

## **A Demoness 491**

### Chapter 491 It's Time for Chi Tian to Fulfill His Role

Jiang Hao shook his head and sighed. He no longer paid attention to the two below.

If this continued, the beast might not live long. It had a big reputation and a tough life.

In the cultivation world, which spirit pet survived after repeated attacks from Hong Yuye? Which spirit pet could face powerful adversaries several times and still come out unscathed?

This spirit beast was quite something.

Compared to the beast, Xiao Li might be fine. She had seen Hong Yuye multiple times and remained unharmed.

Back in his room, Jiang Hao began to plan for tonight's gathering.

Aside from the possibility of Gui asking him some questions, he wouldn't need to speak much.

But he doubted he could answer Gui's questions because Hong Yuye hadn't explained anything to him. His knowledge was insufficient.

At that time, he could only remain silent and look toward Senior Dan Yuan.

That way, the problem would be resolved.

Although he pretended to be mysterious and powerful during the gathering, he was still just an ordinary member. The most beneficial and knowledgeable person was still the initiator of the gathering, Senior Dan Yuan.

After waiting for some time, he heard no sound from the courtyard. Xiao Li must have gone to eat.

Jiang Hao sat cross-legged and reviewed the content of the last gathering, while also recalling his experiences to determine what could be said.

Most importantly, he couldn't say anything that would affect the impression of himself that he left at the gathering.

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At midnight, in the southern Nanyuan Capital, Qiao Yi stood guard at the door.

At this moment, someone arrived from outside.

It was a middle-aged general who was in the Primordial Spirit Realm.

"Is the princess resting?" he asked as he looked at the inner part of their courtyard.

"What else would she be doing?" Qiao Yi frowned and said in a low voice, "General Lin, why are you here so late? Is there something wrong?"

"I came to remind you out of goodwill. Princess Bi Zhu is over three hundred years old, and her remaining lifespan is not much. If she doesn't get married soon, her position in the imperial city will plummet," General Lin said with a smile.

"Whether the princess gets married or not is her business and has nothing to do with you," Qiao Yi said coldly.

"I actually have a candidate. Perhaps..."

"Get out!"

At this moment, the aura of the Primordial Spirit Realm surged.

General Lin didn't say much and turned to leave.

Qiao Yi sighed as she watched him leave.

What General Lin said was not entirely false, but Princess Bi Zhu's older brothers were not ordinary princes, especially her eldest brother.

His status and position were very high, mainly because of his power.

Because of that, not many people tried to pressure her. But if the emperor had decided...

Then, no one could do anything.

Finally, she sighed again.

"I wonder how long the princess can stay free."

When she thought about it carefully, Princess Bi Zhu had increased her lifespan by a hundred years, and the imperial city had not pressured her.

But many people still looked at her indignantly.

At that moment, Princess Bi Zhu had already entered the stone tablet in her room.

The people present were Senior Dan Yuan and the four regular members.

After exchanging greetings with Senior Dan Yuan, they sat down cross-legged on the floor.

Bi Zhu hesitated for a moment but did not ask any cultivation questions.

No one else had any questions.

"I searched for information about the Heavenly Spirit Tribe and found something strange. It seems that the appearance of the Saint Bandits coincided with the decline. She was quite curious. Did Jing really have no questions at all?

"Do you have any information about the Saint Bandits?" Senior Dan Yuan asked.

The Saint Bandits were very special. Bi Zhu had looked up a lot of information and asked many people, but unfortunately, she hadn't gained much.

"I searched for information about the Heavenly Spirit Tribe and found something strange. It seems that the appearance of the Saint Bandits coincided with the decline of the Heavenly Spirit Tribe," Xing said.

"That is indeed the case, but the details are not clear enough," Senior Dan Yuan said.

After that, no one had anything to contribute.

There was no information about the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower either.

Then came the regular trading session.

"I have already informed the friend about the transfer and transmutation of the curse. Is there anything I can do for you, Friend Jing?" Gui asked.

Jiang Hao looked toward her. He had considered this question before entering the stone tablet. "Please help me curse someone."

At present, what he needed most was to find Chi Tian.

But Gui wasn't overseas. It wasn't suitable to ask her about it.

He couldn't ask for other things, and asking her to teach him curses was useless.

Hong Yuye didn't like cursed things. He had been warned before. He couldn't risk it again.

"Curse who?" Gui, or rather Bi Zhu, asked.

"Yin Wei in the Heavenly Note Sect," Jiang Hao said.

"Is that all?"

"That's all."

After a moment of silence, Gui said, "What curse do you want?"

"Anything is fine," Jiang Hao said.

"I can't guarantee its effectiveness," Gui said.

Jiang Hao nodded and didn't say anything further.

The success rate was indeed low, but if it had some effect, that would be sufficient.

Even if it can hinder his progress in cultivation by a bit, it would be fine. In any case, suppressing him a bit would be good, especially since this person had set his sights on him.

"I have a task," Liu said. "I want to know how the Heavenly Note Sect entered the depths of the sea. Any related clues will do."

Jiang Hao lowered his head and thought about it.

The secret of the Sea Fog Cave would be out sooner or later. If the Heavenly Note Sect felt helpless, they would reveal the truth anyway.

Elder Baizhi definitely had such courage.

Since that was the case, he could conveniently use this opportunity, and he could also use Liu's influence to find out more.

Previously, he was hesitant to mention the Sea Fog Cave because he was afraid of being tied to it.

Now, he had no worries.

With that, Chi Tian's issue could also be solved smoothly.

"Have you seen anything lately?" Xing asked.

"I saw tentacles... Tentacles inscribed with text. Some sort of scriptures," said Liu.

"It's because of the Sea Fog Cave," Jiang Hao said without hesitation.

This sudden statement surprised everyone.

"The Heavenly Note Sect's Sea Fog Cave," Jiang Hao said.

"Are you suggesting, Friend Jing, that people from the Heavenly Note Sect entered the sea through the Sea Fog Cave?" Liu asked.

Jiang Hao nodded. "A large amount of blood and flesh might reveal some clues."

This piece of information is enough to encourage overseas individuals to join the exploration of the Sea Fog Cave.

This also conveniently provided a chance to rescue those trapped inside.

"Is there anything you need, Friend Jing?" Liu asked.

Jing's words in the gathering carried weight.

Since he had said it, the others believed that it was likely the truth.

"Please help me find someone overseas to deliver a message," said Jiang Hao.

It's time for Chi Tian to hold up his end of the bargain.

If he delayed it any further, Chi Tian would either attack him or get rid of him.

That was how a normal cultivator did things, especially someone whose mind was twisted by hatred and tragedy.

Chi Tian wouldn't just obediently fulfill his part of the deal.

"Who is this person?" Liu asked.

Jiang Hao looked at Senior Dan Yuan.

At this moment, the stone slab appeared in front of both of them.

Chi Tian's name was passed on, along with an accompanying message.

This message would make Chi Tian understand that he couldn't escape from Jiang Hao's grasp.

That was enough for now.

Chapter 492: The Fate of Heavenly King Hai Luo

The purpose of Chi Tian was not necessarily for him to gather enough information.

Jiang Hao needed to use him as an excuse when there was no progress. That way, he would have something to report to Hong Yuye.

"But isn't this task too ordinary? It's just to find the person and pass on the message," said Liu.

Jiang Hao smiled. "You'll know when you look for him."

Chi Tian was on guard against him, so it wouldn't be easy to find him. Liu didn't say much and just nodded.

"I need a flood dragon. Preferably, a flood dragon from the depths of the sea," Xing said.

"I might have some clues." Liu thought for a moment and said, "Is there a specific requirement?"

"No, but it needs to be a regular flood dragon, and it has to be alive," Xing said.



“Alright, I should have some information in a while,” Liu said.

Jiang Hao didn’t know what Xing needed the dragon for, but these people often had other missions.

He just couldn’t be involved in many of them.

Currently, they only sought him out if they had a mission in the vicinity of the Heavenly Note Sect. For other regions, they would ask someone who was nearby.

After the transactions concluded, Gui smiled. “I heard that the southern imperial city is about to arrange a marriage and seems to have invited people from various sects. I don’t know why it’s such a grand occasion.”

‘Southern imperial city?’

Jiang Hao lowered his head in thought. The southern region was vast and there was an imperial city somewhere.

However, he had never seen it, and only a few people ever talked about it.

The Heavenly Note Sect was in the farthest south, so it was difficult for the imperial city’s influence to reach there.

They could manage various cities, but sects were beyond their reach.

However, this did not mean that the imperial city was weak. Some books recorded the legend of the royal family.

In any case, being able to establish order in the imperial city without the help of the sects wasn’t a small thing.

He had never heard of such a thing as a marriage alliance.

“The royal family in the southern region seems to be getting close to the Saint Bandits. Be careful if you go there,” Dan Yuan said suddenly.

This surprised everyone.

So, there were Saint Bandits in the imperial city!

They really had people everywhere.

The Saint Bandits claimed to be able to seize talents and probably could also bestow talents upon others. Regardless of province, there were many people in need of their services, and their agents were numerous in these places.

“I just realized what an extraordinary genius actually is,” said Xing. “The disciple with the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment is about to advance to the Golden Core Realm. The speed of progress is unbelievable.”

Everyone was stunned.

It had only been a little over a year. She was already about to advance to Golden Core Realm in about two years!

“At this rate, how much faster will she be in the future?” Gui asked.

“She’s about twenty years old now, right? Two years for Golden Core Realm... If she doubles her progress, she’ll be at Primordial Spirit Realm at twenty-four. She would be at the Soul Ascension Realm at thirty-two and Return to Void Realm at forty-eight... She can reach the Immortal Ascension Realm before she’s two hundred years old! That’s quite unbelievable.” Liu was astonished.

Jiang Hao was also amazed. This speed was almost the same as his.

The Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment was indeed remarkable.

It wouldn't be easy for Chu Chuan to catch up. At least in the early stages, there was no hope, but it depended on whether there would be an opportunity in the later stages.

According to Hong Yuye, what mattered in the later stages was not talent but the heart of the person.

"Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment is about a person of great luck, so rapid progress is inevitable," Dan Yuan said.

Jiang Hao lowered his head. If it were known that his progress exceeded that of someone with the Heavenly Dao Foundation establishment, he wondered what would happen.

This was the reason he dared not reveal it. It seemed a little like a fantasy tale.

It would bring fatal consequences.

"Things have been quite lively overseas lately. Hai Luo, the Heavenly King, has returned. With the support of other kings, he took control of his forces. Not only that, but he also besieged Miao Anxian."

"And then?" Gui was curious. "Miao Anxian is his beloved, isn't she? Did he really make an attempt on her life?"

Jiang Hao listened quietly. He also wanted to know the final outcome. Perhaps the two of them would still end up together.

"The situation is a bit complicated. It's known that Hai Luo, the Heavenly King, returned and Miao Anxian's power was stripped from her. She then fled. It seems that Hai Luo only wanted to confront her and seek an explanation. But she didn't see it that way. In the end, Miao Anxian was chased to the

Abyssal Sea, which is a perilous place. She looked at Hai Luo, who caught up to her, and without a second thought, she jumped in. She probably didn't survive."

'Hai Luo didn't jump in after her?' Jiang Hao wanted to ask, but he didn't utter a word.

"King Hai Luo didn't jump after her even though she was his lover?" Gui asked.

Jiang Hao increasingly felt that the gathering couldn't do without Gui at all. "No, he just stood there in a daze." Liu shook his head. "He is one of the Twelve

Heavenly Kings. Even if she is his lover, he can't afford to be swayed by her and abandon everything. Otherwise, how could he establish himself overseas and become one of the Twelve Heavenly Kings?"

"Is that how it ended?" Gui asked.

"I think so. The future is uncertain. Because the Heavenly King's strength seems to have been seriously damaged, it's hard to say if he can maintain his position as one of the Twelve Heavenly Kings for long. But with Miao Anxian, it's probably a done deal," Liu said.

Jiang Hao sighed inwardly.

He wondered what Hai Luo was feeling right now.

Perhaps he would say, "I was just fooling around, and you all took it seriously?"

Unfortunately, it was hard to know for sure.

After talking for a while, Jiang Hao fell silent.

Every time it came to an exchange, he seemed to be nonexistent.

No topic could interest him.

The only thing he could report on was the Earth Extreme Silent Pearl, but unfortunately, apart from the earlier changes, there had been no further developments.

After leaving the gathering, Jiang Hao breathed a sigh of relief and took out his notebook to write everything down.

This time, there wasn't much to write:

The royal family in the southern region was planning a marriage alliance. The Saint Bandits might make contact with them.

He had asked Gui to curse Yin Wei.

He informed Liu about the Sea Fog Cave and asked him to find Chi Tian and deliver a message.

The rest was about Hai Luo's matter that didn't need any extra attention.

Senior Dan Yuan also didn't have tasks to assign them.

Jiang Hao put away the book and realized that there wasn't much for him to do lately.

He only needed to wait. 'Perfect! I can focus on my cultivation.'

Two months later, in early November, many overseas individuals visited the Heavenly Note Sect to discuss cooperation on some matters.

After three days of discussions, Elder Baizhi agreed to their proposal.

Both sides cooperated with the Sea Fog Cave as the common ground.

Jiang Hao didn't know the details. Even Liu Xingchen knew very little about it.

But the most obvious change was that there were many foreigners in the sect, and occasional conflicts would arise.

The Heavenly Note Sect was a demonic sect, and there were quite a few people from overseas, so there always were some conflicts due to different opinions. Moreover, the overseas people seemed to be a bit arrogant and looked down on the Heavenly Note Sect.

"Heavenly Sword Talisman? The quality of your Heavenly Sword Talisman is a bit low. Ninety spirit stones are a little too expensive. How about seventy?" A middle-aged man smiled and threw seventy spirit stones at Jiang Hao.

He then picked up the talisman.

"Senior..." Jiang Hao shook his head as he held onto the talisman. "I can't sell it to you for that much"

"Can't sell it to me?" The middle-aged man smiled, and the aura of the peak of the Golden Core Realm surged. "What do you think now?"

"Senior, at least give me some real spirit stones," Jiang Hao said.

The seventy spirit stones he had thrown at Jiang Hao were all fake. This was too much.

"You think these are fake? They are all real," the middle-aged man said.

For a moment, a powerful force pressed on Jiang Hao.

Jiang Hao withdrew his hand and remained silent.

“Great! I told you this place is not bad. The cultivators here are so sensible.

Hahaha...

He left with a smile and said that he would come here often.

After the man left, Jiang Hao quietly followed him.

Along the way, he found that it wasn't just him who was being treated like this. Other vendors were going through the same thing.

These overseas people appeared friendly on the surface, but they were actually robbers. They robbed people who had a lower cultivation realm than theirs in broad daylight..

Chapter 493: Such Killing Must Be the Work of the Blackheaven Sect

At night, Jiang Hao walked along a path.

There was a person walking ahead and smiling.

He was accompanied by someone. They were talking and laughing.

“Today's gains are not bad. How about you?” the middle-aged man asked his companion.

“Mine's great too. I almost got into a conflict with someone, but I handled it properly,” the younger man said nonchalantly.

“The Heavenly Note Sect is indeed remote. They follow orders obediently like a sheep,” the middle-aged man said with a smile.

“This time we got a lot more gains than usual,” the young man said.

“Today, I also saw a pretty woman. I’ll do her in a few days. She’s in the early stage of the Golden Core Realm and seems to have just advanced.” The young man licked his lips lustfully.

“This place is far from overseas, and indeed, it has its own unique flavor,” the middle-aged man said with a smile. “Today, I also encountered a good talisman vendor. I bought something from him with fake spirit stones. He looked so powerless when he realized it. It’s really the same everywhere.” “Hahaha, yes! The same thing happened to me too,” the young man said.

The two laughed and walked into the woods. There were few people around.

At that moment, the middle-aged man turned to look at the person beside him and was about to speak.

Bang!

A sword light severed the other person’s head, and blood splattered all over.

At the same time, a long spear followed.

Bang!

The long spear pierced his throat. Along with that, dark red arrows pierced their bodies and crushed their flesh.

‘What just happened?’

The middle-aged man was terrified and confused.



He couldn't understand how someone had suddenly attacked them in this place.

However, in the last moment before his life ended, he seemed to see three figures.

It was not an illusion. There were three people near him.

Jiang Hao was a little surprised. He hadn't expected the two people to suddenly rush out and attack.

They didn't notice him. Otherwise, they wouldn't have rushed out.

If they had come a little earlier, he wouldn't have had to intervene.

Now that three of them attacked at the same time, it was a bit awkward.

After the attack, the three of them became aware of each other, but they couldn't determine who was who.

Killing overseas people didn't matter, but killing fellow disciples was a big problem.

No one dared to risk killing an unknown person within the sect, and Jiang Hao was no exception.

He saw a woman with a sword on the left and a man with a bow on the right.

The former wore a veil, and the latter, a mask.

Jiang Hao was surrounded by purple energy, which prevented prying eyes from seeing him.

For a moment, the three of them looked at each other.

Jiang Hao sighed and silently retreated. He blended into the darkness.

The remaining two both breathed a sigh of relief. The other person had made a silent move, and they had been caught completely unawares.

In the courtyard, Jiang Hao sat on a chair and sighed heavily.

In order to avoid trouble, he had left first.

But he had lost the chance to get spirit stones.

He couldn't even get back the ninety spirit stones that he had sold the talisman for.

'I should have realized that there would be displeased people. How could the Heavenly Note Sect not act out when they were being robbed of their resources?'

The one who made a move might not necessarily be the one being harassed, but more likely someone wanting to make a profit.

After all, robbing fellow disciples was risky, but robbing outsiders was basically harmless.

This was especially true for outsiders who came to the sect and harassed others. It was an opportunity to make a profit.

"I wonder if the Law Enforcement Hall will be furious again tomorrow."

It's just two Golden Core Realm cultivators, yet it attracted two people in the Primordial Spirit Realm, and him.

The other overseas people were also in danger.

The next day, Jiang Hao woke up before dawn.

He took a chair and sat on the balcony. He looked toward the direction of the Law Enforcement Hall and waited for a response.

Unfortunately, there was no response from that side even after it was daylight.

‘Only two people killed last night? What a pity!’

If the seniors failed to teach the overseas people a lesson, there would be more fights and deaths.

It would be troublesome for him when he set up his stall later.

He couldn’t handle them one by one. That would attract too much attention.

After watering the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower, Jiang Hao looked at the Immortal Peach Tree. There were not many fruits left on it.

Xiao Li must have picked them.

He didn’t understand why she insisted on doing it secretly.

Perhaps when no one was around, the spirit beast boasted about its prestige and made Xiao Li follow its orders. That way, the spirit beast wouldn’t have Jiang Hao mocking its status.

But Jiang Hao had never mocked the beast’s boasting.

If it said its status was high, it did. There was no need to argue.

He found quite a few people gathered at the Spirit Herb Garden.

It seemed like they were discussing something important.

“What happened?” Jiang Hao asked Cheng Chou.

“Senior Brother Jiang,” Cheng Chou said. “The Law Enforcement Hall’s people asked us to gather and wait here.”

“Why?” Jiang Hao asked.

“I heard that many people died, and the sect is investigating the matter,” Cheng Chou said in worry.

Jiang Hao frowned. He was surprised. ‘Many people died? Were they overseas people or the sect’s disciples?’

It was highly likely that they might have been the overseas people. If the dead were of the sect, that would be a serious problem.

Liu Xingchen arrived after some time.

He didn’t explain anything but informed them that they could disband.

This indicated that the ones who had died were probably overseas people. If the victims were the sect’s disciples, a thorough investigation would have begun.

“Do you know what actually happened, Senior Brother?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Many overseas people have died in the past few days. Although there were a few conflicts before, it wasn’t a huge problem,” said Liu Xingchen. “We cautioned some seniors who were too reckless. But these last two days... the number of those taking action increased. It is as if they had made an agreement, so the sect has reason to suspect that someone incited this conflict. It seems like they want to provoke the alliance between our sect and the overseas people. After an investigation by the Law Enforcement Hall, it was confirmed that it was done by the Blackheaven Sect, who falsely claim to be a righteous and reputable sect.”

Jiang Hao was speechless.

The Blackheaven Sect’s displeasure towards the heavenly Note Sect was not unknown.

“Do the overseas people also think this way?” Jiang Hao asked.

“They probably think so too. Now, they’ve started to condemn the Blackheaven Sect. It seems they plan to send someone to the Blackheaven Sect to demand an explanation,” Liu Xingchen said.

Jiang Hao sighed. What kind of explanation would they demand?

Since they wanted to sow discord, why only kill our overseas people and not the Heavenly Note Sect’s people?

This was just a joke!

The overseas people were not fools. Why couldn’t they see through it?

But this was, after all, the Heavenly Note Sect. Even if they saw through it, what could they do?

Ultimately, it was because they didn’t control their people well, which brought about this disaster.

Moreover, Jiang Hao had reasons to suspect that this was intentionally orchestrated by the higher-ups from overseas. They wanted to test the Heavenly Note Sect.

Perhaps they didn't think the consequences would be this severe.

"By the way, how many people died?" Jiang Hao asked.

"Seventy percent of the group were killed. Everything happened too fast. They didn't even have time to react," Liu Xingchen said.

"Really?" Jiang Hao said. "The Blackheaven Sect is indeed formidable." "Yes, the Blackheaven Sect is indeed powerful." Liu Xingchen nodded in

agreement..

Chapter 494: We Condemn the Blackheaven Sect

Jiang Hao let out a sigh of relief.

The damage to people overseas was severe, but the problem would likely subside in the future.

At least, it wouldn't affect his stall.

As for whether they would resent the Heavenly Note Sect, that had nothing to do with him.

He could simply avoid going overseas in the future.

Thinking about how he had offended the Divine Corpse Sect in the northern region before, offending some overseas people was nothing.

These overseas people were top-tier but couldn't be compared to major sects.

They might unite. If they did that, their influence would be similar to that of major sects.

‘When will the Heavenly Note Sect be recognized as a major sect in the southern region? Then no one will dare to look down on us.’

After all, they had only a few hundred years of heritage, and very few people had heard of them.

Their reputation was far from significant.

After a visit to the Bright Moon Sect, their reputation had slightly improved, but it still needed time to be established properly.

For now, they were still a remote sect that was not exposed to the wider world.

“Have you had contact with the people overseas lately?” Liu Xingchen asked.

“I met a few while selling talismans,” Jiang Hao said truthfully. “I wonder if that person is still okay,” Liu Xingchen said with a smile.

Jiang Hao was curious too.

After talking for a while, Liu Xingchen left.

Recent events seemed to pique his interest.

The people of the Heavenly Note Sect had been suppressed by the rules of the sect for a long time.

The disciples within the sect dared not kill each other, but they would not hesitate to offend other sects, especially when the outsiders were so brazen. Even the higher-ups would turn a blind eye.

If someone needed to be held responsible, the unlucky ones would bear the brunt.

Anyway, Jiang Hao didn't think anyone would find him unless the Heavenly Essence Soul Modeling Mirror was deployed.

However, the overseas people were not important enough to trigger the use of that artifact. The incidents hadn't even enraged the Law Enforcement Hall, let alone the whole sect.

They were even inferior to the Divine Corpse Sect.

During that time, the strongest from the Divine Corpse Sect could threaten the entire Heavenly Note Sect, but the overseas visitors had nowhere near that level of power.

Everything was calm for now, so Jiang Hao went to the Spirit Herb Garden to collect bubbles and wait for further developments.

Bang!

The teacup was flung onto the ground.

This was the courtyard of a distinguished guest of the Heavenly Note Sect.

At this moment, a middle-aged man was furious as if he could erupt with the strongest aura at any moment.

"Heavenly King, are you really going to the Blackheaven Sect to question them?" an old man nearby asked.

"Question them?" The Heavenly King was unmoved. "Doesn't everyone know the truth in their hearts?"



Going to the Blackheaven Sect to question them would make them a laughingstock.

“Aren’t we already ridiculed enough?”

The others lowered their heads and dared not say much.

“Why are you silent? Didn’t you all say you wanted to test the Heavenly Note Sect? But now, you’re all quiet. Who was the one who suggested it?” The Heavenly King glared at them.

Beside him were four people. They were the strongest group of practitioners on this trip.

“It was Vice Commander Xiang,” the old man said.

“Where is he? How can he not be present after such an incident has happened?” asked the Heavenly King.

The old man lowered his head and whispered, “Vice Commander Xiang has disappeared. ”

“Disappeared?” The Heavenly King was stunned.

A chill ran through their hearts.

At noon, they found Xiang’s body by the river.

The next day, the Heavenly King met with Elder Baizhi of the Heavenly Note Sect and emphasized that the Blackheaven Sect was acting arrogantly and would pay the price if they ever came overseas.

Baizhi expressed that the Blackheaven Sect had always been like this. She also criticized the Blackheaven Sect for lacking principles.

Then, both of them expressed their seriousness about their collaboration this time.

The Heavenly Note Sect admitted that there was a loophole in their management which had allowed the Blackheaven Sect to take advantage of the situation. Now that the loophole had been plugged in, such incidents would never happen again.

The Heavenly King stood up to express his gratitude, and finally, he said that if the Heavenly Note Sect had such sincerity, they should get a bit more share from the gains of the Sea Fog Cave expedition.

Upon learning of the situation, Jiang Hao knew that the Heavenly King had yielded.

He had taken the initiative to compromise to make sure the collaboration was smooth.

He also hinted that if the Heavenly Note Sect went overseas in the future, they wouldn't have an easy time.

He spoke of the Blackheaven Sect, but he was actually referring to the Heavenly Note Sect.

'We should be more cautious when going overseas in the future.'

If they kept making enemies like this, they couldn't go to various major regions outside.

They would carry the enmity wherever they went.

But he could conceal his identity. For example, he could pretend to be a disciple of Azure Mountain. He had a token from there.

He could also pretend to be a disciple of the Bright Moon Sect, as he had the jade pendant from there.

During these days, Jiang Hao had also been paying attention to the Sea Fog

Cave.

It was confirmed that the Heavenly King had received the information from Liu and knew about using blood and flesh as bait.

However, whether they could understand the implications of it would depend entirely on them.

He couldn't explain it to them.

If he talked about creatures in the cave guiding the way, it would be traced back to him because only the people from the Lawless Tower knew about it, and they had told him about it.

They transported a large amount of flesh and blood.

"The clue you mentioned is related to flesh and blood?" Baizhi asked. She was puzzled. 'How could this be used as bait?'

"Yes, but whether it will work or not, that remains to be seen." The Heavenly King nodded.

He was middle-aged in appearance, with a bit of stubble.

In fact, he didn't know the exact situation either. This was the only information they had.

"It's been some time," Baizhi said.

She wasn't impatient. She just had no idea what they were waiting for.

"Wait a little longer. It needs some more time," the Heavenly King said.

He didn't exactly know how much time was needed, as it wasn't mentioned in the intelligence he received.

His source had hinted that this method originated from a very mysterious person and wouldn't go wrong.

After waiting for about three days, Ah Zha suddenly became restless.

This surprised Baizhi. "What do you want to say?" "Give me the flesh and blood, and I can do it," Ah Zha said.

"You can do what?" Baizhi asked.

"I know the way inside and can find people by their scent," Ah Zha said anxiously.

"Why are you in such a hurry?" Baizhi noticed something was off.

"I... I just saw the flesh and blood. It's going to rot," Ah Zha said.

"You want flesh and blood? Fine." Baizhi smiled. "Sign this, and I'll give you as much as you want, but on the condition that you behave."

Baizhi spread the scrolls in front of Ah Zha.

"What is this?" Ah Zha asked.

"Our trust treaty." Baizhi smiled.

The Heavenly King furrowed his brow. Was she trying to enslave the creature?

“You’ll deceive me. I won’t sign,” Ah Zha said.

“I’m not in a hurry,” Baizhi said calmly.

At this moment, Ah Zha became increasingly restless. It constantly looked toward the depths of the sea fog.

Baizhi didn’t care whether the creature submitted or not. She realized that they had found the clue needed to make the creature obey.

It turned out that the creatures in the cave knew how to navigate inside the cave and could find missing people.

Moreover, the flesh and blood pieces might be causing the creature’s restlessness because competition had arrived.

“Everyone, get ready,” Baizhi said.

The Heavenly King also realized that this was the clue to guide them further.

The person who provided this information was truly exceptional.

Unfortunately, they loved playing mysterious.

“I’ll sign,” Ah Zha said anxiously. “But you must promise to keep your word.”

“Of course.” Baizhi smiled sweetly.

Overseas, Chi Tian sat in his room and looked outside.

Recently, many people had gone to the southern region.

The Blood Shadow Sect was also in the south, but he wasn't planning to go back there.

There would be an opportunity in the future.

He just didn't know why, but he felt like more people were visiting him lately.

"It's probably just an illusion."

Shaking his head, he stopped thinking about it.

He had completely changed his appearance now. No one could find him..

Chapter 495: The Beast Was Snatched Away

After the Blackheaven Sect attacked overseas people, the incident was twisted into the Blackheaven Sect disregarding the Heavenly Note Sect's dignity and inciting trouble within their sect.

The Heavenly Note Sect bore the embarrassment on their own.

Their overseas reputation remained unaffected.

As Liu Xingchen said, concessions were made overseas, and the sect would certainly not stay idle.

After that, there were a few updates from the Sea Fog Cave.

Fortunately, they didn't encounter further harassment from overseas people. Last time, he had suffered a significant loss of ninety spirit stones.

After that, the days were relatively peaceful.

Though the number of overseas people increased, it didn't bring any significant impacts.

Moreover, the sect did not allow disciples to act recklessly.

Everything went back on track, and both sides were unwilling to disrupt the balance.

So, they restrained their own people.

Days passed peacefully for over a month.

If it weren't for overseas matters, Jiang Hao felt that some of the Golden Core seniors might try to harass him.

When they made a move, he would be able to establish himself as a Golden Core Realm cultivator.

In the eyes of everyone, he was still a newly advanced Golden Core Realm cultivator who had achieved it through the Blood Wish Path.

Everyone wanted a reason to defeat him.

"There's no strong reason yet. I need to find a way to give them one." In the courtyard, Jiang Hao enjoyed the cool breeze.

It was snowing outside the sect, but it didn't affect the inside of his area.

“Beast.” Xiao Li ran into the courtyard.

When she saw Jiang Hao, she stopped in her tracks and bowed. “Senior Brother Jiang.”

“The beast is still sleeping,” Jiang Hao said.

At this moment, the beast was still lying on the edge of the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower and drooling in its sleep.

After years of nurturing, the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower hadn’t disappointed anyone.

There were still only seven leaves on it. There was very little progress in its growth.

Jiang Hao was a bit worried. He feared that Hong Yuye might ask about its progress.

There had been no progress for a long time.

He appraised it several times. Everything was fine with the flower. It only needed water to grow.

The Immortal Peach Tree was the same. It only needed water. The only important thing was that it needed other divine items near it to grow properly.

As for the Sweet Leaf Cold Grass, it needed spirit liquid, but it had improved the soil a lot.

The growth of spirit herbs in the courtyard was better than before, and the spiritual energy had become denser.

The spirit herbs played a huge role, but the methods of the Hundred Bones Forest played an even bigger one.



It seemed like Bai Ye was trying to be friendly.

Currently, Bai Ye was still in the early stage of the Primordial Spirit Realm. There had been no signs of advancement.

He didn't dare to seal his spirit. He feared that doing so might drop Bai Ye's cultivation to the peak of the Golden Core Realm, which would have a significant impact.

"Beast?" Xiao Li approached slowly.

Then, taking advantage of the beast's distraction, she lifted it and ran out with a swoosh.

Jiang Hao was baffled.

Soon, voices came from outside.

"Beast, it's snowing outside. Let's go play in the snow."

"The white snow on the road is making me feel good. Remember to call my name, and the snow will fall even heavier," said the beast.

It sounded confused. It seemed to have no idea what was happening.

"Can it snow a bit less?"

"Of course, just say my name."

"Can it not snow at all?"

"That requires me to negotiate in person. After all, I am destined to become a great demon someday."

“Really? Then, the villagers don’t have to worry. They used to worry when it snowed at home because they were afraid that most families couldn’t make it through.”

Xiao Li sounded joyful.

The voices grew fainter. They were leaving.

In heavy snow, times were hard outside. If famine broke out during this time, it would be terrifying.

Only those who had experienced it could understand the struggle.

Jiang Hao sighed and looked at his interface.

[Name: Jiang Hao]

[Age: 31]

[Cultivation: Middle Stage of the Soul Ascension Realm]

[Cultivation Method: Heavenly Sound Hundred Revolutions, Hong Meng Heart

Sutra]

[Divine Ability: Nine Revolutions Death Substitution (unique), Daily Appraisal,

Clear and Pure Heart, Reappearance of Hidden Spirit, Divine Might, Revival of

Withered Tree, Heavenly Cauldron] [Lifeblood: 99/100 (can be cultivated)] [Cultivation: 100/100 (can be cultivated)] [Divine Ability: 2/3 (cannot be obtained)]

‘In a few days, I’ll turn thirty-two. Time flies...’

Every time he saw his age, Jiang Hao couldn’t help but feel a bit sentimental.

Fortunately, his spirit stones were also increasing with his age.

He had now saved over 27,000 spirit stones.

After buying Red Azure tea, he didn’t dare to spend his spirit stones recklessly. It was easy to draw attention.

Also, he could advance in just a matter of days.

If there were no accidents, he would become a late-stage Soul Ascension Realm cultivator.

Then, he would be on equal footing as Senior Brother Bai Yi, who was ranked fifth among the top disciples.

‘I wonder what kind of strength the top four disciples have.’

Once he surpassed the top disciples, the remaining ones were some older disciples and some powerful elders.

He didn’t know how long it would take for him to surpass them all.

From the looks of it, the first-ranked disciple must be at the Return to Void Realm.

The powerful elders would definitely be beyond that realm. Otherwise, they couldn't have captured Gu Qing.

The elders were not like the top disciples.

Top disciples were young and with infinite potential.

Once the potential was exhausted, they would probably have to step down from the position of a top disciple.

Being young, having high potential, and having strong combat strength were the requirements for a chief disciple.

Lacking any of these three could potentially disqualify one from becoming a top disciple.

When people said Han Ming possessed the demeanor of a top disciple, it signified just how high his potential was.

And anyone with similar talent was nothing compared to Han Ming.

'Recently, I heard that he went for training again. He is probably preparing to consolidate his cultivation and advance toward the Golden Core Realm.'

After tending to the spirit herbs in the Spirit Herb Garden, he returned to his house.

He took out a stone tablet to check the messages.

Perhaps because the matter with the Heavenly Dao Foundation Establishment was over with, the three were active in the chats once again. [Liu: Do you think Jing is watching our conversation?] [Gui: I'm quite curious about Jing. I wonder how he leads his life.] [Xing: It's hard to imagine. It must be different from us.]

[Gui: Yeah. It feels like he is always walking in the dark... mysterious and unpredictable.]

Watching them chat, Jiang Hao shook his head.

It seemed that the impression he left of himself was indeed one of strength and solitude.

However, his ordinary days were much more boring than they imagined.

If they knew that he spent every day tending to spirit herbs, they would probably be very surprised.

He chuckled and continued reading the conversation.

[Liu: I've been looking for someone lately, and it's quite challenging to find them. But with the right approach, it becomes much easier.]

[Xing: Did you find them?]

[Liu: Almost there. Thanks for the clue, Xing.]

Because the name Chi Tian was mentioned during the gathering, Liu asked Xing about it.

It was easier to find the person if he knew about the origin of the person.

[Gui: How did you find them?]

[Liu: I couldn't find that person because he had changed his appearance. However, I could find the person who led him to that place. So, everything fell into place.]

[Xing: Will the person talk?]

[Liu: There's nothing he won't say. If he doesn't, it's because we couldn't agree on the price. In a little while, someone will go to that place, and I'll pay Jing's reward for that. But I think there's more to come. Perhaps Jing will need my help.]

Jiang Hao nodded. Liu was right. He did need Liu's help.

However, he didn't need it now.

What surprised him was that Liu had found Chi Tian so quickly.

He wondered what Chi Tian was feeling right now..

Chapter 496 - 496: Chi Tian, How Have You Been?

In the Milky Way Sea Region, on a bustling island, Chi Tian sat on the floor of a medium-sized treasure shop.

Now, he had firmly established his position here, and the surrounding cultivators respected him, unlike the Blood Shadow Sect, where no one respected or feared him.

Here, even those with higher cultivation realms would show respect to him.

Because he had a powerful force backing him, it made them wary.

The strength of The End of All Things was something he hadn't expected.

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But even a secretive force needs spirit stones.

Naturally, they need someone to stand at the forefront.

And since he had just joined, he remained unknown.

So, he was suitable for this task.

He enjoyed this peaceful period, but the hatred in his heart became increasingly apparent.

He wanted to kill more people under the guise of The End of All Things.

As for the matter of the mysterious person, he had long forgotten about it.

Now he was Xue Lu, not Chi Tian.

The person couldn't find him and couldn't control him.

This was not the eastern region. This place was not within that person's sphere of influence. He was grateful to the person who helped him seek his revenge, but that matter was over now.

Thump! Thump!

Someone knocked on the door and interrupted Chi Tian's thoughts.

"Come in."

Creak...

At the door stood a young woman. "Senior Xue, there's someone here who needs your attention."

"Alright, let them in. Xue Lu nodded.

Anyone who needed to meet him was either strong in cultivation or willing to pay a good price for something.

Soon, a young man walked in with the woman from before. He had a restrained aura, so it was difficult to know what cultivation realm he was in.

'No cultivation aura?' Chi Tian was alarmed.

Yet, he saw a divine light in the person's eyes. This wasn't an ordinary person.

He didn't hesitate. Xue Lu stood up to greet him.

"Respected Senior, please forgive me for not welcoming you earlier." He promptly asked the young woman to pour them some tea.

"That's alright," said the young man politely. "I heard that a remarkable senior was here, and today, I see that the reputation is indeed well-deserved."

"I am Xue Lu. May I inquire about your name, fellow disciples?" Chi Tian remained courteous.

"My name is Zhu Shen." The young man smiled.

"Friend Zhu, please have a seat." Chi Tian extended his hand in invitation.

The two of them sat down, and tea was poured for them.

"Friend Zhu, what are you here to buy this time?" Chi Tian asked.



“I want to buy a valuable shield.” Zhu Shen smiled.

At that point, a treasure was brought in. It was a shield usable for Golden Core Realm cultivators.

It was grayish-white and seemed to have water droplets inside.

“This is the Profound Heart Water Shield.” Chi Tian smiled. “Friend Zhu, you have a good eye. This shield may not be top-tier, but it is highly practical. Are you unsatisfied with the price?”

“No.” Zhu Shen shook his head slightly. “I just wanted to use this as an excuse to meet you. To be precise, I was sent here by someone.”

The words made Chi Tian frown. ‘Has my hideout been discovered?’

Apart from him and a few others, no one knew that this place was the property of The End of All Things.

“May I ask who sent you here?” Chi Tian asked calmly.

Could it be an adversary of The End of All Things?

Zhu Shen smiled and didn’t say much. He paid the spirit stones. “Is this enough? I’ll take this treasure.”

After receiving the treasure, he handed over an envelope.

“The person who sent me here for you asked me to give you this.” Chi Tian’s face changed, and his hands trembled. The paper fell.

He instinctively took two steps back in fear.

There was only a sentence written in the paper: “Chi Tian, how have you been?” Such a simple greeting made Chi Tian terrified.

There was only one person who knew his name and would send a message.

He thought he had escaped from that person’s grasp. Only now did he realize that he had been in that person’s palm all this while.

The terrifying energy made him feel uneasy. His heart raced. The fear spread to his entire being.

He couldn’t understand how he had been exposed.

At the Heavenly Note Sect, Jiang Hao woke up early in the morning and yawned. Then, he sat up on his bed.

Last night, he went to sleep to see if the Earth Extreme Silence Pearl would show any new signs.

Unfortunately, there was still nothing.

This pearl was a potential threat.

He needed to ascertain it first and eliminate the danger.

He saw two blue bubbles at the edge of the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower when he walked to the courtyard.

[Cultivation +1]

[Lifeblood +1]

He couldn't add more since it was at full capacity.

Jiang Hao glanced at the interface. [Lifeblood: 100/100 (can be cultivated)]

[Cultivation: 100/100 (can be cultivated)]

Today, he could advance to a higher stage in his cultivation realm.

After watering the plants, Jiang Hao sat in the courtyard for a while. He didn't rush to go to the Spirit Herb Garden.

The beast was still sleeping, and Xiao Li would be here soon.

When she took the spirit beast away, he would go to the Spirit Herb Garden.

In the past few days, Xiao Li had been taking the spirit beast outside to play.

She also took Chu Chuan along for training.

Since Lin Zhi was about to go out of the sect, he was also pulled along by the spirit beast to train with Xiao Li.

The spirit beast said that the ordinary Lifeblood Refinement Realm couldn't improve Lin Zhi's ability to take beatings.

Jiang Hao didn't mind. The spirit beast could teach him however it wanted.

As long as it didn't disrupt his regular teaching, it was fine.

Moreover, Lin Zhi trusted the spirit beast.

The spirit beast didn't disappoint anyone, so there was no need to worry too much.

When Chu Chuan found out that Lin Zhi was his senior, he was stunned. A senior at the Lifeblood Refinement Realm was unheard of and

Xiao Li was a good kid. She had heard her parents talk about respect, so a senior, no matter his strength, was still a senior.

Chu Chuan had no choice but to call Lin Zhi "Senior Brother" too.

But he was unconvinced, so he beat Lin Zhi in a fight. Xiao Li beat Chu Chuan again.

Cheng Chou reported all of this to Jiang Hao.

Jiang Hao didn't know how to feel about it and just let it be.

While waiting, he looked at the stone tablet.

He found that Liu had already completed his task, which was good.

[Gui: Have you all been to Imperial City? I'm here now. I want to see what the royal family is up to. There's quite a stir. If you need anything, you can tell me.] [Xing: It might be related to the Saint Bandits.]

[Gui: It's a pity the mission regarding Saint Bandits is difficult. Otherwise, I would ask for a Snow God Pill as a reward.]

Jiang Hao was surprised. Gui had already asked for a few Snow God Pills before and still wanted more.

“Beast?” Xiao Li sneaked into the courtyard and squatted next to the spirit beast.

When Jiang Hao looked over, she rummaged in her pocket and handed him a few white dates.

Then, with a swoosh, she snatched the spirit beast away.

Jiang Hao shook his head, ate the white dates, and went to the Spirit Herb Garden.

As soon as he arrived, he met Miao Tinglian.

“Junior Brother Jiang, something big has happened,” Miao Tinglian said quietly.

“What?” Jiang Hao asked in confusion.

“Here. This is for you.” Miao Tinglian handed an invitation to Jiang Hao.

“Invitation from the royal family?” Jiang Hao was surprised.

Wasn’t this related to the marriage alliance that Gui had mentioned?

Jiang Hao was even more puzzled. The invitation was for Mu Qi, his senior.

What was the use of giving him this?

He couldn’t go out of the sect, so the invitation was useless..

Chapter 497 - 497: The Demoness Discovered The Invitation

Jiang Hao sighed and looked at his senior. "Senior Sister Miao, if you don't want Senior Brother Mu to go, you can just tell him. There's no need to give me this."

"You're thinking too much," Miao Tinglian said. "Your Senior Brother Mu Qi doesn't want to go, so I don't need to tell him. I saw that the invitation was useless for him, so I wanted to give it to you. How old are you this year?"

Jiang Hao hesitated. "Thirty-one."

He was not young anymore, and for a moment, he didn't want to reveal his age.

Back when he was in his teens and twenties, he never had these thoughts.

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Time had indeed left a significant impact on him.

"Thirty-one?" Miao Tinglian said in surprise. "A few years ago, you were only twenty-four."

Jiang Hao was speechless.

Miao Tinglian's mind was full of romantic matchmaking, and she sometimes pestered him about it.

"Thirty-one, and still single? It's time to find a partner for you," Miao Tinglian said seriously.

"Senior Sister Miao, do I have to go to Imperial City to find a partner?" Jiang Hao asked.

"You haven't found one in the sect so far, have you?" Miao Tinglian asked.

Jiang Hao sighed and then looked at Mu Qi, who was dealing with matters in the distance. Jiang Hao greeted him.

“What did you do this time?” Mu Qi looked at Miao Tinglian helplessly.

“You already have a partner, don’t you? Don’t you care about Junior Brother Jiang?” Miao Tinglian said righteously.

Mu Qi saw the invitation in Jiang Hao’s hand and understood everything. He then said, “If you have time, you can go and take a look. If you don’t, there’s no need to go at all. The royal invitation can be useful, and many people want to go.”

‘Can it be sold?’ Jiang Hao thought.

After a moment of hesitation, he put away the invitation and thanked Mu Qi and Miao Tinglian.

He left before Miao Tinglian could say anything more.

“Jiang Hao seems to have understood. Now, it seems he will go to Imperial City,” said Miao Tinglian as she nudged the person next to her.

Mu Qi glanced at her and said gently, “You might have used reason and emotion to persuade him, which made him see the pros and cons.”

Miao Tinglian snorted. She thought Mu Qi was saying that to make her happy.

Jiang Hao paid no attention to the two of them and focused on his own affairs.

As for the invitation, he would ask around in the vicinity later to see if anyone was interested in it.

The royal family had a significant reputation in the southern region. Although it couldn’t be compared to the Heavenly Note Sect, it had a certain special status in the entire south.

However, being special didn't mean it was beneficial for him.

Gui was over there, and the Saint Bandits were also in contact with them.

Just these two things meant immense danger. If we went there, he would be dragged into whatever was going on there.

'Why seek unnecessary trouble?'

It was better to collect bubbles and take care of the herbs.

The days passed quickly.

After instructing Cheng Chou, he went to his courtyard.

He didn't plan to do anything today because he needed to concentrate and prepare for his advancement tonight.

He had already looked up the changes a few days ago and had even spent 1,500 spirit stones to buy a formation to conceal his aura and changes in the surroundings.

Advancing to a new stage or cultivation realm always required spirit stones. So, he had to earn them diligently.

Back in the courtyard, Jiang Hao went to the living room, took out the invitation, and used his Universe in a Palm ability to seal it.

The invitation wasn't ordinary. It was too eye-catching.

Then, he went to the bedroom and placed it under the pillow.



After doing that, he went straight to the cultivation room and set up a formation.

He sat cross-legged. On the floor

Instead of rushing to advance, he examined himself. After making sure everything was fine, he adjusted his state to its peak and stabilized his mental state.

He had slept for a while earlier to ensure that there were no hidden inner demons.

Everything was ready. Jiang Hao started extracting his cultivation and lifeblood.

The purple energy covered him.

Not long after Jiang Hao started his advancement, the spirit beast came back. It looked around the front and back of the courtyard to make sure everything was fine.

Then, it lay down beside the Heavenly Fragrance Dao Flower and yawned.

It sniffed the air as it savored the flower's fragrance and rejuvenated its spirit.

Its eyes were on guard as it observed everything. It wanted to make sure its master wasn't around.

It then stealthily approached the Heaven Fragrance Dao Flower and stuck out its tongue toward a leaf.

However, when its tongue was about to touch the leaf, it withdrew. It felt that this was too dangerous.

Before it could retract its tongue fully, it suddenly lost consciousness.

In the blink of an eye, the spirit beast, bruised and swollen, was hanging from the wall.

At the same time, a red figure appeared in the courtyard and looked at the wooden house.

She sat on a chair and began to make tea on her own.

In the moonlight, she sipped the tea alone.

A gentle breeze blew, and her robe fluttered lightly. Her hair swayed gently.

The leaves of the tree rustled. The whole place was peaceful.

She placed the teacup down and stared up at the starry sky until the moon faded from view. She didn't raise the teacup to her lips again.

Yet, steam was still rising from it. It didn't seem to cool down at all.

The sky began to brighten, and the first rays of the sun appeared.

Only then did she lift the teacup to her lips and sip her tea.

After taking a sip of it, she looked at the spirit beast.

Her slender fingers drew a circle in the air.

A rope tied the spirit beast and hung it from a branch of the Immortal Peach Tree.

Then, she turned to look at the wooden house. It seemed calmer inside than before.

After a little while, she could hear footsteps from inside.

A person walked out of the house after a while. He was dressed in a dark blue outfit, with some white decoration. There were also some red fire patterns at the edges.

He looked good. Ordinary people would definitely find him extraordinary. But in the cultivation world, he was just ordinary.

He looked surprised when he saw her in the courtyard.

“Greetings, Senior,” he said respectfully. “You advanced?” Hong Yuye asked with a smile.

“Yes.”

Hong Yuye looked at Jiang Hao. “What cultivation realm have you reached?” “Early stage of the Golden Core Realm,” Jiang Hao said.

Hong Yuye smiled. “So you advanced from Foundation Establishment Realm to Golden Core Realm last night in your room?”

“Senior, you have keen eyes,” Jiang Hao said.

Hong Yuye chuckled and then looked at the spirit beast. “What is that?”

“A spirit beast,” Jiang Hao said.

“What breed?” Hong Yuye asked.

“Evil Beast,” Jiang Hao said.

“Was it evil naturally, or did it become evil after getting close to you?” Hong Yuye asked with a smile that wasn’t quite a smile.

“Senior, you are joking.” Jiang Hao felt uneasy.

Hong Yuye didn’t say much and went inside.

“Prepare hot water for me,” she instructed as she passed the bathroom.

After that, she headed straight for the second floor.

Footsteps sounded in Jiang Hao’s ears and then disappeared. He assumed she had reached the second floor.

He let out a sigh of relief.

He began to prepare the hot water.

He could do it directly with his technique, so it didn’t take much time.

He called out for her a couple of times, but there was no response. So, he walked up the stairs to the upper floor.

He saw Hong Yuye sitting at the table and looking at a red invitation card.

It was an invitation to a royal marriage..

Chapter 498: The Demoness Sleeps On His Bed

The second floor of the wooden house had very simple decorations, but everything necessary was present. It was also quite spacious.

At that moment, Jiang Hao stood at the door and watched Hong Yuye reading the words on the invitation card.

He didn't care.

As for the fact that the card was discovered and the seal broken, it wasn't surprising. The seal couldn't protect the sealed item from someone with a powerful cultivation.

"Do you want to be a prince consort?" Hong Yuye asked indifferently.

"Senior, you must be joking." Jiang Hao shook his head. "This is a senior's invitation. He didn't need it, so he gave it to me to... sell."

"Sell?" Hong Yuye was surprised.

Jiang Hao nodded.

Hong Yuye looked at Jiang Hao for a long while before turning away.

"How old are you this year?"

"Almost thirty-two," Jiang Hao said.

"I suppose in the normal world, a person at thirty-two would be considered old, right?"

"Perhaps."

For ordinary non-cultivators, families would arrange their children's marriage by their early twenties because they didn't live that long.

Thirty-two years old was indeed considered old. Most people would be too overworked by that age and didn't have many good years in life left.

The existence of immortals did not make their lives better.

The only way to live a good life was if there was an immortal in the family. However, such families were rare.

Sometimes he wondered why his stepmother had lied and sold him to the Heavenly Note Sect.

She could have just explained the significance to him. If she had said, "Go there, and you won't starve," he would've gone willingly. He might have even thanked her and found a way to repay her.

Instead, she had lied and sold him to the sect.

In the end, Jiang Hao figured that she needed the money, and she might not have had enough confidence in him that he would survive in a demonic sect.

But what about his father?

He rarely saw his father in his childhood, so he didn't know how his father actually was.

His father probably just went along with his stepmother's decisions.

"Do you also want to find a partner?" Hong Yuye asked.

Jiang Hao lowered his head. 'Do I want to?'

When he set aside the fact that he was an immortal disciple and wanted to get stronger and thought about it from an ordinary person's point of view, it was practical for him to get married at this age. But...

'Was it even useful?'

He was poisoned by the Heaven Extinction Gu Poison. Until he was cured of that poison, he felt nothing toward other women, except the one who had the Yin Gu Poison.

And that woman was right in front of him.

If she got angry, he couldn't even find a place to bury himself.

"I don't want to," Jiang Hao said.

Hong Yuye stood up and handed the invitation back to Jiang Hao.

Then, she went downstairs.

Jiang Hao took the invitation and followed her downstairs.

"The southern royal family is recognized by the southern region. The invitation is created using the power of the whole land. The more you carry it, the more you will be marked by the land and catch the attention of the royal family," Hong Yuye said.

Jiang Hao once again applied the seal to the invitation. That should make it safe.

In front of the bathroom, Hong Yuye stood at the door and slowly closed it.

Jiang Hao, who had wanted to follow her in, was stunned at himself.

It seemed that he was still not used to it.

When he came back to his senses, he was a little relieved. At least, he didn't have to endure the torture.

"Stand guard outside," said a voice from inside.

Jiang Hao could only nod in agreement.

After that, he planned to read for a bit and have some tea.

He went to the courtyard to find a teapot and discovered that there was still some tea inside. It was steaming hot.

He understood that Hong Yuye had brewed it.

After all, her teacup was on the table.

He took the teacup and the pot and walked to the front of the bathroom. He then poured himself a cup of tea.

The fragrance of the tea was refreshing, and it seemed to invigorate both his body and mind.

After a sip, he felt that the taste was familiar.

As the tea washed over his body, it seemed like all the problems after his advancement were starting to dissipate and everything was rejuvenating.

"September Spring?"



Jiang Hao was shocked. Then, he switched to a larger cup and poured all the tea into it.

He downed it in one gulp.

After finishing the tea, he began to absorb the power of the tea leaves.

Not only could this help him restore his optimal state, but it could also enhance his cultivation.

It could improve his control over spiritual energy to some extent too.

Indeed, the tea leaves that cost twenty thousand were extraordinary.

In the bathroom, Hong Yuye cleaned herself and lay on the side of the tub. She looked at the door.

Her beautiful eyes looked calm and revealed nothing of her thoughts.

After a while, she closed her eyes and drifted off to sleep.

She didn't know how long had passed, but she slowly opened her eyes and met the gaze of a man.

She could see clearly that his gaze involuntarily shifted downward.

Boom!

She sent him flying.

There was a loud impact.

Jiang Hao winced in pain. Hong Yuye covered her chest with her hands and closed her eyes again. "Turn your back to the screen and stand guard." She fell asleep once more.

Jiang Hao stood up. He looked flustered.

This was the second time today that he had approached her when there was no response from her. The first time, he had sensed nothing of her aura until he went up to see her reading the invitation card.

The second time was when he had not sensed her presence and she hadn't responded to his calls, so he had come in to check on her.

Unexpectedly, she woke up and their eyes met.

He had seen something that he couldn't forget. He tried to not think about it, but he couldn't.

His mental state was still not steady enough.

Otherwise, all women should have been the same in his eyes, regardless of whether they were wearing fine clothes or simple ones, or whether they were wearing anything at all. They would all be equal in his eyes.

In fact, under the influence of the Heaven Extinction Gu Poison, he had remained calm, except when it came to Hong Yuye.

He felt a bit lost.

After drinking the tea, he had already returned to his peak state.

It was already late at night, so he walked in cautiously.

Hong Yuye had been in the water for too long.

“Senior, why don’t you go to bed? It’s late,” Jiang Hao said kindly with his back to the screen.

There was no response from behind him.

It was only after a while that the sound of water splashing started again.

After a while, Hong Yuye, dressed in simple clothes, walked past Jiang Hao.

She went straight to the second floor.

After a while, Jiang Hao looked at Hong Yuye who was lying in his bed. He felt flustered.

He had suggested that she go to bed to imply that she should head back to her place.

He needed to collect the bubbles in the Spirit Herb Garden and prepare for tomorrow’s bubbles.

Moreover, the spirit beast had been hanging for a day from the tree, and he didn’t know if it could survive.

But Hong Yuye had come up to sleep on his bed. He hadn’t expected that.

Helplessly, he could only go to the balcony.

The Mountain Suppression Technique and the Moon-Slaying Technique needed to be replaced in his wrist guards.

He also needed to check in on the Reappearance of the Hidden Spirit Technique.

Unknowingly, it was already dawn.

Jiang Hao sighed in relief. Everything had been replaced.

“How much do you know about the royal family?” asked a voice from behind him.

It was Hong Yuye, who had changed into a new outfit.

The simple dress had turned into a red and white gown, and her hair was tied up in a simple bun. There was no trace of sleepiness in her eyes.

“I don’t know much,” Jiang Hao said and stood up.

“The southern royal family is chosen by the land in the southern region. The more the land needs them, the more favor it bestows upon them. And the more prosperous and thriving the southern region becomes, the more the land will withdraw its favor,” Hong Yuye said.

Jiang Hao was stunned.. “What happens if the land is chaotic and desolate?”

Chapter 499: Are You Really Not Going To Cultivate?

In the eastern, western, southern, and northern regions, there were royal families, but their presence was not so prominent.

At least, that was the case within the major sects.

The most well-known were the immortal sects, like the Clear Sky School.

Even though it was in the east, Jiang Hao had heard the sect’s name plenty of times.

As for the southern royal family, he had only heard of them recently.

In the past, it was either seen in books or mentioned in passing.

This time, it was mainly because of the marriage alliance that it came to everybody's attention.

Even though he knew of the existence of the royal family, he only thought of them as a group of people who ruled over most of the states and prefectures.

They had long lifespans only because they were considered special.

But he didn't expect that the existence of the royal family had a direct relationship with the prosperity of the southern land.

If prosperity and abundance could take back the favor from the land, then who would even strive to govern and make the South prosperous?

Was it possible that most of the poverty in the South was caused by the royal family to remain in power?

"It's similar to what you're thinking, but not exactly the same." Hong Yuye shook her head. "Chaos and poverty cannot help them obtain more favor. When there is a lot of grievance and suffering, it can actually weaken the favor. Only in special circumstances, it can increase the favor. The situation is too complex to be explained simply."

"So, if the favor is bestowed to promote prosperity, wouldn't the South be in a different situation?" Jiang Hao asked.

"The southern land is not a person, and favor cannot be easily revoked." Hong Yuye looked at the sunrise. "If the royal family possesses unparalleled favor, then what will happen to the land?"

‘They might enslave and govern the land for their own gain.’ That was what came into Jiang Hao’s mind.

Human greed knows no bounds.

This kind of thing is bound to happen.

At this point, the sun had already risen, and Hong Yuye looked at the person beside her. “And who told you that the earth needs life to flourish? Is it good for the earth?”

Jiang Hao was stunned. He then understood.

Indeed, the more prosperous the land was, the more it would be exploited.

How could that be a good thing?

And the land also needed the presence of humans.

After all, when the land faced destruction, if there were no immortals, everything would cease to exist.

For example, the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl could only be suppressed by people of great luck. The people of great luck were obviously human.

Jiang Hao understood that, but he thought that the royal family would likely do things beyond his expectations in order to gain more favor.

But not every ruler of the royal family might act like that, so there’s no need to worry too much.

After all, it didn’t concern him much.

As for the purpose behind the marriage alliance, Jiang Hao couldn’t figure it out.

Hong Yuye got up and glanced at the courtyard. "Where's the tea?"

"Here." Jiang Hao took out the teapot.

Hong Yuye took the teapot and shook it twice. She then looked at the person in front of her. "Empty?"

"There are only tea leaves left," Jiang Hao said.

"What about the tea?"

"I'll brew a new pot for you right away."

Taking the teapot, Jiang Hao took out the tea leaves and began to work.

As Hong Yuye sat down, a new table and chairs appeared.

The balcony wasn't that big, and it looked a bit crowded, but it was enough for two people to sit.

Jiang Hao felt that it was necessary to expand the balcony so that Hong Yuye would have no reason to complain.

"Was there a new gathering?" Hong Yuye asked.

"Yes." Jiang Hao nodded.

He poured himself a cup as well.

This time, he brewed Heavenly Sky Snow Bud tea. It cost him 250 spirit stones.

He had already brewed September Spring several times before and couldn't continue with it.

He would leave the remaining tea dregs for the spirit beast.

He secretly observed Hong Yuye as she drank her tea.

Fortunately, there were no extreme reactions.

He was relieved.

If she frowned, he would switch to Red Azure tea.

Fortunately, Hong Yuye's mind was not on tea right now.

Jiang Hao began to talk about the last gathering. There was nothing special to note.

He started with the Saint Bandits. Hong Yuye remained quiet.

Then, she stretched out her finger and, suddenly, a little girl appeared outside.

It was Xiao Li. She was asleep.

Jiang Hao was astonished. How did Xiao Li end up here?

Hong Yuye didn't wake her.

She gently placed her on the courtyard seat, and then said, "Go on."



Jiang Hao didn't mention Yin Wei's matter and talked about the deal with Liu instead.

The main point of this matter was about Chi Tian's whereabouts.

However, it seemed that the woman in front of him wasn't very concerned about it.

This was good. He could delay the main investigation a little while longer.

Jiang Hao also mentioned the southern royal family and their connection with the Saint Bandits.

"The southern royal family have contacts with the Saint Bandits?" Hong Yuye asked.

"Yes. It may be for cooperation related to bestowing talents and the like," Jiang Hao said.

Hong Yuye shook her head. "Impossible! The royal family would not have such cooperation with the Saint Bandits."

"Why?" Jiang Hao was puzzled.

In his view, it was understandable for the royal family to cooperate with the Saint Bandits.

Normally, those with innate talents were few.

Even if the royal family was special, the vast majority did not possess innate talents.

It was very difficult for them to have a genius of their own.

So, the abilities of the Saint Bandits were what they needed.

“Because they are the royal family, and they are blessed by the favor of the southern land. The path the Saint Bandits take is completely opposite to theirs. Unless the royal family is willing to give up their royal status, they wouldn’t consort with the Saint Bandits.” Hong Yuye put down her teacup.

Jiang Hao was surprised.

It seemed that those favored by the land couldn’t strip others of their talents.

If they weren’t collaborating, why were the two sides connected?

In any case, the Saint Bandits and the royal family were not good people. There would surely be a lot of trouble in this marriage alliance.

Hong Yuye didn’t bring up the matter anymore, and Jiang Hao began to talk about the Heavenly King, Hai Luo.

He thought Hong Yuye wouldn’t be interested in this, but unexpectedly, she was listening carefully.

He talked about everything from beginning to end.

Helplessly, Jiang Hao began to talk about Miao Anxian.

He told her everything from Miao Anxian using Hai Luo’s resources to get stronger to her ending up in the Abyssal Sea.

“Do you think she can still survive?” Jiang Hao asked.

Hong Yuye shook her head. She didn’t speak.

Throughout the entire story, Jiang Hao also tactfully concealed the events regarding Chi Tian.

He had found Chi Tian and sent him a message. He could tell her that another time.

After putting down the teacup, Hong Yuye gradually disappeared.

At this moment, a piece of paper fell on the table.

It was a formation blueprint.

After a quick look, Jiang Hao knew it could be used to upgrade the formations around the courtyard.

He didn't quite understand it and would need to consult with some other people.

Then, he would buy the materials needed.

It would cost quite a few spirit stones.

"I wonder if selling the invitation card will be enough for the upgrade."

Jiang Hao planned to wander around and see who needed an invitation card to the royal wedding.

At this time, cries for help came from below. It was the spirit beast.

Xiao Li also yawned.

She seemed puzzled and wondered how she had fallen asleep.

In the Imperial City in the southern region, Bi Zhu walked out of the room and found a young man waiting for her.

“Elder Brother?” She was quite happy to see him. “I heard you’ve advanced to the Primordial Spirit Realm?”

“Yes.” Bi You smiled. “I just advanced.. How about you? Are you really not going to cultivate?”

## Chapter 500: The Long-Awaited Oppressor Has Finally Arrived

She looked at her smiling elder brother, who was always so serious most of the time.

Bi Zhu shook her head gently. “I have been cultivating, and I am only slightly inferior to the extraordinary genius.”

“Hahaha!” Bi You burst into laughter. “Sister, you still love to joke like this.” “Your Highness, the princess has always been like this since she was a child,” said Qiao Yi.

“I know.” Bi You nodded and looked at his sister. “Shall we go outside for a stroll?”

Bi Zhu smiled. “Of course. I’ll follow your arrangements.”

On the way, Bi You suddenly asked, “How old are you this year?”

“Brother, it’s impolite to ask a lady her age,” Bi Zhu said. “Anyway, I’m sixteen years old this year.”

“You do look like you’re truly sixteen,” Bi You said with a smile.

Bi Zhu glared at him.

He chuckled and took out a small shield. “This is for you.”

“What is this?” Bi Zhu took the shield.

“It’s a little magic treasure I picked up when I was out. It can be used for defense. You’re often not in the Imperial City, and there are times when Qiao Yi can’t take care of you. This is safer,” Bi You said earnestly.

“Thank you, Brother.” Bi Zhu put away the shield and smiled.

“I’ve found some cultivation techniques recently. I’ll give them to you as well.

Take a look and see which one you can cultivate. If you advance to the

Foundation Establishment Realm, your lifespan will increase significantly.”

“Alright, I’ll take a look tonight.”

“You’re obedient now, but after you go back, you’ll just pretend this conversation never happened.”

“A genius has a bit of a personality.”

The two laughed at that.

“Are you planning to marry?” asked Bi You as they reached the small pool.

“No.” Bi Zhu shook her head, “Among the princesses, I’m considered much older. No one would be interested in someone old.”

“You just said you’re sixteen.” Bi You laughed. “It’s fine if you don’t want to marry. No one will dare to force you. Although our eldest brother doesn’t care much about us, he is ultimately our elder brother.

Forcing you would be disrespectful to him too. But there's a downside to it. Big Brother has his own faction. If the competition fails in the end, we'll all be implicated. So, marrying you off would be safer for you because you won't get implicated." "What if our lifespan doesn't even extend to that point?" Bi Zhu asked.

"That's true," Bi You said helplessly.

"Brother, is this marriage alliance different from the past?" Bi Zhu sat in a pavilion and asked.

Bi You sat opposite her and frowned slightly. "It's a bit different. There are some people I've never seen before, and the ones invited this time are all geniuses from various sects. I might have underestimated the whole thing and assumed that geniuses from sects wouldn't be interested in princesses."

Bi Zhu lowered her head. She was thinking that if the royal family cooperated with the Saint Bandits to seize the geniuses' talent, it would lead to a siege of the entire southern region.

Their father, although old, wasn't that muddle-headed.

"Let's not overthink this. If there's any trouble, please inform me as soon as possible," Bi You said.

"Brother, you should also be careful. I feel that the Imperial City is not very stable lately," Bi Zhu said.

After seeing her brother off, Bi Zhu took out the shield and examined it.

A spirit treasure at the Primordial Spirit Realm was indeed quite extraordinary.

"Second Brother really cares for me, unlike my eldest brother, who doesn't even visit." Bi Zhu sighed.

If her eldest brother didn't visit her for over a hundred years, she would have to go and visit him.

After more than a hundred years, when her lifespan was exhausted, she would have to make a trip.

After that, there was no need to stay in the southern region. There were many dangers like Jing and the Heavenly Fate Misfortune Pearl in the south, after all.

The level of danger was extremely high.

‘Speaking of which, Jing should have returned to the southern region. I wonder if the cooperation between the royal family and the Saint Bandits will attract his attention.’

He seemed to have many sources for this type of information. Maybe she could ask about it in the gathering next time.

A few days later, in early January, Jiang Hao looked at the interface.

[Name: Jiang Hao]

[Age: 32]

[Cultivation: Late Stage of the Soul Ascension Realm]

[Cultivation Method: Heavenly Sound Hundred Revolutions, Hong Meng Heart

Sutra]

[Divine Ability: Nine Revolutions Death Substitution (unique), Daily Appraisal, Clear and Pure Heart, Reappearance of Hidden Spirit, Divine Might, Revival of Withered Tree, Heavenly Cauldron] [Vitality: 3/100 (cannot be cultivated)] [Cultivation: 1/100 (cannot be cultivated)] [Divine Power: 2/3 (cannot be obtained)] “Thirty- two.”

It felt like he was only nineteen yesterday.

Fortunately, compared to when he was nineteen, he had many more divine abilities now, and his cultivation realm had increased significantly.

At that time, he had just met Hong Yuye.

He was at the eighth stage of the Lifeblood Refinement Realm, and he only had the Daily Appraisal and the Nine Revolutions Death Substitution abilities.

He still didn't know what the Nine Revolutions Death Substitution did.

Now, he could proficiently use all the divine abilities, except for the Nine Revolutions Death Substitution.

Furthermore, his cultivation realm had advanced from the Lifeblood Refinement Realm all the way to Foundation Establishment, then the Golden Core, Primordial Spirit Realm, and finally the Soul Ascension Realm.

Perhaps in a few more years, he could advance from the Soul Ascension Realm to the Return to Void Realm.

The future looked promising.

After Hong Yuye left, his life became stable and peaceful.

The only trouble was that her scent still seemed to linger in the bedding.

It was very faint, but it was definitely there.

So, he changed the bedding.

The spirit beast had left the sect with Lin Zhi and would return after some time.



At the Spirit Herb Garden, Cheng Chou ran over to him as soon as he arrived.

“Is something wrong?” Jiang Hao asked.

“Yes... A Golden Core Realm senior came to demand an explanation,” Cheng Chou said nervously.

Jiang Hao wasn’t surprised.

Now that the problems in the sect had settled down, the Golden Core Realm seniors who had a grudge against him would naturally come to question him.

If they were at a higher stage than him, he would have to endure it.

But if they were at the same level as him, he wouldn’t have any of it.

Not everyone in the demonic sect had to endure everything quietly. Some people and things needed to be addressed with strength.

He had experienced this when he was in the outer sect.

True geniuses rarely came to suppress him. Only those who were similar to him in strength felt as though they were being overtaken whenever he advanced.

He was clearly just an ordinary person. So, why would they think he was on par with them?

“What’s the issue?” Jiang Hao asked.

“That Senior Brother said the cultivation method for the spirit herbs was incorrect, and there was a deviation in the growth of the plants,” Cheng Chou said.

"I'll go take a look." Jiang Hao nodded.

The senior had come for him and wanted to establish his dominance.

The way he needed to respond would depend on the senior's cultivation realm.

At the edge of the spirit field stood a man with a pale complexion.

His aura was relatively stable, and he was at the early stage of the Golden Core Realm.

In front of him, three ordinary non-cultivators knelt and trembled in fear.

There was another person who was covered in blood. It seemed like he was beaten.

"If kneeling and begging could make up for losses, why would you need to compensate for anything else?" The man looked at the three ordinary people with a cold smile.

They could only beg for the senior's forgiveness or plead for mercy.

"Why are you arguing with them, Senior?" Jiang Hao walked over calmly.

"You are the one in charge of the Spirit Herb Garden?" The man looked at Jiang Hao with a smile. "You don't need to thank me for teaching these scums a lesson, Junior Brother. I wanted to kill them at first but only educated them a

little for your sake. I think they've learned their lesson.. Junior Brother, you won't blame me for meddling, right?"