

A Father 1121

Chapter 1121: Dao Fruit Sheds Its Skin, Divine Skills Advance to Dao Guide, Dragon Elephant Furnace Embodies Martial Dao

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The snow fell thick and fast.

The scorching heat within the courtyard had long disappeared, and the enormous Qi Blood Furnace had also vanished.

Without the blazing high temperature, the snowflakes no longer melted but began to drift down in flurries.

Unknowingly, ten days passed.

During these ten days, Li Che stayed nestled within the small courtyard, researching the newly acquired power of the Dao Guide.

The Dragon Elephant Furnace consumed Li Che's qi-blood and Martial Saint Yuan Gang, constantly refining the divinity inside Li Che's body, transforming the physical body into a Pure Martial Body. However, once the purity reached 85%, the progression became exceptionally slow.

Feeling the qi-blood and Martial Saint Yuan Gang within him replenishing once more.

Li Che slowly opened his eyes.

Buzz—!!!

An extremely clear perception instantly spread out centered around his body.

The Great Bodily Elixir emerged, surprisingly lined with eight cracks!

One must know that Li Che had just recently broken through to Martial Saint, yet had already etched eight cracks into his Great Bodily Elixir.

Opening cracks in the Human Pill accelerates the expulsion of the elixir's essence, indicating the Martial Saint Yuan Gang becomes more vigorous, more formidable...

And for a Human Pill to develop cracks, it requires an accumulation of essence; once overflowing, the Great Elixir can no longer contain it, thus forming cracks.

With eight Human Pill cracks, Li Che had reached the pinnacle of the First Level Human Core Realm in the Martial Path.

Opening one more Human Pill crack, reaching nine cracks, would allow him to advance to Martial Saint Second Opening, entering the Qi Sea realm!

Or perhaps...

Li Che now was just one crack away from the Second Level Martial Saint...

In the courtyard, Li Che slowly opened his eyes.

Having sat still for ten days, his whole body's muscles and bones felt as if they had solidified.

With the action of opening his eyes, the brilliance within the whole courtyard seemed to become dazzling in an instant!

Like an extremely scorching flame burning.

Li Che raised his head, his eyes seeming to burn with two flames, like two furnaces.

And beneath his gaze, the Heavenly Person Sensing activated on its own.

Immediately, it seemed as if between heaven and earth, there were streaks of smoke like those across a ruin, wispy and elusive.

These streaks of smoke were dense and interwoven, like swimming fish, converging toward the Heavenly Dome...

Li Che spread his five fingers wide, as if to grasp those streaks of smoke...

However, the smoke passed directly through his flesh, impossible to grasp.

"This..."

Within his chest, the Dragon Elephant Vajra Dao Fruit, having just metamorphosed to level 6, suddenly throbbed fiercely!

The roar sounded as if about to explode!

Li Che exhaled a breath, golden light flickering in his gaze, growing more intense!

He finally understood what these smoke streaks were.

"This is..."

"Dao Yun?!"

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Qian Yuan Divine Sect.

Atop a mountain of iced and snowed-over glassy peaks.

A bamboo tower encased in layers of ice crystals stood amidst the perpetual snow.

This bamboo tower was the repository of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect's books.

The majority of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect's texts were stored within, and Elder Fang Hanshu, formerly the third-place laureate of the Da Jing Dynasty.

Was responsible for guarding this simple book storage tower.

Gurgle, gurgle.

The charcoal stove boiled water, rolling and bubbling, with green tea leaves unfolding their graceful dance inside.

The eaves of the bamboo tower piled high with thick snow.

Underneath the eaves.

Fang Hanshu sat on a bamboo chair, holding a Holy Sage Book, reading it carefully.

Xi Xi, who had been in closed-door cultivation for ten days in Taibai Hall and had thoroughly completed the Eight-Armed Three-Faced Hell Lotus Unbeatable Divine Image's divine feedback, sat on a small

bamboo stool, holding a Holy Sage Book, her features seeming to bunch up, diligently memorizing the texts.

Jin Taixui also sat quietly behind her, holding a book of his own.

Fang Hanshu held a Holy Sage Book in one hand, pouring himself a cup of hot tea with the other, blew away the steam from the tea, swayed his head like an old official, sipped the strong tea, and chewed on some tea leaves.

Suddenly.

Fang Hanshu's actions paused; gripping the teacup, his fine beard fluttered in the wind as he looked outside the bamboo-fenced courtyard.

He then saw amidst the wind and snow, a figure clad in a Golden Lotus Ink Shirt.

Slowly walking out from the blizzard.

Fang Hanshu was slightly dazed...

Vaguely.

He seemed to see behind the newcomer, bearing an exceedingly scorching Qi Blood Furnace on their back!

That purest Qi-blood seemed to tease the Will of Heaven and Earth to continuously merge into that furnace.

The tea in the cup rippled with a circle of tiny waves.

Much like the ripples in Fang Hanshu's heart at this moment.

"Martial as Dao?"

Chapter 1122: The Path of Pure Martial Broken, Beyond the Martial Saint, Titled Dragon King Gouzi's Feast

Using martial arts to enter the Dao?!

Fang Hanshu's gaze condensed, staring at the youth in black clothing walking through the snowstorm.

In his eyes, it seemed as if a white long river was flowing, stirred with tumultuous waves by the stimulation!

Fang Hanshu was well-read, with an extremely rich knowledge base. As the Great Elder of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect, he was in charge of the Book Storage Tower, essentially having access to all the books of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect.

Over the years in the Qian Yuan Divine Sect, he had read many books, including some on the study of the Martial Path.

Ever since the rise of Divinity and the decline of Pure Martial Arts, purely using martial arts without mixing in Divinity to enter the Dao had become exceedingly rare.

Fang Hanshu's eyebrows slightly furrowed. Looking again, he discovered that the furnace carried on Li Che's back seemed to have vanished, no longer visible, as if what he had seen was merely an illusion.

"Papa!"

Xi Xi was scrunching her face, frowning as she recited the lessons assigned by Fang Hanshu.

As Li Che walked out of the snowstorm, Xi Xi immediately sensed him, looked up and smiled brightly, spreading joy across her face!

She threw down her books, leaped off the bamboo chair, sparks flying beneath her feet, and two Golden Light Wheels began to spin at high speed, her entire body becoming a rapidly moving light beam rushing towards him.

In almost the blink of an eye, Xi Xi crashed into Li Che's arms.

However, just as Xi Xi crashed into Li Che's embrace, she was instantly caught, held tightly, and despite the powerful momentum from the Wind Fire Golden Wheel beneath her feet, it did not budge Li Che one bit, nor even cause him to take half a step back.

Wow, Papa is so strong!

Xi Xi was startled!

It seemed that the situation had changed, and Emperor Xi Xi was not strong enough!

Li Che patted Xi Xi's head, taking the chance to sense the stability of the Divine Minister within Xi Xi's Inner Scene of the Energy Center.

A touch of pity flashed across his face.

Because the Prison Lotus Dao Essence was hidden within Xi Xi's body, it was like a time bomb that would explode again when Xi Xi reached a breakthrough in her cultivation and tried to condense a Divine Fetus.

At that time...

there would be no conscious Divine Thought from the Third Prince Temple God to burn itself and suppress the Prison Lotus Dao Essence.

Therefore, Li Che felt pity for her. Such a young age, and already entangled by such a terrifying danger.

Li Che felt a great rage in his heart.

This time, with the help of Lord Dog, they managed to destroy the Golden Heavenly King Tower Mysterious Temple, barely easing his anger.

But it wasn't enough!

This Golden Heavenly King Tower dared to use his daughter as a pawn, turning her into a tool; naturally, Li Che was still angry.

In the Divine Capital, there was another Heavenly King Tower, although that Heavenly King Tower was of the Four Imperial Rank.

But Li Che...

was determined to target it. Just as well... he was also heading to the Divine Capital, specifically aiming at this Mysterious Temple.

Sooner or later, he will destroy it!

Li Che suppressed the killing intent in his heart, patted Xi Xi's head, and carried her into the Great Elder's courtyard.

"Great Elder."

Li Che set aside his dark mood, a gentle smile appearing on his face.

"Elder Li, a rare guest, it's not often you visit my bamboo lodge..."

Fang Hanshu stroked his beard and smiled gently.

He had a good impression of Li Che, not just because of Li Che's hidden identity, but also because Li Che was one of the few Divine Sculpture Half-Saints in the Qian Yuan Divine Sect.

As the Great Elder, Fang Hanshu considered himself a part of the Divine Sect and naturally hoped to see the Qian Yuan Divine Sect grow stronger.

"It was my mistake, I should have visited the Great Elder sooner."

Li Che apologized with a wry smile.

However, Fang Hanshu was just joking. The two sat under the eaves and began to drink tea.

After chatting idly with Fang Hanshu for a while, Li Che was about to inquire about Pure Martial arts.

But Fang Hanshu made a move first, taking out an enormous jade box from the Qiankun Jade.

"Inside this jade box is the past life of the Divine Sculpture Master Grandmaster Huang Mei from Little Lingyin Temple. Although the Divinity was obliterated by the Sect Master, the Divine Sculpture skill and other aspects are still evident. A masterpiece of a Divine Sculpture Master, I hope it will be of use to you and help elevate your Divine Sculpture skills."

"The Sect Master is in seclusion and asked me to give you this jade box."

Upon hearing this, Li Che did not hesitate.

"Then I thank the Sect Master and the Great Elder."

Li Che took the enormous jade box, opened it, and saw a Divine Sculpture filled with sword marks, pieced back together and restored. Although covered with cracks and repair marks, and the Divinity long gone, about three or four-tenths of God's Intent still remained.

Li Che glanced at it, and after a faint stirring in the Dao Fruit of the Immortal Artisan within his chest, he felt quite satisfied.

Clearly, this Holy Hand Divine Sculpture could still improve his Divine Sculpture techniques.

It's a pity that it wasn't a complete Holy Hand Divine Sculpture.

But complete Holy Hand Divine Sculptures are too precious, crafted by the hands of Divine Sculpture Half-Saints. After losing the Divine Sculpture Master, the Qian Yuan Divine Sect had long exhausted its Holy Hand Divine Sculptures.

Therefore, they couldn't provide extra Holy Hand Divine Sculptures for Li Che to comprehend and study.

Holy Hand Divine Sculptures can be said to be the trump card stored by every Divine Sect and power, an extremely precious resource.

And for cultivators who practice Clone Technique, the Holy Hand Divine Sculpture is an excellent clone carrier, capable of maintaining ninety percent of the main body's power.

The Three-Life Body Technique practiced by Grandmaster Huang Mei in the past, present, and future required Holy Hand Divine Sculptures.

Chapter 1123: The Pure Martial Path Broken, Beyond Martial Saint, Titled Dragon King Gouzi's Feast

"If it can help with your Divine Sculpture Skill, then it's good. If you could attain the Dao and become a Divine Sculpture Master... it would truly be an honor for our Qian Yuan Divine Sect, making us more competitive among the Divine Sects of the Great Vista Eleven Paths."

Fang Hanshu said alongside a smile.

"Elder Li, what would you like to inquire about?"

Fang Hanshu asked.

Li Che got serious: "I have made a small breakthrough in the Martial Path recently and have taken quite an interest in Pure Martial. I have heard that the Great Elder is well-read, so I would like to inquire about information related to Pure Martial."

"Or perhaps you could recommend some books on Pure Martial for me..."

Li Che's words left Fang Hanshu slightly stunned.

"Pure Martial?"

"Why would Elder Li suddenly be interested in understanding Pure Martial?"

Fang Hanshu sat on the bamboo chair, took a sip of hot tea, and smiled: "Pure Martial... has actually declined."

"Nowadays, the number of Pure Martial Warriors probably can be counted on one hand."

"To practice Pure Martial, there are too many restrictions. You must completely forsake Divinity, use the ancient methods, tempering the body, nurturing Qi-Blood, igniting the Three Flowers, and strengthening the Essence..."

"Difficult, difficult, difficult..."

"Among the Divine Sects of the Qian Yuan Eleven Paths, perhaps only the True Martial Divine Sect of the Tongyou Road might still maintain the lineage of the Pure Martial Path. However, even most of the True Martial Divine Sect resorts to using Divinity to temper the body and enhance martial cultivation speed."

Fang Hanshu sighed as he spoke.

"The decline of Pure Martial is caused by the great trend and torrent, with the emergence of the Mysterious Temple, Divinity sweeps and merges with the world like a sea, Pure Martial Warriors have short lifespans, the cultivation is long, and it also leads to hidden injuries all over the body. How can it compare to the Divine Martial that borrows Divinity to temper the body."

Li Che also fell into silence upon hearing this.

The days of Pure Martial are indeed harder than imagined.

However, now Li Che, with the help of the Dao Guide, vaguely shows a trend towards transforming into Pure Martial.

The current Pure Martial body has almost completed nearly ninety percent of its purification.

Li Che can also feel the advantages of Pure Martial, more solid in foundation compared to Divine Martial, more robust in strength, and the martial killing is also more fierce!

Divine Martial, after all, is connected with Divinity, ultimately lacking a bit of the taste of iron and blood.

Fang Hanshu looked at Li Che, though he didn't know why Li Che suddenly inquired about Pure Martial. After all, although Li Che practiced Martial Path, it's impossible for him to be of Pure Martial, as Fang Hanshu had reviewed all of Li Che's records.

In fact, in the current world environment, without the inheritance of Pure Martial, it's fundamentally impossible to cultivate pure Pure Martial.

Fang Hanshu stroked his beautiful beard: "Of course, the biggest problem of Pure Martial... is not that point."

"Although Pure Martial is slow in cultivation speed, conditions are harsh, the difficulty is great, and life span is short..."

"But it is not impossible to overcome and persevere, after all, there will always be some people who hold a heart full of love."

Fang Hanshu looked at the flying white snow and the icy world, lightly exhaled: "The biggest problem of Pure Martial is... the path is broken."

The voice carried a bit of lament, a touch of melancholy.

After Fang Hanshu finished speaking, Li Che's body trembled fiercely.

"Great Elder... what does it mean that the path is broken?"

"Divine cultivation, Divine Embryo Fourth Divine Transformation... After the Fetus Head God Transformation, one can sense the Dao Yun, capture the Dao Yun to strike at the Divine Tribulation."

"Whereas in the current Martial Path, after the Martial Saint Four Transformations ascend to the peak of the Martial Arts Path, opening the Heavenly Gate, there is a tremendous outpouring of Divinity. The massive Divinity accrued in the Heavenly Gate can help a top-level Peak Martial Saint achieve tempering and transformation, enter the Dao by martial arts, capture the Dao Yun, and attain the Dao... Divine Martial."

"Of course... you could also call it Martial God. In fact, Pure Martial has no Martial God Realm, among all the classics, the highest realm of Pure Martial Warriors... is only Martial Saint."

"Martial God, indeed, like the Divine Tribulation, both grasp the Dao Yun, essentially, there isn't much difference."

"Both need to master the Dao Yun and provoke the Three Calamities and Nine Tribulations summoned by angering the heavens, only that Martial God leans towards strengthening the physical body, whereas Divine Tribulation is stronger in the Heaven and Earth Soul and Technique aspects."

Fang Hanshu spoke slowly, without hiding anything, explaining to Li Che the realm above the Martial Saint, the Martial God.

"So... the Great Elder's words about the Pure Martial path being broken, is it because Pure Martial... reaches only the Martial Saint at its highest?"

Li Che asked with furrowed brows.

Fang Hanshu stroked his beard, lightly laughing: "It can be understood as such, but the main reason... is that Pure Martial cannot sense the Dao Yun."

"Without Dao Yun... how can one become a Martial God?"

Li Che was slightly stunned.

Hearing Fang Hanshu's words felt like the grand toll of a bell, exploding in his ears, deafening, resounding endlessly.

Pure Martial...cannot perceive Dao Yun?!

No, that's not right...

His Pure Martial body has been purified to 85%, the Heavenly Person Sensing has become more acute, clearly sensing the strands of smoke floating between heaven and earth... that is...

Dao Yun!

Why would Fang Hanshu say that Pure Martial cannot sense Dao Yun?

"Can Pure Martial truly not sense Dao Yun?" Li Che took a deep breath, asked in confusion.

Fang Hanshu glanced at Li Che, seemingly puzzled why Li Che was fixated on this point.

He has read extensively, well-versed and knowledgeable, achieved the third place of the Imperial Examination... could it really be that he would make things up to boast with you?

"In the True Martial Divine Sect's ancient text 'Heavenly Broken Pure Martial', it is recorded, I was fortunate enough to peruse it, and there is a clear record with annotations from the Divine Sect Ancestor of the True Martial Sect."

"Regret! Regret! Regret! The path of Pure Martial is broken, human power cannot overcome the heavens! Pure Martial lacks Dao Yun, where does the path lead? Where does it lead?"

"This was the final words of the True Martial Divine Sect's Ancestor."

Fang Hanshu explained, also revealing the origin of the ancient text.

"The path of Pure Martial is broken, human power cannot overcome the heavens..."

Li Che's eyes focused.

Chapter 1124: The Path of Pure Martial Broken, Beyond Martial Saint, Titled Dragon King Gouzi's Feast
Is pure martial arts truly unable to sense Dao Yun?

Is it a problem with the Divine Sect Ancestor of the True Martial Sect, or is it a problem with Li Che?

Or rather...

Is it because they...

are not pure enough?!

Fang Hanshu noticed that Li Che seemed a bit dazed and said, "There are books related to pure martial arts in the bamboo house. You can look for them yourself to get an understanding."

"However, since you have already practiced martial arts, you cannot switch to pure martial arts... Don't rashly switch to pure martial arts."

"Pure martial arts... is too difficult."

"Perhaps in a hundred years, there will be no pure martial arts left in the world, and pure martial arts... will completely perish."

Fang Hanshu sighed.

Li Che cupped his fists, and under Fang Hanshu's guidance, he entered the book house and began searching for and reading books on pure martial arts.

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Time turned, and in an instant, a month flew by.

Like sand between fingers, sliding away unnoticed until only three or two grains are left.

During this month, the entire Qianyuan Dao City quieted down with little turmoil.

The main reason is that too many major events occurred in Qianyuan Dao City during this period, causing minor matters to be unable to make any ripples in people's hearts.

On the other hand, over at Little Lingyin Temple, due to the deaths of Huang Tuo and Wu Gang, combined with Grandmaster Huang Mei's past life being slain, a barefoot monk from Little Lingyin Temple brought a letter of inquiry from Huang Mei.

However, this letter of inquiry was shattered into pieces by Lv Taibai with a flick of sword Qi.

"The one who killed Huang Tuo, Wu Gang, and who cut down Grandmaster Huang Mei's past life were the King Hunter Killer from the Underworld and the Hunting God Pavilion. What does it have to do with me, Lv Taibai? What does it have to do with my Qian Yuan Divine Sect?!"

"You are slandering us, you are making baseless accusations!"

Lv Taibai said coldly.

Then, the barefoot monk who had arduously walked a thousand miles was sent a thousand miles back by Lv Taibai wrapped in a flying sword, with another attack of sword Qi.

Lv Taibai knew too well how to deal with those bald monks who love to moralize.

As long as he had no morals, he wouldn't give them the chance to attack him from a moral high ground.

After this little episode, Lv Taibai announced in the capacity of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect Master that he would soon lead a team to the Divine Capital to attend the Flat Peach Victory Meeting.

Immediately, like a boulder dropped into a lake, it stirred up waves in Qianyuan Dao City.

The noble families all began selecting outstanding young members from their clans, sending people to accompany them, to strengthen the presence of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect team, and also with the thought of visiting the Divine Capital to broaden their horizons.

Every Flat Peach Victory Meeting, the Qian Yuan Divine Sect would arrange for young members from various large noble families in Dao City to accompany them.

This year was no exception.

Although the slots were limited, the noble families were enthusiastic about it, seeing it as a rare opportunity.

Qian Yuan Divine Sect.

Snow was fluttering, the world was glazed.

The Book Storage Bamboo House where the Great Elder resided.

Li Che sat quietly under the eaves reading books, not only about pure martial arts but also about divine cultivation and other classics.

This month's time made Li Che's life extremely regular.

Since opening eight cracks in the Human Opening Pill of martial arts, and with the feedback of the Dao Fruit ended, it was difficult to break through in the short term, and Li Che was not in a hurry.

Just having completed the induction of the sixth Divine Seed, the induction of the seventh Divine Seed could not be moved at all.

And the pure martial arts guided by the Dragon Elephant Furnace was slowly refining Li Che's pure martial purity, but the progress became increasingly slower. After a month, it only increased by 1% in purity.

Additionally, the Dao of Divinity and the Heaven and Earth Spirit True Ape Golden Core, due to the power of the Temple God in the Heavenly King Tower suppressed on the Heaven and Earth chessboard being siphoned by Summoning Gods, left the True Ape Golden Core just a sliver away from breaking through to the Divine Fetus.

Both martial arts and divinity were just one step away, and at first, Li Che was indeed a bit anxious.

But some things, the more anxious you are, the more they will affect the progress.

In a regular life, Li Che gradually calmed down.

Cultivating, reading, carving, researching the half-step supreme mechanism beast...

Everything was improving in an orderly manner.

Closing the book in his hands, Li Che, dressed in a Mo Shan robe, stretched lazily.

In front of him, brilliant light flashed by.

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[Name: Li Che]

[Bonds: Li Nuanxi (daughter)]

[Dao Fruit: Immortal Artisan (lv5, 65%), Dragon Elephant Vajra (lv6, 0%), Pure Heart (LV5, 55%), Chess Saint (LV5, 35%), Fairy in the Painting (lv4, 72%), Lei-Ci Dao Body (lv3, 60%), Dream Master (lv3, 5%)]

[Prototype of Divine Powers: Immortal Worker: Thousand Analyzing Hands, Dragon Elephant Vajra: Ascending the Tower, Pure Heart: Soul Capturing, Chess Saint: Great Avalanche, Fairy in the Painting: Mo Sha, Lei-Ci Dao Body: Shenxiao, Dream Master: Dream Butterfly]

[Divine Skills: Star Plucking, Rosy Cloud Lift, God Drawing, Limitless, Bai Yujing]

[Dao Guide: Dragon Elephant Furnace]

[Tip: For every safe year of growth of the bond subject, the Dao Tree can bear a Dao Fruit]

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The various maturity degrees of the Dao Fruits came into view.

Many Dao Fruits had different degrees of improvement, making Li Che feel quite delighted, like an honest and dutiful fruit farmer, overjoyed, waiting for the harvest.

Although the Immortal Artisan Dao Fruit's maturity improved slowly after reaching lv5, due to the research on the supreme mechanism beast's blueprint provided by Tang Xiejia, the maturity of the Dao Fruit was slowly improving.

And for the half-step supreme [Double-winged Little Yinglong King], Li Che even started polishing mechanical parts, but compared to the Blood-Yang Nine-God King Kong Ape, this mechanism beast required more parts, finer workmanship, higher material demands, and greater requirements for the Mechanism Seal!

And other Dao Fruits were also improving under various enhancement methods.

For example, after Su Daoling became proficient in drawing the Small Divine Sky Thunder Talisman, Li Che's Lei-Ci Dao Body has made significant progress, and it is about to reach lv4, achieving the stage of Second Transformation.

Chapter 1125: The Path of Pure Martial Broken, Beyond Martial Saint, Titled Dragon King Gouzi's Feast

"Are you preparing to depart?"

Fang Hanshu sat on the bamboo chair, watching Li Che close the book and stand up. He smoothed his beautiful beard and said with a smile.

Li Che nodded gently, "The Sect Master has already prepared the ships, it's time for us to set out."

"The Lingnan Circuit is quite far from the Divine Capital. However, when the Great Vista was established, the emperor recruited several Divine Fetus Great Gods from the Divine Sect to excavate a Grand Canal running north-south, facilitating commerce and strengthening national power."

"This Grand Canal has indeed shortened the journey from the Lingnan Circuit to the Divine Capital and tightened the control over the regions heading southward."

"Taking the Nine-story Yellow Dragon Xuanmu Ship of the Qianyuan Taoist City, traveling north along the Grand Canal, it takes about... more than half a month to reach the Divine Capital."

"Otherwise, with the mountainous roads of Lingnan Circuit, solely relying on Flood Dragon Horses pulling carts and coupled with inclement weather, it might waste a great deal of time."

Li Che clasped his fists, "Thank you, Great Elder, for the hospitality and tea during the days of reading."

Fang Hanshu smoothed his beard and grinned, "There's no need to thank me, having another person to read with is a joy to an old man like me. Reading is indeed more interesting when done together."

"Reading alone is rather lonely."

Li Che smiled and bid farewell to Fang Hanshu.

"Strive hard at the Flat Peach Victory Meeting, the Flat Peaches can grant longevity... they're quite good actually."

Fang Hanshu stood up and said from under the eaves.

"By the way, Elder Li, there's one more thing..."

Li Che looked over in confusion.

"Now that you are a Divine Sculpture Half-Saint, once you reach the Divine Capital, you can seek evaluation for the status of a Special Class Guest Minister at the headquarters of the Qintian Observatory. A First-Class Guest Official may not be much, but a Special Class Guest Minister is different."

"If you become a Special Class Guest Minister, even if it's just a title, it would make you part of the Qintian Observatory... and establish a connection with them. With this title, you'll have some security guarantees in the Divine Capital."

Li Che was momentarily stunned.

Special Class Guest Minister...

To be honest, he hadn't thought of this before, but what Fang Hanshu said was indeed quite right.

This journey to the Divine Capital, if such a title as Special Class Guest Minister could truly be obtained, things would indeed become much more convenient.

Without further delay, Li Che left the Book Storage Bamboo House.

He returned to the Elder Court of Disciple City.

The courtyard was bustling with activity.

Many children gathered at the entrance, chattering incessantly, crying and sobbing, full of reluctance, wanting to bid farewell to Emperor Xi Xi.

People like Gong Yuanliang, Gongyang Yu, and others, due to their limited talent, hadn't earned the opportunity to visit the Divine Capital to broaden their horizons.

Each of them had reddened eyes, resentful of their own powerlessness, unable to follow Emperor Xi Xi on the northern expedition.

They could only regretfully say goodbye to Emperor Xi Xi, who generously gave each of them a hug, showering them equally with favor.

This left the little fellows blushing with excitement.

When Li Che returned, he witnessed this scene, which immediately lightened his mood.

However, upon seeing Li Che, Emperor Xi Xi called out "Daddy," ran over, and instantly made Li Che happy.

Li Che hugged Xi Xi in his arms, and Zhang Ya carried the packed luggage and walked out of the house.

Li Qingshan and Nurse Momo had also packed their bags, planning to go along.

With Li Che's current status, taking a few people along wasn't a problem.

"I plan to take you and Nurse Momo to see the world in the Divine Capital... To be honest, during our years of training, we never went to the Divine Capital, it really was too far, and too dangerous along the way."

"The Great Scenic Divine Capital, known as the center of the Dajing World, possesses the Mysterious Temple with the Three Pure Ranks, and is home to strong cultivators like a forest, a place that cultivators of the world yearn to go."

Li Qingshan held Nurse Momo's waist, his gaze flickering slightly.

Old Chen didn't plan to go to the Divine Capital. Although Xi Xi strongly invited him, Old Chen still shook his hand with a smile, "My strength is weak, I won't join you in your expeditions... The Divine Capital is

good, but I prefer to stay in Dao City, waiting for your good news to return. I hope that both you and your daughter can resonate at the Flat Peach Victory Meeting, and return with Flat Peaches!"

Old Chen rubbed Xi Xi, who was hugging his leg, with a gaze full of tenderness.

Watching the little girl, who had once needed his protection when she was still in swaddling clothes, grow to become even more vibrant and wise, he felt immensely happy at heart.

Li Che's Great Aunt and Great Uncle's family also came to send them off, and of course, to bid farewell to Li Chengzhou.

Nie Yang waited outside, holding a sword, meditating with eyes closed.

Li Chengzhou was pulled away by his parents, expressing the melancholy of separation.

"We're leaving, my little friends!"

On the carriage shaft, Xi Xi pressed down on Jin Taixui, who was also sitting on it, tiptoed, and waved goodbye to Gong Yang Xiu and the others in the courtyard.

As they traveled along the foot of the mountain, to the Qiankun plaque before the Divine Sect Mountain Gate.

Several luxurious carriages were already gathered.

They were the delegations from Qian Yuan Divine Sect, about to be dispatched to the Divine Capital to participate in the Flat Peach Victory Meeting.

Upon Xi Xi's arrival, she saw Yun E, wearing a fox fur cloak and holding a chubby little rabbit, along with the little fatty Zhou Peng, who was always by Yun E's side. Zhou Peng seemed to have grown even plumper, looking even more chubby.

Besides them, the Divine Children from the Chu Long List were also preparing to go.

Since Xi Xi topped the Chu Long List, she has never dropped in rank. Following her in the Chu Long List, in order, are Lv Qingxuan, Yang Yi, Yun E, Zhou Peng, Chi Chengyan, Zhuo Banxiang, and other Divine Children.

They all went to participate in the Chulong Victory Conference within the Flat Peach Victory Meeting, needing to compete with Divine Children from the Eleven Divine Sects.

Thus, in the eyes of Lv Qingxuan and Yang Yi, fighting spirit soared.

Chapter 1126: The Pure Martial Path Ends, Beyond Martial Saint, Titled Dragon King Gouzi's Feast

Lv Taibai set up an altar under the Qiankun plaque at the Divine Sect Mountain Gate, paying simple homage to the Grandmaster before retreating into the carriage and pulling down the curtain.

Besides Lv Taibai, the team leader was the Second Elder Zhao Fangzhou, who had a fiery temper and explosive strength, full of the spirit of combat, making him the most suitable Elder to lead the team.

This was not Zhao Fangzhou's first time leading a team.

The Flood Dragon Horse neighed, raised and lowered its hooves, snow and wind exploded, the wheels roared.

The Divine Sect procession entered Qianyuan Tao City, heading towards the docks of Qiankun River inside Qianyuan Tao City.

At the dock, a nine-story Yellow Dragon Xuanmu Ship was anchored, like a giant monstrosity, with pavilions and towers featuring flying eaves and curved corners built upon it, soaring nine stories high, with carved beams and painted rafters, exquisite and astonishing!

Daoist Master Yue Huanglong, draped in a Crane Robe, smiled warmly as he organized and directed the workers on the docks, guiding the young disciples sent by various Noble Families onto the Yellow Dragon Xuanmu Ship.

When the Divine Sect convoy arrived, a sharp and wary glint flashed in Yue Huanglong's eyes. For the past month, he had basically holed up in the City Lord's Mansion, not daring to show his face, while being extremely cautious, fearing Lv Taibai might don a disguise to seek trouble with him.

Li Che lifted the curtain, embraced Xi Xi and descended from the carriage, holding Zhang Ya's hand in the other.

"Li Half-Saint, as you go to the Divine Capital, be sure to stay safe on the journey. You're our Qiankun Tao City's treasured Divine Sculpture Half-Saint, it's too difficult for Qiankun Tao City to produce another Divine Sculpture Half-Saint..."

Yue Huanglong greeted Li Che with a smile, as Li Che appeared gentle and refined, seemingly harmless.

In reality, Li Che bore a great killing intent towards Yue Huanglong, for he committed inhuman deeds.

The Su Family was massacred without mercy by Yue Huanglong, who even poured dirty water on the Underworld...

This man's name still exists in the Book of Life and Death.

However, Yue Huanglong is extremely powerful, and in Li Che's judgment, he ranks as First-class Peak, although not comparable to Lv Taibai who ranks among the Absolute Peak at the Heavenly Gate, he is nonetheless quite formidable.

Additionally, as the Daoist Master of Qianyuan Tao City, while within the city, he is blessed by the Divine Formation of this thousand-year-old city, with numerous techniques. Li Che was not in a hurry to act and was waiting for his cultivation breakthrough.

The group boarded the Yellow Dragon Ship, marking their first time on board, as Xi Xi excitedly led a group of companions, running from the bow to the stern and then from the stern back to the bow!

Li Che and Zhang Ya began laying the bed in the cabin's rooms, even though with the Yellow Dragon Ship traveling along the Grand Canal, it would take no more than half a month to reach the Divine Capital.

But half a month is actually not short.

"Set sail—!!!"

On the deck, the captain, with a Grandmaster cultivation, let out a long howl.

Immediately, the sails raised, the north wind whistled, and the great ship slowly started to leave the dock, breaking through the surging waters of the Qiankun River, sailing forward, steering towards the direction of the Grand Canal.

On the nine-story Yellow Dragon Xuanmu Ship, everyone gathered at the railings, climbing high for a distant view.

Li Qingshan accompanied Nurse Momo, sitting on a chair, gazing at the picturesque scenery.

Zhang Ya hugged Li Che's arm, her head resting on it, a smile of contentment playing on her lips.

She wanted to accompany her husband and daughter...

Traversing mountains and rivers, always moving forward.

...

...

Yue Huanglong stood on the wet dock cliff stone, hands behind his back, draped in a Crane Robe, beside him was Yan Jing, the Divine Guard Army Grand Marshal at Qi Sea Peak.

"Finally departed... It's a pity, if not for Lv Taibai personally leading, otherwise, if the Qian Yuan Divine Sect procession were buried at the bottom of the Grand Canal, the future Qi Fortune of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect would surely be weakened by three points."

"I would also find it much easier in Qianyuan Tao City."

Yue Huanglong said with a smile.

Yan Jing's armor clanged nearby, unable to help but turn his head; how could you still speak so benignly while uttering such cruel words?

"Especially the Young Sect Master Li Nuanxi, this girl... her talent is truly astonishing, six years old... condensing the Divine Minister of the Three Pure Ranks, unbelievable, truly unbelievable."

"If she grows up, she will surely be another Lv Taibai!"

Yue Huanglong's smile gradually faded as he exhaled turbid air.

He looked at Yan Jing: "Let the Lynx send out the letter, saying the Qian Yuan Divine Sect procession has already set off, heading north along the Grand Canal."

"The Dragon God Lineage... lost a Dragon Son, that Ao Lie was a Martial Saint level Dragon Son, the heart's desire of that Titled Old Dragon King from the Dragon God Clan, this Old Dragon is naturally infuriated."

"Just as well, the Qian Yuan Divine Sect procession chose the water route this time, that Titled Old Dragon... even Lv Taibai would find it a headache to deal with on the water route."

Yue Huanglong rubbed his chubby hands.

"Prepare, we're going to check out the commotion too..."

"If we can snag something, it would be best, the Qian Yuan Divine Sect has enough pressure with one Lv Taibai, and now there's also Li Nuanxi..."

"Do they intend to leave no room for others to live...?"

"Being a city official is truly difficult."

Yue Huanglong said to Yan Jing.

As the words fell, Crane Robe fluttered, striding towards the Daoist Master Mansion.

...

...

Nine-story Yellow Dragon Xuanmu Ship.

Flying eaves and curving corners, railings swept by the wind.

Li Che embraced Zhang Ya as they stood upon it, his eyes filled with countless lines crisscrossing intricately.

After a long time.

His gaze gradually solidified, withdrawing the unspoken Heaven and Earth chessboard enveloping the dock.

Looking outwards, the river surged, river winds wafted, his jet-black hair fiercely whipped the void.

Li Che's gaze gradually grew cold.

"Yue Huanglong and..."

"Dragon God Clan..."

"Titled Dragon King?"

...

...

Thunder Alley.

In the restaurant, dim yellow light cast shadows.

The boss sat in a chair, legs crossed, holding a cigarette between two fingers, letting the smoke curl and burn.

A cigarette burned to its end.

Wearing white clothes like snow, the boss slowly stood up, dusting off the bits of ash clinging to his clothes.

Stretching, the boss slowly took a step out, exiting the restaurant.

The Big Black Dog immediately followed promptly.

One man, one dog, one dressed in black, the other in white.

They blended into the wind and snow.

The restaurant, illuminated by dim orange light, gradually became transparent, fading away...

In the end, as if it never existed.

Deep in the alley, a lazy voice drifted with the wind and snow.

"No rush."

"Just a Titled Dragon King."

"Gouzi, let's go feast."

...

Chapter 1127: Xi Xi's Dragon Marrow Prison Lotus Bone Strengthening Soup, 3,000-Year-Old West Queen Mother's Peach

The leaden clouds churn, and the snow roars!

The great river surges, rolling waves a thousand folds!

Snowflakes as large as hands drift down from the clouds.

Strange temples abound within Qianyuan Dao City, and even within the Qiankun River, mysterious temples span across, and so, the river's waters never freeze, not even in the harshest winter.

The nine-level Yellow Dragon Xuan Wood flying-eave pavilion treasure ship cuts through the river water, sending waves roaring into the air!

Like a colossal beast, it presses across the river surface, splitting the waters to both sides, with a subtle, invisible shockwave spreading, dividing the river as the treasure ship sails.

The cold river water splashes and rolls, hitting the falling snowflakes mid-air, causing them to explode into fine snow dust, rising up!

Inside the pavilion of the treasure ship, in a spacious cabin room.

The intricately carved wooden windows close one after another, adorned with exquisite patterns, and the interlocking mortise and tenon joints form a roof rich with antiquity.

This room is specifically prepared for Li Che, a place for him to carve wood sculptures.

The room is stocked with many precious spiritual woods, all arranged by the Qian Yuan Divine Sect for Li Che to practice with.

Upon learning that Li Che was heading to the Divine Capital, Gongshu Jingjun began preparations a month earlier, gathering numerous rare spiritual woods, intending for Li Che to fully cultivate his divine sculpture skills during the journey, so that once in the Divine Capital, he could secure the position of Special Class Guest Elder at the Qintian Observatory.

The identity of a Special Class Guest Elder is very unique; one must be at least of a Semi-Saint level from each field to earn it.

However, becoming a Semi-Saint does not automatically grant one the identity of a Special Class Guest Elder.

Every Special Class Guest Elder is decided by the Chief Supervisor of Qintian Observatory headquarters along with two Deputy Inspectors.

As long as one Deputy Inspector disapproves, the quota for Special Class Guest Elder cannot be issued.

However, Li Che is merely going to try his luck, and if he truly becomes a Special Class Guest Elder, it would naturally be a good thing...

It is said that only by becoming a Special Class Guest Elder of the Qintian Observatory does one have the qualification to apply for the Four Imperial Ranks' spiritual wood!

The Qintian Observatory and the Temple Control Bureau, as two top forces under the Da Jing Dynasty, could independently rank at least in the top three Divine Sect levels.

Being official forces with countless resources stacked, backed by the Imperial Court, they are naturally extraordinary.

Not to mention the first Chief of the Temple Control Bureau headquarters and the famed Chief Supervisor with divine calculation skills from Qintian Observatory, just the other two Chiefs of the Temple Control Bureau and the two Deputy Inspectors of Qintian Observatory are already top strongmen of the world.

Take Tie Shancai's father, for example, he is the second Chief within the Temple Control Bureau, akin to Lv Taibai, a strongman listed on both the Great God List and the Heavenly Gate.

The charcoal stove burns quietly within the room, the temperature rises, warm as spring.

The treasure ship sways mildly, but the impact is not significant; for martial artists like Li Che, who can walk on water as if on flat ground, there is naturally no fear of seasickness.

Sitting on the Taishi chair, Li Che fiddles with the engraving knife in his hand, his gaze falling on the Divine Sculpture taken from the jade box before him.

The Divine Sculpture is broken beyond repair, covered in cracks, precisely the past Dharma body of the Grandmaster Huang Mei of the Little Lingyin Temple.

Lv Taibai's Sword Qi was too domineering, cutting this Holy Hand Divine Sculpture into countless pieces, and after taking the wooden sculpture, he spent quite some time extracting his Sword Qi that had eroded the wood sculpture, reassembling it into the Divine Sculpture.

This is why Lv Taibai did not have the Underworld Yama, who heavily injured Huang Mei's past life, take the Divine Sculpture at the first opportunity.

Li Che did not comprehend; the engraving knife twirled dynamically between his fingers, the sound of its whir seemingly slicing the air into shards.

With a snap, the engraving knife was suddenly gripped tightly by Li Che.

A sharp glint surfaced in his eyes.

"Yue Huanglong..."

Through the eavesdropping on the Heaven and Earth chessboard, Li Che heard the conversation between Yue Huanglong and Yan Jing, learning that Yue Huanglong had informed the strongmen of the Dragon God Clan.

In fact, Li Che was not surprised that the Dragon God Clan would come seeking trouble.

After all, the Dragon God Clan had lost a Dragon Maiden and Dragon Son, with one having married Ji Moli as a consort.

Their identity was extremely important to the Dragon God Lineage.

And Dragon Son Ao Lie, being able to become a Martial Saint level Dragon Son, was surely crucial for the Dragon God Lineage.

Due to the innate talent and bloodline of the Dragon God Clan, their physical bodies were innately strong, but breaking through to Martial Saint was by no means easy.

Looking at the Dragon Queen Consort Ao Yuxin, it was known that breaking through to Martial Saint was exceedingly difficult.

Therefore, this Dragon Son Ao Lie...

The loss and fall here naturally caused deep pain to the Dragon God Clan.

Thus, when Yue Huanglong said the Dragon God Clan might come with a Titled Old Dragon King, Li Che also found it quite understandable.

"Titled Dragon King..."

"It should be an existence comparable to an Absolute Peak level, not even a second-tier peak, but equivalent to a first-tier absolute peak like Yue Huanglong and Hong Shifu."

Li Che leaned back on the chair, pondering.

"But a single Titled Dragon King wouldn't suffice... who would dare to stop the treasure ship of Qian Yuan Divine Sect?"

"After all, the Sect Master is stationed for protection..."

Li Che frowned.

He sensed that Yue Huanglong was insidious and treacherous, certainly plotting something.

During this time, Li Che, while reading with Fang Hanshu at his bamboo lodge, also heard descriptions of the tensions between the Da Jing Dynasty and the Divine Sect.

The Dao Master officials dispatched by the Da Jing Dynasty to each Dao City were not randomly chosen; they were all carefully selected by National Master Xie Yushen.

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All adhere to the will of State Preceptor Xie Yushen, suppressing the development of the Divine Sect to prevent the emergence of a supreme Divine Sect like the Equal Heaven Temple that once dominated half the world!

No doubt, it's truly effective.

Not only the Qian Yuan Divine Sect, but within the Eleven Divine Sects, apart from the South Sea Bamboo Forest and the Heavenly Master Dao Purple Mansion, both quite special Divine Sects.

The other Divine Sects have all been somewhat affected.

"Yue Huanglong must have allied with other strong powers... Hunting God Pavilion? Corpse God Cult? Or on Ji Moli's side? Or even Little Lingyin Temple?"

Li Che frowned, counting the forces that held grudges against Xi Xi.

Without counting, it's unknown, but upon careful consideration, one finds quite a few forces with grievances against Xi Xi.

This little girl... does attract enmity.

Unlike her father, honest and forthright, kind to others.

Li Che gently closed his eyes.

In his mind, he couldn't help but recall the image of Da Xixi seen through the wings of a Dream Butterfly.

The next moment, he opened his eyes, overflowing with murderous intent.

The forces that could threaten his daughter...

All must die!

Maybe because he sensed Li Che's intent.

In his chest, each Dao Fruit began to pulse violently.

"Titled Dragon King..."

Li Che's eyes focused.

He lifted his hand and pointed at his brow.

The flesh split apart and spread to both sides, the Star Plucking Pupil shone brilliantly!

Buzz—!!!

The Heaven and Earth chessboard dashed above his head in an instant, swirling above the Nine-layered Yellow Dragon Mysterious Wood Treasure Ship, then suddenly spread out.

Swelling with the wind, covering the heavens and the earth!

A hundred zhang, a thousand zhang!

A hundred li, a thousand li!

Li Che's eyes opened and closed as if sitting in the central Heaven Yuan Position of the chessboard.

Waiting in the lead.

Dragon King.

...

...

Shendu Dao.

Great Scenic Divine Capital.

The power and political center of the Da Jing Dynasty.

Nestled on the earth, covered in ice and snow, yet unable to obscure the splendid light of the Divine Capital reflected in the sky.

The Divine Capital is extraordinarily prosperous, surpassing any Dao City.

The streets crisscross, the long streets paved with bluestone, extremely spacious, even in the weather of flying snow, the flow of people surges, crowded and numerous.

A certain garden, covered in thick white snow falling, the entire garden draped in deep white.

A young man draped in a Crane Robe, elegant and handsome, though with quite a large head, stood in an octagonal pavilion, hands clasped behind, gazing at the snow-reflecting rooftops.

Unknown thoughts and reminiscences filled his mind.

Buzz—

An elderly man in a black robe walked out of the snow, his silver hair flying in the wind.

"Your Highness."

Elder Mo looked at Lu Chi, whose body had grown significantly taller, already gradually showing the royal bloodline.

Lu Chi returned to his senses, looking towards Elder Mo, his face expressionless.

"The Qian Yuan Divine Sect's team for the Flat Peach Victory Meeting has set off, expected to arrive at the Divine Capital in half a month."

"Li Nuanxi is among them."

Elder Mo shared the news he had received with Lu Chi.

He knew Lu Chi had been waiting for this news.

Lu Chi's originally expressionless pupils immediately revealed a slight gleam.

"Have they arrived?"

Lu Chi's eyes lit up, his face's expression melting like ice under the sun, showing a hint of a smile.

"In half a month, they will reach the Divine Capital... finally, I can see this little girl again."

Lu Chi's eyes softened.

But soon, a look of pain appeared on his face.

Thinking of when Xi Xi severed ties with him, his heart felt like it was being cut with a knife.

"It's my fault... all my fault..."

"I wonder if we'll ever have the chance to be good friends again?"

Pain flickered in Lu Chi's eyes.

He slowly exhaled a sigh.

"This huge Divine Capital, though it's where I was born and raised, here... I have no friends."

"Not a single one."

"Everyone wants my life... where would there be any friends?"

Lu Chi murmured.

Elder Mo stood by and lightly sighed.

"Elder Mo, did they set off by water, traveling up the Grand Canal to the Divine Capital?"

Lu Chi asked.

Elder Mo nodded: "Half a month from Lingnan Circuit to the Divine Capital, it could only be by water..."

"Is it safe?"

Lu Chi looked at Elder Mo.

Upon hearing this, Elder Mo paused slightly and hesitated for a moment before saying, "It should be safe... after all, Lv Taibai, a Great God, is personally escorting them."

"However..."

Lv Taibai furrowed his brow: "However what?"

Elder Mo thought for a bit, clasped his fists, and said, "I've received news... someone from the Dragon God Clan, a Titled Dragon King, might be moving to seek justice for the deceased Dragon Son."

"Additionally, from Little Lingyin Temple, Grandmaster Huang Mei has left the Buddhist Pagoda, leading a team escorting the Buddhist child lineup to the Divine Capital, uncertain if they will change course midway to meet with Qian Yuan Divine Sect."

"Furthermore, on King of Quelling Chaos Ji Moli's side, they've also set off for the Divine Capital."

Elder Mo spoke solemnly, sentence by sentence.

Lu Chi, upon hearing this, felt a terrifying oppression akin to rolling black clouds sweeping in, even just from the intelligence reports.

"This time, the Flat Peach Victory Meeting at the Divine Capital... seems like it will be unprecedentedly lively."

Lu Chi murmured.

Elder Mo's silver hair danced, and he said, "This Flat Peach Victory Meeting is not just a victory meeting; the Dajing Eleven Divine Sects, except for South Sea Bamboo Forest and Heavenly Master Dao Purple Mansion, whose sect masters may not attend, the other nine sect master sect will visit in person."

"To discuss the detailed plans for attacking Qi Tian City."

"The Great Supervising Minister deduced that the Mysterious Temple of Equal Heaven Temple is about to resurrect... so they called upon the sect masters of various Divine Sects to clean up the Ten Thousand Demons occupying Qi Tian City before the Mysterious Temple revives."

"And since many sect masters of the Divine Sect came personally, naturally they will attend this Flat Peach Victory Meeting. Upon learning this, the Empress increased the rewards for this Flat Peach Victory Meeting, even taking out the [three thousand years of Queen Mother's Peach] as a reward..."

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"Therefore, in this Flat Peach Victory Meeting, whether it's the Chulong Victory Conference or the Heroic Victory Conference, the competition will be incredibly intense. Besides the Divine Sect Master not wanting to lose face, it's also for the reward of those two [Three Thousand Years of Queen Mother's Peach]..."

Elder Mo said in a deep voice.

Lu Chi took a deep breath, his eyes unconsciously focused.

With strong individuals gathering, there will inevitably be turmoil.

Lu Chi had been paying close attention to the events happening in Qianyuan Dao City.

"Hopefully it won't affect Xi Xi..."

Suddenly, Lu Chi looked at Elder Mo, who seemed hesitant to speak, and slightly frowned: "Elder Mo, is there still some other issue?"

Elder Mo thought for a moment and said, "I received another piece of information, but it's not necessarily reliable."

"Speak." Lu Chi said.

Upon hearing this, Elder Mo did not hesitate any longer: "I've just received word that Lv Taibai's former third direct disciple... might head to the Grand Canal to join forces with the Titled Old Dragon King of the Dragon God Clan to confront the treasure ship of the Qian Yuan Divine Sect."

Lv Taibai's third direct disciple?

Lu Chi was stunned and suddenly thought.

"The one who betrayed Lv Taibai and the Qian Yuan Divine Sect's Sect Master direct disciple?"

Elder Mo nodded, sighing.

"This person... possesses both unparalleled Martial Path and Divine Talent, Innate Martial Saint aptitude, and Heavenly Purple Qi talent. He was once treasured by Lv Taibai, even groomed as the future Young Sect Master, but unfortunately..."

"I don't know why he betrayed Lv Taibai."

"He even turned against Lv Taibai, becoming mortal enemies..."

Lu Chi naturally didn't know the reason behind it.

He could only look a bit displeased.

"As Lv Taibai's former direct disciple, with his understanding of Lv Taibai, if he dares to confront Lv Taibai... it's clear that he has the confidence to deal with Lv Taibai."

"This person has defected to the Corpse God Cult, and his target in facing off against Lv Taibai this time... is likely Li Nuanxi."

The target is Xi Xi?!

Just as Lu Chi wanted to ask more questions.

In the garden, a guard clad in armor had arrived unknown to them, kneeling with fists clasped.

"Your Highness, the noble consort is here."

...

...

Hoo hoo hoo—

On the surface of the vast Grand Canal, the waves surged, churning with delicate ripples!

The enormous Nine-layered Yellow Dragon Mysterious Wood Treasure Ship, after merging into the Grand Canal from the Qiankun River, suddenly increased in speed.

The Grand Canal, with a wider river surface than the Qiankun River, allowed the Yellow Dragon Mysterious Wood Treasure Ship to travel with more abandon.

On the Grand Canal's surface, thick fog rolled like smooth sandalwood, hanging a clear stream, occasionally gathering into misty bands, drifting above.

The snow in the sky seemed to melt, turning into bean-sized raindrops, tearing through the air in a flash, pouring onto the Grand Canal's surface, the sound of the downpour echoing unceasingly, crackling and splashing countless droplets on the river.

The water droplets landed on the deck of the Yellow Dragon Mysterious Wood Treasure Ship, as if water droplets falling on a hot pot, bouncing continuously.

On deck were only crew members wearing conical hats and raincoats, pulling ropes, running back and forth.

Inside the carved and painted houses, the curtains were gently stirred by the wind.

Li Che sat on a chair, the hem of his dark robe continually fluttering upward.

After a long while, he exhaled a stream of air, slowly opening his eyes.

"Five days have passed... why hasn't anything happened?"

"Where is the Titled Old Dragon King?"

"We've waited so long for nothing... our flowers have withered..."

Li Che leaned back in the chair, muttering.

Waiting for a Dragon King, waiting for emptiness...

Li Che had sensed the presence of Yue Huanglong and Yan Jing, who had followed along the way, and when the treasure ship merged into the Grand Canal, Yue Huanglong and Yan Jing's figures clearly paused for a moment, ultimately deciding to follow along.

It seemed they were also waiting for the Dragon King, wanting to watch the spectacle.

As a result...

The ship had sailed into the Grand Canal, and the Dragon King still hadn't appeared.

It seemed both they and Li Che had been stood up by the Old Dragon King.

Even Li Che found it strange.

"This Old Dragon King... could he be brewing something big?"

Li Che's expression became extremely serious.

The Heaven and Earth chessboard continued to expand, maintaining a range of a thousand miles, which was the maximum range Li Che could extend under the strain on his psyche.

Compared to the past, it had naturally grown, but the consumption was also greater than before.

However, the present Li Che, possessing the Primordial Spirit of Fetal Breath Transformation, his cultivation was incomparable to before.

The Heaven and Earth chessboard soared into the clouds, its network expanding, spanning the connections, weaving through the sky!

Cloaking the scene around the solitary Grand Canal, "fishing alone in cold river snow" in all of its isolation and vast landscape.

Hmm?!

Suddenly, Li Che squinted his eyes and paused slightly.

Only to feel the range perceived by the Heaven and Earth chessboard, about eight hundred miles north along the canal, where an invisible threat was spilling down from the Heaven and Earth chessboard, as if the bank of the Tianhe was breached, the water gushing, causing the mountain forests, insects, birds, and beasts to fall silent.

Threat...

Such intense threat?!

Li Che stood up from the chair, ended his cultivation for the day, and at this moment, slowly strolled out of the room, walked to the railing of the Yellow Dragon Mysterious Wood Treasure Ship.

Watching the pouring rain cascading down, the vast winter rain, causing the Grand Canal's river to growl and agitate!

It was as if someone deliberately altered the weather, bringing a torrential downpour.

Even for Divine Fetus Practitioners, with extremely powerful Heaven and Earth Souls, they could still be affected by perception.

This torrential rain's appearance was intended to affect the perception of the Divine Fetus Heaven and Earth Soul.

However, this impact was negligible for Li Che.

After all, Li Che used the Heaven and Earth chessboard for perception, not the Heaven and Earth Soul.

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Under the perception of the Heaven and Earth chessboard, the murderous intent eight hundred miles away is completely unable to hide.

Thick death qi and corpse qi almost transformed into an evil flood dragon coiling atop the chessboard, surging and sweeping over those figures.

Li Che felt the water vapor spreading over him, listening to the thunderous sound of the heavy rain beating on the deck.

He slowly exhaled a breath.

"Corpse God Cult..."

He sensed the terrifying yet familiar aura fed back by the Heaven and Earth chessboard.

For Li Che, the aura of the Corpse God Cult's evil people was something extremely familiar.

"It's you again..."

"Truly a restless apparition, not afraid to be killed, huh!"

Li Che's voice became incomparably cold.

"In confrontation with Ji Mo Li, the Corpse God Cult surprisingly dispatched so many strong individuals to appear by the Grand Canal."

"The Corpse God Cult can orchestrate such a grand movement away from Jizhou..."

Li Che squinted his eyes.

"King of Quelling Chaos, Ji Mo Li..."

"Are you eating shit?"

Li Che even seriously suspected, is this Ji Mo Li... colluding with the Corpse God Cult?

Otherwise, as the King of Quelling Chaos, as the most powerful vassal king of the Da Jing Dynasty, how could he let the evil people of the Corpse God Cult act so easily?

No pressure at all?

What sort of King of Quelling Chaos are you then?

At least, from the frequently appearing situation of the Corpse God Cult's evil people, Li Che felt...

Ji Mo Li...

Certainly has issues.

Leaning on the railing to watch the rain, the world was silent, leaving only the roaring sound of the heavy rain.

Li Che clasped his hands behind his back and turned to leave.

He arrived at the lounge hall.

The hall was bustling, as due to the rain drenching the deck, children could only gather in the lounge to play.

Li Che immediately noticed Xi Xi, slightly stunned.

Yet he found Xi Xi frowning, racking her brains, engaged in a match with the equally tense Supervisor Hong Shifu.

One takes a piece, then the other, both seemed equally matched and inseparable in the battle.

Hong Shifu did not stay at the Dao City Imperial Heavenly Observatory, but followed the team to the Divine Capital.

And ever since Hong Shifu had a Go game with Xi Xi, after a fierce draw, he had been obsessed, seeking Xi Xi to play chess every day.

"Dad!"

Xi Xi, tilting her head and racking her brains, saw Li Che, her eyes suddenly brightened. She hurriedly stood up and waved, her protruding little belly accidentally knocking over the chessboard, scattering the arranged pieces all over the floor.

"Oh no, the chessboard fell! Emperor Xi Xi was about to win, what a pity. Let's start over, let's start over!"

Xi Xi exclaimed instantly, with a look of regret on her face.

Hong Shifu was so angry his beard was trembling, pointing his finger at Xi Xi, the finger quivering up and down.

His "Four-in-a-row," his "Double Dragon Playing Pearl," all ruined, all ruined!

This little girl...

Turns out she was a match for me in chess!

Even the way she flips the board is so similar!

Yet, Hong Shifu genuinely felt the suffocating feeling others had when playing chess against him.

Li Che smirked, walked over, and ruffled Xi Xi's hair.

"Don't bully Supervisor Hong, it's enough already."

Li Che said with a smile.

Xi Xi immediately grinned brightly, hands on hips: "Oh! Got it."

Hong Shifu immediately puffed his cheeks and said angrily: "Li Che, you brat, what nonsense are you talking? How could I be bullied by this little girl!"

"Come on! Little girl, you and I shall battle for three hundred more rounds! Whoever loses won't get dinner tonight!"

Hong Shifu shouted, calling Xi Xi to start another game of Go.

"Hmph! Bring it on, Emperor Xi Xi will leave you in ruins!"

Xi Xi was also filled with fighting spirit.

Li Che reached out to ruffle Xi Xi's hair.

Within his chest, the [Chess Saint] Dao Fruit trembled slightly. The next moment, it was as if a warm current flowed into Xi Xi's body.

The Chess Saint Dao Fruit, being called the Chess Saint...

Could not merely possess the role of Master Go-chess Saint.

Li Che had a meaningful smile, glanced pityingly at Hong Shifu, then walked towards Lv Taibai's room.

After Li Che left.

Xi Xi, filled with fighting spirit, began another game with Hong Shifu.

Her chubby little hand delved into the chess box, and the original chicken claw grip slightly changed...

The thumb and forefinger automatically and elegantly pinched a chess piece, passing horizontally in front of her eyes, then with a snap, placed it firmly at the center, imposing as heaven falling!

Xi Xi's eyes brightened, here it comes! This is the feeling...

Oh, the hands have their own thoughts!

Hong Shifu's face became stern, being battle-hardened.

Immediately sensing a mountain-like oppressive feeling.

He glanced at the chess pieces in the box, seeming to tremble slightly!

Facing this little girl Xi Xi...

It was as if facing the Chess Saint of the current dynasty?!

Oh, damn!

...

...

Li Che saw Lv Taibai who was wiping the Taibai Sword.

It seems Lv Taibai also knew that this treasure ship running on the Grand Canal couldn't be very safe, already preparing the sword, waiting to draw it.

"This time... the Taibai Sword might truly be stained with blood."

Lv Taibai, head lowered and focused on wiping, did not look at Li Che, yet he spoke, and obviously this was said to Li Che.

"Hell's message came... eight hundred miles away, the evil people of the Corpse God Cult are waiting, the formation is not weak, based on the concentration of death qi and corpse qi... stronger than the formation hidden outside Divine Carving Ridge within the Corpse God Realm before."

Li Che said solemnly.

In front of Lv Taibai, Li Che basically didn't put on any facade.

Lv Taibai raised his head, his eyes flickering deeply: "Eight hundred miles away?"

Such a distance, can Hell really detect clearly?