

Conqueror 2011

Chapter 2011: The Buddhist Ancestor's Assistance

As a giant purple dragon twisted its body in the air, it turned into a humongous word hanging high in space. The word it formed was the ancient text of 'dragon,' and a tyrannical dragon's might pressed down on everyone present.

Buzz!

The purple dragon slammed into the sea of corpse qi without a second thought. The sea shook, and Shi Ming's attack started to crack.

Due to the purple dragon's sudden appearance, Shi Ming was sent retreating, and his body shook from the impact.

Everyone looked at the purple dragon in shock.

An old man whose eyes blazed with starlight appeared from the void after Shi Ming retreated. The aura around him was subdued, but he couldn't hide the majestic air around him. His appearance caused Sovereigns like Chiyou, Chu Han, and the others to feel a sense of oppression.

"King of Grandmist!"

The King of Shadows yelled, and everyone could hear the fear in his voice.

"What?! That's the King of Grandmist?! The King of Grandmist showed up!" Several experts hiding in the divine planes far away from the battle swallowed a mouthful of saliva in shock.

"Both Huang Xiaolong and Jiang Hong are his disciples. Looking at the number of people on the Radiance Divine City's side, he has to come to balance the playing field! He won't allow them to be bullied without raising a finger! The King of Grandmist is the real number one expert in the Divine World. Things are getting heated... Is this going to turn into a battle of the Overlords?" Several ancestor-level figures discussed with each other animatedly.

“How long has it been since we last saw Sovereign Realm experts?! They wouldn’t even appear in the world for several hundred million years at a time... Right now, all the old experts are out! Old Monster Lun Zhuan, the Reverence Moon Old Man, the King of Grandmist, Cang Mutian, the King of Shadows... All of them came! This battle will shake the heavens!”

The King of Grandmist didn’t bother wasting time as he took several steps forward to appear before everyone.

Jiang Hong and Huang Xiaolong ignored their opponent as they hastily flew over to meet the King of Grandmist.

“Master!”

The King of Grandmist nodded his head and laughed. “Something happened in the Grandmist Lands, and I was held up. It looks like I made it in time.” After speaking to his disciples, his expression changed as he turned around to glare at Shi Ming. “Shi Ming, you ignored your status as a Sovereign and made a move on my disciple time after time. Do you really think that I’m old and useless?! Let me tell you... I’m definitely going to interfere with this battle. After I return, I’ll head over to the Spirit World and exterminate your tribe.”

Exterminate the Nine Yin Giant Corpse Tribe!

Even though the King of Grandmist spoke about it casually, his words shook the hearts of everyone present.

The number of people who dared to speak about exterminating the Nine Yin Giant Corpse Tribe could be counted on one hand.

Of course, the King of Grandmist was one of them. Even though everyone present heard his declaration, no one doubted his words. That was the King of Grandmist they were talking about! He was the expert who had guarded the Divine World for countless years! Even the Ancient Heavenly Emperor had to respect him!

If anyone had to rank the Sovereign Realm experts in the Divine World, the number one spot would definitely go to the King of Grandmist! The current Heavenly Emperor, Di Jun, would be ranked second without a doubt! The King of Grandmist's fame had long surpassed Shi Ming's...

A purple light flashed in the King of Grandmist's eyes, and he didn't bother giving Shi Ming time to reply. The purple light turned into a massive golden dragon that expanded infinitely in everyone's eyes. A world of grandmist was formed in an instant.

Shi Ming's expression changed as he circulated the energy in his body to defend against the King of Grandmist's attack. Death qi surged out from the blade in his hand, and Death Gods appeared one after another. The appearance of the Death Gods caused a tremor to run through the hearts of the spectators.

Boom!

It was too bad Shi Ming was no match for the King of Grandmist. The purple dragon slammed into the Death Gods created by Shi Ming, and rays of light cut through the death qi like a hot knife through butter. Shi Ming retreated repeatedly.

Even though Shi Ming's fame shook the world, it was clear that he wasn't a match for the old man.

His expression sank as he looked at the King of Grandmist standing tall in the space before him.

The blade in his hand was precisely the Blade of Death, but it was a half-completed product. He hadn't fully refined it, and there was no chance for him to stand up against the King of Grandmist with a half-completed weapon. If he had really managed to refine the Blade of Death, it would have been possible for him to close the distance between him and the old man.

After all, he was at the peak of the late-Fourth Order Sovereign Realm. The King of Grandmist was only at the peak of the early-Fifth Order Sovereign Realm. No matter how strong his Nine Yin Physique and Poisonous Corpse Art was, it wasn't enough for him to challenge the King of Grandmist.

"Xiaolong, go deal with the others." The King of Grandmist turned to Huang Xiaolong and said, "I'll deal with Shi Ming and Qin Fan."

One versus two!

Even though he was outnumbered, the King of Grandmist was confident in taking them both at once.

Huang Xiaolong and Jiang Hong nodded and turned their attention back to Lu Kun and Chu Han.

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In the Heavenly Court's main hall, Di Jun's eyes remained glued to the mysterious mirror. He could see that Dun Ei had already gained the upper hand when Shi Ming and Qin Fan had arrived. He had never expected that the King of Grandmist would appear and suppress both of them at the same time.

If nothing unexpected happened, it was a matter of time before Huang Xiaolong unified the Radiance World.

"Your Majesty, why don't we invite the Buddhist Ancestor to make a move?" One of the grand marshals suggested when he saw the gloomy look on Di Jun's face. "The Buddhist Ancestor had something against the King of Hell. He sowed a seed of hatred with the Radiance World when he dealt with the Radiance Ancestor in the past. He should be extremely unwilling to watch on as Huang Xiaolong unifies the Radiance World..."

The eyes of everyone present in the hall sparkled.

"That's right! Your Majesty, the Buddhist Ancestor will definitely lend a helping hand! With his appearance, Huang Xiaolong wouldn't be able to succeed even if the King of Grandmist and Reverence Moon Old Man stand behind him!"

"The Buddhist Ancestor controls more than half of the Buddhist World. If he makes a move, half of the Buddhist World's combined strength will move along with him! It will be impossible for Huang Xiaolong to succeed!"

“With the Buddhist Ancestor’s unfathomable strength, he might have already broken through to the Fifth Order Sovereign Realm! He should be able to take on the King of Grandmist if he joins the battle!”

Di Jun nodded his head slowly. The gloominess that he was feeling was swept away as he roared with laughter, “Alright! I shall personally write a letter to him to invite him to join the battle!”

Before long, the letter that Heavenly Emperor Di Jun personally wrote landed in the hands of the Buddhist World’s envoy stationed in the Divine World. It was quickly sent to the Buddhist Ancestor.

The Godly Mt. Xumi stood tall in the middle of the Buddhist World’s core as it emitted endless light.

In the Godly Mt. Xumi’s main hall, the Buddhist Ancestor sat in the middle of his Nine Petaled Golden Lotus Seat. The various Buddhas, Bodhisattvas, and Arhats stood at the two sides of the hall.

When the Buddhist Ancestor received Di Jun’s letter, he read it slowly before opening his mouth to ask the rest. “I feel that Di Jun’s request is actually acceptable. Huang Xiaolong’s unification of the Radiance World isn’t something beneficial to our Buddhist World...”

It was clear that he was leaning towards sending troops to assist Dun Ei in the Radiance Divine World.

Ancient Buddha Nan Ran was the strongest ancient buddha under the Buddhist Ancestor. In fact, he had become a Buddha before the current Buddhist Ancestor had taken his place! He slowly nodded his head.

“I agree as well.” Another Sovereign Realm Ancient Buddha, Wu Liang, agreed with the Buddhist Ancestor.

After the two Ancient Buddhas agreed, everyone slowly agreed with Di Jun’s suggestion. There was only a tiny group of people who objected to the idea.

Pu Ti charged into the hall all of a sudden, and he bowed to the Buddhist Ancestor, “Master, we can’t send troops over! I have a pretty good relationship with the prince of the Dragon World, and in my opinion, we should help Huang Xiaolong deal with his enemies!”

The Buddhist Ancestor stared at Pu Ti, and he seemed to have thought of something. "I know about what happened in the Reverence Moon Divine City. You offered him half a flask of Saint Buddha Water to resolve the grudges between us. Didn't he already refuse you?"

Pu Ti fell into stunned silence for a moment, but he quickly continued, "Even if he refuses, he will definitely agree if I try again! If that can't work, I'll just pester him till it works!"

The Buddhist Ancestor shook his head and failed to reply.

The look on Pu Ti's face dimmed. It seemed as though his master had set his mind on interfering with the battle.

Chapter 2012: The Prestige of Godly Mt. Xumi

When Di Jun received confirmation that the Buddhist Ancestor had agreed to make a move, a look of joy appeared on his face. "Great! That's great! Huang Xiaolong, you will never succeed in unifying the Radiance World once the Buddhist Ancestor makes his move!"

"Pass down my order! Deploy another five hundred million elite troops!"

Di Jun yelled at the marshals below.

They were going to send another five hundred million elite troops to assist Dun Ei!

When the Grand Marshals and Marshals heard his order, they felt like a bomb had gone off in their heads.

"Your Majesty, this... We..." Several Marshals started to dissuade Di Jun from making a rash decision.

Di Jun shook his hands to dismiss their concerns. "It doesn't matter. As long as the Buddhist Ancestor makes a move, Huang Xiaolong is bound to lose. We shall send over another five hundred million elite troops to pressure Huang Xiaolong and the Radiance Knight Corp. The three hundred million elites we

sent previously should be arriving in the Radiance World anytime now. Hehe, Huang Xiaolong, I hope you like my gift!"

Di Jun's maniacal laughter echoed in the hall.

While Di Jun was celebrating, the King of Grandmist was locked in a heated battle against Shi Ming and Qin Fan. The Reverence Moon Old Man pummeled old monster Lun Zhuan. As for the battle between Cang Mutian and the King of Shadows, Cang Mutian was slowly fainting the upper hand over the King of Shadows. Elan's battle with Chiyu was about to end as Chiyu's body was riddled with injuries.

Looking at Chu Han from the Massacring Gods Gate, he had already turned into a human sieve under Jiang Hong's continuous assault.

The Radiance Divine City's troops were suppressed by the Radiance Knight Corp as they retreated further and further.

The Radiance Divine City's bishops, who were controlled by Huang Xiaolong, were still going about their killing spree against their own allies. The situation on Dun Ei's side seemed extremely bleak.

Huang Xiaolong used the combination of the three supreme treasures of the Radiance World to force Lu Kun into a corner.

In fact, the injuries on Lu Kun's body were worse than those on Chiyu...

As Dun Ei rode on his war mount, his expression sank as he stared at the progress of battle before him. He had never expected for something like that to happen! Everything had long exceeded his scope of control.

If a miracle didn't happen, he knew that he would lose the war!

Previously, he had played out the situation many times in his head. He felt that as long as he had the Ancient Heavenly Formation, there was no way for Huang Xiaolong to turn the tables and defeat him! However, everything had failed to go according to plan!

He stared at the Radiance Spirits that were destroying his formations one after another, and boundless killing intent erupted in his eyes.

Huang Xiaolong! Everything happened because of Huang Xiaolong! He summoned these Radiance Spirit Generals and broke through the barrier! They can't even be killed...

"Kill Huang Xiaolong, kill him right now!"

"I'll give the Radiance Divine City's treasury to whoever kills Huang Xiaolong!"

Dun Ei roared with rage, and his voice echoed through the battlefield.

He could no longer be bothered with the result of the battle. The only thing he wanted to do was to kill Huang Xiaolong. If Huang Xiaolong was victorious, there would no longer be anything else he could do. Rather than allowing Huang Xiaolong to obtain the entire Radiance World, he would rather give the treasury of his city in exchange for Huang Xiaolong's life.

There was no need to mention that after countless years of accumulation, Dun Ei had managed to collect an uncountable number of priceless treasures in his treasury. The wealth of the Radiance Divine City's treasury could be imagined. Right now, he planned to give everything away just to kill a single Emperor Realm expert!

It went without saying that Dun Ei managed to stir the hearts of the various experts hiding in the surroundings.

"What?! The treasury of the Radiance Divine City?!"

"That's the accumulated wealth of the entire city! If any superpower manages to kill Huang Xiaolong, they would be able to increase their strength by several folds after obtaining the treasury!"

A chilly light flashed through the eyes of various old monsters, and they stared at Huang Xiaolong as though they were looking at some sort of priceless treasure.

Huang Xiaolong sneered in response. "I, Huang Xiaolong, will give anyone who brings me Dun Ei's head ten billion low-grade chaos spirit stones!"

Ten billion!

Ten billion low-grade chaos spirit stones!

The experts who were planning to make a move on Huang Xiaolong felt a bomb going off in their heads.

What the f*ck!

Ten billion low-grade chaos spirit stones!

Some of them even felt their hearts skipping a beat when they heard the amount Huang Xiaolong was offering.

Huang Xiaolong's offer was more shocking than the entirety of the Radiance Divine City's treasury. Ten billion was an astronomical number!

With the number of spirit stones Huang Xiaolong was offering, they would be able to smash a peak late-Tenth Order Emperor to death!

Crushing a peak late-Tenth Order Emperor wasn't an exaggeration. The weight of a low-grade chaos spirit stone was comparable to a mountain. The combined weight of ten billion low-grade chaos spirit stones wasn't something to scoff at.

Dun Ei's face turned blue with rage when he heard what Huang Xiaolong said.

Before he could say anything, a golden light appeared and illuminated the world in a matter of seconds.

The appearance of the golden light shocked everyone, and Huang Xiaolong felt his eyebrows jumping.

The appearance of a majestic golden mountain emitted boundless golden light, and it was clear it was the source of the change in the atmosphere.

“Godly Mt. Xumi!”

One of the old ancestors exclaimed in shock.

Godly Mt. Xumi, the number one treasure in the Buddha World!

As his yell echoed in the ears of everyone present, Godly Mt. Xumi arrived in the middle of the battlefield and smashed towards Huang Xiaolong with shocking speed.

The faces of all the grand bishops in the Radiance Knight Corp changed. The King of Grandmist and Cang Mutian revealed looks of shock as they yelled, “Be careful!”

That was the Godly Mt. Xumi they were talking about! Even if the King of Grandmist worked with Cang Mutian, they weren’t sure that they could stop an attack at that level!

The sudden attack from the Godly Mt. Xumi was infinitely more terrifying than Shi Ming’s previous sneak attack. If the Godly Mt. Xumi really landed on Huang Xiaolong, there wouldn’t be a Huang Xiaolong anymore!

As the Godly Mt. Xumi possessed astonishing speed, it arrived before Huang Xiaolong before he could react.

Huang Xiaolong didn’t have the luxury of time to think about what to do. A dragon roar left his lips as light covered his entire body. He turned into a divine dragon tens of thousands of feet long as the Undead Netherguards controlled the City of Eternity to receive the attack.

It was too bad the City of Eternity was sent flying without the slightest bit of resistance. As the City of Eternity was sent flying into a nearby world surface, it nearly emerged from the other side!

Everyone looked at the change in the situation in shock.

A hundred Undead Netherguards powered the City of Eternity! It was strong enough to stop an attack from a Sovereign like Lu Kun, but it was still sent flying!

As the Godly Mt. Xumi sent the Radiance Divine Seal, Heavenly Hall, the twelve winged angels, and the ice dragons flying, it eventually arrived before Huang Xiaolong.

The King of Grandmist and Cang Mutian yelled in unison as they tried to fly over to save Huang Xiaolong. Without the slightest hesitation, the King of Shadows and Shi Ming used everything they had to stop the two Sovereigns.

Just as Huang Xiaolong was about to turn into a mist of blood, a bony arm poked out from the void. The arm emitted an ancient glow as it defended Huang Xiaolong against the Godly Mt. Xumi.

Boom!

The Radiance World seemed to turn dark for a second when the collision happened.

Even though the bony arm managed to stop the Godly Mt. Xumi for a split second, the Godly Mt. Xumi barely slowed down before flying towards Huang Xiaolong. It brought with it world-ending might as it forced the bony arm back.

Chapter 2013: Where Is This Mooing Coming From?!

As the Godly Mt. Xumi pressed closer and closer to Huang Xiaolong, terrifying waves of energy fluctuated in the air. Huang Xiaolong, who had turned into a massive dragon, could feel the weight of a thousand suns pressing down on him as the scales on his body cracked one after the other. Fresh blood dyed his body red.

Everyone present could feel the oppressive might of the Godly Mt. Xumi. However, another bony arm appeared from the void above Huang Xiaolong. When both arms pushed against the Godly Mt. Xumi, it finally stopped the massive structure.

The layers of golden light around the Godly Mt. Xumi exploded one after another in an attempt to push the bony arms away.

“Humph!”

A cold snort echoed through the minds of everyone present. The two bony arms disappeared, but an old man appeared in their place. The old man was extremely skinny, and he looked like he would be blown away by a gust of wind. In front of the Godly Mt. Xumi, he was no larger than a speck of dust.

Despite his tiny appearance, he stretched out both his arms to stop the mountain’s advance. Flipping his palm, the wooden cane that had beaten Lun Zhuan black and blue appeared in his hand.

The old man held onto his cane, and it emitted resplendent rays of light. Just the light alone blinded countless experts present.

Boom!

The cane shot out once again and slammed against the majestic golden mountain.

The heavens and earth shook as an ear-splitting blast resounded through space.

No matter who it was and where they were, they felt their bodies shaking uncontrollably when the explosion happened.

As soon as the cane smashed against the Godly Mt. Xumi, the previously unstoppable golden mountain was sent flying.

The golden light around the mountain scattered, and it eventually dimmed.

“Reverence Moon Old Man!” Dun Ei stared at the old man, who just appeared, and he screamed in fright. A look of fear appeared in his eyes.

The Reverence Moon Old Man’s prestige had long since engraved itself in the hearts of everyone in the various worlds. His strength placed him in the top three individuals under the heavens. In fact, it was possible he was the second-ranked expert among all the Sovereign Realm experts! To everyone in the Radiance World, the Reverence Moon Old Man was a supreme expert! Even the ‘leader of the Radiance World,’ Dun Ei, had to pay his respects when he saw the Reverence Moon Old Man!

The old man ignored everyone, and he glared at the Godly Mt. Xumi coldly. His gaze pierced through the restrictions around the mountain and landed on the Buddhist Ancestor in the heart of the mountain. “Shi Zhen, you refused to peek your head out of your Buddha World when I wanted to seek revenge in the past. You hid for a hundred million years. Who would have thought that you would show up to the Radiance World? Do you really think that I won’t be able to do anything to you if you hide in your Godly Mt. Xumi?”

Everyone sucked in a cold breath when they heard what the Reverence Moon Old Man said.

The Buddhist Ancestor had gone into hiding for a hundred million years in order to escape from the Reverence Moon Old Man! That’s juicy news!

A voice slowly emerged from inside the Godly Mt. Xumi. “Reverence Moon Old Man, do you really think that you’re the strongest expert under the heavens? Stop bragging. Who says that our Buddhist Ancestor was afraid of you? He disdained dealing with you in order to avoid causing a war between the worlds!”

The person who spoke was Nan Ran and not the Buddhist Ancestor himself.

As the strongest Ancient Buddha in the Buddhist World, Nan Ran’s seniority was comparable to the Reverence Moon Old Man even if his strength wasn’t comparable to the Buddhist Ancestor.

The Reverence Moon Old Man broke into laughter. “Nan Ran, all you can rely on is your Godly Mt. Xumi. Without it, I’ll beat all the teeth out of your mouth with a single slap!”

“Reverence Moon Old Man, actions speak louder than words!” Ancient Buddha Wu Liang’s voice came from inside the mountain. “Let our fists do the talking. Right now, we have mobilized the troops of the Buddha World to deal with you. Even if you support Huang Xiaolong, he will never be able to unify the Radiance World!”

As soon as he spoke, the Godly Mt. Xumi charged towards the Reverence Moon Old Man.

With a swing of his cane, the Reverence Moon Old Man forced the Godly Mt. Xumi back once again. However, it returned again and again.

Everyone couldn’t help but gasp at the Reverence Moon Old Man’s combat ability. At the same time, they realized the strength of the Godly Mt. Xumi. One had to know that the Godly Mt. Xumi was controlled by the Buddhist Ancestor and all the experts under him. However, it was forced back by the Reverence Moon Old Man time after time. One could easily imagine the Reverence Moon Old Man’s strength.

It was too bad no matter how the Reverence Moon Old Man smashed at the mountain with his cane, he couldn’t break through its defense.

Huang Xiaolong had already retreated far away from the Godly Mt. Xumi. The sixteen wings behind him unfurled, and his wounds healed at a shocking speed.

If any ordinary emperor were to face the Godly Mt. Xumi’s attack, their souls would have long since scattered. However, Huang Xiaolong had only suffered some superficial injuries.

Before his wounds could heal completely, a terrifying killing intent erupted and charged towards him. Lun Zhuan had finally escaped from his miserable fate as he charged towards Huang Xiaolong.

“Huang Xiaolong, now that the Reverence Moon Old Man isn’t here to protect you from me, let’s see how you escape!” Lun Zhuan roared with laughter.

“Old Monster Lun Zhuan, you’re too cocky!” The King of Grandmist turned around and sent his grandmist qi flying towards Lun Zhuan.

“Grandmist, I’m your opponent!” Shi Ming slashed out with his Blade of Death and stopped the old man from protecting Huang Xiaolong.

Cang Mutian roared as he sent his fists towards Lun Zhuan.

“Cang Mutian, what do you think you’re doing?! Fight me!” The King of Shadows roared with laughter, and he blocked Cang Mutian’s way with his bone spike.

Cang Mutian had no choice but to block the King of Shadows’ sudden attack.

With no one to stop him, Lun Zhuan appeared in the space above Huang Xiaolong. He shot downwards towards his target. Previously, Huang Xiaolong had used everything he could and failed to block Shi Ming’s attack. With Lun Zhuan’s strength surpassing Shi Ming by more than a single-fold, Huang Xiaolong couldn’t escape from his gruesome fate of being sliced in half.

Lun Zhuan’s giant wheel slashed towards Huang Xiaolong. With the corrosive qi it was emitting, Huang Xiaolong wouldn’t be able to heal himself in a short amount of time if the wheel hit him.

The faces of the King of Grandmist, Cang Mutian, and the others changed.

A look of joy flashed through Dun Ei’s eyes.

However, a loud moo resounded through the air, and it was like a bolt of divine lightning smashing into the minds of everyone present.

Everyone stared at the source of the voice in shock.

This... Where is the mooing coming from?!”

Wait a minute, is there a cow strong enough to affect all of us?!

When everyone was racking their brains to think of the face behind the voice, a massive azure cow appeared above Huang Xiaolong. The cow's body was massive, and it was comparable to the size of the Godly Mt. Xumi! Two golden horns poked out from the azure cow's head, and it emitted dazzling golden light.

When the King of Grandmist saw the figure, he heaved a sigh of relief in his heart. She's finally here!

The azure cow released a loud moo as it slammed its mountain-like hoofs towards Lun Zhuan's wheel.

Chapter 2014: Deadlock

"Clang!"

The wheel slammed into the cow's hoof and faltered.

As Lun Zhuan hastily retrieved his wheel, he stared at the newcomer in shock. "Old Ancestor Azure Cow!"

Old Ancestor Azure Cow?!

The ancestor-level figures stared at each other in shock as they racked their brains to search for the azure cow's origins.

The Sovereigns, Chiyu, Chu Han, and the others stared at the azure cow in shock. Even old freaks like Shi Ming and the King of Shadows revealed a look of shock.

The azure cow turned to Huang Xiaolong and chuckled, "Little Xiaolong, are you alright? I wasn't too late, right?"

The cow who had just arrived was precisely the little cow.

Huang Xiaolong couldn't be bothered to play along, and he snapped, "If you had come a little later, I would be dead..."

The little cow giggled, "You're still alive and kicking... You're fine!"

Huang Xiaolong was at a loss for words. However, the arrival of the little cow puzzled him. Could it be that she had already recovered her strength? He had a faint guess as to how strong she was, but when she stomped at Lun Zhuan's wheel, he understood how strong she actually was.

Her strength was definitely comparable to his master, the King of Grandmist.

It was no wonder the little cow could battle against the Ancient Heavenly Emperor for days on end! One had to know that the Ancient Heavenly Emperor had the number one ranked treasure, the Ancient Heavenly Court!

The little cow turned and stared at Lun Zhuan after messing with Huang Xiaolong.

"Old Monster Lun Zhuan, it looks like your treasure is getting old. How many times have I stepped on it?!"

Her voice was a little weird when she spoke about stepping on his wheel.

Lun Zhuan chuckled under his breath, "Old Ancestor Azure Cow, the Ancient Heavenly Emperor might be afraid of you, but I am not! Don't go around claiming that I bullied a girl."

Some of the experts hiding in the audience gasped in shock. The cow they were looking at was a female?

"Who is Old Ancestor Azure Cow? How can the Ancient Heavenly Emperor be afraid of her?" One of the pontiffs asked with a trace of suspicion in his voice.

“Demon World!” One of the older pontiffs thought of a terrifying thought, and his voice started to shake.

“What?! Demon World?! Could it be...” Another person thought of the possibility and jumped in shock. A look of shock flashed through his face. He finally thought of the Azure Cow’s identity.

It was no wonder Lun Zhuan said that the Ancient Heavenly Emperor was afraid of her!

Indeed, the person who had given the Ancient Heavenly Emperor the biggest headache was none other than this cow!

All of a sudden, the little cow raised her head to roar towards the skies. “F*ck your granny! Old freak, I’m going to mess you up!”

When the various experts heard the little cow’s ‘warcry,’ they didn’t know whether to laugh or cry.

The only being who would dare to behave so rudely could only be the little cow. With her awe-inspiring warcry, even someone who had skin thicker than city walls like Huang Xiaolong wanted to hide his face.

Countless bolts of purple lightning appeared in the space above her, and a massive hole appeared. Purple lightning poured out of it endlessly and charged towards Lun Zhuan.

The purple lightning formed a massive sea, and ominous crackling filled the air.

Lun Zhuan’s expression became grave when he saw the purple lightning shooting towards him. He didn’t dare to mess around, and the wheel in his hand started to spin. Light poured out of the wheel and formed an image of a giant one. It flew out to stop the lightning from hitting his body.

As the little cow engaged in battle with Old Monster Lun Zhuan, Huang Xiaolong turned his attention to Dun Ei.

Seeing Huang Xiaolong fly towards him, Dun Ei's expression changed. "Huang Xiaolong, aren't you a lucky one."

Huang Xiaolong didn't feel like entertaining Dun Ei, and he snorted, "I have always been a lucky man. Since you can't take my life, I'll take yours!" The Radiance Divine Scepter appeared once again and swept towards Dun Ei.

Dun Ei ignored Huang Xiaolong's sudden attack and waved his arms. The barrier formed by the Ancient Heavenly Formation started to move, and it surrounded him. "Huang Xiaolong, are you retarded? Do you really think that a Second Order Emperor like you and those b*stards around you can break my formation?!"

It was too bad he hadn't fully completed his sentence when the Radiance Divine Scepter broke through the barrier. Huang Xiaolong looked completely unaffected when he crossed the barrier to appear before Dun Ei.

This!

Dun Ei stared at Huang Xiaolong in shock. How can this happen?!

When Dun Ei was questioning the meaning of life, the Radiance Divine Scepter had already appeared above his head. With the Heavenly Hall and the Radiance Divine Seal's assistance, Huang Xiaolong gathered his energy before summoning the soul strand of the Radiance Ancestor to send a slap flying towards Dun Ei.

A look of panic appeared on Dun Ei's face, and he didn't have time to think of a perfect counterattack. He hastily circulated the energy in his body as he retreated. Barriers of light appeared one after another to stop the palm strike from the Radiance Ancestor's phantom.

It was too bad Dun Ei wasn't Shi Ming. He stared in horror as the palm smash through his defenses as though they didn't exist. Nothing managed to stop the attack from the Radiance Ancestor's phantom.

Dun Ei roared with fright as he circulated all his energy to welcome the palm strike.

Lu Kun forced his way over, and he quickly blocked off more than half of the strength from the attack.

Even so, the two of them were forced to retreat.

...

The battle raged on for more than ten days and ten nights.

The Reverence Moon Old Man, Buddhist Ancestor, Lun Zhuan, the little cow, the King of Grandmist, the King of Shadows, Shi Ming, Elan, Jiang Hong, Chiyou, and Chu Han fought a grand battle that caused the stars to dim and the space to shake. No matter how hard they fought, the victor couldn't be decided.

As for the Radiance Divine City's army, that was forced to retreat, they received back up from a mysterious source and managed to resist the Radiance Knights' advance.

Of course, Huang Xiaolong's party seemed to have the upper hand. The Reverence Moon Old Man stopped the Buddhist Ancestor from doing anything with his Godly Mt. Xumi, and the King of Grandmist was suppressing Shi Ming. Cang Mutian finally gained the upper hand against the King of Shadows, and the little cow fought toe to toe with Lun Zhuan.

Despite that, Huang Xiaolong couldn't do anything to Radiance Divine City!

In the end, the two parties had no choice but to pause the battle, and just like that a deadlock was formed.

In a palace that was constructed on the fly, Huang Xiaolong and the other Sovereign Realm experts discussed their next move.

"F*ck! Why don't I call over all my descendants from the Demon World?! We'll screw them up big time! I'll beat them up so bad that they will sh*t their pants!"

Cold beads of sweat dripped down Huang Xiaolong's forehead.

The King of Grandmist chuckled. "That's actually possible. We merely fought the first battle against them. I'm sure Shi Ming would call over his Nine Yin Giant Corpse Army, and the experts from the Massacring Gods Gate would probably join in the fight as well. The Fire World might also send some troops. It's time for us to go all out!"

The Reverence Moon Old Man nodded his head and laughed. "I'll send out a message to call for all the graduates of my Reverence Moon Academy to join the battle!"

A smile appeared on Cang Mutian's face. "If all the graduates from the Reverence Moon Academy come back to help, we will definitely win the war!"

He wasn't exaggerating. Anyone who could study in the Reverence Moon Academy were definitely geniuses from their respective worlds. All of them were backed by massive superpowers! If the Reverence Moon Old Man could gather their strength, they would be more terrifying than any one of the five Greater Worlds!

Chapter 2015: 6 Lightning Pools!

Cang Mutian continued, "Since that is the case, I shall gather some of the superpowers from the Kingdom of Devil Beasts. Even though I've been missing for a long time now, I should be able to gather a few of them!"

Huang Xiaolong revealed a look of joy and thanked, "Many thanks for Senior Reverence Moon and Senior Cang Mutian for the help!"

The Reverence Moon Old Man laughed, "You don't need to stand on ceremony with us, old men.."

The little cow hastily turned to look at Huang Xiaolong, "Kiddo, why are you not thanking me?!"

"Of course, I don't need to thank you."

"Why?! Why not?!" The little cow stared at Huang Xiaolong with a puzzled expression.

“Because I said so.”

The little cow felt steam rising from the top of her head, and everyone burst into laughter.

They quickly got to work as they gathered their subordinates to call on all the reserve power they had. Huang Xiaolong contacted Tai Yue and the other Great Commanders from the Netherworld King’s Organization and requested them to lead the Netherworld King’s Army to the Radiance World.

As for all the powers who had thrown in their lot with the Netherworld King’s Organization, they were fully mobilized to bring their troops over.

Superpowers like the Golden Corpse Palace in the Spirit World, Heaven Sacrificial City in the Ghost World, and Crystal Devil Sect in the Hell Asura World received the order to mobilize.

The King of Grandmist sent down an imperial order to gather various superpowers from the Divine World. With one order from him, there would be tons of Emperor Palaces ready to lend a hand.

When Huang Xiaolong and the others were busy gathering their troops, Shi Ming and the others were doing the same.

Even Lin Cheng from the Fire World sent the order to gather the Fire World’s elite troops.

In an instant, the Radiance World became the focus of the various worlds as troops from all over poured into the battlefield.

There were even members of the Fire World, Dragon World, Demon World, Poison World, and various other worlds taking part!

Even though these worlds couldn’t compare to the five Greater Worlds, they couldn’t be considered weak.

Because of the relationship between Ao Ping and Huang Xiaolong, along with Cang Mutian's presence, the Dragon World sent their members to back Huang Xiaolong's camp. The Fire World, Demon World, Poison World, and several others stood on Dun Ei's side.

With the Dragon World's presence, Phoenix World went over to Huang Xiaolong's side. The leaders of the Phoenix World used to be student of the Reverence Moon Academy in the past, and there was no reason for them to side with Dun Ei.

When some of the experts saw what was going on, their hearts trembled in fear.

"This should be the largest battle since ancient times! When the Ancient Heavenly Emperor had joined hands with the Buddhist Ancestor to deal with the Radiance Ancestor, the battle had shaken the heavens! This battle is a thousand times more terrifying than that!"

Sects from all around passed down the order to seal their mountains, and they forbade their disciples from wandering outside. They were afraid that they would be dragged into the calamitous war if they weren't careful. Just the shockwaves from a war of this scale were enough to wipe them all out several times over.

While everything was going down, the five Greater Worlds failed to remain unaffected. With their experts joining in the battle, chaos broke out.

As the Netherworld King's Army and Kingdom of Devil Beasts' army moved into the Radiance World, the Radiance Knight Corp's battle capabilities increased to another level.

Killing intent rose to the skies, and world surfaces crumbled one after another.

There were even several divine planes that disappeared from the face of the Radiance World forever. Nothing was left of them.

Several ancestor-level figures shook their head and sighed, "If this goes on, they are going to level the Radiance World..."

With the interference of so many peak level Sovereigns, if they were to battle for several hundred more years, the Radiance World might crumble eventually.

Even so, there was nothing Huang Xiaolong could do about it.

Even though the Radiance Knight Corps held the upper hand, the members of the Radiance Divine City were like unkillable cockroaches. No matter how hard Huang Xiaolong and the others tried, they couldn't defeat them! With the arrival of the army from Dun Ei's side, the battles only became more bloody.

...

In one of the stars where lightning fell non stop...

Huang Xiaolong stared at the two massive chaos lightning pools before him, and a look of satisfaction appeared in his eyes. It was precisely the two chaos lightning pools among the Radiance Ancestor's treasures.

He had challenged Dun Hao right after obtaining the treasures. Following that, he had left for the Kingdom of Devil Beasts to save Cang Mutian. The battle had erupted soon after, leaving him no time to absorb the chaos lightning pools.

Now that the battle was at a stalemate, Huang Xiaolong knew that he wouldn't be able to take down Radiance Divine City in a short amount of time. He decided to completely refine the two chaos lightning pools to increase his strength. After all, strength was everything. The battle before him was like a wake-up call for Huang Xiaolong. He knew that the distance between him and the true experts was as large as the gap between the heavens and the earth.

Compared to them, he was too weak, far too weak. He had to increase his strength as quickly as he could.

He wanted to break through to the Sovereign Realm as quickly as he could. The moment he broke through, his title as the King of Hell wouldn't just be in the name.

Looking at the two chaos lightning pools before him, he decided to refine the fifth-ranked Violet Phoenix Lightning Pool before refining the sixth-ranked Heavenly Wind Lightning Pool.

His figure blurred as he arrived in the center of the Violet Phoenix Lightning Pool. As soon as he appeared, a massive violet phoenix appeared and charged towards him.

The Black Tortoise Lightning Pool, Mysterious Light Lightning Pool, Golden Dragon Lightning Pool, Blue Wood Lightning Pool activated in an instant. As the four lightning pools appeared, they blocked the violet phoenix from reaching Huang Xiaolong.

At the same time, the lightning pools started to swirl as they started to devour the power of the Violet Phoenix Lightning Pool.

Violet lightning crackled around Huang Xiaolong's body, and the three Archdevil bloodlines started to crazily devour the power stored in the lightning pool.

Six months passed just like that.

Huang Xiaolong successfully refined the Violet Phoenix Lightning Pool, but he didn't rest. Instead, his body flashed once again, and he started the same process on the Heavenly Wind Lightning Pool.

He took less than five months to refine the Heavenly Wind Lightning Pool completely. It was way less time than he took to refine the Violet Phoenix Lightning Pool.

In the past, Huang Xiaolong had used one year and eight months to refine the Mysterious Light Lightning Pool. Right now, he had refined both lightning pools in less than a year!

When he finally completed his refinement, Huang Xiaolong opened his mouth to reveal terrifying bolts of lightning. They crackled non stop and poured out from his mouth.

After refining both lightning pools, he had finally broken through to the early-Third Order Emperor Realm.

Looking at how he had only broken through to the Third Order Emperor after swallowing two lightning pools, a frown formed on Huang Xiaolong's face. It seems like breaking through is getting harder and harder...

Whatever the case, he had already refined six of the Nine Chaos Lightning Pools under the heavens. There were only three of them left. As soon as he managed to locate the other three, he would be able to summon the Grandmist Divine Lightning. The Grandmist Divine Lightning was something that could threaten Sovereign Realm experts!

Chapter 2016: Another Probe

When Huang Xiaolong emerged from the star, many other superpowers had joined the ranks of the Radiance Knight Corp.

With the help of Cang Mutian, the Reverence Moon Old Man, and his master, the King of Grandmist, experts from various worlds had poured into the Radiance World without signs of stopping.

The three of them were extremely influential figures, and they managed to gather tons of help. Looking at the rumored ancient sects and superpowers popping up one by one, Huang Xiaolong couldn't contain his surprise.

Even though he was the King of Hell and controlled all three worlds in Hell, the three old men's influence was much stronger than him. The weight his words held couldn't even come close.

The thing that surprised him the most was the presence of the troops sent by the Silver Fox Commerce. They had sent over four hundred billion troops to assist the Radiance Knight Corp, and the president of the Silver Fox Commerce, Bei Lengyang, had arrived in person to back them up.

Huang Xiaolong felt a trace of warmth in his heart.

Of course, Bei Lengyang hadn't come alone. Bei Xiaomei had accompanied him. When Huang Xiaolong saw her, his jaw dropped in shock.

“Uncle!” Bei Xiaomei jumped in joy and rushed towards him the moment she saw him. She didn’t care about everyone else as she jumped into his arms.

The Reverence Moon Old Man, Cang Mutian, the King of Grandmist, and the others stared at the two of them mischievously, and Huang Xiaolong couldn’t help but feel the blood rushing to his face.

The little cow roared with laughter when she looked at the scene before her, “Xiaolong, it looks like your father-in-law and little wifey are here to support you...”

A sense of embarrassment appeared in Huang Xiaolong’s heart.

In contrast to Huang Xiaolong’s subdued performance, Bei Xiaomei turned to the little cow and pouted, “Senior little cowie really knows how to make fun of people!”

The little cow stared at her with a look of helplessness and sighed, “Little lass, I told you to stop calling me that!”

Bei Lengyang turned to Bei Xiaomei and chided, “Xiaomei, you need to behave yourself in front of Senior Azure Cow!”

Bei Xiaomei hastily hid behind Huang Xiaolong and stuck her tongue out at her father,

Huang Xiaolong eventually took his seat in the middle of the hall to listen to the battle report. When he heard that many superpowers had sided with Dun Ei, a frown formed on his face.

“There are more than twenty ancient sects and families supporting Dun Ei.” The King of Grandmist summarized, “The Howling Moon Wolf Race sent the most men, and most of the ancient families who arrived from Hell came because of the Howling Moon Wolf Race’s persuasion.”

When Huang Xiaolong heard that the Howling Moon Wolf Race was the one to make a move, a frosty light flashed through his eyes.

He knew the reason they were supporting Dun Ei. In the past, he had killed the young master of the Howling Moon Wolf Race and several ancestors belonging to them.

It seemed as though the Howling Moon Wolf Race was hell-bent on going against him. They took the best chance they got to oppose him.

“Relax. With us old men, Dun Ei will never be able to escape from his miserable fate. We hold the upper hand whenever we fight!”

Huang Xiaolong nodded his head.

“Xiaolong, you broke through?!” The little cow exclaimed all of a sudden.

As soon as she said it, everyone realized that Huang Xiaolong had indeed broken through to the Third Order Emperor Realm.

Huang Xiaolong felt no need to hide his achievements from those in the hall, and he explained, “I refined the two chaos lightning pools in the Radiance Ancestor’s treasury. It’s just a tiny breakthrough...”

When they heard that Huang Xiaolong was dissatisfied with the speed of his improvement, the little cow snapped, “Little brat, can you learn how to appreciate your gains?! You managed to enter the Third Order Emperor Realm in less than a year! Look at all of us! How long has it been since we last broke through a minor realm?!”

The Reverence Moon Old Man sighed, “That’s right. When you arrive at our level of cultivation, you will realize the difficulty of breaking through. The origin energy suppresses us, and if we want to break through, we need to use origin treasures!”

Huang Xiaolong couldn’t help but stare at them in shock.

At the Sovereign Realm, one is suppressed by the origin energy itself! Wouldn’t it be insanely difficult to advance to the next realm?!

Huang Xiaolong eventually got over his shock as he started discussing other matters with the rest.

In the end, he spoke of his decision to leave the Radiance Divine City for a while.

“What?! Why are you leaving?” Everyone stared at Huang Xiaolong in shock.

According to all of them, they were at the critical point of the battle. The Radiance Knight Corp needed Huang Xiaolong’s leadership to charge into battle! There was no way they could allow Huang Xiaolong to leave!

Huang Xiaolong nodded his head slowly and explained, “I need to return to the Divine World for a while.” He had thought about it a long time ago. Since the battle was stuck in a stalemate and they wouldn’t be able to take Dun Ei down in a short period of time, he wanted to see if he could enter the King of Darkness’ palace.

If the King of Darkness was still alive, he could assist Huang Xiaolong in the final battle against Dun Ei’s camp. With the help of the King of Darkness, he would be able to smash through Dun Ei’s line of defense. After all, the King of Darkness was an existence no weaker than Shi Ming!

Of course, Huang Xiaolong also wanted to pay a visit to the Nine Colored Divine Phoenix Palace. The Nine Colored Divine Phoenix should also be a Sovereign Realm expert.

Huang Xiaolong also wanted to make a trip to the Devil Abyss.

The number one treasure of the Divine World, the Ancient Heavenly Court, was located in the Devil Abyss depths. If he managed to obtain the Ancient Heavenly Court and the Ancient Heavenly Emperor’s treasury, he would be able to increase his strength before the final battle!

“Return to the Divine World?!” The three old men stared at each other in silence.

“Xiaolong, why do you need to go back to the Divine World?” The little cow asked with a trace of suspicion in her voice.

“I need to make a trip to the Extraterritorial Devil Battlefield.”

A lightbulb lit up in the little cow’s head. In the past, she had followed Huang Xiaolong around wherever he went. She knew what he wanted to do there.

“Since that is the case, I’ll go with you.” The little cow stood up and walked towards Huang Xiaolong.

Since she had already spoken, the three old men knew that Huang Xiaolong had something he needed to do there.

In the end, none of them continued to question him, and they agreed for him to leave.

When Bei Xiaomei heard that Huang Xiaolong wanted to leave for the Divine World, a look of reluctance appeared on her face. She pouted her lips and glared at Huang Xiaolong. The reason she had followed her father to the Radiance World was to look at Huang Xiaolong. She had to beg her father countless times before he was willing to bring her along. Right now, she hadn’t seen him for more than a day before he had decided to leave.

Since Huang Xiaolong didn’t have much to prepare, he left on the same day with the little cow.

The two of them left silently, and only the upper echelons of his camp knew that he was gone. After all, the lesser the people who knew that he was gone, the better. If the news of him returning to the Divine World spread, Shi Ming and the others would definitely kill their way over.

As soon as Huang Xiaolong and the little cow found a secluded place, the little cow gathered her strength to punch a hole in space leading to the Divine World.

Several days later, Huang Xiaolong and the little cow appeared in the space above the Extraterritorial Devil Battlefield.

Looking at the space below them, the little cow exhaled a long breath. “That was too tiring! This old cow is exhausted!” In order to speed their journey up, the little cow had been punching tunnels after tunnels

in space. She had used a lot of energy before bringing them both to the Extraterritorial Devil Battlefield. She was flying at full speed with Huang Xiaolong in tow.

Despite her complaints, Huang Xiaolong chuckled, "I'm pretty sure you're more hungry than you are tired." He took out a bottle of Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills and tossed it over to the little cow.

Along the way, Huang Xiaolong had brought out several dozen bottles of Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills in order to reward the little cow.

As soon as she saw the bottle of pills, the little cow's attitude changed 180 degrees. A look of greed flashed across her face, and she grabbed the bottle at the speed of light. The look of exhaustion was nowhere to be seen.

Chapter 2017: Heart of Darkness

As the little cow opened the cap on the bottle, she poured everything into her mouth, emptying the bottle instantly. Popping sounds could be heard as lightning swirled around her body.

"Nice!" The little cow's body trembled, and a look of comfort washed over her face. "If only I can get my hands on the Twelve Winged Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills... That would be even better!"

Huang Xiaolong flicked her across the forehead. "Having ten winged ones is good enough. You must be dreaming if you're thinking of getting your hands on Twelve Winged Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills. Don't you know that every single pill you consumed was a priceless treasure?!"

The little cow chuckled in amusement. "This old cow barely managed to regain her strength. I need to take some supplements in order to stay strong. It's just several dozen bottles of Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills. There might even be better stuff in the King of Darkness' inner palace!"

She was right. She wasn't imagining things when she said that there might be even more precious treasures. In the past, the King of Darkness had massacred his way around the various worlds and killed god knew how many experts. He had managed to plunder an insane number of treasures, and there was definitely a chance of there being treasures more precious than the Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills.

“Let’s go. We need to enter the Ghost Pool Formation.” Huang Xiaolong didn’t bother fighting with the little cow over what she just said. He tapped on her back, and she turned into a streak of light that brought Huang Xiaolong over to the formation.

In just a few minutes, they appeared in the space above the Ghost Pool Formation.

Seeing that the formation that he had placed was still there, Huang Xiaolong heaved a sigh of relief in his heart. He waved his hand and stopped the formation’s operation, revealing the existence of the Ghost Pool.

A snort left the little cow’s lips, and a surge of energy blasted against the formation. The space above the formation rippled, and the two of them disappeared from their original spot.

Before long, Huang Xiaolong arrived in the massive hall that used to contain the four odd beasts.

Of course, the hall was empty as Huang Xiaolong had already brought the four of them away. Previously, the four massive figures were chained to the wall. Now, all that was left of that memory was the broken chains on the ground.

Huang Xiaolong summoned the four beasts, and he ordered them to follow behind him. As he led the way, the small group eventually made their way towards the dark space formed by the King of Darkness.

The dark space was exactly how Huang Xiaolong remembered it. He couldn’t see his fingers if he stretched his hand out, and he could feel the waves of darkness washing over his body from time to time.

Huang Xiaolong circulated his Archdevil Supreme Godhead and started to swallow the darkness energy that came from the void. He slowly made his way forward with the little cow in tow.

After half an hour, Huang Xiaolong emerged from the dark space and arrived at the place the galaxial river used to be. Right now, Huang Xiaolong had already refined it, and it was a part of the City of Eternity.

After passing the space, the King of Darkness's palace appeared in front of his eyes.

When he approached the palace once again, a type of nefarious and frigid qi surged towards him. Thanks to his previous experiences, Huang Xiaolong immediately summoned the sixteen wings and blocked the wave of qi from hitting him with the help of his radiance energy.

They slowly made their way towards the palace.

All of a sudden, a shocking wave of frigid qi charged towards Huang Xiaolong. It contained boundless might and possessed unstoppable power.

Huang Xiaolong didn't dare to be careless. He raised the Radiance Divine Scepter as the Heavenly Hall, and Radiance Divine Seal appeared above him. Holy light shone down on the space before him, and the phantom of the Radiance Ancestor appeared. The phantom reached out and suppressed the wave of energy.

The little cow chuckled under her breath, "I haven't seen you for a hundred years, and your strength has already grown to such a terrifying stage. You're pretty good..."

"Aren't you the same?"

"How can you compare yourself to me? I was merely regaining the strength that I had lost. You're improving yourself!" The little cow continued, "The difference between the two is shocking!"

They chatted as they continued to make their way towards the palace.

The closer they approached, the stronger the darkness energy became as it repelled them. In the end, the three supreme treasures of the Radiance World shone with brilliant light as they poured radiance energy into the phantom of the Radiance Ancestor. With the support of the three treasures, the phantom managed to suppress the boundless darkness energy coming from the void.

While the treasures were suppressing the darkness energy, Huang Xiaolong was controlling his Archdevil Supreme Godhead to devour as much of the remaining energy as he could.

The darkness energy was actually a great supplement for Huang Xiaolong.

Step by step, they made their way towards the palace.

After several tens of minutes, they finally arrived at the entrance.

When they saw the terrifying structure that seemed to swallow all light standing tall in front of them, a solemn expression appeared on Huang Xiaolong's face. He could feel the strength of the restrictions lying behind the entrance.

The heart of Hell started to pound once again, and it began to emit resplendent rays of light.

As the Heart of Hell rarely reacted to anything, Huang Xiaolong realized that he got the same feeling when he had approached the King of Darkness's palace in the past.

He stared at the space above the entrance. Two large rings greeted his sight, and mysterious runes flowed around them. There was no doubt that those two rings were a set of restrictions, and Huang Xiaolong was sure that they were left behind by the King of Darkness himself.

Just as he was about to shatter the restrictions with the Radiance Divine Scepter, the little cow spoke out. "Let me do it."

Huang Xiaolong was stunned for a second, but he nodded his head after thinking about it for a second.

The horn on the little cow's head enlarged several times over all of a sudden, and a dazzling golden light illuminated the space before them. The little cow slammed her horns directly into the two rings.

A massive explosion resounded through the air, and the palace trembled. The rings popped and shook as the glow around them started to dim. Before long, the light around them disappeared completely.

What in the world...

Huang Xiaolong stared at the scene before him in shock.

The little cow shook her head and laughed, “Sh*t! I haven’t used this move in a long time! My head is spinning right now!”

Huang Xiaolong felt his vision starting to spin when he heard what she said,

However, the little cow’s attack served to show how strong the restrictions were. If he were to try to break it on his own, he might not even be able to shatter them! He was lucky he brought the little cow along with him.

As the restrictions were broken, Huang Xiaolong managed to open the doors without much difficulty.

As soon as he opened the doors, a blinding ray of dark light pieced into Huang Xiaolong’s eyes. He was shocked, and he involuntarily raised his arm to protect himself. After a full minute, he finally opened his eyes. The sight of a massive hall greeted him, and there was a giant sacrificial table at the side.

Shockingly, a heart lay silently on the sacrificial table!

It was a heart that was completely black in color. The sight of it could cause people to fall into despair, bringing a sense of oppression. The heart was like the embodiment of all the evil, darkness, and chill in the world!

Huang Xiaolong stared at the heart in shock.

Why was there only a single heart?! Where was the King of Darkness?!

Anyway, why was the heart resonating with his Heart of Hell?!

Even though Huang Xiaolong had no idea what the heart represented, the little cow was much more knowledgeable when it came to matters like this. “Oh man, it’s the Heart of Darkness!”

"Heart of Darkness?" Huang Xiaolong subconsciously turned to stare at the little cow.

Instead of replying to him, the little cow nearly broke into dance as she exclaimed animatedly, "I never thought that he would actually be able to form the Heart of Darkness! If not for this, I'm afraid that he really would have died!"

Huang Xiaolong's heart skipped a beat.

From what he heard, the little cow was saying that the King of Darkness wasn't dead yet!

Seeing the look of curiosity on Huang Xiaolong's face, the little cow started to explain everything to him. "Even though the Heart of Darkness isn't as perverse as the Heart of Hell, it's extremely similar! It has the same attributes that allow the owner to live on forever! It seemed as though the Ancient Heavenly Emperor had really destroyed the King of Darkness's body with the Ancient Heavenly Court. However, as long as the Heart of Darkness is present, the King of Darkness will live on forever!"

Chapter 2018: The Lotus of Darkness

Huang Xiaolong stared at the Heart of Darkness on the sacrificial table with a suspicious look in his eyes. However, the Heart of Hell pounding in his chest was already emitting rays of brilliant light.

The King of Darkness was brothers with his master, the King of Hell. Right now, it was as though the two hearts were meeting each other after a long time. It was no wonder the Heart of Hell was acting weirdly when he approached the palace.

"Little cow, do you think that my master is still alive?"

In fact, Huang Xiaolong had a burning question in his heart for a long time. He felt that his master, the King of Hell, should still be alive. That was because his master was the owner of the Heart of Hell.

As long as the three worlds in Hell were still standing tall and the Heart of Hell was alive, and well, there was no way for his master to die!

The little cow shook her head after a short period of consideration. “It’s hard to say. Your master, the King of Hell, had already separated the Heart of Hell from himself. That’s the only reason you managed to refine the heart in the first place! After you received the complete inheritance and obtained the Heart of Hell, it’s even harder to determine whether or not your master is still alive!”

“Whatever the case, when someone reaches the level your master was at, nothing else is of much threat to him. Even if he no longer possesses the Heart of Hell, he might still be alive. As for why he separated the Heart of Hell from himself... The only person to know the answer to that question should be your master himself.”

Huang Xiaolong nodded his head slowly.

However, the little cow’s words rang, again and again, deep in his mind.

Even though there wasn’t much that could threaten a being at his master’s level, nothing in the world was absolute. It was like what the little cow had experienced in the past. Didn’t her soul nearly scatter?

While Huang Xiaolong was thinking about the different possibilities, the little cow explored the space they were in. When she saw a tiny black lotus growing out from the back of the sacrificial table, she released a yelp of surprise.

The black lotus had a total of thirty-six petals, and every single one of them contained immeasurable power. They emitted a magnificent glow and looked as though they were formed from the purest of dark crystals. It held a certain charm that mesmerized everyone who laid their eyes on it.

The part that shocked Huang Xiaolong was the fact that every single petal contained astounding amounts of origin energy!

This!

The lotus was definitely a type of origin treasure!

“Lotus of Darkness... The Lotus of Darkness has actually appeared!” The little cow exclaimed animatedly. She rushed towards the lotus, and saliva poured out from the corner of her lips.

When Huang Xiaolong saw the little cow’s behavior, he knew that the Lotus of Darkness was no ordinary origin treasure.

“This is good stuff, real good stuff!” The little cow pressed her face closer to the lotus and complained in a low voice, “Why! Why will you let me find these treasures?!”

Huang Xiaolong was dumbfounded when he stared at the little cow.

Isn’t it a good thing for her to find such treasures? Why does it sound like she’s complaining?

Despite the question in Huang Xiaolong’s mind, he didn’t ask about it. When the little cow finally calmed herself down, she turned around and raged, “The Lotus of Darkness is a level three origin treasure!” However, she sighed and stared at Huang Xiaolong in the next instant. “Do you even know what is a level three origin treasure?”

Huang Xiaolong felt as though a bolt of lightning had struck him, and he stared at the lotus with his jaws agape.

Level three origin treasure!

It’s something more precious than the purple grandmist aura!

Even someone like Huang Xiaolong, who had seen all sorts of precious treasures, couldn’t help but feel his heart speeding up.

A look of melancholy appeared on the little cow’s face as she sighed. “Now I know why the King of Darkness chose to remain in seclusion here.”

“Are you saying that the King of Darkness had long since realized the presence of this Lotus of Darkness? Is that why he chose to build his palace here to treat his Heart of Darkness?” Huang Xiaolong asked.

The little cow nodded, “That’s definitely the case. With this sort of heaven-defying treasure, even if his physical body was blasted to pieces and his godhead broke into a million pieces, his Heart of Darkness would slowly recover. In fact, there is also a possibility for his Heart of Darkness to strengthen itself by absorbing the energy coming from the Lotus of Darkness!”

“However... The Lotus of Darkness wasn’t mature when he first discovered it. Even if he had swallowed it, he couldn’t have improved his strength by much. Now that several billion years have gone by, the lotus has finally bloomed. You’re really lucky... Everything belongs to you now!”

The little cow stared at Huang Xiaolong with a jealous expression and snorted.

There was no way for her to congratulate him from the bottom of her heart. She would be lying to herself if she said that the Lotus of Darkness didn’t move her. After all, that was the rank three origin treasure they were talking about.

There wasn’t a single Sovereign Realm expert who could remain aloof when a rank three origin treasure was placed before them!

“Let’s split this Lotus of Darkness...”

The little cow stared at Huang Xiaolong in shock the moment he said that. She felt a wave of warmth wash over her heart, but she shook her head in the end. “There is no way for me to refine the Lotus of Darkness. My godhead isn’t of the darkness attribute. Only someone with a darkness attributed godhead will be able to refine an origin treasure born from the darkness of the world.”

A sudden realization dawned on Huang Xiaolong. It was no wonder the little cow was complaining when she saw the Lotus of Darkness. Even though there was a level three origin treasure sitting in front of her face, she couldn’t refine it! Looking at a treasure and being unable to touch it was the worst type of torture!

The little cow turned to Huang Xiaolong and said enviously, “If you refine the Lotus of Darkness, you will be able to bring your Heart of Hell to the next level. If you’re lucky enough to find several other treasures like the Lotus of Darkness, the Heart of Hell might mutate and turn into something stronger than the Ancient Heavenly Court!”

One could only imagine. Huang Xiaolong was able to control anyone below the Fifth Order Emperor Realm with the Heart of Hell with its current power. Even the Radiance Heart Cleansing Mantra was unable to stop him! If the Heart of Hell transformed and became stronger, how terrifying would it become?

“Alright. We don’t have much time left. Hurry up and refine the Lotus of Darkness. I will protect you during the refinement process!”

“What about the King of Darkness?” Huang Xiaolong stared at the Heart of Darkness, and a curious look appeared on his face. Didn’t the little cow say that the Heart of Darkness was healing itself by absorbing the darkness energy coming from the Lotus of Darkness?

The little cow chuckled, “There is no need for you to worry about the King of Darkness. After several billion years of recovery, he should have long since restored himself to his peak state. He should be even stronger than before. The only thing left for him to do is to construct his body and godhead. After you refine the Lotus of Darkness, help him to construct another body with the darkness energy from your Heart of Hell.”

After hearing what the little cow said, Huang Xiaolong felt a wave of relief flood through his heart.

He quickly made his way towards the Lotus of Darkness, and he floated into the air with his feet tucked beneath him. The Archdevil Supreme Godhead started to spin, and it started to devour the Lotus of Darkness.

In an instant, energy poured into Huang Xiaolong’s body like water out of a broken dam. Facing the sudden surge in energy, Huang Xiaolong tried his best to remain cautious. Despite all the precautions he took, the wave of energy nearly suffocated him.

The darkness energy coming from the Lotus of Darkness was just too strong. It was god knew how many times stronger than the energy contained in a purple grandmist aura strand. Thinking about the time

when he had refined the purple grandmist qi in the past, Huang Xiaolong felt that even if he tried to refine ten strands of purple grandmist qi at once, it wouldn't be worse than refining a single Lotus of Darkness.

Chapter 2019: Consecutive Breakthrough!

Huang Xiaolong was overwhelmed with shock. Before he could think of a way to properly refine the Lotus of Darkness, the Heart of Hell started to pound. It started to suck in all the darkness energy in Huang Xiaolong's body like a massive black hole. With the assistance of the Heart of Hell, Huang Xiaolong finally felt much better.

Even though the Heart of Hell absorbed a considerable amount of the pressure, the darkness energy coming from the Lotus of Darkness was just too strong. Sounds of rumbling and popping came from inside Huang Xiaolong's body without stopping.

He circulated the Grandmist Parasitic Medium repeatedly as he pushed the Archdevil Supreme Godhead to its fullest.

Using everything he had, Huang Xiaolong's Archdevil bloodlines moved and started to swallow the darkness energy pouring into him.

As Huang Xiaolong absorbed the Lotus of Darkness's energy, a terrifying wave of darkness emerged from the Lotus of Darkness and swept through the entire palace hall. Even a mid-level Sovereign Realm expert like the little cow didn't dare to be careless as she retreated to a corner of the hall before protecting herself with countless bolts of lightning. A mini lightning world formed around her.

Even though the lightning world summoned by the little cow was strong, it was corroded time and time again by the power of darkness coming from the lotus.

The little cow yelped in shock, and she continued to pour her godforce to reinforce the world of lightning around her.

The darkness energy not only affected the little cow. It also affected the Heart of Darkness on the sacrificial table in the hall. Rays of brilliant light emerged from the heart as it swallowed the darkness energy around it.

The Heart of Darkness started to beat once again.

“Thump, thump, thump.” The sound of heartbeat resounded through the hall as though the Heart of Darkness was about to awaken.

A frown formed on the little cow’s face when she saw what was going on.

If the King of Darkness awakened before Huang Xiaolong could refine the Lotus of Darkness, he would be in trouble. He would be in serious trouble.

When the King of Darkness had entered the demonic path in the past, he had killed an uncountable number of experts in order to successfully cultivate his demonic arts. If the King of Darkness really awakened and ran amok, the little cow wasn’t confident that she could stop him.

The more she thought about it, the more she felt that she had to do something. She reached out her leg, and a world of lightning formed around the sacrificial table. It blocked off the Heart of Darkness from swallowing the darkness energy emitted by the Lotus of Darkness.

In order to protect herself and stop the Heart of Darkness from awakening, the little cow had to strain herself.

Time slowly passed.

In the blink of an eye, two months passed.

When had Huang Xiaolong first come back to the Divine World from the Radiance World, he had barely broken into the Third Order Emperor Realm. In the two months that he spent absorbing the darkness energy, his strength reached the peak of the early-Third Order Emperor Realm.

When the little cow realized how quickly his strength was rising, she nearly yelled out in shock.

That was heaven-defying speed!

When one reached the Emperor Realm, breaking through was harder than ascending to the heavens! Although it was considerably easier than breaking through in the Sovereign Realm, the difficulty wasn't something one could imagine! There were Emperors who took several hundred thousand years in order to arrive at the peak of the early-Third Order Emperor Realm from the early-Third Order Emperor Realm. Several hundred thousand years was considered extremely quick! There were even those who took several million years in order to advance their cultivation!

Huang Xiaolong had used a mere two months in order to do what other Emperors needed several million years to do!

Of course, one of the factors was the rank three origin treasure. With a treasure like the Lotus of Darkness, Huang Xiaolong managed to cut down a lot of time needed. Of course, his three supreme godheads and three Archdevil bloodlines were also extremely important factors.

If someone who had an ordinary darkness attributed godhead tried to absorb the Lotus of Darkness, they wouldn't be able to catch up to Huang Xiaolong's speed!

The Heart of Hell and his divine physiques were also reasons behind Huang Xiaolong's incredible speed of improvement.

The combined might of all the secrets on Huang Xiaolong's body was the reason he could devour the Lotus of Darkness at such an astounding speed.

After more than a month had passed when Huang Xiaolong had reached the peak of the early-Third Order Emperor Realm, he entered the mid-Third Order Emperor Realm.

The aura around Huang Xiaolong's body expanded and strengthened as the Archdevil bloodlines in his body swallowed the darkness energy in the Lotus of Darkness unceasingly. The Heart of Hell operated at maximum speed as it continued to suck in a huge bulk of the energy coming from the lotus.

A year quickly passed.

With Huang Xiaolong's speed of devouring the darkness energy, the energy pouring out of the Lotus of Darkness became more and more tyrannical. The pressure that the little cow suffered increased as she had to constantly circulate the godforce in her body to defend against the darkness energy's corrosive properties.

Huang Xiaolong had already arrived at the peak of the late-Third Order Emperor Realm, and he would break through to the Fourth Order Emperor Realm if nothing unexpected happened.

The moment he entered the Fourth Order Emperor Realm, he would enter the ranks of the mid-level Emperor Realm experts.

Blacklight shrouded Huang Xiaolong's body.

The Heart of Hell pounded madly in Huang Xiaolong's chest. The light it emitted was several times more dazzling than before.

Huang Xiaolong continued to absorb the darkness energy coming from the Lotus of Darkness, and before he knew it, another four months passed.

One fine day, a loud explosion broke the stale atmosphere as the dark light surrounding Huang Xiaolong erupted. Popping sounds came from inside his body, and it sounded as though his bones were breaking and reforming themselves.

Pillars of black light emerged from his head and shot towards the ceiling of the palace hall above him.

As Huang Xiaolong entered the Fourth Order Emperor Realm, the entire palace shook under the tremendous pressure he emitted.

When he entered the mid-level Emperor Realm experts' ranks, Huang Xiaolong's strength improved by leaps and bounds. Compared to the time when he was at the peak of the late-Third Order Emperor Realm, he was tens of times stronger.

The Fourth Order Emperor Realm was a bottleneck that many Third Order Emperors failed to cross. Even after cultivating for several tens of millions of years, there were still many experts stuck at the peak of the late-Third Order Emperor Realm.

When the little cow saw how effortlessly Huang Xiaolong entered the Fourth Order Emperor Realm, she couldn't help but stare at him enviously. "D*mn. With his speed, he might catch up to me in a thousand years!"

One thousand years!

The more the little cow thought about it, the worse she felt. A tremor ran through her heart.

If anyone told her that someone could enter the Sovereign Realm with one to two thousand years of cultivation, she would rather believe that she could shatter her horns by ramming headfirst into a block of tofu. However, the view of her world turned upside down when she saw Huang Xiaolong. Even if someone pulled out all the hair on her body, she wouldn't doubt their words.

Unfortunately, Huang Xiaolong's speed of improvement started to decline after he arrived at the Fourth Order Emperor Realm.

When the little cow noticed the tiny change, she heaved a sigh of relief.

Regardless of whether Huang Xiaolong's speed of improvement declined, it was relative to his speed of improvement in the past. Compared to everyone else, he was still improving at a shocking rate. As four years passed, Huang Xiaolong broke through and entered the Fifth Order Emperor Realm.

When he finally broke through, the glow around the Lotus of Darkness finally started to dim. Despite that, it didn't stop emitting darkness energy. Three years passed. Finally, the outermost petal detached itself and entered Huang Xiaolong's body. After two months, the second petal did the same.

Following which, the third, fourth, and fifth petals turned into streams of light that entered Huang Xiaolong's body.

When the thirty-sixth petal finally entered Huang Xiaolong's body, a dazzling light burst out from his body, and a lotus bloomed above his head. It emitted resplendent rays of light that blinded the little cow.

Only after a day did the lotus start to fade. The dark light around Huang Xiaolong's body receded, and the devouring power of the three Archdevil bloodlines stopped. Everything returned to normal in the hall.

As he slowly opened his eyes, Huang Xiaolong felt the change in his body, and a smile slowly blossomed on his face. He could feel the waves of tyrannical energy contained in his body, and they were much stronger than before.

After refining the Lotus of Darkness, his strength had increased at an unbelievable rate. He had already arrived at the peak of the late-Fifth Order Emperor Realm and was just a step away from entering the Sixth Order.

"Xiaolong, you're finally awake! This old cow can't hold on any longer!" The little cow's voice resounded through the hall. "Hurry up! You need to form a body for the King of Darkness with the darkness energy contained in your Heart of Hell!"

Chapter 2020: King of Darkness' Revival

Huang Xiaolong turned to look at the Heart of Darkness, and he nearly jumped in fright. Waves of darkness energy poured out from the Heart of Darkness, and it seemed as though it was about to fly out of the palace.

If not for the little cow's suppression, he was afraid that the Heart of Darkness would have already disappeared.

"Quick! Form the body!" When the little cow saw how Huang Xiaolong was staring at the heart in stunned silence, she screamed at him. "If this heart leaves the sacrificial table, the King of Darkness might wake up on his own! If that happens, he might lose control and start another killing spree!"

Huang Xiaolong snapped back to attention when he heard what she said. He knew that he needed to create the body as quickly as possible, and he hastily flew towards the sacrificial table. He activated the Heart of Hell once again, and a trace of dark energy slammed down towards the table.

When the King of Darkness had made the sacrificial table in the past, he had inscribed tons of restrictions on it. Now that the restrictions were fully activated, even a Second Order Sovereign like Elan wouldn't be able to break through them.

When Huang Xiaolong saw that his energy was unable to pierce through the restrictions, the thought of summoning the Heavenly Hall appeared in his head. But before he could do so, the little cow snorted, and her body rose into the air. Her feet smashed towards the restrictions, and no matter how strong they seemed to be, the restrictions eventually shattered.

Even though the sacrificial table was extremely sturdy, it was only powered by the Heart of Darkness. Without an actual body, the Heart of Darkness was no match for the little cow.

Huang Xiaolong saw the restrictions shattering, and he heaved a sigh of relief in his heart. He didn't hesitate, and he circulated the darkness energy in his Heart of Hell. Boundless might poured towards the Heart of Darkness situated on the sacrificial table.

The Heart of Hell was the origin of the darkness in Hell. Now that it had absorbed the darkness energy from the Lotus of Darkness, it had become the overlord of all darkness. No matter the strength of the resistance from the sacrificial table, it couldn't stop the darkness energy coming from the Heart of Hell.

As soon as the energy from the Heart of Hell descended, it wrapped itself around the Heart of Darkness.

The heart trembled, and it shattered the ball of energy around it.

Huang Xiaolong tried countless times, but he failed to do anything to the Heart of Darkness.

"Let me help!" The little cow snorted, and she opened her mouth to spit out a ball of lightning. The ball of lightning blasted away the energy coming from the Heart of Darkness.

The darkness energy from Huang Xiaolong's Heart of Hell quickly seeped into the Heart of Darkness. The instant it entered, Huang Xiaolong could feel the tyrannical strength the Heart of Darkness possessed. In the space inside the Heart of Darkness, darkness energy formed its own world.

Is this the accumulation of the King of Darkness before his body was destroyed?

The space inside the Heart of Darkness was too vast. Even though the Heart of Hell was the overlord of all darkness, the difference in strength between Huang Xiaolong and the King of Darkness was too large. The energy Huang Xiaolong could produce with his Heart of Hell was like a drop of water in the ocean compared to the Heart of Darkness's energy.

Forcing his way forward, Huang Xiaolong tried to look for the source of the King of Darkness's soul.

As long as he could subdue the King of Darkness's soul thread, he would be able to control the King of Darkness after he revived. If he allowed the King of Darkness to return to life naturally, the King of Darkness might go crazy and attack the little cow and him immediately.

Days passed as Huang Xiaolong explored the space within the Heart of Darkness.

The space was really too large, and a frown slowly formed on Huang Xiaolong's face. If he didn't think of another method, he might not be able to find the soul strand even if he looked around for several years.

"I'll teach you an ancient soul searching method!" The little cow realized the problem, and she quickly found a solution. Lightning flashed in her eyes, and it slowly entered the space between Huang Xiaolong's eyebrows. She imprinted the technique straight into Huang Xiaolong's mind.

After he digested the way to perform the technique, Huang Xiaolong hastily tried it out.

The darkness energy from his Heart of Hell started to fluctuate, and rays of light pierced through the space in the Heart of Darkness. As Huang Xiaolong circulated the technique unceasingly, the area that lit up became larger and larger.

One mile, two miles... ten miles...

After half a day, the light extended to a radius of more than ten million miles, and Huang Xiaolong managed to locate the King of Darkness' soul strand.

A wave of happiness washed over his heart, and he instantly locked on to the soul strand. Circulating the Grandmist Parasitic Medium, a purple light burning in his eyes, Grandmist worms appeared in his palms, and they quickly fused to form a mini purple dragon. They charged towards the soul strand and wrapped it up tightly.

Half a year passed...

All of a sudden, blinding light burst out from the Heart of Darkness as though a dark star was born. Vitality filled the Heart of Darkness.

A sigh of relief left Huang Xiaolong's lips.

With the little cow's assistance, he finally managed to subdue the Heart of Darkness. The grandmist worms he had summoned finally fused with the heart.

Right now, he no longer needed to dread facing an uncontrollable King of Darkness. The King of Darkness wouldn't be able to devour him after awakening.

The Heart of Darkness stopped pumping all of a sudden as it fell silent.

If there was anyone who was more relieved than Huang Xiaolong, it was the little cow. She wiped the sweat off her brows, and she complained, "D*mn it! This old cow is exhausted! I would rather fight with Old Monster Lun Zhuan than do this again!"

"No no no, this time, you need to reward me properly! I want a hundred bottles of Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills!"

Huang Xiaolong chuckled and retrieved a hundred bottles without the slightest hesitation. He threw them over to her with a smile on his face. When she saw how easily she had managed to obtain a

hundred bottles of Angel Soul Jade Divine Pills, a sinister smile appeared on her face. "I should have asked for two hundred bottles!"

Huang Xiaolong stared at the Heart of Darkness and ignored her. Even though the most important step was already done, he couldn't be careless. Otherwise, he would have wasted all his efforts.

He took out a single Angel Soul Jade Divine Pill and swallowed it, recovering the godforce in his body. Only when he returned to his peak state did he circulate the darkness energy in the Heart of Hell to form a body for the King of Darkness.

With the assistance of the Heart of Hell, the Heart of Darkness resumed its beating. Resplendent rays of light emerged every time it contracted. With the Heart of Hell as the origin, the body slowly formed. The chest formed first, followed by the skull, and his arms formed next.

As the body slowly formed, his legs grew out to complete it.

A perfect body that emitted boundless pressure appeared before the man and cow duo.

The body that appeared was the body that the King of Darkness had possessed in the past. Huang Xiaolong had used the memories in the Heart of Darkness to construct the exact same body the King of Darkness had previously.

When the body was finally completed, the soul strand appeared and entered the King of Darkness's mind. After a short while, the King of Darkness slowly opened his eyes. As soon as they opened, the world was plunged into darkness once again.

The world only returned to its original form after ten breaths of time.

Rising slowly from the sacrificial table, the King of Darkness swept his gaze over to stare at the little cow. A frosty light flashed through them. "Old Ancestor Azure Cow!"

Even though he was under Huang Xiaolong's control, he could remember everything that had happened in the past.

“Hehe, little brat, why do you look like you’re suffering from constipation? Let’s see... We haven’t met in so many years. Why don’t you greet me with a smile?” The little cow felt the corners of her lips arching upwards, and she nearly roared with laughter.