

A Father 921

Chapter 921: Emotions and 6 Desires Forging 15 Golden Cores, I Am the King Hunter Killer (4)

Two main Golden Cores took shape, entwined with black and white energy—one black, one white—suspended within Li Che's Inner Scene of the Energy Center.

Numerous Temple God Avatars trembled continuously under the terrifying aura of the two Golden Cores.

The next three days passed.

Li Che wholeheartedly focused on condensing the Seven Emotions Golden Core and the Six Desires Golden Core.

Regretfully, his idea of having one divinity for each Golden Core and drawing one tribulation thunder for each could not be realized.

When the Seven Emotions God Phase condensed seven Divine Golden Pills, only then did Li Che feel the power of tribulation thunder.

As the Six Desires God Phase condensed six Divine Golden Pills, Li Che similarly sensed the force of tribulation thunder.

[Dao Fruit: Lei-Ci Dao Body (lv2, 60%)]

Li Che's gaze slowly withdrew from the Lei-Ci Dao Body notification.

Heat surged across his entire body; immense divine fluctuations spilled outward.

Qianyuan Taoist City.

Thunder Alley, a secluded courtyard workshop.

The warm spring rain drizzled lightly across the skies, pattering onto black tiles, creating crisp sounds upon the Qiu Ping.

The light gradually dimmed; behind the stacked layers of clouds, the bright glow faded steadily and lost its brilliance.

Seated cross-legged in the courtyard, Li Che slowly opened his eyes, his brow Niwan faintly glowing.

He exhaled a long breath.

Standing up, his Primordial Spirit trembled.

In an instant, an enormous golden Divine Monkey rose, pounding its chest as it stood. An overwhelming Divine Majesty swept out endlessly, shaking the void.

"Golden Body Transformation!"

A smile graced Li Che's lips.

Because he had previously condensed his Primordial Spirit, upon stepping into the Divine Origin Realm, he directly skipped the Primordial Spirit Shedding Realm and advanced to the Golden Body Transformation...

This saved him a considerable amount of time.

Within the Inner Scene.

The Golden Cores floated like stars; the Ape God Golden Core radiated brilliantly, surrounded by seven smaller Seven Emotions Golden Cores, orbiting around it.

Like planets racing around a sun!

On the other side, the Lv Xuan Sword Immortal Golden Core mirrored this, pulling six Six Desires Golden Cores into orbit around itself.

Forming a distinctive charm!

Stretching with a languid twist, his entire body crackled with a symphony of popping sounds. These days had been spent immersed in divine transformations.

Having neglected the martial path slightly, he pulled out a Golden Core and swallowed it whole. Qi-Blood erupted, its vitality saturating the courtyard amidst the dripping spring rain, beginning to refine the Divine Seed.

After training for quite some time, the night fully descended, and Li Che finally ended his cultivation.

Changing into a neat and refreshed black Mo Shan robe, Li Che strolled through the spring rain, leaving the courtyard behind.

He walked along the rain-soaked alley, reaching its end. Though night had fallen deeply, the faint yellow light of a small restaurant flickered amidst the rain.

The Big Black Dog, last seen shrinking into a puppy to help Xi Xi charge through the Temple Suppressing Road, had returned to its languid demeanor, lazily sprawled at the restaurant's entrance.

Upon seeing Li Che, a trace of disappointment flashed in the dog's eyes. It snorted disdainfully through its nose, turned its head, and refused to make eye contact.

Li Che glanced at the Big Black Dog, the corner of his lips curving into a smile, his eyes gleaming with wit.

"Boss, pack some dishes for me. I'll take them to Xi Xi to eat."

Li Che said.

These past days had been consumed by cultivation. After all, breaking through to the Shen Yuan Golden Elixir had taken some effort.

Divine Talent, unlike the martial path, wasn't as effortless.

The white-robed restaurant owner, seated by the entrance with a cigarette between his lips and legs crossed, initially remained indifferent to Li Che's arrival. However, upon hearing his request, he extinguished the cigarette and headed into the kitchen.

Li Che was long accustomed to such double standards.

What's wrong with a father basking in his daughter's glow?!

After receiving the packed dishes and storing them in his Qiankun Jade, Li Che smiled as he exited the restaurant.

Passing by the Big Black Dog, Li Che suddenly stomped hard.

As if a serene droplet fell into the still darkness of endless black waters, waves of rippling brilliance spread outward.

Buzz—

Tong You!

Everything around him transformed instantly; Li Che slipped into the Netherworld.

To Li Che's mild surprise, the restaurant's yellow light remained unchanged, neither decayed nor tarnished by the Netherworld's eerie shift.

Unlike his courtyard.

Yet Li Che paid no mind to such details. He crouched beside the Big Black Dog, chuckled wickedly, spread his hand wide, and aggressively ruffled the dog's head!

"Woof—!!!"

The dog's bark exploded, shattering the countless spring rain droplets into a misty spray!

Who?

Who dared sneak attack Lord Dog?!

"Hahaha!"

Li Che was utterly delighted.

Watching the furious Big Black Dog glare around furiously, unable to spot its assailant, filled Li Che with endless joy.

Of course, he didn't push his luck too far. Standing up, he cast a glance at the restaurant owner, who sat cross-legged in his chair staring blankly into space, smiled faintly, and departed the Netherworld.

However...

Li Che was unaware...

That the restaurant owner's eyes subtly shifted, faintly following the direction of his disappearing figure.

...

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Li Che returned to the Divine Sect Mountain Gate.

Accompanied by Zhang Ya, now an Outer Door Honored Elder, he opened an oil-paper umbrella and strolled down the rain-damp paths amidst the fresh scent of spring.

The stone trails glistened with rainwater, the moss vibrant and green.

Zhang Ya chatted happily, holding Li Che's arm. "Husband, did you hear? Xi Xi has apparently been ranked third on Hunting God Pavilion's bounty list

"So many assassins from Hunting God Pavilion seem to have gone mad, targeting Xi Xi, wanting to kill her for the reward."

Admiring the mountain scenery, Zhang Ya's mood suddenly grew heavy.

"Which is precisely why we're not bringing Xi Xi back home. Leaving her by the Sect Master's side is the safest option."

Li Che said softly, and Zhang Ya gently nodded in agreement.

Her single "Mm" clearly conveyed her low spirits, a touch of unhappiness.

Chapter 922: Emotions and 6 Desires Forging 15 Golden Cores, I Am the King Hunter Killer (5)

Li Che comforted Zhang Ya with a few words and promised to bring her to Sect Master Taibai Peak more often to see Xi Xi.

Taibai Peak stood opposite the Four Royal Mysterious Temple, which housed the Three-Eyed Saint Manifestation True Monarch.

They were like two upright fingers separated by an invisible chasm.

Through the lingering clouds and mist, one could even catch sight of the blooming spring plum blossoms surrounding the Mysterious Temple.

As soon as they arrived at Taibai Peak,

A streak of sword light erupted and rampaged across the sky, suffused with scorching heat that instantly evaporated the falling rain.

Xi Xi gripped a blazing long sword tightly, as if a white lotus blossomed around her, radiating intense heat and distorting the air!

Prison Lotus Yang Divine Sword!

Li Che's gaze instantly fell upon the Yang Divine Sword in Xi Xi's hand.

The Prison Lotus Yin Divine Sword suppressed within the Heaven and Earth chessboard trembled ceaselessly, as if trying to escape the chessboard to reunite with the Yang Divine Sword.

However, Li Che mercilessly suppressed it.

He planned to give the Yin Divine Sword to Xi Xi later; now was not the right time.

Xi Xi already had too many divine weapons...

Lv Taibai was not far from Xi Xi, clad in white robes, silver hair flowing freely, his gaze gentle as water, guiding Xi Xi's sword techniques.

"Daddy, Mommy—!!!"

Xi Xi spotted Li Che and immediately exclaimed excitedly and loudly.

Jin Taixui quietly stood off in the distance, behaving obediently.

Since he had agreed to serve as Xi Xi's attendant, he kept his word. In this regard, Jin Taixui was far more reliable than Ji Haihui.

Lv Taibai glanced over, his eyes slightly narrowing, seemingly sensing a change in the divine aura emanating from Li Che.

His gaze lingered meaningfully on Li Che.

Even though Li Che had methods to conceal his aura, Lv Taibai, ranked third on the Great God List, possessed an immensely powerful Heaven and Earth Soul. His sensitivity to divinity was unparalleled, allowing him to perceive Li Che's transformation in an instant.

A hint of surprise flickered in his eyes.

"Little Jinzi, catch the sword!"

Xi Xi turned to glance at Jin Taixui and casually tossed the Prison Lotus Yang Divine Sword to him.

Jin Taixui hurriedly caught it, his mouth twitching involuntarily.

This girl... She's really carefree.

This is a Four Royal Divine Weapon, and she just throws it like that?

But Jin Taixui kept his thoughts to himself. He had fully embraced his role.

After tossing the sword, Xi Xi sped towards Li Che at full tilt, her feet thumping like hoofbeats.

Leaping forward like a missile, she launched herself directly at him.

Li Che caught her effortlessly by the scruff of her collar, as though her wings were spread wide, her pudgy little belly wobbling...

She looked like a tiny flying pig.

Li Che handed Xi Xi over to Zhang Ya and mentioned that he had packed food from the restaurant to eat together.

Xi Xi's eyes lit up instantly.

Li Che called Lv Taibai over to join them.

Lv Taibai chuckled softly and didn't refuse. The group settled down at the stone table in the gazebo.

"Didn't you make a bet with my wife? Tomorrow is the final deadline, isn't it? My wife is very meticulous; since you made a bet with her, she will never forget it. Giving up now is not an option."

Lv Taibai remarked casually while eating.

The flavor of the dishes made Lv Taibai's eyes light up slightly.

For someone of his cultivation level, it was rare to find food that could truly tantalize the taste buds.

Li Che smiled faintly: "I've already prepared. Tomorrow... we'll know the result."

"If my wife loses, Sect Master, you must comfort her well

Lv Taibai looked at the confident Li Che and burst into laughter.

Divine Sculpture Half-Saint... It's not an achievement that comes easily.

Lv Taibai didn't quite understand where Li Che's confidence stemmed from.

Nonetheless, if Li Che could achieve Divine Sculpture Half-Saint, it would be excellent news for the Qian Yuan Divine Sect.

"Sect Master, did you hear? Hunting God Pavilion raised Xi Xi's bounty to third place on the bounty list... Are you aware of this?"

Li Che poured a cup of fine wine, pilfered from Yellow Sword Wine, for Lv Taibai.

Lv Taibai held the wine cup, gently swirling its contents.

"I've heard... Hunting God Pavilion's Hunter King-level killers have set their sights on Xi Xi."

Li Che's expression grew incomparably heavy.

He needed to probe Lv Taibai to assess the extent of the threat posed by Hunting God Pavilion.

Lv Taibai paused for a moment, then downed his drink, an odd smile appearing as he said, "Who told you that Hunter King-level killers are targeting Xi Xi?"

Li Che hesitated, mentioning it was just circulating rumors.

Lv Taibai cast a deep glance at Li Che.

He shook his head lightly.

"Rest assured, I haven't heard of any Hunter King-level killers targeting Xi Xi

Lv Taibai's tone was resolute.

Li Che was momentarily stunned.

So confident?

Being overly confident wasn't good; if something happened to Xi Xi, it'd be too late for regrets.

According to the intelligence gathered by Li Qingshan, Hunter King killers... were beings at the Divine Embryo Fourth Divine Transformation or Martial Saint Four Open Realms.

Such individuals...

If they chose to take action, even Lv Taibai might find himself in trouble if he slipped up.

"Relax... Unless Hunter King killers from other Dao Cities infiltrate Qian Yuan, no Hunter King killers from Qian Yuan will target Xi Xi."

Lv Taibai set the wine cup down.

His silver hair fluttered as he looked at Li Che.

A sound transmission echoed in Li Che's ears.

"Because... the Hunter King killer in Qian Yuan,"

"Is me."

Chapter 923: Who Says We Can't Live for 10,000 Years, Carving 10,000 Mortal Wood Sculptures for a Pilgrimage to a Saint

Hunter King Killer...

It's actually you?!

Li Che froze mid-motion, his expression transforming into one of sheer incredulity, so much so that he didn't even know what to say.

Lv Taibai's voice transmitted directly into his ear, audible only to Li Che, revealing Lv Taibai's dual identity.

No wonder the Sect Master was so confident, claiming that a Hunter King-level killer wouldn't harm Xi Xi.

Li Che couldn't help but feel a mix of frustration and amusement.

Li Che didn't know much about the Hunting God Pavilion, only that it was filled with assassins and operated as a force driven by profit above all else.

As long as the price was right and the offered interests could win over an assassin, even a Star Constellation Assassin comparable to a Martial Saint Divine Embryo could be lured into action.

Like in the case of the Yellow Sword Wine incident, where one's entire fortune was used to hire a Star Constellation Assassin to block Su Daoling, the Divine Talisman Half-Saint of the Su Family.

The assassin, having accepted the resources, indeed performed their task with genuine resolve, effectively stopping Su Daoling.

Otherwise, when a Divine Fetus Practitioner returned at that time, Yellow Sword Wine wouldn't have been able to unleash such carnage. Even if they'd ultimately broken through with their sword as a Martial Saint, it would've been hard to kill Su Wenxi.

Lv Taibai looked at Li Che with a faintly amused expression, poured himself a cup of wine, and took a sip.

"The Hunting God Pavilion is structured quite interestingly. They have killers they've trained internally as well as outsiders they've invited to join... After all, people will always want to earn resources. The higher one's cultivation, the harder it is to find what they need—and even if found, the cost is immense."

"The Hunting God Pavilion offers a convenient solution: complete the employer's mission and earn the resources you need upon task completion. Very straightforward."

Lv Taibai explained.

"Under normal circumstances, a Dao City would not have more than two Hunter King-level killers. Inviting powerhouses to become Hunter King-level killers requires substantial resources—even if the Hunter King killer doesn't do anything, they'd still receive guaranteed income."

Lv Taibai transmitted further explanation to Li Che.

Perhaps to ease his concern, Lv Taibai elaborated on Hunter King-level killers.

"Hence, unless a Hunter King killer from another Dao City enters Qianyuan Dao City, there won't be a situation of a Hunter King killer targeting Xi Xi."

"Besides, the third-ranking bounty... it's not even worth considering."

Lv Taibai chuckled as he transmitted his thoughts.

"Huh? A Four Imperial Divine Crystal isn't tempting enough?" Li Che gasped in surprise.

"If it were a Four Imperial High Grade Divine Crystal, that might indeed move a Hunter King-level killer to act... But a Four Imperial Low Grade Divine Crystal? Hardly sufficient."

Lv Taibai's tone remained composed, showing little regard for the Four Imperial Low Grade Divine Crystal.

Li Che was silently contemplative—indeed, strength truly shaped one's perspectives.

"Hunting God Pavilion assassins have minimal contact with each other; they are rather indifferent to one another. I, as a Hunter King killer, may not act, but that doesn't mean other Star Constellation killers won't."

"Though I may hold the title of Hunter King Killer, I am not the Pavilion Master of the Hunting God Pavilion. In fact, not even the Pavilion Master of the Hunting God Pavilion can completely restrain these killers."

"While the overall strength of the Hunting God Pavilion is indeed formidable, it is, in truth, nothing to fear."

"The Pavilion Master in Qianyuan Dao City is certainly strong and incredibly enigmatic—his real identity remains shrouded in mystery to this day."

Finishing his cup of wine and smacking his lips, Lv Taibai continued to transmit his thoughts.

"Sect Master... If a Hunting God Pavilion assassin targets someone and I accidentally kill them... Would it affect your standing?"

Li Che hurriedly poured wine for him.

Lv Taibai: "Kill. Kill freely. It's entirely up to you

"Assassins don't know each other's real identities; they're all complete strangers."

"The Star Constellation Assassins' Star Mask is crafted by the Pavilion Master of the Hunting God Pavilion. It alters one's aura, conceals their presence—even I cannot decipher it."

"Hence, there's no trust among the assassins. One moment they might be allies, but the next they could stab you in the back."

"If you can kill them, feel free to do so."

"Becoming an assassin means being ready to accept the inevitability of death."

Lv Taibai spoke calmly, "Perhaps one day, I too will meet my end during a mission."

"Hunter King

"So-called Hunter King... What do you think it truly means?"

The indifference in his voice carried a faint tinge of life's fragility.

Li Che's body flinched.

Hunter King... Could it be that their ultimate purpose is to hunt figures such as Vassal Kings of the Great Vista?

Could the Pavilion Master—or even the Master—of the Hunting God Pavilion...

Be professional rebels?!

Li Che's eyes flickered with intrigue, his mind subtly shaken—it seemed... rather fascinating.

"What? Interested? Want me to refer you into the Hunting God Pavilion as an assassin for fun? It could be a good way to relax and earn some extra cash." Lv Taibai glanced at Li Che, transmitting his suggestion.

A dignified Hunter King-level killer would find it easy to refer an assassin.

"Forget it, forget it. I'm just a minor Qi-Blood Grandmaster, my divinity only barely at Divine Minister level. I lack experience in combat... I'm afraid I'd just get counter-killed."

Li Che smiled and declined.

Lv Taibai stared at Li Che with a faint smirk...

An innocent Divine Sculpture Master?

Who'd believe that?

Lv Taibai certainly didn't. He speculated that Li Che must have some ties to the Earthly Hell's Evil—given their unrelenting killing spree tendencies, how could Li Che be anything remotely harmless?

"Don't worry, Xi Xi is safe with me... Even if Hunter King killers from another Dao City come, I can still handle them."

Lv Taibai didn't insist further; he smiled confidently as he spoke.

With Lv Taibai and Sect Master's Wife Xuan Qisha, the Divine Talisman Half-Saint, forming the strongest couple protecting Xi Xi, Li Che's heart was indeed put at ease.

"Then I leave Xi Xi in your capable hands, Sect Master." Li Che said with a smile, this time speaking aloud instead of transmitting.

Lv Taibai savored his food and wine, clearly in high spirits.

Chapter 924: Who Says We Can't Live for 10,000 Years, Carving 10,000 Mortal Wood Statues to Worship the Saint (2)

After finishing the meal, Li Che and Zhang Ya stayed to chat and play with Xi Xi for a while, then bade farewell and left.

"Daddy, Mommy, don't worry, Xi Xi will grow strong, very strong! I'll protect you in the future!"

Xi Xi watched as Li Che and Zhang Ya, holding oiled paper umbrellas, turned and walked down the mountain path.

With her hands on her hips and her little belly puffed out, she shouted loudly.

Spring rain poured down, filling the scene with colorful blooms and vibrant greenery.

Li Che and Zhang Ya turned back, looking at Xi Xi, offering a warm smile and waving goodbye.

Jin Taixui stood beside Xi Xi, holding an oiled paper umbrella for her, feeling a bit dazed.

As a child, he had been abandoned by his parents at Wushen Mountain, then cast into the Strange Temple for training...

He never knew what familial love was.

Following behind Xi Xi, he seemed to witness many things he had never experienced before.

Parents like Zhang Ya and Li Che... Xi Xi was truly lucky.

Deep down, Jin Taixui felt envious.

Xi Xi stood on her tiptoes, watching her parents' figures disappear into the misty, rain-filled mountain path. She exhaled a long breath and patted her proudly puffed chest.

"Come on, Emperor Xi Xi!"

"Little Jinzi, let's go! Keep training! We must work hard today!"

Xi Xi turned and began walking in small, determined steps.

Jin Taixui froze for a moment upon hearing her: "Um, uh... alright."

Xi Xi returned to Daping and resumed grasping the Prison Lotus Yang Divine Sword under Lu Taibai's guidance, continuing to practice Lu Taibai's direct swordsmanship teachings.

Emperor Xi Xi is working hard!

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Li Che and Zhang Ya strolled leisurely along the rain-filled mountain path, taking in the scenery within the Qian Yuan Divine Sect Mountain Gate.

Occasionally, one could spot Strange Temples accenting the woods, with scattered Divine Sect disciples preparing outside the temples, seemingly ready to venture into Strange Que.

"Elder Li."

Disciples, seeing Li Che from afar, greeted and saluted him with respect and enthusiasm.

Li Che was an esteemed Elder of Divine Carving Ridge, a position even more beloved than an Inner Sect Elder. After all, Divine Sculpture insight was essential to their cultivation.

Li Che nodded warmly, returning their greetings, then continued his stroll with Zhang Ya.

Occasionally walking in the rain with his wife, enjoying the fresh air and the beauty of nature, was quite delightful.

All along the way, Zhang Ya held onto Li Che's arm tightly, even resting her cheek against his arm. From time to time, she raised her head, gazing up at her husband with glowing eyes.

"Darling, let's always be like this, growing old together. When we're old, we can still stroll through these Divine Sect mountains, watching the rain fall, the flowers bloom, and the mist rise!"

"Alright."

Li Che replied with a smile.

"Then promise me, let's pinky swear!" Zhang Ya's large eyes sparkled, as she tucked back strands of slightly damp hair clinging to her forehead, speaking earnestly.

"Why are you acting like Xi Xi, childishly insisting on a pinky swear..." Li Che chuckled but did not refuse.

He extended his hand, linking his pinky finger with Zhang Ya's delicate one.

In the midst of the blooming mountains, the spring rain seemed to rejoice.

The couple gently shook their pinky-linked hands.

"Pinky swear, a hundred years... no, ten thousand years, no breaking the promise!"

Li Che's voice was tender.

Zhang Ya pursed her lips, then chuckled softly.

"Darling, you're so silly. Who can live for ten thousand years..."

Li Che extended his hand, slender fingers catching a single raindrop.

His gaze grew profound, gradually wandering.

"Who says... no one can live for ten thousand years?"

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Back at the Elder Court in Disciple City.

Zhang Ya immediately hurried off to Jiao Shaoqiu's courtyard; she, too, wanted to work hard on her cultivation.

After all, Zhang Ya understood very well the talent her daughter Xi Xi and her husband Li Che possessed. If she couldn't keep up with them, she would only age and be left behind.

She longed to continue strolling through the mountains with her husband, admiring the flowers and rain together. But that opportunity would vanish if she lagged behind...

If her lack of effort meant her husband had to stroll the mountains embracing another woman, taking in the splendor of mist-filled beauty...

The mere thought of it ignited Zhang Ya's fighting spirit, her eyes practically ablaze!

She, Zhang Ya, must work hard!

"Elder Jiao, please guide me in cultivation!"

Zhang Ya stood stiffly, like a wooden pole bent at a ninety-degree angle, catching the startled gaze of Jiao Shaoqiu, who was sitting under the eaves, instructing children in the courtyard.

Soon, Jiao Shaoqiu stroked his beard with a chuckle, understanding Zhang Ya's intentions.

"Alright, from now on, you'll join the children in their cultivation."

Although Zhang Ya held the title of Outer Door Honored Elder, it was merely nominal, granting her perks because of her daughter's talent. In truth, Zhang Ya's own cultivation level wasn't impressive.

Jiao Shaoqiu teaching Zhang Ya was more than sufficient.

"Then... I'll trouble Elder Jiao." Li Che cupped his hands in a salute, with his Mo Shan robes fluttering gently, smiling warmly.

Jiao Shaoqiu stroked his beard, chuckling: "What trouble is this... Xi Xi is beyond my ability to instruct now. Teaching her mother is just as good."

"Ha ha ha ha, unfortunately, with your Divine Sculpture skills alone, you could reap rich rewards. I truly have nothing to teach you anymore."

Jiao Shaoqiu and Li Che chatted leisurely in the courtyard for a while.

"I hear tomorrow is the final deadline for your wager with the Sect Master's Wife. Are you confident?"
Jiao Shaoqiu asked as he watched Li Che pour water into a tea pot on the charcoal stove.

"Trying isn't a loss."

"The wager between me and the Sect Master's Wife wasn't overly demanding to begin with."

"The Sect Master's Wife is also Xi Xi's teacher. Even if I lose, sculpting some Divine Wood Carvings for her would just be practice—a small cost."

"But if I win, the impact could be entirely different."

A warm smile played at the corners of Li Che's lips, soothing like a spring breeze.

Chapter 925: Who Says We Can't Live for 10000 Years, Carving Mortal Wood 10000 Times to Worship the Saint (3)

Jiao Shaoqiu naturally understood the meaning in Li Che's words; the Qian Yuan Divine Sect had lacked a Divine Sculpture Half-Saint for far too long, and its divine sculpture trade had already been completely suppressed by Little Lingyin Temple on Xiling Road.

If a new Divine Sculpture Half-Saint emerged, they could finally catch their breath for a moment.

Looking at the refined and gentle Li Che, Jiao Shaoqiu felt an overwhelming sense of admiration. No wonder such an unparalleled, talented Divine Child like Xi Xi could be born—this young man Li Che grew more extraordinary the more one observed him.

After watching Zhang Ya diligently practice martial arts for a while, Li Che bid farewell and left.

He left Nie Yang behind and strolled away alone under his umbrella.

Returning to the Elder Court, Li Qingshan was accompanying Nurse Momo, enjoying the warm and lively spring rain under the eaves.

After greeting the two, Li Che slipped into his study.

He clenched his five fingers.

Li Che's figure flickered as he teleported, and reappeared in his independent workshop in Thunder Alley.

Spring rain fluttered down, water droplets merged into strands.

They fell from the towering skies like arrows, but before they could touch the yard, they were instantly evaporated by the scorching Qi-Blood, transforming into rolling white mist!

The moist courtyard became a sea of swirling white fog.

"Hoo"

"Hah"

Each inhale and exhale was like a giant whale feeding, like the divine and sacred exchanging breaths.

The white mist surged and swayed throughout the courtyard, rising and falling like waves crashing against the shore.

A powerful divine aura slowly began to emanate, filling every corner of the yard.

"Fifteen Golden Cores..."

"Seven Emotions and Six Desires, Law of Heaven and Earth, Pure Yang Evil Extermination!"

Li Che's eyes opened and closed, brilliance flickering within his gaze.

The Heaven and Earth Spirit Bright True Ape Method, a Three Pure Golden Core Method, condensed the most majestic Golden Cores, exuding the strongest energy and rank suppression.

Next were the Four Imperial Techniques and the Six Desires Evil Extermination Sword Immortal Pure Yang Method, which cultivated Golden Cores of a slightly weaker caliber.

The Four Imperial Golden Cores were, overall, weaker than the Three Pure Golden Cores.

Seven Emotions Golden Cores revolved around the Heaven and Earth Law, while Six Desires Golden Cores encircled the Pure Yang Golden Cores like six Divine Blades!

Immensely extraordinary and profoundly mystical.

They spiraled with unparalleled elegance, as though hiding miniature universes within.

"My Golden Cores... are unlike those of ordinary divine cultivators. Even if compared to Golden Cores refined through Fetal Breath Transformation, mine would still stand superior."

"Actually, at this point... I can essentially be considered a Divine Fetus."

"Although my Primordial Spirit has yet to transform into a Divine Fetus Practitioner's Heaven and Earth Soul, unable to wield Heaven and Earth's Power for myself, and my Golden Cores have not yet broken through to condense a Divine Transformation True Fetus, the quality of my divinity falls slightly short..."

"But with my sheer number of Golden Cores, what I lack in quality, I more than make up for with quantity... Furthermore, with the combined Three Pure and Four Imperial Golden Cores, alongside the overlapping Seven Emotions and Six Desires Golden Cores, each one flawless and complete... They function like a Divine Talisman Array."

"And though I lack the Heaven and Earth Soul, and my rank suppression is below that of a Divine Fetus, my fifteen Golden Cores simultaneously unleashing suppression, coupled with the augmentative condensation of the Heaven and Earth chessboard...!"

An unconventional Divine Fetus...

Li Che felt that he barely fit the bill.

"As for Divine Secret Techniques..."

Li Che's gaze brightened; for a Divine Fetus Practitioner, their most formidable weapon was naturally their Divine Secret Techniques. Paired with the augmentation of secret techniques and an abundant reserve of divine power, they could unleash overwhelmingly powerful bombardments.

Li Che understood this concept well; divine cultivators were, in essence, mages, whereas martial artists... were just pure meat warriors.

Allowing a mage to invoke their secret techniques was undeniably terrifying.

"The Divine Secret Techniques I've practiced are relatively few... But I do have the Divine Skill [All Things Seal], which, when fused with the Tang Family's Mechanism Secret Techniques and the Nine Seals of Mechanism, can still achieve the effects of a Divine Secret Technique."

Li Che's lips curled upwards in satisfaction.

"Combining All Things Seal with divine power creates tremendous offensive force..."

Li Che stood up.

The Mud Pill at the center of his brow trembled, activating the Divine Power All Things Seal. Instantly, divine energy from his brow was rapidly extracted.

Two resplendent Golden Cores, one black and one white, emerged, accompanied by thirteen smaller Golden Cores orbiting around them.

Buzz

Simultaneously.

Streams of black and white divine aura seemed to be drawn from the two Golden Cores.

They merged into the All Things Seal.

Boom!

"Myriad Forms"!

The boundless divine aura condensed into a colossal, chessboard-like square seal.

It slammed downward with violent force, creating explosive bursts in the air, as though toppling mountains and overturning seas, with chaotic and unceasingly swirling gusts wreaking havoc together!

The void seemed to crack with streaks of fissures under the impact!

"So powerful!"

Li Che's eyes narrowed, excitement flashing across his face.

With this, he was now equipped with some of the core strengths of a Divine Fetus Practitioner.

"All Things Seal... If I integrate all of the Wanxiang Nine Divine Seals fully, its destructive power would become even more fearsome!"

"If I grow stronger, a single seal could overturn heaven and earth!"

"Such immense power..."

"I shall call it the 'Yin Yang Sky Flipping Seal.'"

Li Che's mood soared with the creation of his unique Divine Secret Technique!

Whether or not something akin to the Sky Flipping Seal already existed in this world, Li Che did not care.

If he ever encountered the "official" version, he could always change the name back later.

Besides, in direct competition, whoever was stronger would determine which was authentic!

Li Che studied it further, refining the technique, enhancing its power, and hastening the speed of its invocation.

For Divine Secret Techniques, the most challenging part for divine cultivators was in the process of channeling its invocation.

After concluding his study of Divine Secret Techniques, Li Che practiced martial arts in the courtyard for a while.

Condensing the Divine Seed Martial Arts was no easy task, even for Li Che, who possessed the exceptional talent afforded by the Transcendent Refinement Dao Fruit of [Dragon Elephant Vajra]. The deeper he reached, the greater the difficulty he perceived.

Once his martial arts practice wrapped up.

Li Che changed into fresh clothes and entered the room, retrieving a piece of ordinary wood. Picking up the Divine Weapon Engraving Knife Set gifted to him by Su Family Divine Sculpture Master Su Huaiming, he began carving with focused dedication.

For him, the transformation of the Immortal Craft Dao Fruit...

Chapter 926: Who Says We Can't Live 10,000 Years, Carving 10,000 Mortal Wood Figures for a Pilgrimage (4)

With the breakthrough in Divine Cultivation, the Divine Sculpture Skill has made further progress.

The first layer of heaven's God Summoning and the second layer's Bright God under Divine Guidance Divine Power are of immense help to him in comprehending the Temple God's divine charm.

The Half-Saint Divine Sculpture, Li Che had long been confident about completing it.

Swish, swish, swish...

The rain fell incessantly, and wood shavings rustled quietly.

The speed of the engraving knife in his hand became much slower than before, but each cut was more precise and steady.

...

...

The next day.

The spring rain continued to drizzle, and leaden clouds stacked in the sky, accompanied by occasional spring thunder.

Li Che rarely donned the ancient elder robe of Divine Carving Ridge, his black hair glossy and flowing, his entire demeanor spirited and lively.

Zhang Ya helped Li Che adjust his clothes and looked at his handsome and spirited self, her eyes almost blossoming with admiration.

"Husband, do your best!"

"Everyone doubts your ability to carve a Half-Saint Divine Sculpture; prove them wrong with gusto!"

Zhang Ya clenched her tiny fists.

Over the past month, Zhang Ya had heard too many comments labeling Li Che as arrogant and conceited.

A twenty-four-year-old Divine Sculpture Half-Saint...

What concept is this?

It's simply setting a record for Qian Yuan Divine Sect!

It's unthinkable!

So, not many people believed in Li Che, whether disciples or elders... they felt it was too fantastical.

They thought Li Che's wager with the Sect Master's Wife was just a favor in return for past kindness.

After all, the Sect Master's Wife had once taken the Young Sect Master as her disciple, teaching the Way of Divine Talismans, and she had even suppressed the Dragon Queen Consort on the street for Xi Xi!

Therefore, everyone believed Li Che was merely expressing gratitude to the Sect Master's Wife.

Leaving the inner room.

The spring rain pattered down.

Outside, Li Qingshan, Old Chen, Nie Yang, and others awaited early.

Nie Yang held a sword, meticulous and extremely cold.

Old Chen, also a Wood Carver, regarded Li Che with a complex expression. Upon hearing that Li Che was going to carve a Half-Saint Wood Carving, he was stunned.

Old Chen was Li Che's guide on the path of wood carving, but only a few years had passed since then.

Li Che had already reached such heights.

Indeed... the world of geniuses is beyond comprehension and can only be revered by mortals.

"Ah Che, don't stress too much. Even if you fail, it's not a big deal. A twenty-four-year-old Divine Sculpture Master reaching your level is unheard of."

Old Chen said.

Li Che smiled without saying much.

"Let's set off."

Nie Yang, holding his sword, stood straight, and upon Li Che's command, nodded: "Alright, Elder."

Li Che stepped into the carriage.

Zhang Ya, Old Chen, Nurse Momo, Li Qingshan, and others waved goodbye from under the eaves as they watched Li Che depart.

The carriage pierced through the spring rain.

Leaving Qianyuan Taoist City, it galloped on the official road, heading towards Divine Carving Ridge.

Today's road from Dao City to Divine Carving Ridge was bustling more than usual.

Carriages raced on the road.

All were the carriages of Divine Sculpture Masters from various noble families.

Zhou Family's Divine Sculpture Master Zhou Tianshui, and the Yun Family's Divine Sculpture Master Yun Haiyang, both of whom had a good relationship with Li Che during the Divine Sculpture Ridge elder evaluations, lifted their curtains in greeting upon seeing Li Che's carriage.

The bet between Li Che and the Sect Master's Wife was actually of little importance.

The important thing is...

If Li Che could truly carve a Half-Saint Divine Sculpture today, the significance would be immense.

That would be the Divine Sculpture Ridge's first Divine Sculpture Half-Saint in centuries!

Furthermore, at twenty-four, the youngest Divine Sculpture Half-Saint in the history of Qian Yuan Divine Sect Divine Sculpture Ridge!

For these Divine Sculpture Masters, this was a historic moment!

The commemorative significance was too great!

Thus, they had to be present, perhaps even more excited and eager than Li Che.

After all, if Li Che became a Divine Sculpture Half-Saint, maybe... by sharing some insights, they too could advance further?

These days, who doesn't want to improve?!!!

Divine Carving Ridge, after a whole winter's brewing, still had sparing patches of snow, but was mostly vibrantly green, preparing the new growth rings of Spiritual Wood.

Li Che's carriage halted on Daping.

Under the drizzle, he stepped down with an umbrella, dressed in his ancient elder robe, his black hair tied up, exuding an air of authority.

The gathered Divine Sculpture Masters around him looked at him with bright eyes, a mix of excitement, anticipation, and fervor.

Ridge Master Gongshu Jingjun, Great Elder Tang Xiejia, and two other elders, also in ancient robe, awaited Li Che's arrival early.

"Ah Che, you came?"

Gongshu Jingjun looked at Li Che, his eyes revealing a hint of singular expression.

Because Li Che's aura, an innate confidence, gave him a completely different impression from before!

Could it be...

Gongshu Jingjun took a deep breath.

Suddenly.

A pure sword light slashed down from the sky, grandly, like a meteor across the horizon.

Lv Taibai, dressed in white, his silver hair flying, had an extraordinary sword pattern at his forehead.

Under his feet, countless sword lights converged into an enormous greatsword, where Xi Xi and the Sect Master's Wife sat like two exquisite figures, Jin Taixui obediently standing on it not daring to breathe.

And behind Lv Taibai.

Figures followed in succession across the sky.

Great Elder Fang Hanshu, Confucian robe fluttering, stroked his fine beard, holding a volume of Holy Sage Book, descended gracefully.

Second Elder Zhao Fangzhou arrived as well, along with Third Elder Ding Zi, bringing his new direct disciple Yun E along.

The Martial Saint Divine Embryo Level experts of Qian Yuan Divine Sect had almost all sneaked over.

"Greetings to the Sect Master!"

Gongshu Jingjun, Tang Xiejia, and others bowed in salute with clasped fists.

Chapter 927: Who Says We Can't Live for 10,000 Years, Carving Mortal Wood with a Knife for a 10,000 Figure Pilgrimage (5)

Li Che clasped his fists and saluted.

Xi Xi stood beside Lv Taibai, her excitement uncontrollable. Her small face flushed red, brimming with exhilaration, as if she could barely resist throwing herself into Li Che's arms.

"Daddy, good luck!"

Xi Xi clenched her chubby little fists and softly whispered.

The Sect Master's Wife, Xuan Qisha, glanced at Xi Xi: "Wretched disciple! Does your master not deserve some encouragement too?"

"But Sect Master's Wife and Master doesn't carve wood sculptures..." Xi Xi replied matter-of-factly.

Xuan Qisha rolled her eyes.

Truly, competing for favor with this girl's biological father was no easy victory.

"Darling~ look at Xi Xi!"

Xuan Qisha immediately jumped up, grabbing Lv Taibai's arm and shaking it vigorously.

Lv Taibai, long accustomed to Xuan Qisha's antics, smiled and said: "How about I cheer for you instead?"

Xuan Qisha instantly released her grip, acting disdainfully: "I don't sculpt divine figures—what need is there for cheer?"

Lv Taibai: "..."

Indeed, women are truly enigmatic creatures.

Swish swish swish—

Suddenly, the sound of breaking through the air reverberated, scattering countless droplets of spring rain.

Everyone simultaneously felt an incomparably powerful pressure of heaven and earth descending upon them!

This was an overwhelmingly powerful Heaven and Earth Soul!

Li Che looked upward and saw an elder dressed in the ceremonial robe of the Chief Supervisor of Qintian Observatory, stepping through the air with an ebony chessboard in hand.

"Lord Supervisor, why have you graced us with your presence?"

Yun Haiyang and Zhou Tianshui, being First-Class Guest Officials of Qintian Observatory, naturally recognized the Chief Supervisor and hurriedly greeted him.

"Just here to watch the excitement. Sect Master Taibai, you wouldn't drive an old man away now, would you?"

Supervisor Hong Shifu said with a cheerful smile.

Li Che glanced at Hong Shifu, then at the chessboard in his hand...

Do all Supervisors... harbor odd obsessions?

The Supervisor from the Golden Light Prefecture, Hu Yingyue, always carried a two-stringed fiddle, and now this one from Qianyuan Dao City walks around with a chessboard...

Were they planning to use the chessboard as a weapon?

However...

Li Che, possessing the [Chess Saint] Dao Fruit, was particularly attuned to chessboards. He couldn't help but take a closer look.

Hong Shifu squinted: "Li Che, I see you have an interest in the art of chess?"

"Should you have some free time, come visit Qintian Observatory. Let us play a game together."

"My chess skills—there's no equal in all of Qianyuan Dao City."

"Sect Master Taibai, Dao Master Yue Huanglong, and Feng Zhiqi of the Temple Control Bureau have all been defeated by me."

Hong Shifu stroked his beard with a smile, his eyes glinting with anticipation.

Hearing this, Li Che's heart tightened. Such chess prowess...

It was truly tempting.

"I have a modest understanding of chess. I would be grateful for your guidance, Lord Supervisor."

Li Che replied with a smile.

After some courteous exchanges, the group entered the private workshop.

At the Divine Carving Ridge workshop, most woodcarvers and Woodcarving Masters had put down their tools, their gazes filled with fervent curiosity as they looked toward Li Che.

There was no doubt about Li Che's Divine Sculpture skill, having inherited the Holy Hand Divine Sculpture legacy from Elder Sun...

Even if he failed this time to ascend to the rank of Divine Sculpture Half-Saint, his carving technique was still of immense educational value.

The Sect Master's Wife hovered mid-air, adhered to a Divine Talisman.

Her arms crossed over her chest.

A woman of immense pride, she had placed her bet and was determined not to lose.

"Are you ready?"

"Li Che, don't forget our wager!"

"No holding back! You must give it your all! I won't stand for being accused of selling favors!"

Sect Master's Wife Xuan Qisha said matter-of-factly.

She always seemed to possess this straightforward demeanor.

Li Che smiled warmly: "Please rest assured, Sect Master's Wife. I will give it my all."

"After all, my Divine Carving Technique carries the heartfelt dedication of Elder Sun."

Li Che spoke softly.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh—

The winds began to rise.

Under everyone's watchful eyes, Li Che stepped into the workshop.

A large pile of wood carvings lay in the courtyard, and Li Che scanned the myriad pieces of timber with slow, deliberate eyes.

"Elder Li, would you like me to prepare Fifth-Order Spiritual Wood?"

Gongshu Jingjun inquired.

However, Li Che shook his head.

"That won't be necessary."

With those words spoken—

Li Che selected a single piece of timber from the heap, a wooden stump taller than a person.

That stump...

Appeared to be the most ordinary of woods, not even Spiritual Wood.

It was much like when Elder Sun, after gaining profound enlightenment, carved a Divine Sculpture from regular mortal wood at dawn.

Lv Taibai stood with hands clasped behind his back, silver hair flowing, a flicker of peculiar expectation glimmering in his eyes.

Supervisor Hong Shifu stood with the chessboard on his back, stroking his beard and smiling, his gaze radiant.

Li Che selected the wood, and in the next moment, divine energy began to ripple outward.

Boom—!!!

Hiss hiss hiss...

Gripping the timber, Li Che released his torrential Qi-Blood from his palms, evaporating the moisture within the wood and drying it.

Compared to Spiritual Wood, ordinary wood was exceedingly brittle; for Divine Sculpture Masters seeking to carve a high-quality Divine Sculpture, it presented an even greater challenge.

It's like carving onto tofu—one wrong move and everything collapses.

Yet Li Che's gaze did not waver to the surrounding crowd, nor did he spare a thought to anyone present.

The Mud Pill within his brow quivered slightly, and then—

A radiant and resplendent Golden Core emerged from behind Li Che!

"This is—!"

Inner Sect Elders Fang Hanshu and Zhao Fangzhou changed their expressions dramatically in shock.

Because the aura radiating from Li Che at this moment...

Was all too familiar!

Lv Taibai, seated upon the Taishi Chair, paused his light tapping motion. Even he couldn't suppress the astonishment flashing in his gaze.

"This is... the Six Desires Evil Extermination Sword Immortal Pure Yang Golden Core!"

"The legacy of Miao Dao Xiansheng Three-Eyed True Lord from the Strange Temple?!"

Hiss hiss hiss—

Countless individuals drew sharp breaths of air.

Many turned their attention—not just toward legacy prowess—but to something even greater...

Li Che's cultivation had actually broken through—to Divine Primordial Golden Core!

So that was it!

Li Che's unwavering confidence stemmed from this breakthrough in cultivation?!

His five fingers gripped a Divine Weapon Carving Knife.

Under the gaze of all onlookers.

Li Che lightly grazed the mundane timber, drawing the knife across its surface.

The carving knife tore through the wood fibers, and a single, seamless piece of wood shavings fell gracefully to the ground!

The second cut, the third cut...

Effortless!

Steady and sure!

Returning to the Original True Self!

Li Che's technique was not fast, but it was profoundly stable. The depth of the cuts, the angle of entry, the length of the incisions—all were perfectly controlled!

Li Che's heart settled, his spirit entirely immersed in the act of carving.

Within his chest.

The [Immortal Artisan] Dao Fruit pulsed fervently.

As though celebrating Li Che's current state!

When Li Che's ninth stroke landed.

Wood shavings scattered, and the rough outline took shape!

Meanwhile...

Throughout the entirety of the Divine Carving Ridge workshop, all the wood sculptures atop workbenches—unfinished and incomplete—began to tremble!

As if, in this very moment...

They were worshipping!

Chapter 928: The Temple God Carved in the Mysterious Fog, Wood Carving Cracks, Elder Li Goes Completely Mad

Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh—

A sudden gale swept through the ridges of Divine Carving Ridge, roaring amidst the mountains. The dense forest swayed with the wind, and the rustling of millions of leaves came together in a symphony of sound.

Like waves crashing against the shore, surging tides!

It felt as if an intangible will in the heavens and earth had awakened in fury, causing the Cloud Dome to rumble and the air currents to clash violently!

Within Divine Carving Ridge, numerous workshops were scattered about. Inside some workshops, multiple workstations were meticulously arranged, allowing Wood Carvers to focus on crafting Divine Wood Carvings.

On many worktables, unfinished Divine Wood Carvings were placed.

Some were rough blanks, others were being intricately shaped, and a few had reached the final stages of polishing.

Yet at this very moment...

All of these wood carvings seemed to have gained a spiritual connection, or perhaps it was the divinity inherent in Divine Wood Carvings being awakened, trembling incessantly.

As if caught in a fervor—submissive, exalted, energized...

The sentiment of reverence for a pilgrimage!

Yes, a pilgrimage!

Outside the workshops, Divine Sculpture Masters, Woodcarving Masters, and other veteran craftsmen all revealed looks of disbelief in their eyes.

Each of these masters, with decades of experience in the Divine Sculpture Path, was acutely familiar with the intricacies of Divine Wood Carvings' state of being.

It could almost be said they shared a telepathic bond.

At this moment, they seemed to feel the emotions of their unfinished Divine Wood Carvings.

Yun Haiyang and Zhou Tianshui, two Divine Sculpture Masters, were even more astounded. They stood up, their bodies trembling slightly.

To carve with Mortal Wood, infusing it with spiritual essence and provoking countless wood carvings into a state of pilgrimage.

Like ancient, devout disciples ascending toward the holy mountain, bowing their heads at every step, kneeling deeply every third step!

Yun Haiyang and Zhou Tianshui were the top Divine Sculpture Masters in Qianyuan Dao City after Su Huaiming's passing.

With their extraordinary insight, even they couldn't help but feel shaken at this moment.

Looking at Li Che, who had merely struck his ninth stroke, their perception was one of unparalleled smoothness, an effortless mastery—as if Mortal Wood was as tender as tofu, yielding gently to Li Che's blade, falling apart with ease.

It was a sensation so sublime that their pores seemed to open wide, radiating heat in a burst of exhilaration.

An utterly indulgent smoothness! A mental ecstasy and celebration!

So magnificent—such technique...

The two Divine Sculpture Masters trembled uncontrollably.

They had witnessed Elder Sun once attaining enlightenment in the Holy Hand Divine Sculpture's concept and likewise carving with Mortal Wood.

Yet Li Che's style was entirely distinct. A faint shadow of resemblance could be traced, but Li Che appeared...

More self-assured, more composed, more unhindered!

Elder Sun had reached his epiphany at the twilight of his life, grasping a fleeting moment of brilliance. Li Che, however, was different...

Tap, tap, tap, tap—

A crisp sound resonated from the various workshops of the Divine Sculpture Masters on Divine Carving Ridge.

Sharp and clear, subtly interwoven like torrential rain pounding against the ground.

It was reminiscent of thousands of monks and nuns fervently chanting in reverence, worshipping a sacred figure!

Many Wood Carvers felt their hearts pounding uncontrollably, as though their chests might burst open.

"This aura!"

"This has promise!"

Yun Haiyang and Zhou Tianshui, the two Divine Sculpture Masters, gasped heavily, fingers clenched tightly into fists.

Meanwhile—

Gongshu Jingjun, the Ridge Master of Divine Carving Ridge, and Great Elder Tang Xiejia, both seasoned with years of experience with Divine Sculptures, were too familiar with their nature.

Thus, when Li Che had merely struck nine strokes on Mortal Wood, crafting a rudimentary blank that exuded such profound and majestic aura, causing countless carvings to bow in reverence...

It explained everything!

"Li Che's Divine Sculpture Technique... has made tremendous progress compared to before!"

"Did he really thoroughly comprehend the concept of the Holy Hand Divine Sculpture passed down by Elder Sun?"

"How could this be... it's so soon!"

Gongshu Jingjun took a deep breath.

Tang Xiejia's eyes, however, burned with intensity as he stared intently, his fists clenched tightly.

The talent for Divine Sculptures could reflect in mechanical aptitude as well, which explained why Tang Sanjia held Li Che in such high regard—even entrusting Li Che with the Tang Family's treasured Mechanical Techniques.

Perhaps Li Che truly possessed the ability to repair that particular Mechanical Beast?

Tang Sanjia's judgment... truly remarkable. At the very least, far superior to Tang Xiejia's, who had chosen a divergent path. Tang Xiejia had invested less in Mechanical Techniques, channeling most of his focus into Martial Path cultivation.

In the distance—

Behind a chessboard, Imperial Astronomical Observatory Inspector Hong Shifu squinted his eyes, the peculiar gleam in his gaze now intensified to its utmost degree.

The moment the rough blank had taken form, Mortal Wood had shed its mortal essence.

This indicated that Li Che's Divine Sculpture Technique had undoubtedly reached the threshold of Divine Sculpture Half-Saint, demonstrating the miraculous ability to transform stone into gold!

Hong Shifu stroked his beard, narrowing his eyes: "This young man... he's only twenty-four years old, and yet his Divine Sculpture talent... can be this extraordinary?"

Divine Sculpture, Divine Pill, Divine Talisman, and Divine Weapon—the four divine paths—all required innate talent to excel.

Among them, the Divine Sculpture Path demanded the most talent, involving mastery of an ethereal aura and meticulous expertise honed to perfection.

This was why the number of Divine Pill Half-Saints and Divine Talisman Half-Saints exceeded the count of Divine Sculpture Half-Saints.

The elusive aura, akin to misty clouds, remained incredibly difficult to capture and hold.

Yet in truth, at the Holy Hand and Half-Saint levels, breaking through any of the divine paths was exceedingly challenging, demanding that one take their craft to its utmost pinnacle. Whether Divine Pill Half-Saint or Divine Talisman Half-Saint... the difficulty in achieving breakthroughs was by no means less than that of Divine Sculpture Half-Saints.

However, compared to high-level Divine Sculpture Masters, Divine Pill Masters and Divine Talisman Masters existed in higher frequency.

Chapter 929: Mysterious Fog Reveals Carving of Temple God, Wood Carving Cracks Elder Li Completely Goes Mad (2)

"This kid... is really going to make it."

...

Lv Taibai's silver hair fluttered in the wind, holding Xi Xi in one hand and the Sect Master's Wife Xuan Qisha in the other.

One big, two small, they gazed from afar at the workshop where Li Che's extraordinary wood carving had emerged with just nine cuts.

He couldn't help but turn his head to look at the Sect Master's Wife Xuan Qisha beside him: "Madam... it seems you're going to lose this bet of yours."

Xuan Qisha's small face was adorned with exquisite makeup, but hearing these words, she couldn't help but pout.

"Drawing conclusions this early?"

"It's still early; stepping into the realm of a Semi-Saint in any profession is never an easy or simple task. It's just the beginning... To carve a Half-Saint Divine Sculpture, he'll have to undergo many difficult steps..."

Xuan Qisha tilted her head slightly; being a Divine Talisman Half-Saint, she knew all too well how high the gold content was for any path leading to becoming a Semi-Saint, and how great the difficulty was.

At this thought, Xuan Qisha focused on Li Che's movements, watching carefully.

In reality, the bet was no longer important.

The crucial point was whether Li Che could become a Divine Sculpture Half-Saint.

For Xuan Qisha, Lv Taibai, Hong Shifu, and others, from the start of Li Che's carving, they could determine whether Li Che had the chance to attempt becoming a Divine Sculpture Half-Saint.

And now...

Li Che clearly had the chance.

Xi Xi didn't understand, blinking her big eyes, though she couldn't comprehend her father's carving skills, she turned to look at the expressions of those around her.

The Sect Master and the Sect Master's Wife were both incredibly serious-faced.

Xi Xi immediately understood.

My dad is awesome—!

...

...

Li Che felt himself entering a unique state.

His spirit seemed to be boiling, his blood surging throughout his body, like bubbles rising in lava.

Terrifying power roared in his muscles, flesh, and meridians, and the torrential force, crashing down like a mighty sea, if leaked, could instantly pulverize the mortal wood he was carving to dust.

The Immortal Craft Dao Fruit madly resonated like it was releasing streams of heat.

Li Che needed to control his strength with extreme precision, wielding the carving knife to sketch the rough outline on the mortal wood.

The Shen Yuan Golden Elixir also emerged, spinning and shedding its vast divinity.

This time, Li Che planned to carve the [Six-Eared Prison Lotus Divine Monkey Two-Minded Great Saint Divine Sculpture] once again.

Yes, the very Divine Sculpture Elder Sun had carved from mortal wood.

The unfinished Divine Sculpture continued to be sculpted by Li Che, containing Elder Sun's understanding of this statue.

Before his death, he glimpsed the second form of the Temple God...

And understood the Temple God's true emotions and attitude.

Now, Li Che intended to carve that very Temple God Divine Sculpture.

Elder Sun, carving in front of everyone back then, was so close to completing it, close to becoming a genuine Divine Sculpture Half-Saint.

But just that tiny difference remained. Though he felt no regret, he still left with some unfulfillment.

Li Che was considered to have received his legacy, and that statue indeed brought Li Che immense gains, allowing his Immortal Craft Dao Fruit to break through and transform.

Grasping the Divine Weapon Carving Knife, his powerful qi-blood and divinity entwined almost inseparably, the carving knife like a branding iron, gently sliced through the mortal wood as if it were butter.

With a soft "click," as wood shavings fell, after nine cuts outlining the rough form, Li Che continued his carving.

With every stroke, the divinity between heaven and earth suddenly began to converge, seemingly drawn by some invisible force.

Rumble

The Spring Rain twisted and tilted, shattered and burst by the invisible force, and in an instant, a misty fog exploded above the entire Divine Carving Ridge workshop, covering the sky.

Li Che's eyes seemed to drip with a rich golden sandalwood, his Essence, Qi, and Spirit concentrating to the extreme at this moment.

Gold Core, Physical Body, Dao Fruit, the three seemed to merge as one.

All around was deathly quiet, no one dared to speak or even breathe heavily.

Feeling the increasingly rich Temple God Divinity in the air, experiencing the Divine Carving Ridge as if shrouded in thick fog, many people's eyes flashed with strange colors.

The Divine Sculpture Masters and Wood Carvers were watching in fascination, completely immersed in Li Che's Return to the Original True Self-like technique.

Every technique of the Divine Carving Technique, every angle the carving knife struck, the curved outlines, and handling, were extremely perfect, exhibiting an unflashy but incredibly mature and composed style!

Yun Haiyang and Zhou Tianshui, the two masters, watched with flushed faces.

Insiders observe the skills, while outsiders watch the spectacle.

Outsiders only focus on the divine manifestation amid Li Che's carving, like a display of heavenly anomaly, indicating that Li Che's Divine Sculpture was truly powerful and impressive.

But someone like Zhou Tianshui, a Divine Sculpture Master, observes the skills.

They perceive Li Che's excellence in technique, ideas, and sequence of cuts, experiencing the finesse of the Divine Carving Technique!

"Is this really a twenty-four-year-old young man?"

The Yun Family's Divine Sculpture Master, Yun Haiyang, trembled slightly, in amazement, admiration, and overwhelmed shock!

Even they, in technique, were far from comparing to Li Che's composure.

Steady, solid, meticulous... a style belonging to a sincere person, forming its unique system!

"The most important thing is..."

"This God's Intent of the Two-Minded Great Saint!"

"Different... it's different once again... different from what Elder Sun carved back then!"

"He's not simply reproducing it! He truly has his own essence!"

The surrounding people's shocked emotions nearly overflowed.

But for Li Che, nothing else mattered; currently, in his eyes, all that remained was the wood carving before him.

Chapter 930: The Temple God Emerges from the Mysterious Fog, Wood Carving Cracks and Elder Li Goes Completely Mad (3)

The five fingers grasp the engraving knife, Qi-blood surges, extremely terrifying, yet concealed within the turmoil of power, the flashing blade light seemingly pours like the flowing spring rain, the blade enters the wood, following the line of the grain, tearing open the rings, a twist, a silky spin, scattering flakes of sawdust!

Li Che stood quietly, his dark hair flying, the surrounding space impacted by his Qi-blood and divinity, like hidden surging waves.

Yet the wood placed on the stand remained intact, unaffected.

The blade rises, the blade falls, the blade moves, the blade slides, as smoothly as a master of national painting on thin rice paper, the wolf brush swinging, splashing ink landscapes!

Buzzing...

Time ticked away.

The surrounding people gradually felt oppressiveness, as more and more divinity gathered.

The Half-Saint Divine Sculpture, the divinity it carried, was described as vast, enough to inspire even Divine Fetus Practitioners!

What kind of immense divinity did such a divine wood carving carry within its wood?

Li Che spread his stance, his eyes firm, meticulous, his spine straight, beginning to precisely carve the complete outline of the Two-Minded Great Sage.

And around Li Che, the divinity gathered and drawn in had become too terrifying.

Some wood carvers of weaker cultivation flushed and had to retreat to a distance, away from the eye of the storm, to breathe freely.

Whether Divine Talismans, Divine Pills, Divine Weapons, or Divine Sculpture Half-Saint, aiming to carve Half-Saint rank works tested one's strength and cultivation.

Insufficient cultivation, lacking foundation, simply cannot carve Half-Saint rank works.

This is why, after Li Che revealed his Shen Yuan Golden Elixir cultivation, many Divine Sculpture Masters were thrilled with renewed anticipation.

Cultivation and strength, could be considered the confidence of a Divine Sculpture Master!

"A fog tide is rising!"

"It's not moisture, but fog... Seems like a mysterious fog?!"

Suddenly.

Outside the Divine Carving Ridge workshop.

A Divine Sculptor exclaimed in shock.

Unbeknownst when, a dense fog drifted, seemingly pushed by invisible forces, drifting in, rolling over!

"Mysterious fog?"

Many strong practitioners' expressions slightly changed.

Especially Gongshu Jingjun and Tang Xiejia.

As the powerhouses suppressing the Two-Minded Great Saint Mysterious Temple of Divine Carving Ridge, they didn't expect the mysterious fog to appear outside the temple!

"It's not mysterious fog dispersing from inside the mysterious temple."

Lv Taibai's silver hair flew, calmly said.

"Silence."

"Do not disturb Elder Li's carving."

Lv Taibai sat in the Taishi Chair, spoke.

It's not mysterious fog spawned from within the mysterious temple?

Then...

"It's Elder Li's divine sculpture... It's the temple god statue, and because of the high degree of resonance in divine charm, it achieved an effect so lifelike that even the temple god's mysterious fog appeared!"

Yun Family's Divine Sculpture Master Yun Haiyang stroked his beard, his voice slightly trembling.

Isn't this...

About to directly carve out a temple god?

...

...

Qianyuan Taoist City.

Daoist Master Mansion.

Spring rain gently tapped in the garden of the Daoist Master Mansion, a leisure pavilion stood, black tiles neatly arranged, channeling accumulated rainwater smoothly along the edges.

Within the leisure pavilion.

Young Taoist Master Yue Weizheng sat in the chair, opposite him, his son Yue Linghu busied himself brewing tea.

Boiling hot water opened up the tender buds of spring tea in the tea bowl, lush green, exuding rich tea aroma, full-bodied and fresh.

Yue Weizheng watched silently, focused only on brewing tea Yue Linghu, sighed softly.

"Boy... you know you have feelings for Ao Qingqing, but all I can say is your fate isn't meant to be."

Yue Linghu put down the cup, his fists slowly clenched, a hint of sadness on his face.

"Qingqing is a good girl... She died too tragically."

Over a month has passed, yet he finds it hard to let go.

Yue Weizheng sighed: "When the Princess Consort took her away from Qianyuan Taoist City, she actually had no chance of survival..."

"The Netherworld Ox Demon, such a ruthless entity, kills without blinking, never leaves any repercussions, Ao Qingqing being of its ilk, is simply not the Bull Demon..."

"Only to say, the Princess Consort was too ruthless, to ensure accurate inducement upon leaving Qianyuan Taoist City, brought Ao Qingqing along, in such a level of battle... Ao Qingqing wouldn't survive."

Yue Linghu's face showed pain: "Qingqing, too pitiful..."

"Being a woman of the Dragon God Lineage, her future would be even more pitiable." Yue Weizheng said lightly: "Do you think the Princess Consort is pitiable? Actually, the Princess Consort is even more pitiable..."

"Alright, don't think too much... the Dragon God Clan has other Dragon Maidens, if you truly like them, later have your grandfather take you to engage, an alliance with the Dragon God Clan isn't bad."

Upon hearing this, Yue Linghu's expression flickered with a hint of excitement.

"Actually... if you could connect with Li Nuanxi, that would be best, this girl became Lv Taibai's direct disciple, and the Young Sect Master of Qian Yuan Divine Sect, her status far surpasses the past."

"Even climbed to third on the Hunting God Pavilion's bounty list... a precious catch."

"Alas, you don't have much interaction with her."

Yue Weizheng took a sip of tea, smilingly said.

Yue Linghu shook his head, such a young girl, he held no interest, plus that girl had extraordinary talent, and her combat power was extremely dominant, recalling the scene where Xi Xi directly bombarded Jin Taixui with a mechanism cannon...

He couldn't help but shiver.

A pesky girl... now the Dragon Maiden is more attractive.

Yue Weizheng shook his head, his son... innate talent quite good, though not top-notch, with their family's promotion, to become a Great Grandmaster in Top Three Flowers Realm is feasible, as for Martial Saint and Divine Fetus, it would depend on chance.