

War God 431

Chapter 431 - Heaven Sword Array

“You don’t need to know how I’ve learned that you have the fruit. This is the biggest mercy I can show you. Give the fruit to me.” Long Chen pointed at the black-eyed Sword Emperor with the Demon Emperor Sword.

The black-eyed Sword Emperor recovered from the shock of his other half’s death at this point, his pained expression slowly shifting to that of wild rage. His black eyes were slowly covered in blood vessels.

“You used a sneak attack to defeat my other half. Do you really think you can defeat me?” The Sword Emperor chuckled. “Had you continued your assault, I might’ve died too. Too bad you wasted your time because of the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. Long Chen, you are too naive.”

The Sword Emperor’s laugh echoed across the plains and reached the city. Everyone knew what he meant. It had been a day filled with surprises, and yet the black-eyed Sword Emperor was hinting that he could defeat the monstrous Long Chen even though his other half was beaten.

“Xiaolang, you’ve killed one of them. Let me fight him now.” Long Chen gently pushed Xiaolang away. Xiaolang knew he would just be a distraction, so he left the stage to Long Chen and the Sword Emperor.

The golden-eyed Sword Emperor is his other half? I can use Divine Fire Clone, but my clones are all made of fire. How did he make a clone out of flesh and blood? Wouldn’t it be crazy if he could cultivate 125 clones? But stronger techniques usually have some sort of restriction. The Sword Emperor must’ve put in a lot of effort to cultivate that clone, but now that it’s destroyed, he will focus his entire wrath on me,

It was the final fight. The Sword Emperor’s robe billowed in the wind as he stared at Long Chen, his Qi circulating wildly inside him. A strange light slowly emanated from his body, resembling the reflections of swords.

Divine Nine Palace Step.

The Sword Emperor disappeared as he approached Long Chen, rapidly launching Sword Qi attacks.

Traceless Demon Shadow.

Long Chen used his Heaven-tier Body Combat technique, creating numerous afterimages. The Sword Emperor was fast, but even he had a hard time locating Long Chen’s true body.

Both of them were nothing but a blur as they fought furiously. Sword Qi flew everywhere, and the people’s eyes were glued to the fight. Under the influence of the Blood Devouring Domain, Long Chen could fight on even ground with the Sword Emperor. Both of them were fighting without being pushed back. The people on the wall could see nothing but the flashes of Sword Qi.

“This is a battle of experts. Long Chen is definitely one of the three strongest fighters in the Cangyang Kingdom. His master must be Zhao Qingyun from the Heavenly

Demon Palace. He was only there for three months and yet he has improved so much. Looking at how much stronger he drew in that time, his master must be a monstrous teacher!”

“The Heavenly Demon Palace is an organization with a Heavenly Passage Realm cultivator. They can stand up against the imperial family, so there’s no way they would be weak. I might send my son there if I leave the capital. I’ve heard that they aren’t exactly evil.”

Everyone was discussing and making small talk while Long Chen’s fight against the Sword Emperor was approaching its climax. The Sword Emperor used two consecutive Supreme Martial Swords that pushed Long Chen back. As a Heavenly Passage Realm cultivator, he had more Qi than Long Chen!

And a portion of Long Chen’s Qi was being used to maintain the Blood Devouring Domain.

Long Chen panted as he flew backward.

“Long Chen is too young. The Sword Emperor has fought for dozens of years and accumulated a lot of experience. Long Chen can’t be his opponent. I wonder if the Sword Emperor will kill him.”

“I think he will. Who would let an enemy with so much talent and potential live? If Long Chen doesn’t die today, the Sword Emperor will die in the future!”

Suddenly, everyone shouted and then turned to look at the battle again.

Long Chen had to admit that the Sword Emperor was strong as the latter continued his assault.

“Long Chen, I am impressed by your strength, but unfortunately, this is the end!” The Sword Emperor was like a sword as light reflected off his body. He shot towards Long Chen like a massive sword.

Sword Qi swirled around the Sword Emperor's fingertips, its incredible pressure causing the very air to vibrate.

The Sword Emperor was using all of his strength for this one single attack. He was trying to kill Long Chen in a single strike. Everyone on the city wall clamored because they thought it was the end. The Sword Emperor was going to kill Long Chen!

“Die! Imperial Sword Technique, Supreme Sovereign Sword!”

The attack he used was even stronger than the one used by the golden-eyed Sword Emperor. The flash of light was like a tornado that carried a thousand blades as it shot towards Long Chen. If he was hit by it, he would be torn apart just like Lin Zichen.

Would the same thing happen today?

No one blinked.

Long Chen’s achievements were unheard of in the Cangyang Kingdom, and many of them didn’t want Long Chen to die.

But what they never noticed was that even though Long Chen was retreating, he was not panicking. Instead, he was very calm as he looked at the attack approaching him.

At the last moment, Long Chen attacked with his sword. He swung the Demon Emperor Sword widely in front of him, and a massive, black rune appeared in its wake. He was using the Demon Emperor Sword like a brush, and he drew an array filled with runes in the air before him!

An ancient and grand energy exuded from the array.

“What’s Long Chen doing?” No one knew what he was doing. Why was he drawing runes instead of dealing with the attack?

“Is he killing himself?” No one understood why.

But they were wrong. Long Chen was not killing himself, but rather using his strongest attack. The Heaven Sword Array was completed before the Supreme Sovereign Sword reached him. Light enveloped Long Chen, and the runes spun wildly within the layer of light.

“Destroy!”

He pointed with the Demon Emperor Sword.

The runes around him disappeared and the very skies changed. Waves of ripples surged towards the Sword Emperor, revealing illusory swords.

The Heaven Sword Array was an advanced Heaven-tier martial technique, something that couldn’t have come from the Cangyang Kingdom. The elementary Heaven-tier Supreme Sovereign Sword was nothing against it.

The ripples enveloped the Sword Emperor and the Supreme Sovereign Sword. He had thought he could kill Long Chen when he suddenly felt a strange power exerting on his body.

He was surprised because he felt like his body was in an empty space filled with endless swords. The swords flew past him, and there were thousands of them. His Supreme Sovereign Sword was rendered useless here!

“What is this place?” The Sword Emperor didn’t realize that this was Long Chen’s killing move!

In an instant, the endless swords in the empty void surged towards him. The Sword Emperor was even more surprised to find that he could not defend himself!

Long Chen’s strength was too scary!

Impossible! This is just an illusion! Once I endure it, I will be able to kill him!

But he had thought wrong.

The endless swords reduced him to dust.

Everyone watching from the wall screamed in shock. They had all witnessed the Supreme Sovereign Sword being destroyed with just a few runes. The runes then flew past the Sword Emperor and rapidly turned his body to dust. The Sword Emperor’s face was the last thing to disappear, and all of them had seen his eyes filled with fear.

But it was too late.

The Sword Emperor had disappeared completely from the world.

The only thing left of him was the Universe Pouch that Long Chen had deliberately avoided attacking.

The people stared at Long Chen with shock.

Chapter 432 - Ruling Cangyang Kingdom

The same thought echoed across everyone's minds, one that they never dared imagine before. Long Chen had killed the Sword Emperor, the Cangyang Kingdom's strongest cultivator. Two Sword Emperors had died by his hand. The golden-eyed Sword Emperor had died because of Long Chen's shocking return from death, while the black-eyed Sword Emperor had fallen before Long Chen's absolute strength!

He was indeed stronger than the Sword Emperor!

The Sword Emperor was the Cangyang Kingdom's highest authority. How drastically would the kingdom change now that he had died? The remaining masters of the imperial family were only at the Eighth River Stage, and there were many Eighth River Stage cultivators across the whole kingdom. Did the imperial family still have the power to control such an immense kingdom?

The answer was, unquestionably, no.

With the Sword Emperor's death, everyone knew that the Cangyang Kingdom would change drastically. However, the changes would depend on Long Chen. Long Chen was the one who had killed him, so he was now the Cangyang Kingdom's strongest cultivator. Not the Sword Emperor, not Zhao Qingyun, but Long Chen! This person who had only recently become famous had reached the Cangyang Kingdom's peak in the blink of an eye!

And he was not even twenty years old yet! He was seventeen at most!

To accomplish such a feat at seventeen! Long Chen had become the legend of legends in the Cangyang Kingdom!

Many people started to feel an itch when the Sword Emperor died. The imperial family had left behind such a large pie, and everyone wanted a slice. What happened now was for Long Chen to decide. Technically, the whole kingdom now belonged to Long Chen alone!

No one dared move before he said anything!

Most of the people standing on the city wall felt like they were dreaming. Everyone knew that it was reality, but most could not accept it. It was just too unbelievable. If they had not seen it with their own eyes, no one would have believed it.

He had not just killed one, but two Sword Emperors!

Lin Batian sat in his seat in a daze, not waking up despite calls from the people around him. He had suffered the heaviest blow in his life today and completely lost his mind. He sat with a dazed look on his face, not moving a muscle.

Suddenly, he ran to the edge of the wall with a look of excitement on his face. Then, as everyone watched him with confusion, he took out a sword from his Universe Pouch and stabbed his own heart before pulling it out!

Fresh blood flowed.

“Father ...” Lin Batian uttered his final word, then he smiled. His body fell to the ground, forming a puddle of blood.

The moment Lin Batian thought about the difficulties and pressure he was about to face, he had lost all intention to fight back, and this despair drove him to suicide.

The people felt great sorrow for Lin Batian’s death.

The last hope of the imperial family could not bear the weight and had chosen to kill himself. This meant that the family who had ruled the Cangyang Kingdom for thousands of years had died and would disappear from the long river of history. There would only be small remnants left for people to recall upon.

Long Chen had watched Lin Batian kill himself.

He only shook his head without a word. The imperial family had been on top for too long, and it was time for them to step down. Judging by how they had murdered Xiaolang’s entire clan, the imperial family were not good people anyway.

What Long Chen yearned for was in the Universe Pouch before him. Under the gazes of everyone, he opened the Sword Emperor’s Universe Pouch hurriedly. Whether or not there was a Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit inside, he would find out right now ...

Long Chen felt his breathing become strangely heavy.

Emotions surged through his heart.

The presence or absence of the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit in the Universe Pouch would basically decide his future.

Ling Xi did not dare check. She was hoping that it wasn’t there. That was the only way to guarantee that she would stay by Long Chen’s side. It was just too ambitious for him to get to where she was from. It was a dream too wild to believe.

No matter how nervous Long Chen was, he had to open the Universe Pouch.

There were many things inside, including many treasures. However, his gaze did not linger on these treasures. He only had one target, which was the Heaven-tier herb called the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. Due to it being Heaven-tier, its presence would be obvious.

Before he saw it, Ling Xi froze, then said bitterly, “Brother Chen, the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit is inside.”

Since she could sense it, she found the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit before Long Chen did.

Long Chen was ecstatic. He searched hurriedly and found a jade box. There was a thick fragrance radiating from the box, similar to the Blood Seal Lotus and the Eight Desolate Dragon Fruit. It could only be the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit!

Ling Xi was right!

Long Chen almost cried because this was what he had been working hard for for half a year. Now it was finally in his hands. His nerves finally relaxed after half a year of tension. It felt like a bucket of cold water on his body; it was refreshing!

“Ling Xi, I have finally fulfilled the first promise I made to you.” This was why Long Chen was so determined. It was a promise he had made to Ling Xi. It did not matter what happened—he would fulfill it at any cost.

It was difficult for him to suppress his surging emotions. He took a deep breath, then he put the Universe Pouch away. This was all his, and he could sort through everything later.

“Brother Chen, I ... Thank you so much. I don’t know what to say, but I am so touched. Thank you!” Ling Xi could barely speak because she was crying so hard within the Ling Xi sword.

This teenager had made an impossible promise, and today, he had fulfilled it with his blood and sweat.

“Don’t thank me. Remember this. It is only the first promise. I will surely fulfill the second promise. One day, I will appear in front of you again!” Long Chen said with determination.

The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit was his first promise. Appearing with his head held high in front of Ling Xi was his second promise!

He had completed the first. Now he would work hard for the second!

Ling Xi felt like she had been stupid. She knew just how serious the obstacles and suffering would be if he truly chose this path. However, when she saw the determination in his eyes, she felt that perhaps he truly could do it!

Long Chen’s gaze turned to the people on the city wall. He already had a plan for the Cangyang Kingdom’s future. He had actually already said something to Zhao Qingyun about it a long time ago.

He walked towards the wall and quickly arrived at its base. He stood next to Lin Batian’s body, though he did not look at it. He looked up at the people above. The ones who had made it here to watch the battle were the elites of the kingdom.

“I, Long Chen, was the one who killed the Sword Emperor. Everyone, listen to me. From now onwards, the Cangyang Kingdom is mine. Anyone who causes trouble will die.”

Long Chen’s declaration made his intentions clear.

Anyone who felt an itch was instantly dejected. They dared not step out of line when the Sword Emperor was alive, and that wouldn’t change since Long Chen was even scarier.

However, despite the extinguishing of the fire in their hearts, many people started to wake up. Since Long Chen had declared himself ruler of the Cangyang Kingdom and no one could stand up to him,

why wouldn't they submit? The sooner they submitted to him, the more benefits they would gain. Who wouldn't want a bigger slice of the pie?

The moment Long Chen finished speaking, the two remaining clans of the Imperial Capital, the Gongsun and Zhou families, looked at each other, then they reacted immediately. They leaped to the bottom of the tower and bent one knee in front of Long Chen, looking at him sincerely.

The Gongsun patriarch spoke first. "I am Gongsun Sheng from one of the two main clans of the Imperial Capital, also the Gongsun Patriarch. Our clan pledges loyalty to Your Majesty Long Chen. Please accept us under your banner. We will fight any war for you, and even if our lives are on the line, we will be loyal to the end!"

The Zhou Patriarch said hurriedly, "I am Zhou Long, the patriarch of the Zhou family, one of the two main clans of the Imperial Capital. The Zhou family pledges its loyalty to Your Majesty Long Chen. Please accept us under your banner. Anything the Gongsun family can do, we can do too. We are willing to follow you for the rest of our lives. Our blood and passion will only burn for you, Your Majesty!"

The other factions started to snap back to reality, and a hundred people leaped from the wall to kneel in front of Long Chen, sincerely pledging their loyalty to him! They had no choice but to accept this, as Long Chen was stronger than the Sword Emperor. If he wanted to, he could control the whole Cangyang Kingdom and maybe even expand their territory to the neighboring nations!

These people were the representatives of various factions of the Cangyang Kingdom. Now that the imperial family was gone, they all understood the situation and submitted to Long Chen's strength.

Long Chen was very satisfied with their behavior.

He had killed the Sword Emperor, but he did not want to cause the whole Cangyang Kingdom to fall into chaos. The only way to achieve that result was for him to take over and rule! However, the person who truly ruled would not be Long Chen. He had no time for this.

"Good! You are all very smart!" Long Chen smiled and his gaze swept across the crowd. "I accept all your pledges, but although the Cangyang Kingdom is mine, the person who will rule Cangyang Kingdom will not be me!"

"What?" Everyone burst into conversation. Did someone else have the right to be king?

Long Chen smiled when he saw them panicking. "Gongsun Patriarch, I have a task for you. I command you to rush to Demon Emperor Mountain as fast as you can and invite my master, Zhao Qingyun, here. Tell him about everything that happened today!"

Chapter 433 - Heavenly Passage Pill

A few hours later, Long Chen was already in the imperial palace. Most of the imperial family had already fled, and the remaining few were people with no power. Long Chen was too lazy to deal with them. The two main clans had already pledged their loyalty to him, so they helped deal with the matters of the capital, and Long Chen did not intervene.

In order to please Long Chen, the Gongsun and Zhou patriarchs would surely do their best to manage the Imperial City properly. Long Chen was happy to have some free time while he waited for Zhao Qingyun to lead the Heavenly Demon Palace's army over here.

Long Chen had once told Zhao Qingyun that his reward for providing so much help would be the whole Cangyang Kingdom. Now Long Chen had fulfilled this promise. The whole kingdom was in his hands, and he was going to give it all to his master, Zhao Qingyun. No one dared object to this.

Long Chen knew that while Zhao Qingyun loved living a life of independence free of responsibilities, it did not mean that he lacked the ambition to rule the Cangyang Kingdom. Defeating the imperial family had always been the goal of the Heavenly Demon Palace. Now that Zhao Qingyun had the kingdom in his hands, it proved that he was more capable than the previous Heavenly Demon Lords.

Waiting for Zhao Qingyun's arrival, Long Chen pulled out the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit to inspect it. In the end, he confirmed that it was indeed what he thought it was.

Next, he had to inspect the things that the Sword Emperor had left behind. It was clear that the black-eyed Sword Emperor was his true body and was slightly stronger. That was why the most precious treasures were in the Universe Pouch that was with him.

To the Sword Emperor, taking these things with him was safer than storing them somewhere else.

The first things that caught Long Chen's eye were the Heavenly Passage Pills. Based on his estimate, the average First Passage Stage cultivator owned twenty Heavenly Passage Pills or less, though the Sword Emperor owned almost a hundred. These were likely accumulated over many generations.

Cultivation at the Heavenly Passage Realm required large numbers of Heavenly Passage Pills in order to clear the cultivator's meridian points and condense Qi. That was why Heavenly Passage Pills were seen as very important. If Long Chen did not have Heavenly Passage Pills, it would be impossible for him to advance to the Heavenly Passage Realm. The pills that he had would be able to last him until he reached the Second Passage Stage.

The points where the eighteen heavenly rivers connected were the nine meridian points. Six were spiritual meridian points, two were earthly meridian points, and one was a heavenly meridian point. These meridian points had to be cleared by breaking them with Qi, then the Heavenly Passage Pills helped solidify the meridian points in order for them to become Qi cores similar to a dantian.

The purpose of the four foundational realms was to allow the cultivator's body to achieve its perfect state. There were rumors that when a cultivator opened the heavenly meridian point and reached the Ninth Passage Stage, their body was considered perfect. At that point, they would be able to fly in the sky and sink into the ground; they would be able to do anything they wanted.

Of course, sinking into the ground was impossible, but flying was definitely possible. The key achievement that determined whether a cultivator had completed the four foundational realms was whether they could fly.

Li Xuanji had flown easily in front of Long Chen, so it showed that she was at least above the Ninth Passage Stage. After learning about the Heavenly Passage Realm, he finally recognized just how powerful she was. Ling Xi's background was as powerful as Li Xuanji's, meaning that if Ling Xi's family really made their way over, they would definitely exert a terrifying pressure on Long Chen.

Long Chen had worked hard to get his hands on the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit for her, and he would have to continue working hard to see her again. The next part of the journey was likely going to be a thousand times harder.

But he was not afraid.

He checked the Sword Emperor's Universe Pouch again, and other than the Heavenly Passage Pills and some random objects, there were not many items that would be useful to Long Chen. Some items had probably perished along with the golden-eyed Sword Emperor. All Long Chen could say was that he had gotten lucky, because when he had to choose which Sword Emperor to annihilate, he had picked the correct one.

As he moved the items from the pouch, he saw a tattered book.

"What is this?" He picked up the book and brushed the dust off it. To his shock, he saw the title: Soul Splitting Technique.

"Soul Splitting Technique?" Ling Xi leaned over. She sensed that this unassuming technique was likely the reason why the Sword Emperor had two bodies.

"Ling Xi, you are very knowledgeable. Come take a look at this." Long Chen placed the book in front of her and they started to study it.

After a while, Ling Xi said in shock, "How is that even possible?"

Long Chen didn't understand the book, so he whispered, "What is this exactly?"

"This is just amazing. However, Brother Chen, there's no need to get excited. There is a large flaw in this technique, and it should not be used. Let me explain it to you. This is a secret divine technique of an unknown tier. Based on the description, this is likely a failed product. The creator of this secret technique had a powerful imagination. This is actually related to the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit."

"Tell me about that." Long Chen listened intently. It was clear that the Soul Splitting Technique was related to the Sword Emperor having two bodies.

"A person has three souls and seven spirits.[1] The Soul Splitting Technique splits every soul and spirit into two halves. The strange thing is that each half can survive on its own, and the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit can be used to create a new body for that half of the soul. I'm guessing that this is the reason why the Sword Emperor had the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit ...

"The golden-eyed Sword Emperor was created with the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. Had you fought him any later, the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit in your hand would likely have been used to form another Sword Emperor."

Long Chen's heartbeat quickened. Splitting a person into two and multiplying one person's cultivation into two was indeed almost a violation of the laws of nature.

“If that is the case, couldn’t he have created countless clones if he had more Nine Heavens Immortal Fruits? If every clone was as strong as him, wouldn’t he be the strongest person in the world?” Long Chen said sourly.

“Of course not. The Soul Splitting Technique is a failed product,” Ling Xi answered, shaking her head.

“First of all, creating one clone resulted in a lot of damage to his soul, so although he had two bodies, his cultivation speed ended up becoming so slow that he would’ve likely never progressed further. Secondly, his two souls didn’t share a master-slave relationship, meaning they were two people with different thoughts. It was as if one person suddenly became two, and it was difficult to distinguish between the two. The fact that the two Sword Emperors decided to split the time that they spent outside evenly was an extremely favorable situation.”

After Ling Xi pointed out the flaws, Long Chen was no longer interested in the technique. From his perspective, not only was the Soul Splitting Technique useless, it would also bring him a lot of trouble. He could not imagine how terrifying it would be to have a copy of himself in this world ...

“Then I must dispose of this,” he said with resolution. That way, it would not hurt other people.

“Brother Chen, keep it for now. I’ll study it in the future, and maybe I will be able to improve it. Think about it. If you had a clone with equal strength and no thoughts, acting as only a loyal soldier, and this technique was harmless to your soul, wouldn’t it be a beautiful thing?” said Ling Xi.

“You’re right. Xiao Xi, you’re just too awesome. It’ll be difficult to part with you.” Long Chen recalled that now they had the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, it was likely that they would have to separate.

“Hmm?” Ling Xi froze. There was a look of worry in her eyes.

He had finished inspecting the Sword Emperor’s Universe Pouch. Soon after, someone came to report that the people of the Heavenly Demon Palace had arrived. Long Chen went up to the Jinluan Pavilion and saw Zhao Qingyun, the two Demon Elders, and also Murong Yu, whom he had not seen for a long time.

The people of the Heavenly Demon Palace were all familiar with Long Chen’s achievements by now. The Demon Elders and Murong Yu had been a little nervous on the way here as they were unsure of how Long Chen would act.

Previously, the First and Second Demon Elders had stopped Long Chen from leaving the Heavenly Demon Palace. It was only now that they finally realized just how ridiculous they had been. The Demon Emperor Sword had to be taken away by Long Chen in order for it to shine in the world!

Of course, the First Demon Elder was extremely impressed with Zhao Qingyun because he had gained the most out of all this. He had barely put in any effort to get to this point; all he had done

was raise Long Chen for a while and provided some resources. In just a few months, his investment had paid off.

And his profit was the entire Cangyang Kingdom.

This had been the dream of the Heavenly Demon Palace disciples for generations, and also the dream of the Demon Elders. Today, in a very soap opera-like twist, Long Chen had helped them fulfill this dream. They had received news when Long Chen started battling the Sword Emperor and started rushing over. Along the way, they had been updated on the situation, and when they arrived, everything had been resolved.

They had no choice but to accept this reality.

The person with the brightest grin was Zhao Qingyun. The moment he saw Long Chen, he let out an unbridled laugh without caring for his appearance.

When the people of Heavenly Demon Palace arrived, Long Chen excused the rest of the people in Jinluan Pavilion and turned to Zhao Qingyun. "Greetings, Master!"

"Good! Good!" Zhao Qingyun said. It was clear that he was feeling emotional.

When he saw Long Chen's strength skyrocket during his time at the Heavenly Demon Palace, Zhao Qingyun had already thought about a day like this. However, he had never expected this day to actually arrive.

Chapter 434 - Empress Murong Yu

In fact, even Zhao Qingyun did not think that Long Chen could truly defeat the Sword Emperor. After Long Chen killed Lin Zichen, he had declared that he would return to the Imperial City to fight the Sword Emperor. Zhao Qingyun expected Long Chen to take many months to become strong enough to do so.

The fact that Long Chen had defeated the Sword Emperor just two months later had come as a surprise.

What shocked him was that Long Chen had not only defeated the Sword Emperor, he had defeated two of them. Even Zhao Qingyun was traumatized by the discovery of the two Sword Emperors. If the Sword Emperor had set his eyes on the Heavenly Demon Palace, the Heavenly Demon Palace would likely have been destroyed. Zhao Qingyun was not even sure if he could defeat one Sword Emperor.

As for the Demon Elders, Long Chen had risen to a deity level in their hearts. They trembled as they stood in front of him, seeing as they had once offended Long Chen. If he decided to take revenge, they would be done for.

"First Demon Elder, Second Demon Elder. It's been a long time ..." Long Chen chuckled when he looked at them.

"Yes, Yes!" the First Demon Elder said nervously.

Long Chen couldn't be bothered with them, so he said, "The patriarch of the Zhou family is taking his people to the Counter Essence Realm to gather the Immortal Realm Guards there. In the future,

the Counter Essence Realm will belong to the Heavenly Demon Palace, so since you two are at the Ninth River Stage, go help out there.”

Although the two Demon Elders were his elders, Long Chen now had the authority to command them.

Everything depended on one’s capabilities.

“A-Alright ...” The First and Second Demon Elder looked at each other, then they hurriedly prepared to leave. Although it was a demotion because Long Chen had sent them off to be stationed somewhere else, they felt emotional when they realized they were going to be in charge of the legendary Counter Essence Realm.

“Xiao Yu, stay back,” Long Chen said hurriedly when he saw Murong Yu about to leave with them. She froze when she heard him.

Murong Yu had regained her looks and was far more beautiful than he had imagined. She was already used to his extraordinary talent, so she was much calmer than her master and Martial Uncle. She looked at Long Chen like an old friend whom she had not met in a long time; there were no reservations.

“Let’s have a seat and talk. Chen’er, I have many questions for you,” said Zhao Qingyun with a chuckle. The three of them sat in the imperial family’s Jinluan Palace, and Zhao Qingyun asked, “Chen’er, I heard that two Sword Emperors appeared. What was up with that? When I heard the news, I was shocked.”

Long Chen thought for a while and decided that it was best not to tell Zhao Qingyun. He replied, “I don’t know either, but luckily, both of them are dead now. We should let this mystery die with him.”

“I think they were twin brothers. The two of them have been at the same cultivation level and shared the same identity... I wonder why?” Murong Yu said.

“We will never figure out what happened with the Sword Emperor. On the other hand, Chen’er, you have defeated him and the Cangyang Kingdom is in your hands. What do you plan to do next?” Zhao Qingyun asked.

“The Sword Emperor is dead, and if no one manages the Cangyang Kingdom, it will fall into chaos. I definitely can’t rule a kingdom, but there must be a ruler. The Heavenly Demon Palace has always been as strong as the royals anyway. Master, I once said that I would give you the kingdom. This is the day I fulfill that promise. You must accept it!” Long Chen said with determination.

Zhao Qingyun laughed.

“You make it sound so good, but you’re actually asking me to pick up the pieces, aren’t you?” Zhao Qingyun responded with a grin. He knew Long Chen too well. With his personality, he would never stay here as king. His sights were set far beyond this place.

That was why Zhao Qingyun had to step up to become the ruler of the kingdom. Long Chen was his favorite disciple after all.

Of course, the Heavenly Demon Palace would benefit greatly now that they were the main faction ruling the kingdom, so it was a win-win.

Zhao Qingyun suddenly turned solemn as he slowly said, “The Heavenly Demon Palace must rule the Cangyang Kingdom, but Chen’er, you know that I am a free spirit. I didn’t even want to manage the Heavenly Demon Palace, let alone the entire Cangyang Kingdom. That is why I cannot do this!”

Long Chen froze. “Master, you can’t do this!”

“Don’t worry, don’t worry! I’m just saying that a pile of old bones like me isn’t suited to be king. However, there’s someone who is young and more suitable than me,” Zhao Qingyun said with a chuckle.

“And that is?” Long Chen did not know who.

“Have you gotten slow? This person is right before your nose.” Zhao Qingyun laughed and looked at Murong Yu.

Long Chen finally knew who he was talking about.

Long Chen knew that he could not become the Cangyang Kingdom’s ruler or the Heavenly Demon Lord, and this seat had to be occupied by the same person.

The next most powerful disciple was now Murong Yu. She was at the Ninth River Stage and was adept at Traceless Demon Shadow and the Demon Seed Planting Technique. All she lacked was the Demon Emperor Sword technique. Yang Jun, who was ranked third, still had not reached the Eighth River Stage due to the consecutive blows he had suffered.

At this moment, Murong Yu only needed an opportunity to surpass the three Demon Elders.

“Me?” Murong Yu froze. She didn’t expect the conversation to be about her.

Long Chen’s eyes brightened when Zhao Qingyun mentioned her. Since he did not want to be the Heavenly Demon Lord and Zhao Qingyun had declined the position, the next person in line was naturally Murong Yu. If Zhao Qingyun became the king, he would end up passing it to her in the future anyway, so it was better to let her become the Empress now!

In terms of cultivation, mindset, and capability, Murong Yu was clearly a good choice. The two Demon Elders would surely protect her, and even Zhao Qingyun liked the girl. Due to the support from all sides, Murong Yu was a better choice than Zhao Qingyun.

Long Chen leaped with joy and said, “That’s great! It’s set, then. Xiao Yu, you’ll be the Empress of the Cangyang Kingdom!”

He was eager to hand over the responsibility. The moment the ruler had been set, he would push all the inconveniences to her.

“Me? The Empress?” Murong Yu thought it was a joke. She only wanted to cultivate in the Heavenly Demon Palace; she had never pictured herself as the most powerful person in the kingdom.

“Yes. Xiao Yu, you’re the most suitable person. It’s set now. In the future, I will need you to be the Heavenly Demon Lord too,” Zhao Qingyun said with a chuckle, looking at her warmly.

“Shouldn’t Long Chen be the Heavenly Demon Lord?” Murong Yu thought that would be the case because he had the Demon Emperor Sword.

“Based on your understanding of Chen’er, do you think he’d be willing to do these things with high effort and low payoff? This brat cannot wait to explore the world; how could he be tied down by an insignificant position like the Heavenly Demon Lord, let alone the Cangyang Kingdom’s ruler?” said Zhao Qingyun, shaking his head.

Murong Yu looked at them, feeling torn. To be honest, it was not that she could not accept the offer. She just had never imagined this outcome and was feeling overwhelmed. That was why she could not make the decision at this very moment. She knew that there were many things to learn as a ruler, and many things to manage too. What would happen if she did not do well?

“I can’t do it. I don’t think I can do it well, and I’d disappoint you guys ...” Murong Yu shook her head bitterly.

“Nonsense! If you can’t do it, then a brute like me will be worse! Xiao Yu, you’ve always been the Heavenly Demon Palace’s goddess. Now you’ll become the Cangyang Kingdom’s goddess! I think men across the whole kingdom will rejoice!” Long Chen said with a laugh.

His unreserved words made her blush.

He had called her beautiful.

Ever since she had gotten the scar, she had covered her face with the human skin mask, causing her to have low self-esteem. When Ling Xi helped her recover her face, she became much more confident.

Long Chen stood up and approached her. He looked down at her and said, “To be honest, you don’t have to worry about doing badly. Won’t you have the two Demon Elders helping you? Those two old geezers have managed the Heavenly Demon Palace well and are very capable. If you have a problem you can’t solve, you can inform my master and he will come to your side immediately. With so many people protecting you, what can you not achieve? Also, I want to give you a huge present ...”

Long Chen took a few steps back.

“A huge present? What is it?” Murong Yu realized that she was really excited for it.

“My war spoils.”

Long Chen took out an item from his Universe Pouch, causing the whole Jinluan Pavilion to be bathed in golden light. When Murong Yu and Zhao Qingyun saw it, they gasped in surprise, “The Imperial Sword?”

“That’s right. It’s the Imperial Sword. Master, I’ve gotten familiar with the Demon Emperor Sword, so I don’t really want to give it back. In the future, let the Imperial Sword be your national treasure. The Imperial Sword Technique is suitable for you, Xiao Yu. As the Empress of the Cangyang Kingdom, this sword is fitting for your position!”

Murong Yu bit her lip as she looked at the sword in his hand. She knew that it was an amazing opportunity, and she had always wanted the Demon Emperor Sword. Now the Imperial Sword, which was equal to the Demon Emperor Sword, was right in front of her.

After a moment of hesitation, she exhaled and said with resolution, “Alright. I’ll be the Empress.”

“That’s more like it.” Long Chen tossed the Imperial Sword over to Murong Yu. With her Ninth River Stage cultivation, she would likely succeed in cultivating the Imperial Sword Technique.

With Murong Yu holding the kingdom up, the problems caused by the death of the Sword Emperor were finally resolved.

Chapter 435 - Fool

“Chen’er, what do you plan to do next?” asked Zhao Qingyun. After appointing Murong Yu as Empress, the mess left behind by Long Chen was finally settled.

Murong Yu was also listening intently.

Long Chen was only seventeen, but he was already the strongest person in the Cangyang Kingdom. If he stayed here, he would have no space to grow, and his growth would be arrested. A young person like him had to explore the world outside instead of staying in a place like the Cangyang Kingdom.

“I plan to pay my hometown near Yuanling City a visit. Once everything in the Cangyang Kingdom is settled and Xiao Yu successfully takes the throne, I’ll leave and head towards the Divine Martial Territory.” Long Chen had long made his decision.

He would go to the Divine Martial Territory whether Ling Xi was by his side or not. Ideally, Ling Xi’s family wouldn’t discover her presence and she would remain by his side. If she left, the only option he would have was to head to the Divine Martial Territory because he could go to other places through there.

While one of his main reasons for returning to Yuanling City was to meet his family, the other reason was for Ling Xi to regain her body there.

“Divine Martial Territory?” Zhao Qingyun nodded. That place suited Long Chen better.

After hearing him, there was a flash of sadness in Murong Yu’s eyes. It would be difficult for her to meet him again. He could soar as high as he wanted, but she had to stay here and fulfill her duty. It seemed a little unfair.

However, her current success stemmed from the mentorship that the Heavenly Demon Palace had provided her, so she did not resent them.

Long Chen had helped her regain her looks and had even given her the Imperial Sword. He had treated her very well.

“Right, Chen’er, do you know how to get to the dem?” Zhao Qingyun asked with concern.

“When I went to Ginger City, I discovered a universal transporter in the Snowpeak Mountains. That’s probably a universal transporter leading to the Divine Martial Territory, right?” Long Chen asked.

“You even know about universal transporters?” Zhao Qingyun was a little surprised, then he nodded. “Indeed. That is a universal transporter that leads to the Divine Martial Territory, though it has only ever been used a few times. The people of the Divine Martial Territory would never come to a place like this, nor do we ever go there.”

The main reason the people of the Cangyang Kingdom did not visit the Divine Martial Territory was because of the lack of Heavenly Passage Pills. The number of people who even possessed Heavenly Passage Pills here could probably be counted on one hand.

“Master, approximately how many Heavenly Passage Pills will we need if Xiaolang and I head to the Divine Martial Territory?” Long Chen asked hurriedly. This was what he cared about the most.

Zhao Qingyun counted for a while and said, “About fifty. The universal transporter expends a great number of Heavenly Passage Pills. With you and Xiaolang’s capabilities, you’ll need more than forty to complete the transportation process.”

“Fifty?” Long Chen was stunned. He only had a hundred pills on him, and a single trip would cost him fifty. He was not sure if the remaining fifty was enough to help him reach the Heavenly Passage Realm.

Long Chen’s expression soured.

“What’s the matter? You don’t have enough Heavenly Passage Pills? How many did you get from the Sword Emperor?” Zhao Qingyun asked with great interest.

“A hundred,” said Long Chen.

Zhao Qingyun grimaced and smiled bitterly. “After so many years, the Heavenly Demon Palace only has seventy pills passed down over generations. Xiao Yu needs at least thirty to reach the Heavenly Passage Realm. Since you have fifty left, I won’t be giving you any ...”

Long Chen was speechless.

Then again, he had never considered asking Zhao Qingyun for Heavenly Passage Pills. He was about to go to the Divine Martial Territory, and once he arrived, wouldn’t Heavenly Passage Pills be abundant? As long as the remaining fifty pills were enough for him to reach the Heavenly Passage Realm, it was sufficient.

With that thought, Long Chen grew anxious to help Ling Xi regain her body and said, "Master, I'll leave the matters of the Imperial Capital to you for now. Later, I will send my command out. I haven't visited home in a long time, so I'll be heading there now."

"So soon?"

Long Chen nodded. He wasn't in a hurry to go home, but he was in a hurry to let Ling Xi regain her body.

Zhao Qingyun nodded. "Go, then."

Long Chen bade him and Murong Yu farewell, then he sent out instructions to the other factions of the Imperial Capital. The Heavenly Demon Lord was a Heavenly Passage Realm cultivator, and if Long Chen wanted them to serve Zhao Qingyun, how could they refuse?

Long Chen called Xiaolang over, then they quickly rushed towards Yuanling City.

He was about to face the most important moment of his life. This was going to be a huge turning point, so he was extremely anxious and was praying hard that if Ling Xi successfully regained her body, her family would not come ...

Ling Xi could not bear to part with him, and he felt the same way. Long Chen had promised that he would not allow Ling Xi to live in this state forever, or he would never forgive himself.

Once again, he was riding on Xiaolang's back.

Once again, the stars shone brightly.

Night had fallen, and beneath the stars, Long Chen was staring ahead in a daze. Ling Xi was tiny and sparkled with a white glow; she had flown out of the Ling Xi Sword, and he reached out, so she sat on the back of his hand.

"Brother Chen, you look very anxious." There was worry in her eyes.

"Nonsense," he said, shaking his head. Then he looked at her solemnly and said, "Just now, you said that the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit was plucked about four months ago and a lot of its medicinal effects have faded. If it continues to fade, you say that the medicinal effects will not be enough for you to regain your body in ten days' time?"

Ling Xi nodded tiredly. She did not want to tell him this and initially intended to let the ten days pass. The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit would be useless at that point, and they would not need to worry. However, she knew that he would not forgive her for this, so she had chosen to tell him.

"So that means you have to cultivate and refine it as soon as possible. At least within five days. We should arrive in Yuanling City in five days' time. I'll let you refine it then, understood?" Long Chen said with determination after some thought.

This time, he had no complaints nor regrets.

He wanted Ling Xi to have a healthy, complete body at any cost. Then she would be a true human. This had been his deepest wish for the past six months. He was beyond happy when Ling Xi was in

the Profound Heavenly Jade Lotus body, but Lin Zichen had forced her to abandon it. In the end, Lin Zichen had paid with his life.

“Brother Chen, have you really made the decision to do this?” Ling Xi asked wistfully with tears in her eyes.

“Even if I die, I’ll die with no complaints nor regrets if it’s for you,” Long Chen answered, gritting his teeth.

“But I can’t bear to part.”

Ling Xi sounded like she was about to cry. It was like a heavy hammer had struck Long Chen’s heart, but in front of ultimate power, a weakling like him had no choice.

Power. All of this stems from power. If I possessed infinite power, it wouldn’t matter if Ling Xi’s family came to get her. I would be able to chase them away! But I can’t! Because right now, I am too weak. The journey of cultivation has no end. Right now, I am just an ant!

Long Chen’s heart bled as he thought about this.

A powerful desire grew from the depths of his heart, an infinite hunger for power!

Millions of blood-colored dragons roared within his body and his blood boiled. Long Chen was not the only one who hungered for power. They desired power too! From a dragon’s perspective, Long Chen was weaker than a hair right now. That was why he had to grow! And he had to grow at an even faster rate!

His long hair flew in the night breeze.

“Xiao Xi.”

“Hmm?”

Long Chen sighed and said, “I don’t know if my decision today is the right one. I don’t know if giving up the chance to stay with you for the rest of my life is a foolish decision. But I can’t bring myself to do otherwise.”

“Brother Chen ... I understand, but my clan possesses power that is unfathomable to you. They are on a level beyond the Divine Martial Territory. Any random member can destroy an empire. My worries are not baseless ...”

Any random person could destroy an empire.

Long Chen froze.

This was Ling Xi’s first time describing a true master to him.

To the true masters, Long Chen, who was the strongest in the Cangyang Kingdom, was just a frog at the bottom of the well.

Long Chen felt the weight of a mountain on his shoulders.

He took a deep breath and looked up at the infinite expanse of the night sky. No one could control the movements of the stars. To the stars, all mortal humans were weak.

An idea suddenly popped into his mind.

The mortals beneath the stars were like ants. Even a person who could destroy an empire on his own was nothing but a mortal beneath the stars, though a stronger ant. However, Long Chen had the blood of the ancestral dragons, and he would one day soar through the heavens and control the stars on a whim. Why would he need to be afraid of stronger ants?

Powerful confidence exploded in his eyes.

He sensed the endless potential within him.

He had trump cards—divine techniques that came from the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon and the Primordial Dragon Talisman, which were no simple things. He even had the dragon jade, which he knew nothing about. With such earth-shaking trump cards, he was fated to become a supreme presence, the number one of his age. Ling Xi's clan was powerful, but so what?

Long Chen's heart burned with the flames of passion.

“Xiao Xi, I have already made my decision. Once we have reached Baiyang Town, I want to personally see you refining the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. You are my woman, and you will be mine in every lifetime!”

Chapter 436 - Withered Willow

Long Chen felt pressured. This would most likely be his last visit to Baiyang Town. It would be hard for him to return.

So he needed to say goodbye.

There was only one person that Xiaolang cared about other than Long Chen, Yin Mengyao. He wanted to see her one last time, but he didn't want her to know that he had become a Sun Devouring Wolf, so he only wanted to look at her from afar.

Long Chen brought him into Yuanling City's Lingwu family. The Lingwu family was visibly more quiet after their defeat. He brought Xiaolang into the Silver family's territory and waited for Yin Mengyao in her little estate. Long Chen and Xiaolang had been lounging at the gazebo for an hour before Yin Mengyao returned. She pushed open the door and found Long Chen sitting inside.

This was a huge surprise to her!

“Long Chen!” Yin Mengyao shouted in surprise.

Long Chen took a close look at Yin Mengyao and saw that she had matured a lot. She looked more like a lady now and was already at the Heavenly Core Realm. She had improved a lot in such a short amount of time.

“Sister Mengyao, long time no see.” Long Chen smiled and looked at Xiaolang, who was staring at Yin Mengyao. His black eyes were slightly wet from the tears.

“Why did you come back without saying anything?” Yin Mengyao scoffed jokingly and looked at Long Chen. “You really grew up. I heard that you killed Lin Zichen and wanted to challenge the Sword Emperor. Why are you here?”

Yin Mengyao was secretly shocked by Long Chen's talent. He had long become a legend in Yuanling City, but now he was an even larger legend.

Long Chen's name had spread all across the Cangyang Kingdom. Yin Mengyao was brimming with pride since she had such a strong stepbrother. Even the people of the Lingwu family treated her with respect after learning what Long Chen had done.

He had rushed here before news of the Sword Emperor's death had reached Lingwu City, so Yin Mengyao wasn't aware yet. The people at the borders of the Cangyang Kingdom still had no idea that Long Chen had full control of the kingdom.

"Would you believe me if I said I killed the Sword Emperor and snatched the Cangyang Kingdom away from him?" Long Chen said in a joking tone.

Yin Mengyao sighed. "You really did it?" She trusted Long Chen, and she never doubted his strength after she learned that he had killed Emperor Yuan.

"Yes, but I don't have time to manage the kingdom, so I gave it to my master, Zhao Qingyun of the Heavenly Demon Palace. Don't worry though, he's a fair person that treats others with kindness. I'm completely fine with giving him the kingdom."

Long Chen was calm when he said that, but Yin Mengyao knew that he was no longer the same person who entered the Lingwu family with her.

"You are a legend! I will always be proud of you!" Yin Mengyao looked at Long Chen with pride.

Long Chen nodded. "Sister Mengyao, I have other matters to attend to. I'm here to say goodbye. We might never meet again."

It would've been easy to come back with Ling Xi if he was just traveling, but there was a chance he would never return once he embarked on the next leg of his next journey.

Yin Mengyao's face paled and she shook her head bitterly. "Go. You need a bigger space to grow. It will suit you."

She knew that Long Chen's talent would take him somewhere far away.

Long Chen nodded. He was glad that Yin Mengyao understood him, but he was here for another reason. He stood up and tossed Xiaolang to Yin Mengyao. "The wolf seems to like you a lot. Please take care of it for me. I will return soon."

Long Chen was already gone when Yin Mengyao caught Xiaolang. She wasn't sure why Long Chen had left so suddenly, but the wolf soon caught her attention. Its eyes reminded her of someone.

"Why does it resemble Xiaolang? I will ask Long Chen where Mo Xiaolang is after he comes back ..."

Long Chen wanted to stay for a bit after leaving Xiaolang and Yin Mengyao alone, but he suddenly heard something interesting from two ladies from the Silver family who were gossiping.

"The young master of Blaze City has reached the Heavenly River Realm already. The Patriarch of the Vermillion Bird family could not hold him back, so he ended up

bringing the young master straight to the Azure Sun Pavilion. How did Liu Lan manage to make the young master fall in love with her?"

"What do you know about men? Young boys like him love voluptuous women like Liu Lan. Weren't Chu Yunxi and Long Chen the same? I heard that Liu Lan became Long Chen's woman back on Nine Devils Mountain. To think that the young master of Blaze City dared to touch Liu Lan even though Long Chen became such a legend ..."

"Long Chen might be strong, but I've heard that he wants to challenge the Sword Emperor. The Sword Emperor is at the Heavenly Passage Realm! It's very likely Long Chen will die, so the young master could no longer hold back."

"Liu Lan, that bitch. She's nothing but a withered willow[1], and yet someone still wants her! I wish that young master would love me instead."

"You? Look at your breast pads! You think you can win him over?"

Long Chen stood up.

"Let's go find her. You spent some time with her, so it's technically fate." Ling Xi was very understanding.

Long Chen nodded.

The Azure Sun Hall was not far from here. He soon reached it and recalled the first time he had met Liu Yuan here. He was only at the Earthly Core Realm and was getting ready to enter the Lingwu family, but times had changed.

I haven't seen her since we came down from Nine Devils Mountain. I wonder what she will think of me. I wonder how she would react when she sees me.

Liu Lan had used Long Chen in the beginning, but he soon grew so strong that she couldn't control him. Later on, he punished Liu Lan appropriately, and everyone assumed that she was his woman now.

"Withered willow." That was the term the lady had used to describe Liu Lan.

He slowly approached the Azure Sun Hall and heard the sound of arguing inside. Long Chen looked through the mirror and saw what was happening. There were four people in the hall. The two people talking in the middle were the Vermillion Bird family's Patriarch and Liu Yuan. The Patriarch was the same old woman, but Liu Yuan had visibly grown older.

Behind the Patriarch was a boy who looked to be roughly fifteen years old. He was arrogantly staring at the two people talking in the middle and taking greedy glances at Liu Lan.

Liu Lan was wearing plain clothes and little makeup, but her beauty could not be hidden. Even though she made no effort, every move she made could seduce a man. But now she was lowering her head and her face was pale. She was having difficulty breathing.

"Liu Yuan, think about it. Do you know how big Blaze City is? It's three times larger than Yuanling City! Young Master Hong's father rules over it, and he's at the Fifth

River Stage. Young Master Hong is also strong, reaching the Second River Stage at such a young age. Lan'er should be proud that he's attracted to her ..."

The Patriarch looked at Liu Lan. As a woman, even she had to admit that Liu Lan was a vixen. If not, how could the young master of Blaze City be attracted to her even though Liu Lan's reputation was in the gutter?

"Also, Lan'er is not young anymore. If she doesn't get married soon ..."

Young Master Hong interjected, "Sister Lan, I really love you. Please rest assured that my father will send the dowry in ten days. We have prepared a massive dowry, including an elementary Earth-tier spiritual herb that will instantly get you to the Heavenly Core Realm!"

He was certain that Liu Lan would accept his offer because of the dowry.

Liu Yuan was in trouble too. He looked at Young Master Hong and Liu Lan. "Lan'er, I think ... Young Master Hong is indeed ..."

"Indeed what?" Liu Lan raised her head and glared at Young Master Hong. "Haven't you heard the rumors of how many women he has trampled on even though he's so young? Do you think he will be loyal to me? Also ..."

Chapter 437 - Castration

Liu Lan could endure no longer. She hated the boy in front of her and wanted to slap him viciously. She looked at him and said, "The man I love is someone who stood tall and created miracles, not a young boy who relied on his father to do stuff. Do you think you deserve me just because you are stronger?"

The only reason she had said that was because she had been forced into a corner. Young Master Hong snapped when he was insulted. He broke the chair, stood up, and pointed at Liu Lan. "You fucking bitch! You are just a withered willow! I gave you some respect because I liked you. I came all the way here to marry you, and yet you dare to refuse me? What a joke! Vermillion Bird Patriarch! Is this how you work? Looks like the Hong family's relationship with the Lingwu family will no longer exist! Just wait, what I will bring in ten days is a group of experts instead of a dowry. Bitch, do you think you can escape me? I will have you underneath me in ten days regardless!"

Young Master Hong glared at everyone before leaving angrily.

The Patriarch and Liu Yuan were shocked. After the deaths of two Patriarchs, the Lingwu family was falling into ruins. If the Hong family came after them, the Lingwu family would be wiped out.

"Father, I'm sorry ..." Liu Lan wasn't sure what to do. She had caused the death of the Lingwu family. She realized how powerless she was and regretted it. That was when she suddenly recalled the man that had taken advantage of her one night on Nine Devils Mountain, causing her to cry and leaving her unable to walk properly for a few days ...

Reminiscence and love appeared in her heart.

But she knew that her feelings for Long Chen didn't matter when he wasn't here. Everything was over. The Lingwu family was done for because of her, and she could only commit suicide to make amends. Even if it did nothing for the family, she refused to surrender herself to that boy.

Before dying, Liu Lan thought about a lot of things, but her most vivid memory was about that proud, young boy. She regretted it. If time could rewind, she would choose to love him instead of pressuring him.

Long Chen, I hope you don't hate me anymore. I was selfish and arrogant, but now I know how powerless I was. I can't even control my life ...

Liu Lan was ready to commit suicide when a shout came from outside. The shout belonged to Young Master Hong.

Liu Lan stared with widened eyes as Young Master Hong was dragged back inside by a youth. To think that a Second River Stage cultivator would be so helpless!

Bam!

Young Master Hong was thrown onto the ground. He was shocked, but he was fearless because of his background. "You brat! Tell me your name! How dare you touch me. My father is the mayor of Blaze City! He will never let you go. Kneel down and call me 'grandfather,' or I will kill you!"

The person who had dragged him was Long Chen.

The three people from Lingwu family were stunned to see Long Chen. Long Chen ignored them as he looked at Young Master Hong. He smiled plainly before stomping on the boy's crotch and popping something. Young Master Hong let out a shrill cry before he curled his body out of pain. He was sweating and panting from the pain.

"You want me, Long Chen, to call you 'grandfather?' Call me 'grandfather' instead, or I will step on you once every breath. Starting now." Long Chen was toying with Young Master Hong.

One breath passed, and Long Chen stomped again. Something broke into smithereens, and Young Master Hong shouted even louder. His body twitched and only two words came to his mind.

"Long Chen" and "grandfather."

"Grandfather! Grandfather! AHH ... Grandfather!" Young Master Hong shouted three times before Long Chen stopped. He kicked Hong one last time to make him unconscious, and the hall was silent again. "You are already castrated and yet you still call me 'grandfather.' What a joke."

He then smiled at the Vermillion Bird Patriarch. "Long time no see. How are you?"

The Patriarch was stunned and her teeth chattered. She couldn't utter a single word.

Long Chen didn't want to talk to her either. "Send him back to Blaze City and tell his father. If anyone from his family sets foot inside Yuanling City within a hundred years, I will make sure that the Hong family ceases to exist. Tell him that Long Chen gave the orders," he said in a calm but unchallenged tone.

“Do you understand?”

“Yes ... Yes!”

“Scram.”

“Yes.”

A Second River Stage cultivator was like a child to Long Chen. Rumor had it that he had killed the Ninth River Stage Lin Zichen. It was undoubtedly true, which meant Long Chen could kill the Patriarch with a single wave of his hand. Therefore, Patriarch picked up Hong and ran out.

Now the hall was quiet with just Liu Yuan and Liu Lan. Liu Yuan was in the middle of the two and became embarrassed. “Uuuh ... You guys can talk. I will leave now.”

Liu Yuan ran away too. His heart was still beating rapidly because he had learned everything about Long Chen. He knew how strong Long Chen had gotten and knew one day he would be back. That day had arrived, and he had solved a massive crisis for Liu Lan.

Long Chen looked at Liu Lan cheekily. He was certain that the woman would cry when she saw him, but his face froze when he saw her glaring at him with killing intent.

“Long Chen, do you know what you did? If word gets out, I will never be able to get married,” Liu Lan said through gritted teeth.

She loved and hated him. She adored him and yet was still angry at him. Seeing him made her want to release all of her pent-up emotions.

Long Chen had never thought about it from that angle and just realized what he had done. Someone had come to ask for her hand in marriage and he had castrated that man. It was certain that no one else would ever ask Liu Lan to marry them if word got out.

“We are friends, aren’t we? We should help each other. I saw that he was scolding you, so I gave him a warning. Smile! There’s no need to frown when I came all the way here to see you.” Long Chen felt like teasing her.

“Are you sure you are here just to see me?”

“Not really ...” He smiled sheepishly.

“Get out.” Liu Lan lowered her head.

“What’s wrong?” Long Chen didn’t know what was happening.

“No need to pity me. Thank you for your help. From here onwards, I don’t want to see you again, nor do I want to talk to you anymore. Goodbye,” Liu Lan said adamantly.

Long Chen was silent. He had a feeling that Liu Lan was struggling with something and knew what she was thinking. She had her pride and used to be stronger than Long Chen, but now she could only be described as pitiful. She didn’t want to show her pitiful side to him, because she really cared about him.

The look in his eyes right now told her that he had grown into a man.

“Go! Don’t come back, please ...” Liu Lan almost cried.

Long Chen sighed. “I came here to say goodbye to you. We are technically friends after what we went through. I will be leaving the Cangyang Kingdom and might never return. This might be the last time we meet. Will you chase me away like this?”

Liu Lan wanted him to leave, but she never thought he would leave forever. Her mind went blank.

The last time we will meet?

Long Chen had an important place in her heart, and it wasn’t easy for her to let him go.

Both of them remained silent.

“Weren’t you supposed to fight the Sword Emperor?”

“I already killed him.”

They were silent again.

It was quite some time before Liu Lan sighed. “Let’s go back to the Azure Willow Residence. No matter what, we are friends. Since you are leaving, I should send you off. I want to hear about what you did after you left the Lingwu family.”

Back to the Azure Willow Residence?

Chapter 438 - Farewell

Back in the Turquoise Willow Residence, Liu Lan kept quiet as she led Long Chen to her place.

“Brother Chen, what is she doing?” Ling Xi pouted.

“Don’t know, but I think it will be alright.” If he were the same as how he was back in Baiyang Town, he would’ve been seduced by Liu Lan, but now he was indifferent to her.

Long Chen recalled how he saw her bathing here last time. Her pale skin and smooth body were definitely alluring. Liu Lan was now walking in front of him, her curvaceous body still capable of seducing any man.

They sat in the courtyard, and it was already late at night. The weak light coming from the candle illuminated Liu Lan’s skin in a sensual way that urged people to bite her gently. A faint scent lingered in the air that tempted those who smelled it. The atmosphere was filled with sexual tension.

“Long Chen, I don’t know who the beautiful girl that stood by your side was. She appears and disappears at random times...” Liu Lan said calmly as she stared at the sky.

Ling Xi was not a secret to her after the incident on Nine Devils Mountain. Long Chen explained Ling Xi’s predicament to Liu Lan. He had been searching for someone to talk to about it, and now he had found that someone, Liu Lan. He continued to tell his story to her.

Liu Lan lowered her head after hearing him. “Thank you for treating me as a friend and telling me so much. It’s already late.”

Long Chen nodded. “And that’s why I need to leave now. I don’t know when I will return. Fate has a cruel way of toying with people ...”

Liu Lan nodded and raised her head, her captivating face just inches away from his. “I’m so jealous of that lady to have a man like you working hard for her. She can probably hear me right now, right? You two must cherish your relationship, because it’s not easy to find someone you’re so compatible with. I’ve been searching for a bond like yours, but perhaps I’m too ugly to have one ...”

Long Chen felt awkward.

He did understand her, but Ling Xi was the one he had to cherish and protect. His heart had no room for Liu Lan. Not only Liu Lan, Long Chen also had to turn down Murong Yu from the Heavenly Demon Palace. He knew that Murong Yu was attracted to him, but he had to turn her down.

“Don’t worry. You are a kind person. You will find your love in the future.” Long Chen smiled sheepishly.

“That’s not true. I might’ve had a chance if more people tried to court me, but I don’t think anyone will do so after what you did today. You have to compensate me!” Liu Lan’s eyes revealed her intentions to tease him.

“Compensate? How?”

Liu Lan stared at him shyly. “See, I’m sure that no one else will approach me. I will continue to grow older and will most likely lose my feminine charm in ten years or so. I don’t think you consider me ugly, and I also think it’s a shame that someone as pretty as me is destined to be alone. So when you decide to leave, I’ve decided to give myself to you. Don’t worry, I don’t need you to be responsible. I just want to feel what it’s like to be a woman. I just want to say ... Long Chen, I don’t think I can be attracted to any other man in this world.”

Liu Lan’s bold words, her playful gaze, and her snow-white cleavage in the moonlight ... All of her actions exuded so much charm that Long Chen was stunned. He knew that almost no one would refuse her if she said the same thing.

But he cannot follow her demands.

“Hahaha. Look at how frightened you are. I’m just toying with you. I’m more afraid that the little lady will come out and tear me to pieces.” Liu Lan covered her mouth and chuckled.

Long Chen sighed in relief.

“Alright, I think I’ve said what I needed to. Any more and I might really miss you. Long Chen, go. Goodbye ... Or more precisely, farewell.” Liu Lan stood up and smiled. Her eyes were resolute while sending off Long Chen.

Long Chen stood up. He knew that she was right. Their relationship was slightly complicated, and if they were to talk further, it would only make them feel sad. “Don’t worry. We will see each other again if fate allows it.”

Liu Lan didn't answer him and continued smiling.

Long Chen confirmed that she was indeed just teasing him. He never thought that he had the charisma to make Liu Lan submit to him like a moth to the flames. He nodded and disappeared into the night sky after saying goodbye.

Liu Lan slowly slumped onto the ground after Long Chen disappeared and cried. Tears stained her sleeves and robe.

She continued crying until she fell asleep in the courtyard.

Xiaolang was already waiting for him when he returned to the Silver family's residence. Long Chen knew that Xiaolang was sad just from seeing how crestfallen he looked.

"Let's go." Xiaolang wanted to see Yin Mengyao before they left. They had spent an entire day together, and Long Chen thought that it was enough time. He took Xiaolang and ran towards Baiyang Town. With Xiaolang's speed, they arrived in no time. Long Chen didn't want to disturb the Yang family, so he decided to just sneak in and look at them from afar. He would be content as long as the Yang family Patriarch, Yang Xueqing, Yang Yuntian, Yang Qingxuan, and everyone else in the family remained safe.

Thankfully, the imperial family didn't send anyone to destroy them, or I would've regretted my decisions. I should just ask Master to invite them to the capital so that I don't have to worry about them.

Yang Xueqing was asleep. Long Chen looked at her a few more times through the window, and felt tears well up in his eyes. He sighed. "I know that our relationship is not the best, but she's still my mother. She still raised me a little. I wonder if I will ever see her again."

"Brother Chen, why don't you wake her up?"

"No need. It will just be even more sad." Long Chen smiled, "Let's go see my father one last time before you refine the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit."

Ling Xi bit her lip and nodded.

They approached the woods just outside Baiyang Town. Long Chen retraced his steps and soon found Long Qinglan's grave.

"Father, I won't say much. I'm on the path to becoming the strongest. The secret of the Dragon Jade Pendant and your identity ... I will slowly unravel their truths. Xiao Xi, come out."

Xiao Xi came out of the ear stud after he finished talking.

"Father, look closely. This is your daughter-in-law, Ling Xi. She's not my wife just yet, but I will make sure she agrees to my proposal in front of everyone else one day!"

Ling Xi was touched by his words. She looked at Long Qinglan's grave and said, "I will also call you 'father.' I swear that I will always stay by Long Chen's side!"

"Alright, I think my father heard what you said. Let's go ..."

Long Chen wasn't too hung up on his family. He knew this day would come. He had seen everyone he cared for and no longer had any regrets. Now he only needed to wait to see which path he should take.

Long Chen, Ling Xi, and Xiaolang returned to Baiyang Town. Long Chen's old house was just outside of the Yang family estate. He hadn't been home in a year, so it was filled with dust. He released some Qi and blew out the dust to make the place more hospitable.

Standing in the courtyard, Long Chen looked up at the cloudy sky. The wind was howling and thunderous booms could be heard. It was going to rain soon.

"Xiao Xi, you can start now."

Back in his room, Long Chen urged her to start. Even though his voice was calm, he couldn't hide the anxiety in his eyes.

There was only him and Ling Xi inside the room. Xiaolang was guarding outside and didn't want to interrupt them. Even so, he was very anxious about the results.

It was time to refine the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. If they didn't, it would become ineffective in five days.

No matter what, they need to face it now.

The skies continued to rumble, and the occasional lightning flash illuminated the room and turned Long Chen's face white.

Ling Xi was shrouded in white fog as she floated in front of him. Even though she was nothing but a spirit now, her beautiful face, pale skin, and luminous eyes were very real.

Her body gradually grew bigger until she was back to her regular size. This was the first time in a long time that Long Chen had seen her face up close when she was at her normal size. He had grown used to seeing her as a small humanoid, but now Ling Xi's anxious face was just inches away.

The familiar scent reached Long Chen's nose.

"Brother Chen, can I please beg you one last time? I don't care if I have to stay in this form. I want to accompany you forever, and I won't regret it ..." She was close to sobbing.

Chapter 439 - Ten Years of Uncertainty

Ling Xi's words hurt Long Chen.

He gritted his teeth and said, "I won't regret my decision. As a man, I will provide everything you need. Ling Xi, please trust me. If I don't go to you in ten years, that means I'm dead."

Ten years.

Ling Xi cried.

Ten years of uncertainty. Would he really do that for her?

Would he travel thousands of miles, to traverse the mountains and roads, kill demons and devils, balance on the line separating life and death again and again, just to hold her hand one more time?

“If you don’t find me in ten years, I will kill myself!” Ling Xi made sure he understood her.

“Don’t you dare do that! Refine the fruit now!”

Ling Xi hesitated one last time before proceeding.

She knew she was one of the lucky ones.

Long Chen took out the jade box containing the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. He opened it and placed the fruit on the ground. Ling Xi’s spirit floated beside it just like how she had done with the Profound Jade Lotus. She had ended up with nothing but a fake body that time. However, the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit would not only return her physical body, but also restore her power.

She would return to how she was before the sword sliced her up.

Ling Xi thought she was dead when that happened, but she was given one more chance to be reborn after meeting Long Chen and overcoming countless struggles.

It was nothing short of a dream to her.

“Time to start ...”

It started raining outside. The room was dark, but the fruit was illuminating most of the room, covering it in a dreamy light.

The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit was much more fragrant than the Profound Jade Lotus. Long Chen felt like he was bathing in a pool of pure Qi, and he felt his own Qi slowly increasing.

Ling Xi’s body transformed into white mist and entered the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. Long Chen saw the final sense of yearning in her eyes.

A girl like you should have a real body. You cannot follow me like some ghost while traveling the world.

Long Chen sighed and dispelled all of his stray thoughts. He watched her rebirth as if he was enjoying a show.

Ling Xi entered the fruit completely, and a strange power pulsed into her. Her voice came in waves from the fruit, as if she was crying. Long Chen felt tears pooling in his eyes.

He was forcing her to do this for her sake. Who knew what would happen if they don't take this opportunity here and now?

The white fruit resembled a ginseng. When she entered the fruit, it slowly transformed into an orb of white that reflected its surroundings like a pool of water.

Long Chen saw Ling Xi’s face flickering within the orb.

Time slowly passed, and the orb grew larger and larger. Soon, it turned into a white cocoon, its white threads emitting pure light.

Runes appeared on the cocoon, and they slowly spun until they resembled a whirlpool. Long Chen's reflection on the cocoon was also white like milk.

Long Chen was both anxious and excited.

The whirlpool slowly grew and became translucent. Long Chen then felt the natural Qi in the air being sucked into the cocoon. The massive energy that even he could not control was instantly consumed.

Is Xiao Xi really that strong? Long Chen didn't know how strong she was before she lost her body, but now he understood that her strength was leagues above his.

Xiao Xi had said that she never cultivated seriously even though was extremely strong. It was clear that her background was not simple.

Time slowly passed.

Long Chen was looking forward to her coming out of the cocoon. Regardless of what happened after, it was excellent news that she could recover her body. As for the other issues, he could just solve them one by one. He swore that he would meet her again within ten years.

It was soon midnight, and Long Chen lost count of how much Qi Ling Xi had consumed.

She can probably defeat me easily once she comes out. Long Chen felt powerless, but he held on to his pillar of strength, and that was his identity as a Dragon Warrior.

The Dragon Ancestors were beings at the pinnacle of the Dragon Continent!

Ling Xi was close to succeeding. Just then, a crack appeared in the cocoon, and a pink light leaked through. The fragrant scent smothered Long Chen, then he saw someone slowly appearing inside.

This was not the first time he had seen her beauty, but it still left a lasting impression on him when he saw her. He would never forget how beautiful she was.

Ling Xi was the most beautiful girl in the world, and no one else could rival her in his heart.

She stretched her arms and floated in front of Long Chen. Just like last time, she was naked, but Long Chen didn't have any ill intentions in him. He was admiring her like a piece of art.

Her pale and smooth skin, her red lips, her crescent eyebrows, her hair that reached her waist, her soft shoulders, her pale chest, her slender waist, her long arms, her toned legs, and her beautiful feet ...

She was the most beautiful piece of art that he had ever seen.

There was nothing lustful in his mind. All he felt for her was satisfaction and happiness. He knew that he had finally achieved his goal after working so hard. Ling Xi could finally live like a normal human again. She was reborn.

Long Chen suddenly felt like it was worth it no matter how difficult things would become, even if he had to bet his life.

It wasn't just because she was beautiful, but also because he loved her so much.

He remembered how he was exiled from the Yang family and meandered through life. Back then, he didn't know what love was, but now he knew after seeing Ling Xi recover her true body.

To him, love was to provide and protect.

Ling Xi was like a white lotus bathed in light when she appeared, pure yet beautiful.

She opened her eyes while Long Chen was still admiring her. Two rays of sharp sword Qi appeared in them and formed symbols before slowly becoming dim.

Her eyes soon returned to normal. They were like a clear pond that rippled in the wind.

Tears streamed down her face when she opened her eyes.

When she felt the warmth coming from her body, she knew that their future was now wrapped in thorns. There was no turning back.

She remembered how Long Chen had touched her spirit with his finger when they first entered the Lingwu family. He had told her that he would give her back the same warmth that she felt.

And now he had done it.

They looked at each other as if they had been separated for hundreds of years. They didn't know what to say, and Ling Xi could only cry when she looked at him.

But Long Chen did not. He was happy that his efforts had paid off.

"Brother Chen ..." Ling Xi suddenly broke the silence and decided on something. She approached Long Chen and pulled him into her embrace.

She was strong, and before Long Chen could react, his face was buried in her chest. The scent coming from her body plucked his heart strings and he felt his body burning up.

What is Ling Xi doing?

"Brother Chen, I've decided. You remember how Liu Lan offered to give herself to you? I know that many women will approach you after I leave you. I'm afraid you'll forget me, so I want to give myself to you too. You gave me the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, so my body is yours now!"

Ling Xi's voice trembled as she said that.

Sensing Long Chen's breath on her chest made her feel powerless.

Chapter 440 - Ancient Graveyard

Long Chen's body was reacting strongly now that the person he yearned for was hugging him. More importantly, because Ling Xi was panicking and didn't want Long Chen to stop her, she pushed him down onto the bed and pressed on him with her body.

"Mmm ..."

She moaned and her face turned red. A faint blush appeared on her pale skin due to her embarrassment, making her look much more attractive.

Long Chen felt like his body was going to explode when Ling Xi pushed him down and looked at him alluringly.

“Brother Chen, I ...” She lost herself in his embrace and said those few words even though she was embarrassed. Her faint breath and scent ignited the fire in Long Chen. His eyes became bloodshot and he panted rapidly. Ling Xi started going limp when she felt the heat coming from Long Chen’s body.

Her eyelashes fluttered and her eyes filled with lust. Long Chen slowly looked down and saw her attractive body. That was when something rose from his body like a Dragon Ancestor.

Long Chen howled and couldn’t control his hands. He touched her breasts, and Ling Xi moaned again, as if she was electrocuted. She became like a kitten that moved away from the unfamiliar feeling of his touch.

He looked at her again and saw how pure she looked. She was an inviolable piece of art that had come from the heavens.

And now she was sitting on him without any clothes.

Long Chen slapped himself and snapped out of it. He took out the clothes that he had prepared for Ling Xi from his Universe Pouch. He then pushed her away and stood up, “Put this on, now!”

Long Chen's harshness made her confidence come crashing down. Ling Xi had always been sensitive and timid. After gathering all the courage she could muster to force herself onto him, Long Chen had rejected her, making her feel dejected. She put on her clothes and cried at the same time.

Hiding herself in the blanket, she lowered her head onto her knees and said nothing.

Long Chen’s excited body finally calmed down. It was only at this point that he sighed in relief and sat on the bed. He gently asked, “Xiao Xi, what’s wrong?”

Ling Xi ignored him, but her body trembled.

“Talk.”

“You ... You detest me ...” Ling Xi sobbed.

Long Chen shook his head and sighed. “Idiot, how could you be so clueless? I will tell you why now is not the time. Lie down with me.”

He hugged her and lied down on the bed. Then he pulled the blanket and covered both of them.

Loud thunder echoed across the skies as the heavy rain fell.

Long Chen and Ling Xi were cultivators, sleep and blankets were useless, but Long Chen missed how fragile Ling Xi was when she used the Profound Jade Lotus. She was just a normal mortal who would freeze to death without a blanket.

He was also used to hugging her while she fell asleep. Now that she had restored her body, he was more than happy to do the same. The couple cuddled on the bed.

Ling Xi didn’t know why Long Chen had stopped her.

“Brother Chen, would you have stopped if I was Liu Lan?”

Long Chen wanted to smack her on the head. He finally learned what she was worried about. He turned serious as he said, "That's not why I stopped. Xiao Xi, have you considered how your family would react if I did that to you? Do you think I would survive?"

This was what Long Chen was most afraid of. If not, he would've never stopped when Ling Xi pushed him down. She was what he yearned for the most.

"I see. I'm such an idiot." Ling Xi understood what he meant. "Brother Chen, I'm so sorry for being such an idiot."

Ling Xi blushed when she recalled how desperate and brave she was just now. She didn't dare to look him in the eye.

The rain continued outside while they were warm in the room. Long Chen threw away all of his worries and held her tightly. "Do you like cuddling and living like a normal person?"

"It's my dream." Ling Xi's eyes were filled with yearning as she cuddled him. She felt that this was the warmest place in the world and would never forget her adventures with him. The entire world was cold and dangerous, and only Long Chen gave her the warmth and safety she needed. Even though she was strong now, she still liked the feeling he gave her.

Yet she felt powerless.

What would they have to face tomorrow?

Long Chen dared not think about it. He just wanted to enjoy the night.

The entire world outside was drowned in the heavy downpour, but inside the house there was only the sound of their hearts beating.

Ling Xi buried her face in his arms and looked up with teary eyes.

"This is the most beautiful night in my life."

"Shh ... Don't talk. Let's go to sleep." Long Chen smiled and caressed her face.

But neither of them slept. They talked for the whole night, but in the end, morning still came.

Ling Xi looked outside. "The rain stopped."

Long Chen nodded.

"Brother Chen." Ling Xi suddenly started crying and planted her face next to his. His face was covered in her tears too. The tears flowed down and stained the pillow.

"They are here. They will arrive in an hour." Ling Xi was crestfallen.

Long Chen felt like his heart had been hollowed out, as if he had lost something important. It hurt him a lot and made it difficult for him to breathe, as if his chest had been sealed off.

He didn't dare ask her that question that entire night. He had been hoping that her family wouldn't discover where she was, but now he knew that it was impossible. Just as he had expected, the path filled with thorns was just beginning.

Long Chen closed his eyes and took a deep breath.

“Ling Xi, I need you to tell me how to get to where you live.” This was the most important question. He hadn’t asked her yet because he had been hoping that Ling Xi’s family wouldn’t find her, but now he knew he had to ask.

Thinking how she would be separated from Long Chen in an hour, her voice faltered. There was no telling if he would ever make it, and she felt her world crumbling from the intense sadness. Tears continued to streak down her face even though the rain had stopped outside.

“Tell me now, unless you don’t want me to find you!” Long Chen’s voice was stern. Even though he felt his heart bleeding, he needed to be strong.

Long Chen’s tone frightened her, and she stopped crying. “Brother Chen, listen closely.”

She wiped off her tears and sobbed a little. “The Ten Thousand Nations Territory is just a corner of the Dragon Continent. It’s considered a sealed-off piece of land. The Ten Thousand Nations Territory is surrounded by the ocean on three sides, while the last remaining side is connected to a large and continuous desolate wasteland. It’s a forbidden area that normal cultivators cannot enter. Legend has it that it was once the site of a large battle, called the Ancient Graveyard. It’s because of that place that the people of the Ten Thousand Nations Territory cannot get out.”

“Ancient Graveyard?”

Ling Xi nodded and continued, “Just past the Ancient Graveyard is the Three Emperor Territory. That place is the true land of the Dragon Continent. Each territory is as large as the entire Ten Thousand Nations Territory. My family is in one of the three territories called the Swordsoul Palace. If you want to find me, you must first reach the Three Emperor Territories!”

“But how can I enter the Three Emperor Territories if the Ancient Graveyard is blocking me?” Long Chen already had a good idea of how massive Ling Xi’s family was, so he wasn’t frightened when she told him.

At least he had a goal to work towards.