and combed Counter Essence City.

A short moment later, everyone felt incredible pressure coming from the top of Counter Essence City. Regardless of what they were doing, all of them kneeled and shouted, “Greetings, Sword Emperor!”

As soon as the greeting was given, one of the guards ran out of the Counter Essence Realm, shouting in a panic, rage, and despair, “Bad news! The Sword Devil has been killed! The Heaven-tier spiritual herbs are missing too!”

Because it was incredibly silent outside, his shout was heard throughout the city, and everyone was shocked.

“What?!” the Sword Emperor yelled.

The messenger was suddenly killed and died with blood coming out of his orifices.

Everyone knew what had happened. The Sword Emperor, the most powerful individual in the Cangyang Kingdom, had killed him with his mere voice.

Long Chen was ten Li away by the time everyone realized what was happening. He had used almost all of his Qi just to get that far. Even though he had a lot of Qi, it was insufficient for him to sustain the cost of Blood Warp!

He then used the Soul Swallowing Gaze and found where Xiaolang was. He stopped and immediately shouted, “Xiaolang, we need to run towards that direction now!”

He had detected a dangerous presence coming from the imperial city while escaping using Blood Warp. It was a pressure given off by someone at the Heavenly Passage Realm. Long Chen realized he was outmatched. Even though he was ten Li away, he was hesitant to take it slow.

Xiaolang was no fool. The moment Long Chen called out to him, he transformed into his battle form and carried Long Chen towards the direction he had pointed to. Because they were only ten Li away from Counter Essence City, Long Chen didn’t want to risk being discovered despite the Sword Emperor not knowing where they had gone.

Long Chen had chosen to go south. He had depleted his Qi thanks to Blood Warp, so he was immobilized on Xiaolang's back while trying to catch his breath. Just as they started escaping, they heard a thunderous roar coming from Counter Essence City. The voice shook the very earth even though they were ten Li away. Long Chen shuddered when he thought about what would've happened to him if he hadn't escaped fast enough.

Thankfully, I listened to Xiaoxi and escaped just in time.

Xiaolang ran as fast as he could towards the south. Time slowly passed while he ran uninterrupted in the wilderness. Half a day later, Long Chen stopped him. They were almost a thousand Li away and were sure that the Sword Emperor would not chase them this far.

Long Chen collapsed onto the ground in the forest with Xiaolang. The latter confirmed that they were safe before asking Ling Xi what had happened.

She told him what they had done in the Counter Essence Realm in detail. By the time she was finished, both he and Long Chen had recovered their Qi. Another half a day had passed by that point.

The situation just now was indeed very dangerous.

After stopping and catching their breath, Long Chen talked to Ling Xi, who reminded him of their harvest. Even though they hadn't managed to get the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, they had come out with three treasures.

If the Sword Devil was telling the truth, the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit might really be in the clutches of the Sword Emperor. I can't fight him yet, so it's best not to reveal myself for now. It seems that I have to keep a low profile if I want to take revenge for both me and Xiaolang by killing the Sword Emperor ..."

Long Chen settled down to think about his next move.

Xiaolang was naturally very happy after learning that one of the three people he had a grudge with, the Sword Devil, was killed. Though he would've been happier if he had done the deed himself.

Just then, Long Chen called Xiaolang over and took out a jade box from his Universe Pouch. "Xiaolang, I really have to thank you for just now. This is your reward. Take it and refine it now. This is a safe place!"

Xiaolang knew that it was something that would make him stronger the moment he sensed the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit. He was very sensitive to items with the fire attribute, much less the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit, a Heaven-tier herb. He was pleasantly surprised as the spiritual herb would be a delicious meal for him.

He gave Long Chen a thankful gaze and took the fruit to refine it elsewhere. When he returned, he was at the peak of Earth-tier beasts. He was now a Category Nine Earth-tier beast!

Xiaolang's newfound strength will be of great help to me. Unfortunately, I can't bring him into the capital, as he will be recognized. Since it's not that urgent to kill the Sword Emperor, I should aim for someone I can take out right now—Lin Zichen!

Long Chen would never forget how Lin Zichen had used the Imperial Sword Qi and forced Ling Xi to give up the Profound Jade Lotus. Lin Zichen had been arrogant back then, but now Long Chen was strong enough to take him on!

I will give you a big surprise.

“Brother Chen, what are you going to do with the Bloodseal Lotus and the stone talisman?” Ling Xi was more interested in the stone talisman.

“Can I refine it even without a Heaven-tier Body Tempering technique?” Long Chen was confused.

“You can refine it, but since you don’t have a Heaven-tier Body Tempering technique, the Bloodseal Lotus energy will temporarily be stored in your body. It will then exhibit its power once you have one in the future.”

Long Chen nodded. “In that case, we should check the stone talisman first.”

It would be Long Chen’s largest reward if he was lucky, but he still remembered how two days had passed in just a breath’s time when he infused it with his Qi. He would be more careful now.

He took out the stone talisman and examined it. The translucent dragon illusion was clearer this time.

“What is this? I can’t even look inside of it.” Ling Xi was worried. She flew around the stone talisman but failed to see what it was. “That’s strange. There’s not even a seal on it, but it’s as if there’s a strange fog covering it.” Ling Xi tilted her head in confusion.

She looked cute when she frowned like that.

“Should I infuse some Qi again?” Long Chen asked tentatively.

“Aren’t you afraid that a few years will pass in the blink of an eye?” Ling Xi was worried.

A few years? Long Chen suddenly recalled his experience in the Counter Essence Realm. Back then, the translucent dragon illusion in the sky projected two rays of light into his eyes, and he felt like he was standing in a river that made him age rapidly.

Wait, is that river the passage of time?

Long Chen tried recalling how Ling Xi had told him before that one of the Dragon Ancestors controlled time itself and was much stronger than the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon.

While he thought about that, the Dragon Jade Pendant inside his sea of consciousness suddenly moved. The moment it did, a strong suction force was exerted on the stone talisman. Before Long Chen realized it, the stone talisman was forced to his torso and merged into it.

Chapter 408 - Primordial Dragon Talisman

“What?!” Long Chen was shocked when the stone talisman stuck to his chest. He lost control of his body and couldn’t move when it happened. The talisman embedded itself into his chest and fused with his muscles, becoming one with his body.

The Dragon Jade Pendant inside his sea of consciousness stopped moving. Long Chen looked down at his chest and saw that there weren’t any big changes except that now there was a dragon illusion at the center of his chest that flickered from time to time, just like how the translucent dragon illusion appeared in the Counter Essence Realm.

The stone talisman fused with me? Long Chen was about to ask Ling Xi what was happening when a stream of information entered his mind. He soon knew what it was.

The stone talisman ... It’s called the Primordial Dragon Talisman ...

This was what Long Chen had learned from the information in his mind. He also learned that the Primordial Dragon Talisman was a rare object. While he did not know where it had come from, he knew that it had accepted him as its owner. Due to his low cultivation level, he could only wield part of its power, but it was already almost as strong as some of the techniques of the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon!

“Brother Chen, how is it?” Ling Xi asked hurriedly when he was back to normal.

“I think it recognized me as its owner after fusing with my body. It’s called the Primordial Dragon Talisman!” He told her everything.

“Is that so? Primordial Dragon Talisman ... Is it related to the Dragon Ancestor that could control time?” Ling Xi was excited to learn about it.

“I don’t know, but I know that I can use an incredible skill with it!” Long Chen smiled mysteriously.

“What is it? Please tell me!”

“It’s nothing short of overpowered. It’s called ‘Rewind!’”

“Rewind?” She didn’t know what it meant.

Long Chen slowly explained, “Rewind allows me to rewind my own time! That’s the most I can do right now, but if I get stronger, I might be able to use it on others!”

“What use is that? If you used it and returned yourself to three months ago, you would only be at the Fourth River Stage!”

“You dolt!” Long Chen chuckled at her. “I can’t go back that far. If I used all my strength, I could only rewind time for up to ten breaths.”

“Then isn’t it extremely useless?” Ling Xi was still confused. She didn’t see why Long Chen was so excited.

“Ling Xi, I just realized you can be slow at times.” Long Chen poked her head.

“Just tell me. I really don’t know.” She pouted.

“Think about it. If I were fighting someone and was on death’s door, I could use it and return my body to how it was ten breaths ago! That effectively means I have one chance to escape death! If I was fine ten breaths ago, I could rewind time and restore myself! This is immortality! As long as they don’t kill me outright in one blow, I can come back for a second wind! It’s an overpowered Life Combat Technique!”

Ling Xi finally understood his excitement.

“Wait, it’s that strong?” Ling Xi was surprised. She only knew that Long Chen had the Inherited Blood Essence of the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon. She knew that each technique he obtained from it was stronger than the last, but to think he would obtain something even stronger from just the stone talisman!

Rewinding time!

Ling Xi was certain that no one where she was from knew how to control time. Only some of the ancient cultivators could control time to a certain degree, or the Dragon Ancestor itself. She was excited that Long Chen could do it ...

“Brother Chen, you must hide the Primordial Dragon Talisman and never let anyone know about it. It’s your biggest treasure! You were given such a powerful technique from just obtaining it. The Primordial Dragon Talisman is something everyone would kill for even where I’m from!”

Rewinding time was a task that went beyond the rules. As long as Long Chen was not killed in one blow, he could use it to rewind time and gain another chance of living! It was even stronger than Blood Warp.

“I probably won’t die since I have Blood Warp and Rewind, but their prices are steep. Blood Warp uses up all of my Qi in one go, and Rewind has a long cooldown. I can only use it once a day. If my opponent is too strong, it’s entirely possible for them to kill me twice ...”

Ling Xi chuckled. “Brother Chen, don’t be too greedy. There’s no such thing as a technique without a weakness. Every technique exists within the rules of the Heavenly Dao. If you could rewind time infinitely, you would never die. Even though it has a restriction, your techniques are already considered as the highest tier. No one in my family has them. You should be satisfied.”

Long Chen was indeed very satisfied.

“With Rewind, I essentially have two lives. This is already excellent news. Also, I think the Primordial Dragon Talisman is indeed related to the dragon that could control time. I think it’s called ... Primordial something? I forgot its name, but I think I can use it to guide me towards the Inherited Blood Essence of the Dragon Ancestor!”

Ling Xi rolled her eyes. “Don’t think about it too much. The Inherited Blood Essence of a Dragon Ancestor is basically impossible to find. No one has ever recorded one, much less found one. You don’t even have full control of your Inherited Blood Essence, so how could you be so sure that it’s complete, much less the real Inherited Blood Essence of a Dragon Ancestor?”

Long Chen smiled sheepishly.

The Inherited Blood Essence could very well be an imitation or product made by Long Qinglan.

But he was very satisfied with it. He looked down at the Primordial Dragon Talisman on his chest and felt it pulsating with the beat of his heart.

Blood Transmutation, Dragon Soul Transformation, Blood Sacrifice, Blood Warp, Blood Devouring Domain, and even Rewind. I now have six major techniques of the highest tier. I’m almost guaranteed to reach the peak of cultivation with these techniques. Long Chen was confident!

He was certain that Lin Zichen and the Sword Emperor of the Cangyang Kingdom were only small pebbles in his journey. Long Chen would kick them away.

“Xiao Xi, now that I have Rewind, I’m even more confident that I can get the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit for you. Just wait, I will make sure your physical body will be returned to you soon. You will be able to live like a normal human and do everything a normal human can. You will even be able to restore your strength!” Long Chen’s eyes were excited when he talked to her.

Ling Xi lowered her head and said, “Brother Chen, I think I had a good enough taste of being a normal human with the Profound Jade Lotus ...”

“Idiot. That’s fake. This time, I will give you the real deal!”

She bit her lip and said what had been plaguing her mind for a long time. “But ... What if ... What if we have to go our separate ways once I get it?”

“Why would we separate? Who in the Cangyang Kingdom could separate us? No matter who they are, I will smack them the moment they try to tear us apart. Isn’t that good enough?” Long Chen patted his chest with pride.

But no matter how vivid his imagination was, he could never have imagined that Ling Xi’s family would sense her presence from far away. Ling Xi could only leave it to fate.

Long Chen started cultivating silently and tried familiarizing himself with the Primordial Dragon Talisman. It was a mysterious and profound object. He inspected it for half a day, but all he managed to learn from it was its name and the method to use Rewind.

“Never mind, I should cultivate properly and reach the Ninth River Stage. Only then can I obtain the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit.” He started cultivating after deciding that that was a better way to spend his time.

Time slowly passed, and Xiaolang was still refining the fruit. Five days later, Xiaolang returned as a Category Nine Earth-tier beast.

There were no Heaven-tier beasts around the Cangyang Kingdom, so he was the strongest one.

Chapter 409 - Category Nine Earth-tier Xiaolang

Xiaolang's aura had grown stronger again. His black eyes, sharp claws, massive fangs, as well as the thick fire energy that exuded from his body looked leagues stronger than they were five days ago. Long Chen felt slightly afraid when he looked at him. He had a feeling that even he could not win against Xiaolang with the latter's Divine Fire Clone, Demon Seed Planting Technique, and the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire.

Zhao Qingyun and the Sword Emperor were the only cultivators in the kingdom that could stop them right now.

Since Xiaolang had become a Category Nine Earth-tier beast, it was time for them to return to capital. It had been five days since they stirred things up over there, so they estimated that the city had most likely calmed down a little. *It might be a good time to return now.*

"We are still weak, so we should try to kill Lin Zichen first. Let's go to the Biyang Imperial Capital," Long Chen instructed Xiaolang before they started their journey back. They weren't escaping this time, so they slowed down a little.

It was already morning when they arrived.

Long Chen smiled when he looked at the glittering city.

"Lin Zichen should be busy with the succession in the palace. It won't be easy to lure him out and leave the Sword Emperor behind. Fine, let's take a risk. Since I managed to make a connection with the eldest prince, we should put it to use. Xiaolang, just relax for now. I will take on half of your enemies with you. Since I'm entering the capital, you should stay outside for now. I will lure Lin Zichen as fast as I can without alerting the Sword Emperor."

Xiaolang had no objections to his plan. He nodded and left. Most beasts didn't have to cultivate because their strength was determined at birth, but Xiaolang was different. He had a rare constitution that allowed him to grow without a limit, though not through cultivation, but through consuming items with the fire attribute.

That was why Xiaolang was quite free most of the time.

He preferred to sleep whenever he was not refining his meals. There were two reasons why. One, he had used some of his life fire and injured his soul a while back, and sleeping aided the healing process. Two, sleeping hastened the refining process of what he consumed, so he could increase his strength faster.

More importantly, Long Chen always ignored him when Ling Xi was present, so there was nothing for him to do but sleep ...

After Xiaolang was gone, Long Chen disguised himself as a twenty-five-year-old man. He even gave himself a new name, Yang Qing. He had taken it from Yang Lingqing's name. Thinking of her, he realized he missed her.

I wonder how she is doing. Is Li Xuanji treating her well? Long Chen secretly swore to himself that he would grow faster so that he could go to the place that Li Xuanji said he would never reach. He would then take Yang Lingqing back. He was worried about her being so far away from him.

Long Chen also realized he needed another sword. His Star Sword had been destroyed in the previous battle. Thankfully, he had been collecting the weapons from the people he killed. While he didn't have an advanced Earth-tier sword, he had some intermediate ones. Since he could only show strength up to the Eighth River Stage within the palace, Long Chen thought it would be best if he didn't have to fight at all.

A sword was a necessity for his disguise.

If I remember correctly, the Red Sun Inn is around here ... Long Chen recalled that it was one of the random inns he had seen while walking to Yuqin Palace when he first arrived. He retraced his steps and reached it. The bellboy saw a young yet strong man at the doorstep and immediately ran out to greet him politely. "Dear customer—"

Long Chen interrupted him. "Give me a room."

The bellboy immediately complied.

As soon as Long Chen entered the room, someone knocked on the door. He smiled and opened his door to find the Eldest Prince looking at him with gratitude.

"Come in." Long Chen chuckled and made way.

"Thank you, Sir!" The Eldest Prince nodded and entered. There was another person behind him. The person was wearing a suit of heavy black armor complete with a helmet and armored boots. He looked like a general, and Long Chen noticed that the man was in his forties. He looked barbaric, but his eyes radiated cunningness and intelligence.

The general-looking man was at the Eighth River Stage too.

"Sir, I am so glad that you agreed to help me. I will take it that you are helping me since you're here?" Lin Batian looked at Long Chen with sincerity.

Long Chen nodded and said nothing. He didn't want to accidentally reveal himself.

"Thank you, Sir! May I know what to call you?" Lin Batian's polite tone was a sign that he was indeed happy. Usually, a ruler wouldn't treat someone with this much politeness, especially when it was a stranger. It was clear that Lin Batian was very interested in Long Chen's strength.

"My name is Yang Qing."

"So you are Sir Yang Qing!" Lin Batian nodded and introduced Long Chen to the person behind him. "This is my uncle, and he's also the First Commander. He's at the Eighth River Stage. I take it that you've heard of him?"

Long Chen's eyebrow rose as he looked at the middle-aged man. *So he's the First Commander. If I'd met him while I was escaping, I would've been dead. I wonder what kind of expression he would make if he knew I killed the other six?*

"I've heard of the famous First Commander, but you don't have to call me 'Sir Yang.' Just call me 'Brother Yang' if you look up to me."

"In that case, I will call you 'Brother Yang.' Since you've agreed to help me, I will fulfill my promise. You can let me know what you need, and I will do my best to fulfill it ..."

"Wait." The Eldest Prince was interrupted by the First Commander. "May I know how strong Junior Yang is?"

Long Chen knew that the First Commander was afraid that the Eldest Prince had been fooled. Long Chen's identity was very suspicious, and the First Commander was naturally wary of a strong cultivator that had come out of seemingly nowhere.

"Eighth River Stage," Long Chen answered plainly.

"You are so young and yet you are already at the Eighth River Stage? You even killed foes at the same stage with ease. I would know about you if you were from the Cangyang Kingdom, but why have I not heard of you?" The First Commander was very assertive.

Lin Batian was shocked and tried to defuse the situation. "Brother Yang, he just wants to know your identity. I'm sorry if he's acting rashly. I hope you will forgive him."

"No worries." Long Chen smiled at the First Commander. "I never wanted to reveal my identity in the Cangyang Kingdom, but since you want to know that much, I don't mind saying it. I don't plan on staying here for long either. I'm from the Western Sea Kingdom. May I ask if you know of anyone strong in that kingdom around my age?"

The Western Sea Kingdom was neighbors with the Cangyang Kingdom, but there was a massive mountain range separating them, so the two kingdoms barely traded with each other. The Eldest Prince was stationed at the eastern border, so he wouldn't know either.

"So you are from the Western Sea Kingdom. I'm sorry for troubling you," the Eldest Prince said.

"I will be frank. I agreed to help you because I heard that there are Heaven-tier spiritual herbs in the Counter Essence Realm. You told me that you would give me anything that I wanted, provided that you could find it, as long as I helped you take the throne. Will you give me a Heaven-tier spiritual herb if I help you?"

Long Chen had told a blatant lie. This way, he would make his "objective" clear to them and the First Commander would not be suspicious of him.

"Dream on!" The First Commander thought Long Chen was a greedy man and immediately refused.

“Quiet!” Lin Batian was angry at the First Commander. Even though the First Commander was his uncle, he could not tolerate him destroying his plans.

Lin Batian then looked at Long Chen. “I can get you a Heaven-tier spiritual herb, but you must promise me that you will be the largest contributor in helping me succeed to the throne.”

“No problem.” Long Chen chuckled.

“Brother Yang, you are very straightforward! I like that!” Lin Batian turned around to glare at the First Commander. Seeing that they had come to an agreement, the First Commander could do nothing but lower his head.

“When will you follow me back to the palace?” Lin Batian was very anxious.

“I’m not in a rush, but you need to tell me everything. How should I fight against Lin Zichen? How strong is he? I’ve heard that he was at the Ninth River stage. I don’t want to brag, but I’ve defeated some Ninth River Stage experts before. I don’t think I’ll lose to him since he’s younger than me.” Long Chen really got into character.

This was a place where everyone plotted against each other. Long Chen had to act like an idiot here so that the others would lower their guards.

The First Commander scoffed when he heard what Long Chen said.

Chapter 410 - Courtesan

He knew Long Chen was strong, but he never thought Long Chen would be so arrogant. To think he would talk about killing Lin Zichen. The First Commander started to relax and did not take Long Chen seriously.

It seems Batian is using him as a warrior only. If Batian really becomes the Emperor, he will kill this young man to silence everyone who knows about this.

The First Commander understood what kind of man Lin Batian was and knew that was what he had planned. The Counter Essence Realm was already in chaos and there were very few Heaven-tier spiritual herbs left. Even if they had some, and even if Lin Batian became the Emperor, he wouldn’t be able to give any Heaven-tier spiritual herbs because all of them were in the hands of the Sword Emperor!

“Lin Zichen is my fourth brother and also the strongest youth in the Cangyang Kingdom. He’s already at the Ninth River Stage at such a young age. He’s second only to my father in terms of strength!” Lin Batian explained since Long Chen had asked. An hour later, Lin Batian probed, “Brother Yang, I’ve explained the current situation to you. Should we enter the palace now?”

Long Chen nodded. “Lin Zichen is fine, and I should be able to fight him. Our agreement is now in full force. Prepare me the Heavenly-tier spiritual herb and I will be able to get you what you need.”

Lin Batian smiled and cried, “Thank you, Brother Yang, for your help! If I become the Emperor, I will never forget about your assistance!”

Long Chen chuckled.

He then followed Lin Batian towards the palace. This was the first time he had gone there. The First Commander was walking beside Long Chen. While he was looking forward most of the time, he stole glances at Long Chen quite frequently too.

But he could see nothing wrong about Long Chen.

The palace is a dangerous place for me, so I shouldn't stay there for long ... Long Chen was very clear about his objectives.

Since the Eldest Prince was wearing the clothes of a normal noble, and very few people had seen him in person, he was not recognized by the people on the street. Otherwise, the crowd would've flocked towards him.

The three of them walked up the wide street. Since this road led to the palace, it was very busy and lively. Just then, Long Chen heard someone discussing something interesting.

"Have you heard that the number of demonic beasts in the Snowpeak Mountains to the north of the Cangyang Kingdom is multiplying rapidly? Many of the beasts are flocking to our kingdom! I heard that they overran an entire city!"

"I've heard of it too! The beasts are currently attacking one of the most important cities in the north, Ginger City. If the palace doesn't send reinforcements soon, the people in that city will be killed! All children and elderly people there will become food for the beasts ..."

"I heard the survivors describing it as a living hell!"

Long Chen frowned and looked at Lin Batian. "Is it true that Ginger City is under attack?"

Lin Batian nodded. "I'm also very concerned with this. I thought my father would let me lead some soldiers there since a stampede of that magnitude would be difficult to repel with just the number of soldiers in Ginger City. But then again, I've heard that there's a Category Nine Earth-tier beast in the stampede, and I don't think my army could kill it. Now that my father is looking for someone to inherit the throne ..."

"That means that you could repel the stampede, but you need someone at Lin Zichen's level to deal with the Category Nine Earth-tier beast. But then there's also the issue with the succession ..."

"Everything is up to my father. I will have to leave if he tells me to, but Lin Zichen is always by my father's side, so he has a higher chance of being dispatched." Lin Batian sighed.

The three of them continued making their way to the palace. This was the first time Long Chen had entered the glimmering palace, and he was impressed by how grand it was. It was many times more luxurious than the Heavenly Demon Palace. The Heavenly Demon Palace was like a place to cultivate quietly, while the glimmering imperial palace was filled with bloodlust.

“From here onwards are the palaces meant for the princes. My palace is called Qianwen Palace, while Lin Zichen’s palace is over there ...” Lin Batian pointed at another palace that was as grand as his. “That’s Xingchen Palace, where Lin Zichen spends most of his time.”

Long Chen suddenly felt a dangerous aura while hearing the explanation and looked up. He saw a beautiful man with white robes walking out with two beautiful courtesans. The two parties met each other.

The Eldest Prince looked worse off in comparison because he had two guys instead of courtesans by his side. The man who had walked out of the palace was none other than Long Chen’s target, Lin Zichen. The latter was holding the waist of two exquisite courtesans while approaching Lin Batian. It was only when they were in front of Lin Batian that Lin Zichen scoffed at him.

“My Lord, you are so strong, both in bed and outside. You are much stronger than someone else ...”

“I think so too. My body feels so numb and weak. You used too much force.”

The courtesans were hugging Lin Zichen and pressing their chests to his arms. They were praising him while looking at the Eldest Prince with disgust.

“Qing Qing! Wei Wei! How dare you!” Lin Batian was angered when he saw who the courtesans were. Both of them had been adopted by Lin Batian when they were abandoned on the battlefield. They had lied in Lin Batian’s bed last night, and now they were in Lin Zichen’s arms barely a day later.

Wei Wei rolled her eyes at Lin Batian. “What? The Fourth Prince has promised to marry us, so of course we would follow him. Why should we follow someone who’s going to die soon? Everyone has been saying that you will not live for more than a few days.”

“Wei Wei, I will slap you if you continue spouting nonsense.” Lin Zichen chuckled and then pushed the two courtesans lightly behind him. “Brother, I have to say that your taste in women is excellent. Considering that I’m your little brother, I hope you’re kind enough to let me keep them since they’ve chosen me.”

Lin Zichen was too arrogant! Not only had he stolen Lin Batian’s toys, he was even using them to humiliate him. Lin Batian was naturally very angry and was about to lose control when the First Commander stopped him. “Your Highness, calm down. Don’t fall into his trap. He’s forcing you to make a move first. If you do, he will use this chance to injure you.”

The First Commander’s words made Lin Batian calm down. *That was close. I almost fell for the trap. I’m very confident in my skills in bed since I always made the two of them feel so comfortable. It’s impossible for them to criticize my skills, so it’s likely that Lin Zichen told them what to say.*

Lin Batian was a very careful and witty individual, which was instrumental to his rise in power. He laughed instead of getting angry. “Of course, if you want them, I will give them to you since I’ve used them quite a bit. Though I have to say, you really do have an odd interest. You seem to enjoy taking hand-me-downs, so I guess I will give you even more the next time I get new ones.”

Lin Batian's words made Lin Zichen frown.

He wanted to taunt Lin Batian into attacking him, but he had failed.

Lin Batian was lucky to have the First Commander with him, or he may not have avoided the trap.

He knew what kind of man Lin Zichen was, but he had been caught off guard. Lin Zichen loved cultivation so much that women were like floating clouds to him. The two courtesans had put up an act after Lin Zichen forced them to.

"Consider yourself lucky today, Lin Batian. You are only at the Seventh River Stage and you dare to fight me? Father doesn't want me to kill you in the palace, so it's best if you don't leave. If you do, you won't even know what hit you!" Lin Zichen released the two courtesans.

Lin Batian smiled. "You are just an idiot who cultivates all day. Do you really think you can manage the country? I would've said nothing if you were as good as Father, but killing people seems to be your only talent. If you become the Emperor, the kingdom will fall."

"We shall see." Lin Zichen smiled and was about to leave when he saw Long Chen. There was a dangerous aura exuding from Long Chen that made him wary.

"This must be someone you found to come and help you, right?" Lin Zichen smiled at Long Chen.

"I'm here to take your life," Long Chen suddenly said.

"What did you say?" Lin Zichen thought he had heard wrongly. He knew Long Chen was dangerous, but he was not someone he had to avoid completely. To think a regular person would threaten a member of the royal family like this.

Long Chen shut up and said nothing else.

Lin Batian thought Long Chen was far too arrogant, but since Long Chen had agreed to help him, Lin Batian had no choice but to block Lin Zichen from harming Long Chen. He stood in front of Long Chen and stopped Lin Zichen. "Who cares what he said? But you've stood here long enough. It's time for you to be gone."