

King Hall 501

Chapter 501 - Give an Explanation

"Okay."

Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt, hearing Li Yaotong's words, both looked solemn and then began to tentatively remove the Zen staff and the cross from the demons.

Of course, they did not recklessly remove them; since it was exploratory, they proceeded step by step. First, they dispelled the Elemental Force that they had blessed upon the magic artifacts, allowing the Golden Zen Staff and the cross to be devoid of Buddha's Light and Holy Light to see if pure gold alone could suppress the demons.

Once the Elemental Force attached to the golden artifacts dispersed, the previously calm demons began to tremble, seemingly ready to struggle at any moment.

"It appears that gold alone cannot thoroughly suppress the demons, but gold does amplify strength and suppress them."

Li Yaotong discerned their intentions and also came to a conclusion based on the reaction of the demons.

"Okay, the artifacts can be removed now."

Having reached the conclusion, Li Yaotong saw no need for them to continue the suppression. Those present had basically discerned the pattern and were also able to suppress the demons with the amplification from gold!

Indeed, after Sheng Rulai and Reinhardt removed their golden artifacts, although the demon lying in the Golden Coffin trembled slightly and seemed to be regaining mobility, it was clearly not as aggressive as when it was outside.

"Charge!"

Throughout this process, San Liu leisurely lifted the coffin lid, preparing to seal it right away.

"Wait."

Ren Xiaoyao suddenly shouted.

San Liu then halted his movement, curiously looking toward him.

Ren Xiaoyao pulled out several Evil-suppressing talismans from his bosom, explaining, "Relying on the golden coffin alone, I fear it might not contain it. A few more Evil-suppressing talismans and it probably won't be able to move."

Having said this, Ren Xiaoyao tossed the yellow paper talismans into the golden coffin.

This time, the talismans did not ignite and burn up as soon as they approached the demon. Instead, they emitted a faint halo and gently landed on the demon.

Suddenly, the demon, which had still been slightly trembling and seemed to be attempting to crawl out of the golden coffin, could not move at all.

Seeing this, Ren Xiaoyao finally heaved a sigh of relief internally.

Initially seeing that only Buddha's Light Shines Everywhere and Brilliant Divine Authority's Buddha's Light and Holy Light could suppress it bothered him, making him wonder why the Taoist sect couldn't handle this matter. After all, hadn't their Taoists been exorcising ghosts and demons before?

Now seeing his own Evil-suppressing talismans, also utilizing the amplification from gold, completely suppress the demon, he felt a breath of foul air had been released, not allowing themselves to be trampled by the other two organizations.

"Alright, we can seal the coffin lid now."

Knowing that he too could suppress the demon, Ren Xiaoyao no longer halted San Liu's actions and waved his hand to instruct him.

San Liu, not minding his age-old tone, lifted the coffin lid and firmly sealed the golden coffin.

"Bang!"

A dull sound emerged as the golden coffin and lid fit seamlessly together.

Ren Xiaoyao said, "This thing, I feel it must be completely sealed to death to avoid someone accidentally opening it and removing the Evil-suppressing talismans, letting it escape."

"Mm." Mu Jinyu spoke, "Let me do it."

As he spoke, he stood out, his left hand gesturing a spell, and with a wave of his right hand, a flame ignited in his palm.

Then, Mu Jinyu placed his hand on the seam of the golden coffin, and the seam began to melt.

Mu Jinyu dared not linger too long in one place to avoid burning a hole. He circled the golden coffin and successfully used the flame to seal the golden coffin shut!

"Alright, later we'll call the local person in charge to take the golden coffin away for safekeeping, and that should settle things. After this incident, I doubt they'll dare to mess with this golden coffin," Ren Xiaoyao said as he withdrew his gaze and spoke gravely.

San Liu looked at Li Yaotong, who seemed deep in thought, and asked, "Why does gold amplify abilities and suppress demons?"

Mu Jinyu blurted out, "Maybe it's because... money can make the devil turn the millstone!"

"Oh, I see," San Liu said, suddenly enlightened.

The others glanced at them oddly, thinking to themselves that these two were really crazy.

Li Yaotong said, "I don't know why gold can suppress demons either, but it reminds me of something."

"What's that?" San Liu turned to look at him and asked.

"The pyramid," Li Yaotong replied.

Upon hearing this, everyone was stirred.

Then, they began to discuss what similar cases existed, which represented that such demonic chaos had indeed occurred before.

Finally, someone worriedly asked, "If gold is needed every time someone is corrupted by dreadful calamities and turned into a demon, is there enough gold in the world?"

Upon hearing this, everyone's mood also grew heavy.

From the start of the dark chaos until now, it had been more than half a day, and heaven knows how many demon minions had been created by the dreadful calamity, as well as many demons Li Yaotong mentioned needing attention during the meeting.

Putting aside the prerequisites for subduing those things, just the amount of gold needed to completely suppress them after they are subdued is daunting!

Is there really enough gold reserves in the world?

Seeing the worried expressions on everyone's faces, Li Yaotong said, "Don't worry too much. Dante was just an exception. Normally, people corrupted by the dreadful calamities shouldn't be so troublesome, and they might not need gold to suppress them."

"As for the purebred demons, they probably all need gold to be suppressed, but we should also have ways to solve this. From what I know, these demons were supposed to be locked in a folded space here. They started appearing because Xiang Mantang of the Dragon King Hall mistook it for the Garden of Eden and opened it..."

Li Yaotong hadn't finished speaking when almost everyone present suddenly turned their gaze to Mu Jinyu and Jian Ruyan.

"What? This whole mess was caused by the Dragon King Hall?"

"And now we have to clean up after them!"

Because the situation had arisen suddenly, and they were neither Omniscient nor from Paradise Lost, they were naturally unclear that Xiang Mantang had caused the dark chaos.

Only now that Li Yaotong had spoken did they realize this.

Mu Jinyu ignored their reactions. His heart sank slightly; he had vaguely guessed that the incident involving Dante's demonization after his death was probably because Xiang Mantang had caused a problem while trying to save him.

He just didn't know what had happened to him now.

Was he also demonized, or was he imprisoned in the space with the demons?

He needed to ask Jian Ruyan about it later.

Mu Jinyu remembered that when he first saw Jian Ruyan and asked about Xiang Mantang, her expression had been odd.

He knew she must know something, but she didn't say anything because there were many people around.

Seeing Mu Jinyu remain silent, Le Le couldn't help but raise his voice, "Dragon King, this matter arose because of a member of your Dragon King Hall. Now you want us to clean up your mess. Aren't you going to explain yourself?"

"Explain to you?" Mu Jinyu looked at him, his eyes showing impatience, "Are you looking to fight me?"

Chapter 502 - Asking Jian Ruyan!

With those words from Mu Jinyu, the atmosphere at the scene couldn't help but become tense.

Le Le and Ren Xiaoyao's relationship with Dragon King Hall was already not very good, and for some of the tense organization leaders, their faces turned visibly unhappy.

Ren Xiaoyao spoke up, "What now, the trouble that your Dragon King Hall has caused, you need us all to help solve it? We only asked you to explain yourself and exert more effort in this matter, are you actually thinking of getting physical with us?"

Le Le and Ren Xiaoyao didn't want to fight with Dragon King Hall. Given the current situation, causing internal strife was definitely not the wise choice.

Even if they wanted to settle scores with Dragon King Hall, it would have to wait until this dark turmoil was over.

What they wanted was for Dragon King Hall, representing the Huaxia Faction, to contribute a significant quantity of gold in this matter.

Mu Jinyu was well aware of their intentions. He looked at them coldly and said, "I had no intention of getting into a fight with you, but if you think of dumping the blame on Dragon King Hall and making us pay the price, then don't even think about it!"

"You say that it is because of my junior brother that this dark turmoil has arisen, but I can also say, if it weren't for the 'Omniscient' ones speaking carelessly, how would my junior brother have ended up in this damned place?"

Li Yaotong's face froze upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words.

If they really wanted to shift the blame, it could actually fall on the heads of the Omniscient.

After all, if it hadn't been for someone thinking that Xiang Mantang was being too reckless and needed to calm down, or maybe to give him some guidance, and then letting him come here, probably this dark turmoil wouldn't have happened.

Mu Jinyu didn't even look at Li Yaotong's face; he wasn't really trying to shift the blame onto the Omniscient, he just felt that everyone had a responsibility.

He continued, "Moreover, after my junior brother arrived at this place, he found the Folded Space where demons were imprisoned. I suspect that there is someone behind this!

Mu Jinyu himself didn't know for sure whether there was someone causing trouble.

He just felt it to be quite possible.

Although Xiang Mantang was smart and had the experience of freely entering and exiting Kunlun Ruins, it's not plausible that he would immediately know how to enter a place with a Folded Space.

If it was that easy to enter, the demons would likely have caused trouble long ago, and there would have been no need to wait for Xiang Mantang to take action.

He initially suspected that this dark turmoil was orchestrated by the Omniscient leading Xiang Mantang into it.

But then again, he felt that the likelihood wasn't very high since all the interactions the Omniscient had with Xiang Mantang had already been logged by Gao Yu.

So, while the Omniscient were suspicious, other organizations that usually kept a low profile, like Heavenly Palace and Paradise Lost, could also be likely suspects.

Even Fallen Splendor and Brilliant Divine Authority, organizations that bore some grudge against Dragon King Hall, weren't beyond suspicion!

Mu Jinyu's cold gaze swept over everyone, warning, "Don't let me find out who pushed my junior brother into this!"

He didn't utter any threats, but his tone made his stance clear.

Le Le's heart tightened, but he kept his composure.

The faces of Ren Xiaoyao and the others looked slightly worse, appearing as if they wanted to say more.

Li Yaotong hurriedly intervened, "What are you doing fighting among ourselves at a time like this? This matter can't be entirely blamed on Dragon King Hall, and my Omniscient has indeed been negligent. Let's all take a step back!"

With Li Yaotong speaking up, Ren Xiaoyao took the opportunity to back down, "Hmph, for the sake of this guy, let's just drop this matter for now!"

He also wanted to blame Li Yaotong. If it were normal times, they would probably have already taken action against the Omniscient.

But now, in such a dark and tumultuous era, many things are shrouded in secrecy; they are all in the dark, and without the help of the "Omniscient," their situation would have likely been even more difficult.

Dependent on the "Omniscient," he naturally wouldn't trouble the "Omniscient."

Upon hearing Ren Xiaoyao's words, Mu Jinyu arched his eyebrows, maintaining his tough demeanor as he coldly sneered, "Waiting to bring up past events another day? I'm always ready to accompany you!"

Ren Xiaoyao's expression stiffened upon hearing this.

He had just been saying some face-saving words, indicating that this matter should be let go, but to his surprise, Mu Jinyu, the one who had erred, was even more hard-lined than him, leaving him somewhat unable to step down gracefully.

"Alright, alright, let's all take a step back and stop talking about it," Li Yaotong hurriedly interjected.

Eventually, Mu Jinyu snorted coldly and said no more.

Seeing that they hadn't come to blows, Li Yaotong finally relaxed a little and then continued, "I haven't finished what I was saying earlier, about the issue of suppressing demons..."

The world's gold reserves are probably not enough to suppress all the demons and this method of suppression may not be very safe either. As the years pass, successors unaware of the perils of the Golden Coffin could sell it or melt it down, and if they release the demons that way, it would be very dangerous.

Therefore, the correct approach is to find the Folded Space that originally contained the Tide of Chaos and the first Demon and to completely secure them again..."

Le Le's gaze flickered as she spoke, "The only solution may indeed be this, but none of us knows where that original Folded Space, which held the demons, is located."

Lucifer suddenly said, "It doesn't matter if we can't find it; the Kunlun Mountain in Huaxia once had the Folded Space of the Kunlun Ruins, which can also be used to contain these demons."

Ren Xiaoyao cast a glance at him and said, "If you want to provoke the people of the Heavenly Palace, I don't mind you doing so."

Upon hearing the two words "Heavenly Palace," Lucifer immediately fell silent.

The group also moved past the topic of imprisoning the demons in the Kunlun Ruins.

After all, it was said that there were beings above the God Realm in the Kunlun Ruins, and should they throw demons in to cause chaos amongst them, provoking them to come out, they feared none of them would be able to bear the consequences!

So even though mentioning this plan could indeed throw Huaxia into disarray for a while, thinking of the consequences, they still didn't dare to actually carry it out.

Unless, the dark chaos eventually became absolutely uncontrollable, only then would they burn all bridges and lure the demons to the Kunlun Ruins, to let the people of the Heavenly Palace have a taste!

But this could only be the last resort.

"Alright, the task of finding a suitable Folded Space can't be rushed; being anxious won't help, so we can only take it step by step. For now, we seem to have some understanding of the patterns in confining demons, so let's go deal with the demons first."

Li Yaotong shifted the topic.

"Hmm, then let's split up and take action," the group said.

Why split up? Naturally, they would first check their own territories for any discord, and only afterward would they begin to scour the world for traces of the demons!

Li Yaotong understood their thoughts and didn't force them, allowing each power to allocate a location to inspect.

Representatives of the various powers quickly dispersed.

Mu Jinyu watched with his Divine Sense as the last person left, then turned to the unmoving Jian Ruyan and asked, "You should know Ah-Xiang's whereabouts, right? Tell me clearly."

Chapter 503: You are Xiang Yinxui, right?

Jian Ruyan didn't speak, but directly showed Mu Jinyu the satellite surveillance video that had been enlarged a hundred times.

She knew that the only person she could trust, the only person who would wholeheartedly help her find Xiang Mantang, was Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu took Jian Ruyan's cell phone, opened the video to look, and at first glance, he saw only darkness, not knowing what it was.

But he understood that Jian Ruyan wouldn't show him a useless video, so he narrowed his eyes and started to watch carefully in the darkness.

Then, he saw a figure moving within the darkness.

It was just a silhouette, but it made Mu Jinyu shudder violently.

He quickly raised his head to look at Jian Ruyan, and incredulously asked, "Ah-Xiang, Ah-Xiang... has he fallen into that darkness?"

"Mhm." Jian Ruyan nodded lightly, and for the first time, worry appeared on her usually calm face.

She then took back her cell phone from Mu Jinyu's hand and pulled up the unenlarged video, showing him the scene of the darkness spreading and corroding everything.

Mu Jinyu had come in haste and hadn't had a chance to understand what exactly had happened here.

He had a faint feeling that Xiang Mantang might be in danger and followed a few of the major organizations to a meeting, where he learned about the horror of the imminent disaster and the Tide of Chaos.

Now, seeing the dark corrosion shown by Jian Ruyan, as if it had caused the surrounding environment to age hundreds or thousands of years in an instant, everything decaying, he realized how terrible the crisis Xiang Mantang was facing was!

"This this..."

Mu Jinyu watched the video proceed, Xiang Mantang shrouded in darkness, and finally, slowly moving away towards an uninhabited direction, trembling slightly all over.

"What should we do? How can we save him?"

Mu Jinyu raised his head and looked at Jian Ruyan with great anxiety.

He was at a loss for what to do.

He knew Xiang Mantang's situation must be extremely dangerous, but the danger he was facing now was different from the incident at Kunlun Mountain.

That time he was able to find Xiang Mantang and rescue him, but now, even if he was to find Xiang Mantang's location, would he dare to approach?

To get close would surely mean being devoured down to his bones, scattering as ash.

That would be deliberately seeking death, utterly pointless!

Only by finding a solution could he possibly rescue Xiang Mantang.

Jian Ruyan hesitated, then said, "I think an Omniscient person might know the solution, but I don't dare ask them directly.

After all, my brother... Tianshu has now become entangled with the darkness, and their Heavenly Eyes can't see his fate.

To facilitate the resolution of this matter, they might consider suppressing both him and the source of the darkness together, rather than saving Tianshu first, then suppressing the source of the darkness!"

"Mhm." Mu Jinyu also shared this concern.

After all, if the source of darkness were entwined with Sheng Rulai or Li Yaotong, they wouldn't care about separating them, but would rather solve the problem quickly by suppressing them together.

Sacrificing one person to save countless others would be far too worthwhile.

As for what it felt like to be the one sacrificed, that wasn't their concern.

But now, the one entangled with the source of darkness was Xiang Mantang, and he simply couldn't think or act that way.

People are always hypocritical; the sacrifice of a stranger and the sacrifice of a relative are completely different in gravity.

"However, what we can know now," Jian Ruyan continued, "is that Tianshu is probably not in any immediate danger, so we must quickly come up with a way to rescue him."

Mu Jinyu's brow furrowed as he said, "Indeed, time is of the essence and we can't discuss it rashly with outsiders. Firstly, we need to find Ah-Xiang, then try to communicate with him to see if his consciousness still exists..."

"Yes, I think so too," Jian Ruyan nodded.

Mu Jinyu looked up to find the direction Xiang Mantang had left in and soon pinpointed the exact location.

After all, Xiang Mantang was shrouded in darkness when leaving, and the commotion was huge, leaving behind distinct traces, making it blatantly obvious.

Li Yaotong and his group actually also knew the direction in which the darkness had departed. They might not be aware of Xiang Mantang's presence within it, but during the meeting, they all turned a blind eye to the departing direction of this dark source and didn't bring it up voluntarily.

It was because they knew that getting involved with the dark source was tantamount to courting death.

Now, for some unknown reason, the dark source was compressed into a range of a thousand miles and was no longer spreading across the globe, making it a natural choice for them to first deal with the imminent disaster and other demons.

"It's over here, let's go."

After pinpointing the location, Mu Jinyu called out to Jian Ruyan and started running briskly forward.

'I hope we can still catch up,' Mu Jinyu muttered to himself.

Later on, seeing that Jian Ruyan's speed was way too slow, Mu Jinyu frowned and said, "Relax a bit, don't use True Yuan to protect your body; I'll protect you as we go."

"Okay," Jian Ruyan agreed.

She knew that after Mu Jinyu had entered the God Realm, he also possessed the divine skill of Shrinking Ground into Inches. If they were to catch up to Xiang Mantang, having Mu Jinyu take her along would definitely be faster than her running alone.

Afterward, Jian Ruyan relaxed and let Mu Jinyu harness the Heaven and Earth Vital Energy, embracing her, and then they pursued Xiang Mantang's departure direction at an incredibly fast speed that was beyond imagination.

Chasing after Xiang Mantang with Jian Ruyan did not prove challenging for Mu Jinyu. After all, he was using the Heaven and Earth Vital Energy and not his True Yuan, plus he was only taking Jian Ruyan with him.

While tracking, Mu Jinyu suddenly spoke up, "By the way, Yaoguang Hall Master, Jian Ruyan isn't your real name, is it?"

Being carried forward by Mu Jinyu, as if soaring through the air, Jian Ruyan's body tensed slightly at his question. After hesitating for a moment and letting out a sigh, she said quietly, "Yes, that's right."

Indeed, there are people with the surname 'With Sword,' though few in number, and Jian Ruyan's real name was indeed not Jian Ruyan.

All she hoped now was that Mu Jinyu hadn't discovered anything.

In a casual tone, Mu Jinyu asked, "Your real name wouldn't happen to be Xiang Yinxui, would it?"

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Jian Ruyan's face turned deathly pale, her lips pressed tightly together, at a loss for words.

After a long moment, she spoke faintly, "How did you know?"

Mu Jinyu was not surprised by Jian Ruyan's reaction. As he led the way through the sky, he explained:

"Your feelings for Ah-Xiang are very special. At first, I thought you were infatuated with him and even thought we might one day rejoice at your wedding. But later, I felt that something was off, the way you looked at him was completely different from the way my wives look at me..."

"I could overlook that, after all, I don't understand the heart of a woman."

"But just now, when I saw you use a secret technique to temporarily boost your strength to the God Realm and the Curse Ice Phoenix Mark appeared on your forehead, I understood that you were most likely the sister Ah-Xiang has been searching for, Xiang Yinxui!"

Chapter 504: Capital City in Crisis!

Jian Ruyan sighed deeply and said, "Just because of that Ice Phoenix Curse Mark, you're certain I'm Xiang Yinxui? Isn't that a bit too childish?"

Mu Jinyu replied, "It's not childish at all, because that Ice Phoenix Curse Mark is not something that can be cast by just any secret technique. Ah-Xiang has it on his face too, I don't know if you've ever seen it."

"He has it too?" Jian Ruyan couldn't help but ask.

"Yes, but he rarely uses it, because if he uses it too much, he easily loses control and his consciousness gets dominated by a murderous intent."

Mu Jinyu explained, "Do you know why my master eventually took Ah-Xiang as his disciple?"

Jian Ruyan asked, "Isn't it because if your master hadn't taken him, then you wouldn't have joined either?"

"Initially, that was indeed the case," Mu Jinyu said. "My master reluctantly accepted him as a disciple. Under those circumstances, my master couldn't possibly teach Ah-Xiang everything he knew. My pleading was futile, since he was only a registered disciple at that time..."

"But later, my master incidentally discovered that when Ah-Xiang lost control of his emotions, the Vermilion Phoenix Pattern would appear on his face. That's when he decided to make him a direct disciple, just like me, and taught him everything he knew, of course, excluding the art of medicine because Ah-Xiang really had no talent in medical arts."

"Just because of that Vermilion Phoenix Pattern, what does this curse mark represent?" Jian Ruyan was somewhat shocked and hurriedly asked.

Mu Jinyu said, "My master's explanation was that it represents a kind of Bloodline Power. You know, before me, Dragon King Hall was essentially a single lineage, always undertaken by people from the Su family. My grandfather could become the Dragon King, not just because of his strength, but also because he had the Dragon Clan's Bloodline within him."

"My body also contains traces of the Dragon Clan's Bloodline, but it cannot be activated, so I can't show you what the Azure Dragon Pattern looks like."

Mu Jinyu said with some regret.

"So you're saying..." Jian Ruyan frowned and said, "The Ice Phoenix Curse Mark on my forehead is actually a kind of Bloodline Power. No wonder they always kept it a secret from me."

She continued, "But my curse mark is clearly different from Tianshu's... from my brother's Vermilion Phoenix Pattern, isn't it? How could you be certain that I am Xiang Yinxui?"

Mu Jinyu laughed and said, "Without the special treatment you and Ah-Xiang received, I wouldn't have thought much about your Ice Phoenix Mark. But how could I not guess, considering how exceptionally kind you are to Ah-Xiang, to the point of making people jealous, and having such a similar Ice Phoenix Mark?"

As he spoke, Mu Jinyu frowned and said, "But since you have already found Ah-Xiang, why have you never acknowledged him? Why did you let him keep searching for you, and recently, he even got hurt by others because of it?!"

Mu Jinyu's tone at the end had a questioning and pressing implication.

If it wasn't for Jian Ruyan's relationship with Xiang Mantang, he would probably start teaching Jian Ruyan a lesson right now for this kind of playacting that almost got him killed.

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's questioning, Jian Ruyan's face turned deathly pale. She lowered her head and said, "I'm sorry, I didn't want this either. I really wish to acknowledge my brother, but I'm sorry..."

Mu Jinyu furrowed his brows, stopped walking, turned around to look at her, and asked, "Is there some kind of difficulty you're facing?"

"Don't ask anymore, I can't tell you!" Jian Ruyan said with a pale face.

"Forget it." Mu Jinyu didn't press her further.

After all, Jian Ruyan was still Xiang Mantang's sister.

Just then, Mu Jinyu's phone suddenly rang.

He took it out and saw it was a call from Gu Xiyan.

"Hello, what's the matter?"

Upon connecting, Ji stirred with Gu Xiyan's panicked voice and the sounds of sobbing that could still be heard, alongside gentle utterances, "Jinyu, over here, someone just..."

"Someone suddenly became very terrifying, like an evil ghost, and attacked us... but they didn't succeed. They are still fighting with the bodyguards you sent us..."

"Hmm?" Mu Jinyu listened to Gu Xiyan's somewhat unclear words, his eyes widened in urgency. "You guys quickly hide first, then prick your finger to see if there is any change in the blood. If there is, separate immediately, I'll be right back..."

After instructing Gu Xiyan on what to do in this situation, he immediately hung up the phone.

He was ready to head back to the Huaxia Capital City but then paused, his expression tangled in conflict.

On one hand, Xiang Mantang was being eroded by a dark source, and the specifics were unknown; on the other, his family might have been attacked by a terrible calamity, and he simply couldn't leave!

"You go back, I will find Brother myself!"

Jian Ruyan noticed Mu Jinyu's distress and offered understandingly.

After his expression shifted several times, he sighed, "Then you track the dark source, be extremely careful, and make sure not to get into trouble. Otherwise, once Ah-Xiang is back to normal, she would definitely blame me for not protecting you well!"

Having said that, he didn't linger any longer and immediately dashed toward the nearby airport to hurry back to the Capital City.

Mu Jinyu really had no other choice.

Regarding Xiang Mantang, firstly, even if he went there, he really had no solution; secondly, Jian Ruyan was already on her way to check it out.

As for Gu Xiyan and others, since they had all come to the Capital City and were now under attack by demon minions presumably left from the previous calamity, they were ordinary people and needed his immediate rescue even more.

Moreover, Su Zijin was also there.

He couldn't disregard the safety of so many people and continue to search for Xiang Mantang!

"Ah-Xiang, I'm sorry, last time I abandoned mom and Xiyan to save you. This time, I can't go to help you again, I need to save them!"

Mu Jinyu murmured to himself in his heart.

He knew that by deciding to return to the Capital City to save Gu Xiyan and the others, he would essentially need to keep them protected, or ensure they were definitely safe before he could find time to continue investigating Xiang Mantang's disappearance and find a way to save him...

He felt very reluctant, but in the world, there are very few perfect solutions. Often, at the crossroads of life, making one difficult decision can influence your entire life.

...

Capital City.

Inside the Su Family Courtyard.

Gu Xiyan and Su Zijin, along with a few other women, watched in panic as one of their suddenly demonized bodyguards fought against their other bodyguards!

"Roar!!"

A long-haired demon with protruding sharp teeth and continuously drooling, sporting a malevolently twisted face like that of an evil ghost, swung its chillingly sharp claws in a battle with several members of the Dragon King Hall protecting Su Zijin.

Its nails, over a meter long and sharp as swords, endangered the Dragon King Hall members with each strike, bringing them close to peril several times.

"What on earth is this thing, and why has Little Zhang suddenly turned into this?"

Su Zijin and the others, trembling with fear, stared at the demonized Little Zhang.

Gu Xiyan tried to remain calm and said, "I will call Jinyu and see what's going on."

As she spoke, she took out her phone and dialed Mu Jinyu's number, looking up at the dark haze in the sky while waiting for the connection.

Chapter 505 - The Reason for Being Unaffected by Erosion

Gu Xiyang hung up the phone, having learned some solutions from Mu Jinyu.

She hurriedly made another call to Mu Hongchen, asking her to prepare some weapons made of gold and then send them over here to deal with the demon minions in this area.

After hanging up the phone again, Gu Xiyang looked at Su Zijin and Mei Yinxue with a somewhat frightened gaze, fearing that they too had been demonized.

But remembering Mu Jinyu's instructions, she finally clenched her teeth and then said, "Everyone, follow me first."

Upon hearing Gu Xiyang's words, Su Zijin, and the other women didn't know what she intended to do and cast worried glances at the bodyguards contending in battle with the demons before following Gu Xiyang out of the courtyard to another safe courtyard.

During this time, Gu Xiyang deliberately avoided some of the Su Family's housemaids, and finally successfully led Su Zijin and the others to the room that Mu Jinyu had once lived in.

"Xiyang, what are you doing?"

Mei Yinxue stood at the door, recalling Gu Xiyang's recent actions. She understood that Xiyang was specifically avoiding others, probably fearing sudden demonization, but was still somewhat baffled as to why she had brought them here.

If they were seeking refuge, shouldn't they have run to the Dragon King Hall's headquarters?

Gu Xiyang didn't answer but found a box of Silver Needles that Mu Jinyu had left behind. Then, clenching her teeth, she pricked her own fingertip first, watching as the crimson blood oozed out, and she finally felt relieved.

She was actually quite afraid that she had been demonized and would suddenly start harming those around her like Little Zhang had.

Now that she had not been invaded by demons, she no longer had to be so anxious.

Of course, it didn't end with just herself being fine. Su Zijin and the others were still at risk and needed to be tested as well.

If there were problems with their blood, then, according to Mu Jinyu's words, they should separate from them for the time being.

As for whether there was a cure, neither Su Zijin nor Mu Jinyu knew.

"Wen Rou, extend your hand as well."

Thinking this, Gu Xiyan took a deep breath and called out to the most fragile among them, Wen Rou.

"What... what is it, Sister Xiyan?" Wen Rou's face was very pale. Hearing Gu Xiyan's words, she couldn't help but turn her head toward her and asked in a somewhat stammering voice.

Of course, as she asked, she obediently extended her fair, small hand toward Gu Xiyan.

Gu Xiyan said, "Let's check if anyone among us has a problem."

"Bear with it a moment!"

Saying that, Gu Xiyan grabbed Wen Rou's small hand and thrust a silver needle into her fingertip.

"Ah!"

Wen Rou, who had always been quite timid, couldn't help but cry out at Gu Xiyan's action.

Gu Xiyan pulled out the silver needle, looking at the crimson fresh blood oozing from Wen Rou's fingertip, and immediately breathed a sigh of relief.

Then, she looked toward Mei Yinxue.

Mei Yinxue was clever. From Gu Xiyan's actions and their recent conversation, she knew that if someone was demonized, their blood should change, and Gu Xiyan was now checking if any of them had also been invaded by demons.

Thus, without asking further, she extended her hand to Gu Xiyan.

"Bear with it."

Gu Xiyan grabbed Mei Yinxue's hand and pricked her with the needle as well. It was also crimson and showed no issues.

Then, she looked toward Su Zijin.

Su Zijin didn't speak a word and handed her hand over. Gu Xiyan didn't waste words and pricked her as well.

After the checks, none of the four of them showed signs of demon invasion.

"Phew, we're relatively safe for now."

Gu Xiyan put away the silver needles, and her entire demeanor relaxed a bit.

However, she couldn't relax much, as she then thought of her parents and the many Gu family members, and her expression tensed up again.

Wen Rou and Mei Yinxue were relatively fine, given they had no relatives left anymore.

Su Zijin was the same, the people she cared about were now Mu Jinyu and those three little girls.

Gu Xiyan's eyebrows furrowed tightly, and she said with some agitation, "What should we do? My family is still in River City, and I don't know if anything has happened to them?"

Although Gu Xiyan had fallen out with the Gu family members for various reasons and had not gone back to the Gu family for a long time,

she would not really ignore her family in a life-threatening situation like this.

After all, no matter what, they were still bound by blood.

Anxious and worried, Gu Xiyan knew she couldn't possibly bring her whole family to Capital City. She could only take out her phone and call her parents, instructing them to be careful and constantly check their blood for any issues.

She also asked them to inform other relatives and friends to go out less and avoid crowded places.

After finishing the call with her parents, Gu Xiyan also called Yu Linglong, Lin Qiaoxia, Xu Qingya, and reminded them to be cautious.

She told them to stop worrying about the company's issues.

Indeed, with the panic of the disaster happening, Mu Jinyu had already known that the global economy would collapse; it was simply impossible to hide it.

Who would still care about their own beauty when at any moment, the people around could transform into attacking demons?

Gu Xiyan was making calls one after another, reporting the situation.

Suddenly, a shimmering green light suddenly lit up on her body.

"Ah!!"

"Sister Xiyan!!"

Wen Rou was already on edge, and seeing the green light appear on Gu Xiyan's body, she thought Gu Xiyan was going to demonize too, which made her scream in horror.

Mei Yinxue and Su Zijin also frowned deeply, very worried.

They thought that if Gu Xiyan really was invaded by a demon and turned into a horrible demon minion like before, what would they do?!

It was not possible that they would really have to kill her right there, was it?

Then how would they explain to Mu Jinyu when he returned?

"I..." Gu Xiyan was also frightened, standing there dumbly with her phone, thinking she was going to turn into one of those fierce and hideous demons as well.

But after waiting for a long time, she realized she was still unharmed.

The layer of shimmering green light on her body then gradually faded away.

Gu Xiyan didn't think too much, quickly took out a Silver Needle, and with trembling hands, gave herself another injection.

Yes, the blood was still bright red.

"I'm okay?"

Gu Xiyao cried out in surprise and joy.

At that moment, a shimmering green light suddenly lit up on Su Zijin's body as well.

Having witnessed Gu Xiyao's example, except for Wen Rou who was somewhat panicked, both Gu Xiyao and Mei Yinxue remained calm.

They felt that most likely nothing would happen to Su Zijin.

Sure enough, after the green light on Su Zijin's body disappeared, Gu Xiyao checked her again, and indeed, Su Zijin's blood was still normal.

"I think we must have been invaded by the demons of the panic disaster just now, but something protected us, keeping us safe,"

Gu Xiyao analyzed calmly.

"Something that protected us, and it should be the same thing..."

Su Zijin also analyzed calmly.

As they spoke, she and Gu Xiyao exchanged glances, their eyes brightening, they said, "The jade pendants that Jinyu gave us a while ago."

Chapter 506: Is it a Human or a Demon/Devil?

Su Zijin and Gu Xiyan, while they were speaking, each took out a jade pendant that had been hanging from their necks.

The jade was Green Emperor Jadeite, exquisite and translucent with abundant water content, and had a rim of gold both along the interior and exterior parts.

This was Gold Inlaid with Jade.

Beforehand, Mu Jinyu had refurbished the Order of Slaughter for Xiang Mantang, elevating its defensive formation to a higher level. Feeling quite proud of his own knowledge in formations, he impulsively bought a large quantity of Green Emperor Jadeite.

Jade naturally contains a significant amount of spiritual energy, although it's far less than the lowest grade spirit stone. However, since Mu Jinyu couldn't get his hands on any spirit stones on Earth, he had to make do with Green Emperor Jadeite.

Due to the limitations of the material, Mu Jinyu engraved intricate runes into the jadeite, creating protective formations. But at most, they could only withstand a full-force strike from an Energy Transformation Warrior.

They were basically no match for Xiang Mantang's Order of Slaughter.

However, it was better than nothing.

After making these magic artifacts, Mu Jinyu felt that his name, Jinyu, merely giving them jade didn't fully express his feelings, so he had the craftsmen help him create Gold Inlaid with Jade.

He wanted Gu Xiyan and the others to wear it around their necks so that upon seeing the Gold Inlaid with Jade, they would think of him, Mu Jinyu, and if he wasn't by their side, it could comfort them with thoughts of him.

Gu Xiyan, looking at the Gold Inlaid Jade pendant in her hand, suddenly understood why she and Su Zijin had just now been untouched by the pervasive disaster.

The jade was a magical artifact that could block a full-force strike from an Energy Transformation Warrior, the utility of which didn't seem very significant. Mu Jinyu had given it to them just in case, and such an artifact would obviously struggle to harm the pervasive disaster or block its erosion.

But due to Mu Jinyu's stroke of genius, adding gold highlights to the jade made it Gold Inlaid with Jade, which greatly enhanced the defensive power of the protective talisman, preventing the disaster from eroding them.

This enhancement had little effect against an Energy Transformation Warrior, as adversaries could still shatter the artifact after several strikes.

However, due to the gold's special properties against demons and devils, it proved to be an unexpected success.

"It's wonderful, with the artifacts Jinyu gave us, we no longer have to worry about being eroded by the disaster or demonization," Su Zijin exclaimed, gripping the Gold Inlaid Jade pendant in her hand with a mixture of surprise and joy.

Mei Yinxue also learned from their conversation why they were unaffected by the disaster, despite its erosion.

She took out the Gold Inlaid Jade pendant from her chest, holding it in her hand, her beautiful eyes filled with surprise and joy.

Even in these desperate times, the delight she felt was more uplifting than the news of Mu Jinyu's awakening.

At this moment, Mei Yinxue felt extremely grateful for her decision to commit herself to Mu Jinyu.

She had made countless decisions in her life, with wins and losses, sometimes devastating defeats, like when she let Huang Qihua and others go due to a moment of soft-heartedness. Yet, other times, she had won quite a bit, and this time, it felt as if she had won the whole world.

After all, in this chaotic world, ordinary people, no matter how rich or powerful, have no means to resist the catastrophe that plagues humanity. One careless mistake and they would be neither human nor ghost.

But because of Mu Jinyu, she no longer needed to have this concern.

As long as they stayed hidden and avoided contact with others, they could essentially be safe and sound.

Wen Rou, in her panic, was a bit slower to react than the others. By the time Gu Xiyan and the others had taken out their Gold Inlaid Jade pendants, she had just belatedly realized that Mu Jinyu's gift must have protected them from the recent peril.

However, Wen Rou was somewhat puzzled. She remembered Mu Jinyu saying that the protective talisman could block a warrior's full-force strike, so how could it also hold back a demon invasion?!

"That's fantastic, if this Gold Inlaid Jade can resist demon erosion, doesn't that mean our Jinyu Group is going to make a fortune?"

Wen Rou discarded the puzzlement from her mind and grew excited once again.

Although she was not that interested in money, she indeed wanted to help Mu Jinyu. Seeing the miraculous effects of the Gold Inlaid with Jade Magical Instrument, she thought she had found a great business opportunity.

To let Jinyu Group become the number one company globally.

When Gu Xiyan heard Wen Rou's words, she couldn't help but give her an annoyed glance and said, "Xiaorou, you're really too naive. Are you still thinking about making money by selling this kind of life-saving treasure?"

"What's wrong?" Wen Rou had not yet escaped her fixed mindset and felt that this was clearly a huge business opportunity. Why was Gu Xiyan calling her naive?

Gu Xiyang said, "Do you think, under the current circumstances, why we still need to make money? We have already made enough money. The urgent matter is to quickly use the money to buy suitable jade so that Jinyu can produce more Gold Inlaid Jade to protect the people around us, as well as his useful subordinates."

"In this way, we can have a better chance of addressing the looming disaster."

"Besides, even if we want to act as saviors and use these talismans to protect more people, do you think we can do it? Does Jinyu have that much energy?!"

Upon hearing Gu Xiyang's words, Wen Rou was taken aback for a moment but then understood.

Indeed, the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument that could protect them from the demons' attacks couldn't be mass-produced.

Firstly, creating a magical instrument required engraving numerous runes on the jade, which greatly drained Mu Jinyu's energy.

Secondly, what was the price of the Green Emperor Jadeite?

This Green Emperor Jadeite pendant of theirs, not to mention the defensive capabilities added by Mu Jinyu's processing, was already worth over a hundred million just for the raw material.

Plus the energy Mu Jinyu spent transforming it into a protective talisman.

In this era of darkness and chaos, the value of this Gold Inlaid Jade Pendant was immeasurable.

Perhaps those extremely wealthy individuals could spend their entire fortunes on a few pieces for themselves and their families, but why should they sell them?

In such chaotic times, the lives of ordinary people are simply not worth much, no matter how wealthy they may be.

The only people of value are those who can resist the demons' attacks in this great disaster, like Mu Jinyu and others.

Only if they can survive and remain unharmed by the demons does the disaster have a chance of being resolved, returning to a bright and ordered world.

"I understand now," Wen Rou nodded, somewhat ashamed.

"Bang, bang, bang!"

Just then, a series of impatient footsteps approached from outside the door.

"Clang, clang, clang!!"

Before Gu Xiyan and the others could react, the footsteps had reached the doorway, followed by a frightening knocking sound.

This noise was so loud that if the doors and windows of the Su Family Courtyard had not been made of special materials, they would have been blown open by the people outside almost instantly.

"Is that a person or a demon?!"

Hearing this commotion, Su Zijin and the other girls huddled together in a corner, shivering and trembling in fear.

Chapter 507: Sorry, I'm Late

"Bang bang bang!!"

The rhythmic knocking continued incessantly—one after another, wave after wave, like a death warrant, King Yan's death knell, ceaselessly striking at Su Zijin and the three other women's hearts.

It made them feel like their hearts were unconsciously following the rhythm of the knocking, beat after beat, faster and faster, more and more urgent, as if their hearts were about to burst.

"What...what's...happening?"

Gu Xiyan's breathing was rapid, her face flushed red, barely able to speak, about to die from an excessively high heart rate!

Su Zijin and the other women began to realize that owning the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument did not guarantee survival from this cataclysmic disaster.

The Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument could only protect them from the erosion of the catastrophe, preventing them from turning into demons, but it couldn't keep them safe from other demonic and strange attacks.

"Bang!"

At that moment, the special alloy door that had been knocked on hundreds of times by demons finally could not bear the weight any longer, and was destroyed by the demonic knocking.

"Huff...huff..."

Suddenly, Gu Xiyan and the other three women felt their heartbeats slow down, no longer feeling as if they were about to leap out of their throats, and their breathing gradually calmed down.

But before they could relax,

they sensed an extremely cold, despairing, deathly still, and decayed aura seeping in from the outside through the now-opened door.

"This...this..."

Gu Xiyao and the women's heartbeats suddenly sped up a notch.

They were shocked to realize that though it should have been sunny outside, it was pitch-dark instead—not the kind of dark blue haze, but true darkness.

And within that darkness, devoid of any light, there was an unbearable feeling of suffocation.

And a figure, shrouded in darkness, stood rigidly in the doorway, silent and still. If not for a pair of eyes shining with a red glow, intently staring at them,

they might not have noticed that a demon had arrived at the door.

"Creak creak..."

Being just ordinary women, Gu Xiyao and the others held their breath at the sight of this terrifying scene, not daring to even take a deep breath for fear of provoking the demon at the door into attacking.

Whether it was because they held their breath, remained quiet, still, or for some other reason, the terrifying figure standing rigidly at the door finally turned and left with hurried, heavy footsteps.

Who knows how much time passed!

"Ah!!!"

The vicinity again began to echo with bursts of shrill screams, filled with hysteria, despair, helplessness, breakdown...

And quickly, these screams stopped abruptly.

"Wuu wuu wuu..."

At this point, Wen Rou could no longer hold back, and started crying in a breakdown.

"Don't cry! Keep calm!"

Although Su Zijin and Gu Xiyan were also scared to death, they knew under these circumstances they couldn't just let Wen Rou cry out loud, venting her fear, as it might attract the knocking demon once again.

So when Wen Rou started crying bitterly, they quickly reached out and covered her mouth to keep her from making any noise.

"Wuu wuu wuu..."

Wen Rou also knew that crying in breakdown was futile and offered no benefit at such a time.

But she really couldn't control her emotions, because she understood that with every abrupt end to those screams, another group of people had died.

She knew that if she weren't wearing the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument that Mu Jinyu had given her, her own fate would not have been much better.

Wen Rou managed to control her sobbing, but the fear in her heart kept spreading. There was only one thought on her mind.

"Jinyu! Jinyu...where are you? Please come back and save us..."

After what seemed like an eternity, Wen Rou finally suppressed the feeling of collapse within her and could, like Gu Xiyan and the others, forcibly remain calm while curled up in the corner, quietly waiting for Mu Jinyu's return.

At that moment...

"Swing, swing, swing to grandma's bridge..."

A naive childlike voice sang the most classic nursery rhyme, leisurely rising from outside.

It was as if a child had just finished school and was hopping and skipping home while humming a tune.

"This is?"

Gu Xiyan and the other women frowned upon hearing the song, a wave of worry washing over them.

Su Zijin and Wen Rou hesitated whether they should go out and bring the child inside.

After all, it's a child...

And considering how the environment had always been very quiet, they guessed that the terrifying door-knocking demon must have already left the Capital City.

Going out to rescue people now, although risky, wouldn't be too dangerous.

It was not the kind of situation where death was certain!

However,

Just as they were hesitating...

"Rocking, rocking..."

The nursery rhyme continued to sound off, and the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments they were clutching tightly in their hands suddenly burst forth with dazzling Huaguang, enveloping each of them tightly.

"What is this?!"

Su Zijin and Wen Rou immediately abandoned the idea of going out to rescue people.

Looking at the sudden change in the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments, it was impossible that the disaster struck all four of them at once; more likely, the nursery rhyme carried a great threat, and those who heard it could drop dead!

That meant the wandering little girl outside was actually an extremely vicious demon.

And potentially more dangerous than the door-knocking demon!

"Crack, crack..."

At that moment, a brittle cracking sound rang out.

To their horror, Gu Xiyan and her friends discovered that their magical instruments were showing fine cracks, as if they were about to shatter.

They didn't know if it was from overuse, or if they couldn't withstand the erosion of the nursery rhyme.

"We're done for, did we escape the overwhelming disaster and the attack of the door-knocking demon only to die to the tune of a nursery rhyme?"

Gu Xiyuan and her friends thought in despair.

At that moment, however, they suddenly noticed that the cracks in their magical instruments had stopped spreading.

They looked up in a daze, only to find that the nursery rhyme had vanished into thin air.

Its source was unknown.

"We've been spared once again."

Gu Xiyuan and her friends let out a long sigh of relief, feeling that the world had indeed changed dramatically, and the power of the devastating disaster was gradually becoming evident.

"Ehhhh-rouuugh!"

However, before they could relax for long, a series of roars sounded from outside the courtyard.

"What's this?"

The faces of Gu Xiyuan and her companions changed dramatically, recognizing the sound as that of Little Zhang, who had just been corrupted by the disaster and turned into a demon.

Little Zhang had been intercepted by members of the Dragon King Hall earlier, but in their panic, they had all forgotten this matter.

Gu Xiyuan remembered making a call to Mu Hongchen to bring a Golden Weapon to handle it.

It seemed that had also failed.

Whether that was because of the door-knocking demon, or the nursery rhyme demon, was unknown.

And now, the demonized Little Zhang was groping her way toward them again.

"AOOOOOUGH!"

The terrifying roar rose once more, but this time it was at the door.

It would come inside any moment now.

"BANG!!"

Then, at that instant.

A deep, thunderous roar sounded, and along with it, the hissing stopped.

Gu Xiyan and Su Zijin were even more frightened.

They thought a more terrible demon had appeared.

"Jinyu, come back quickly!"

In their hearts, Gu Xiyan and her friends silently called out.

"Sorry, I've arrived late..."

A familiar voice, laden with endless apology, suddenly rose next to the door.

Chapter 508 - Headquarters Turmoil

The person who arrived was naturally Mu Jinyu.

Gu Xiyao and the other three women, nearly at the point of collapse, heard Mu Jinyu's voice and instantly looked up together. The endless fear and terror in their hearts melted away like ice and snow in the warm sun.

"Jinyu, you've finally returned!"

"You scared us to death!"

"Wuu wuu wuu..."

The women scrambled up from the corner of the floor and hurried toward Mu Jinyu, all clinging to him tightly.

Feeling the warmth from Mu Jinyu's body, their cold limbs finally felt much better.

"Don't be afraid, everything's okay now, right?"

Mu Jinyu hugged the four women tightly, soothing them with gentle words.

At the same time, he felt somewhat guilty.

If this dark turmoil had been caused by someone else, and he had seen his wives and mother so frightened and even facing numerous dangers to their lives, he would have been extremely angry.

He would have wished to crush the perpetrator's bones and scatter the ashes over their ancestral grave.

But this dark turmoil was caused by Xiang Mantang in an effort to save him, so naturally, he couldn't blame Xiang Mantang.

"Jinyu Jinyu, all of our magical artifacts are damaged. Is there any way to fix them?"

Just then, Gu Xiyan, who was burying her head in Mu Jinyu's chest and greedily inhaling his scent, lifted her head, looked at Mu Jinyu, and then held up the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument that now showed many cracks.

"What happened? Were you just attacked by an Energy Transformation Warrior?"

Seeing the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument riddled with countless cracks, Mu Jinyu's expression changed, and he asked urgently.

He didn't think much, merely assuming that the appearance of cracks in the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument they held was the result of an attack by members of the Dragon King Hall who had been demonized.

So he was a bit nervous.

"No, it was just after we heard the Nursery Rhyme song that the cracks started to appear..."

With Mu Jinyu at her side, Gu Xiyan's fear completely dissipated, and she felt very secure. She began to systematically recount the series of crises they had just encountered to Mu Jinyu.

"Hmm? What's this all about? There's actually such a thing."

Mu Jinyu had never imagined that in the time he was away, Gu Xiyan and the others had faced so many crises.

He was even more surprised that his thoughtless act that day had actually saved their lives in this dark chaos.

Otherwise, if he had come back today, he might truly have regretted it for life.

After all, these were the women he loved most, and his mother.

He simply couldn't bear the thought of them leaving him like this!

Feeling a surge of fear, Mu Jinyu hugged them tightly once again and then released them, taking the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument from Gu Xiyan's hands to examine it closely.

The Green Emperor Jadeite, encased in gold, had myriad cracks, and the densely inscribed runes that he had originally engraved had been worn away by more than half.

Clearly, after the series of panic-stricken encounters with the door-knocking demons and the Nursery Rhyme demon, even with the gold's amplification of strength, the protective array on it had finally been exhausted.

Fortunately, the demon code-named Nursery Rhyme had merely passed by and did not directly attack them; otherwise, the Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument wouldn't have withstood the horrifying demonic miasma and would have crumbled, causing them to perish instantly.

"To fully resist the erosion of these demons, it seems we would need to use top-quality Spirit Stones and increase the amount of gold too. This gold is still too little," Mu Jinyu muttered frowningly.

"Besides, the unity of gold and jade was able to withstand the erosion of the panic crisis, which is unexpected. It remains to be seen whether ordinary jade combined with gold could have the same effect. If so, then the panic crisis and Tide of Chaos wouldn't be so difficult to resolve."

"These matters still need to be researched slowly..."

"We need to head back to headquarters first to check things out."

Mu Jinyu found it difficult to come up with a solution. After sorting out his thoughts, he remembered what Gu Xiyan had said. She had called Mu Hongchen for help, but until now, there was no sign of her.

He wondered if Mu Hongchen and her team were trapped in the Dragon King Hall headquarters, or if they had encountered a demon attack on their way and couldn't make it?

He had to go there and investigate.

"Be alert and relax your bodies, I'm going to take you out of here."

Mu Jinyu decided to take Gu Xiyan and the other women with him to the Dragon King Hall headquarters.

He didn't dare leave them here alone; otherwise, if they were to encounter another demon assimilation, the damaged Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument would hardly be able to save their lives.

"We need to build a shelter out of gold to ensure that my family can survive."

Mu Jinyu thought to himself.

Just as Gu Xiyan and the other women were leaving the room with Mu Jinyu, Wen Rou suddenly screamed.

"Ah!!!"

"Something's on my foot..."

Wen Rou sounded on the verge of collapse, feeling something sticky on her foot giving her an extremely uncomfortable sensation.

She had a vague idea of what it was, which was why she was so distraught.

Mu Jinyu consoled her, "Don't worry, you just stepped on a demon."

"Wuuuuh... Don't scare me!"

Wen Rou cried out.

"It's okay, you don't need to worry about it getting up and attacking you, this isn't a real demon, just a demon minion assimilated by the Tide of Chaos, which can be truly killed."

Mu Jinyu explained.

Because they had just discussed that currently there's no way to completely destroy demons, only suppress them with gold, Wen Rou was panic-stricken when she stepped on the demon minion, fearing the demon would attack her at any moment.

In fact, it wouldn't.

The case with Dante was an exception; other ordinary people turned into demon minions by the Tide of Chaos could still be successfully killed.

If even demon minions required gold for suppression, then the world would truly be without hope for salvation.

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's explanation, Wen Rou finally felt much more at ease.

Not just Wen Rou, but Gu Xiyan and the other women standing to the side also shared the same worries and fears. They just weren't as unlucky as Wen Rou, who was the first to follow Mu Jinyu out and stepped on the demon's corpse, letting out continuous screams.

Otherwise, they probably would have reacted the same way.

Already frightened, stepping on a demon's corpse right outside the door is enough to scare anyone, right?

After comforting Wen Rou, Mu Jinyu activated the Heaven and Earth Vital Energy, enveloping Gu Xiyan and the other women, before soaring off towards the headquarters of Dragon King Hall!

Yes, they weren't running, but flying.

Mu Jinyu, now having reached the God Realm, was also capable of short-term suspended flight. If he wanted to show off, he could step on a sword and perform Sword Flight.

That's how Mu Jinyu had rushed back to the Capital City from the dark source. At first, he hadn't adapted to this new mode of thinking and had planned to take a plane back to the Capital City. However, because of the weather conditions, planes couldn't fly, which is when Mu Jinyu remembered he could fly back himself.

Carrying Gu Xiyan and the other women, Mu Jinyu flew straight to the Dragon King Hall headquarters in the suburbs of the capital. As they were approaching, he narrowed his eyes and inwardly sighed, realizing his suspicions were correct.

Although he hadn't reached the headquarters yet, his Divine Sense swept over the area and already detected several demon minions inside...

Chapter 509: Saving Mu Hongchen

"Thud!"

Mu Jinyu landed lightly, and with a sweep of his palms, he turned a dozen members of the Dragon King Hall who had been transformed into demons into a pile of corpses, their filthy blood splattering everywhere.

"Who?!"

The Dragon King Hall members who had been struggling with these demonized comrades for a long time did not immediately breathe a sigh of relief upon seeing the demon minions dealt with. Instead, they were somewhat jumpily staring in Mu Jinyu's direction, shouting in alarm.

"It's me!"

Mu Jinyu, accompanied by Su Zijin and a few others, walked towards them.

Hearing this somewhat unfamiliar voice, the crowd was momentarily stunned but then shouted excitedly, "Dragon Master? You're awake?"

The news of Mu Jinyu's awakening was still top-secret within the Dragon King Hall. Moreover, he had only awakened a day ago and had subsequently gone to look for Xiang Mantang, so it was natural that these Dragon King Hall members were unaware of his awakening.

"Yes, are you all right? What are the casualties?"

Mu Jinyu inquired.

He did not rashly approach them.

After all, at this moment, he could not guarantee that among these people there might still be demon minions lurking.

Although he was not afraid that some of these people might suddenly transform into demons and attack him, he saw no need to put himself in a dangerous situation.

Star General Niu Jin, Chen Sheng, answered Mu Jinyu's question with a bitter tone, "We are fine for now, but the situation is not good. Just now, some people suddenly changed drastically and attacked us, with at least a hundred dead or injured..."

"That's still manageable, fortunately you didn't encounter the Nursery Rhyme Demon or the Knocking Demon, or else I reckon you all would have been wiped out!"

Hearing Chen Sheng's report, Mu Jinyu felt a bleeding sensation in his heart, yet he also felt somewhat relieved.

If the entire Dragon King Hall had been wiped out, the situation would have been truly disastrous.

Now, although over a hundred experts of the Dragon King Hall with Dark Energy and Energy Transformation had died, this outcome was still something he could barely tolerate.

"Alright, you guys find a place to hide for now."

Mu Jinyu did not say much more to them, instead, he released his Divine Sense to search for Mu Hongchen's whereabouts.

He only hoped that nothing had happened to Mu Hongchen.

Even though Mu Hongchen did not have much strength, she was in charge of the intelligence and foreign affairs of the Dragon King Hall, and she had also been given considerable financial authority by Xiang Mantang last time. Mu Jinyu would rather Wu Shisan get into trouble than see anything happen to Mu Hongchen.

Soon, Mu Jinyu confirmed the situation of Mu Hongchen. His expression changed slightly, and he hurriedly led Su Zijin and the others flying to where Mu Hongchen was.

"Won't you check them?"

Wen Rou, unable to help herself, flew up with Mu Jinyu and looked back at the few dozen still shaken members of the Dragon King Hall, unavoidably asking.

"No need to check. In this situation, checking is meaningless. No one knows whether someone who just checked out fine might be corrupted by a demon the next moment."

Mu Jinyu explained, "We'll wait until I have Mu Hongchen contact the relevant personnel and secure sufficient reserves of gold and jade to manufacture the Gold Inlaid with Jade Magical Instrument to put on them, which will provide absolute safety without the need for repeated checks."

Wen Rou and the others, hearing Mu Jinyu's explanation, suddenly understood and also realized why Mu Jinyu didn't tell them that the transformation through blood could detect whether there were hiding demons among them.

Under the current circumstances, doing such checks really wasn't significant, since they were all aware that anyone could be demonized at any moment and were keeping guard against everyone, ensuring no immediate mishaps would occur.

Among them, there might indeed be demon minions lurking, but if Mu Jinyu had told them and they found and exposed one, that person would surely die.

No one could guarantee that normal people who hadn't yet transformed into demons after being eroded by such a disaster would have a way to be rescued afterward.

Therefore, doing this really did amount to not giving up on anyone who had a chance to be saved.

Of course, this could only delay things for a while, otherwise, they would eventually become demons and would then be exterminated.

Mu Jinyu no longer bothered to explain further and hurried towards the office building where Mu Hongchen was.

At this moment, the office building where she was located had suffered heavy casualties; more importantly, there was a real demon continually attacking Mu Hongchen.

This demon, its form decayed like a rotten corpse, left a trail of filthy and foul-smelling dirty blood and corpse water wherever it went. Mu Hongchen dared not get too close to the demon, cautiously holding a sword made of gold, barely managing to fight it.

But since the gap in strength between them was vast, even though the golden weapon had a restraining effect on the demon, Mu Hongchen could only just manage to suppress it without being able to imprison it.

"Roar!!"

An eerie and cold roar sounded, as all the corpse water and dirty blood on the ground floated up, condensing into a dark yellow liquid, wrapping around Mu Hongchen!

In an instant, faced with the demon's assault, Mu Hongchen felt a wave of despair, and smelling that rotten, fishy corpse odor, she felt like vomiting.

"Bang!"

At this critical moment, Mu Jinyu instantly rushed to the demon's side, kicking it and sending it flying.

"Crash!"

The windows shattered, and this not-so-large demon was immediately thrown out of the fifth-floor office, landing heavily on the concrete outside.

"Are you alright?"

Mu Jinyu asked Mu Hongchen.

"I'm... I'm okay..."

Mu Hongchen stared dumbfounded at Mu Jinyu's arrival, which had liberated her from her predicament, and she heaved a long sigh of relief, stuttering.

Just moments before, she had thought that being entangled by the demon without any external help, although she could fend it off temporarily, in the long run, she would undoubtedly die.

And just now, facing the attack of the corpse water, Mu Hongchen gradually felt she could no longer resist it, but unexpectedly, Mu Jinyu arrived just in time to save her.

Thinking this, Mu Hongchen somewhat ashamedly said, "Dragon Master, I am incompetent. When Lady Su was in trouble, I couldn't go to help."

Originally, upon receiving a call from Gu Xiyan, Mu Hongchen immediately prepared to go to the Su Family Courtyard with golden weapons to support them, but due to a little delay, the land at the nearby foothill suddenly overturned, and then a rotten corpse emerged, coming towards her office building...

Originally, this office building housed over a hundred people, but under the attack of the corroding demon, the corpse water was extremely terrifying, turning everyone into pools of filthy water, and Mu Hongchen was thus trapped, unable to leave.

Mu Hongchen, her voice breaking with a sob, said, "Dragon Master, you should hurry back now, you might still be able to save them..."

Mu Hongchen had been blocked by this demon for over an hour.

In her view, Su Zijin and Gu Xiyan were just ordinary people. Faced with the attack of a demonized subordinate, they probably had slim chances of survival.

But even if the chances were slim, there might still be a glimmer of hope, which is why she called Mu Jinyu to hurry over to save people, letting herself continue to face this demon.

Mu Jinyu said, "That won't be necessary, I've already rescued the people, but I came specifically because I was worried something might happen to you!"

Hearing the roaring noise coming from below, Mu Jinyu turned to Mu Hongchen and said, "Give me the sword."

Chapter 510: Meeting and Preparation

"Oh..."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, Mu Hongchen hesitated not a moment and passed the pure gold long sword in his hand to Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu took it, began engraving evil-suppressing runes onto it, and with a flick of his wrist, he threw the sword down, piercing straight through the Zombie Demon's Heavenly Spirit Cover and nailing it firmly to the ground.

"Uh!!!"

Instantly, the previously swaying Zombie Demon that was trying to crawl toward the office building let out a low growl, then stood frozen in place, unable to move.

Weapons made of pure gold can only pose a threat to demons, making them reluctant to touch, but they do not suppress and kill the adversary.

Only the likes of Sheng Rulai, Reinhardt, and Ren Xiaoyao, who employ methods like Buddha's Light, Holy Light, and Taoist Exorcism Talismans, amplified by gold, are able to truly restrain and suppress the demons to death!

This sword strike by Mu Jinyu, hastily engraved with evil-suppressing runes, could only suppress the Zombie Demon temporarily. Once the runes on the sword were worn away, the Zombie Demon, after struggling for a while, would be able to slowly push the gold out of its body and start causing trouble again.

Therefore, a Golden Coffin was still needed to completely suppress it.

"Do we have a Golden Coffin here?"

Mu Jinyu withdrew his gaze from the immobile Zombie Demon below and turned to ask Mu Hongchen.

Mu Hongchen shook his head and said, "No; the news that gold can restrain demons has only just been released. The Dragon King Hall wasn't prepared for this. Even this golden sword was made on the fly with gold from our treasury, and now we don't have any extra gold left."

"Then never mind," Mu Jinyu wasn't too concerned and told Mu Hongchen, "Go contact the leaders and prepare to hold a meeting on how the Dragon King Hall and the Huaxia Faction should resolve this dark turmoil."

"Oh, alright..." Mu Hongchen agreed, then glancing at the immobile Zombie Demon outside the window, he hesitantly asked, "Should we just leave this demon as it is?"

Mu Jinyu explained, "It's not that we're not dealing with it; it's just that we can't deal with it right now, so leave it for now. Once you've contacted the leaders, also ask someone to prepare a roughly suitable Golden Coffin, and after the meeting, we'll suppress it."

"Alright, I understand," Mu Hongchen nodded, then went to contact people.

"Wait..." Mu Jinyu suddenly called out.

"What is it?" Mu Hongchen paused and turned back to look at Mu Jinyu.

Mu Jinyu said, "Hold out your hand."

"Oh," Mu Hongchen, not quite understanding why, did so anyway.

Because Gu Xiyan had called hurriedly earlier, many things weren't explained to Mu Hongchen, so he didn't know yet that a person corrupted by the Tide of Chaos, even though not demonized, would still have abnormalities in their blood.

Mu Jinyu took hold of Mu Hongchen's wrist and, without needing a needle, lightly drew his fingernail across it, making a small cut on the pad of Mu Hongchen's finger.

As he made the small incision, Mu Jinyu looked very serious and was quite afraid that Mu Hongchen might have been demonized.

If that were the case, the Dragon King Hall would really be in big trouble.

Even if he transferred all the affairs of the Dragon King Hall to Gu Xiyan and the others, it would likely be hard for them to take over.

Fortunately, as Mu Hongchen's fingertip was cut open, the blood that welled up was a deep red, and Mu Jinyu breathed a sigh of relief.

"All clear, no worries now. You can go and contact the leaders," Mu Jinyu said, while also gently rubbing Mu Hongchen's fingertip, causing the minute wound to heal immediately.

"When you meet the leaders, remember not to gather together directly. Just like I did, first test their blood. If there's a problem, isolate them immediately," Mu Jinyu instructed.

"Oh, I understand," Mu Hongchen finally understood why Mu Jinyu had decided to cut his hand—it was to check.

As for what was being checked, there was no need to ask; she was well aware that it was certainly related to the current demon turmoil.

Mu Hongchen was about to leave when Mu Jinyu remembered something else and called out, "Wait..."

"Hmm? What is it, Dragon Master?"

Mu Hongchen halted her steps again and turned back, looking at Mu Jinyu curiously, wondering what it was now.

She felt that since Mu Jinyu had woken up, his memory seemed a bit unreliable, always saying something then remembering another thing right after.

Mu Jinyu took out a Gold Inlaid with Jade Magical Instrument and handed it to her, saying, "Wear this. As long as you don't encounter powerful demons, it will keep you safe. Now go."

"Oh." Mu Hongchen acknowledged, yet she didn't move her feet.

"There's really nothing else this time," Mu Jinyu said with a wry smile.

Only then did Mu Hongchen leave.

Mu Jinyu watched Mu Hongchen leave, not particularly distressed about parting with that Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument.

After all, he himself was not going to be affected by the Catastrophe or the Tide of Chaos for the time being, so holding onto that instrument was of little use to him. Giving it to Mu Hongchen was most suitable, at least for now. Without her to connect with responsible individuals in the Capital City, many things might fail to unfold as planned.

During the time Mu Hongchen left to contact the relevant authorities.

Mu Jinyu was not idle; he found some jade of decent quality – though inferior to the Green Emperor Jadeite – and a fair amount of gold from the treasury of Dragon King Hall, creating about a dozen crude Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments.

According to his calculations, these inferior magical instruments would instantly shatter when facing Nursery Rhyme, Knocking Ghost, or other supreme demons.

However, they should be able to withstand the erosive forces of the Catastrophe and the Tide of Chaos, which tended more towards affecting the spirit and soul.

Of course, this was just his estimation, which might not necessarily succeed.

He decided to let those in charge use them next.

After all, without using them, they would still be eroded by the Catastrophe, but giving them these provided an additional chance of success.

Should it succeed, the hazardous impact of the Catastrophe would be further reduced.

By the time Mu Jinyu reached the fifteenth Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instrument.

Mu Hongchen called him, telling him that he could come over for a meeting at a certain location, where the responsible individuals and other key figures were also gathering.

Fortunately, except for a very few, most of the attendees were unharmed.

After hearing this, Mu Jinyu gathered his things and, along with Gu Xiyan and others, flew to the meeting room in a certain imposing building.

"Most of the people present are fine, right?"

Upon entering, Mu Jinyu did not wait for everyone's nod, instead directly asking Mu Hongchen.

Mu Hongchen nodded and said, "Yes, they've all been checked; there's no problem with them."

"That's good." Mu Jinyu tossed a bundle of Gold Inlaid Jade Magical Instruments he was holding into the air, distributing one piece to each of the thirteen people present.

The attendees took the crudely made Jade Pendants and asked in surprise, "Dragon King, what are these?"

Standing at the podium, Mu Jinyu leaned his hands on the surface and said, "A type of simple magical instrument. It could possibly block the encroachment of the Catastrophe, preventing all of you from suddenly demonizing."

"This..."

Upon hearing Mu Jinyu's words, the crowd was instantly excited, quickly putting them on around their necks, their faces filled with smiles.